Impact of Social Traits of Social Movements towards Social Empowerment in Kanyakumari District

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Abstract: *Charles Tilly (2004) explained that social movements could make constant campaigns for and by people to reach their proper needs and rights. People may forget the rights they enjoy now are fruits of social movements. The rights are not directly and willingly given to the people but the influence of social movements causes them to reach every ordinary men and women. If there is slavery in the society that one suppress the other in the name of caste, money, status, etc then we cannot claim there is sustainable development. The riches, the advancements, the merits of any systems remind everyone that there are social movements which could render selfless services towards this attainment. Kanyakumari is one among the districts of Tamilnadu, where the contribution of social movements towards the development is high that this district stands first in education. Not only in education but also in every walks of life the leaders and members of various social movements set standards and worked for it continuously. This paper analyses how far the social traits of leaders and members of today's social movements in Kanyakumari district make impact for the sustainable development in the district. It is thus witnessed that the social life in the district is empowered by the social movements and even the ordinary fishermen, masons, farmers and gardeners could get a decent life.*

Key words: Social trait, Social movement, Social empowerment

I. INTRODUCTION

Honest and educated people can accept the positive impact of the social movements on the wellbeing of all citizens in our country. The outcomes and consequences of social movements get less attention in the field of research. Social movements are viewed as vehicles for marginalized section to voice against the suppression of dominant class and to get their due share in the society. That is called social empowerment. So the nature of social movement is decided by the need of social empowerment. Both social movement and social empowerment are interlinked in an unending process. The members and leaders of the movement are special in their character that they voluntarily involve themselves into the activities of the movement.

Thus the formation of the members to fit into objectives of the movement is always dynamic in nature. Even though there are rules and regulations to follow, the situation and pressure of the need will reorient the members to act accordingly. Those who rightly understand and commit oneself to the fullest will emerge as leaders of the movement. It is not exaggeration to say that many a world leaders are emergent from social movements only. Not only they are leaders but also they become the rulers of the countries. In this paper the authors studied how far the social empowerment is caused by the social movements in Kanyakumari district. For that they have learned the social traits of various leaders and applied those social traits to the members and leaders of social movements in Kanyakumari district. Those social traits are life-orientedness, caring, inclusiveness, knowledge-seeking, self-responsible, equality, health consciousness, and democracy. With all these traits the members and leaders of social movements in the district work towards the empowerment of the district. The study reveals that these social traits are significantly influence the social empowerment.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Eyben, (2011) explained that empowerment is an evolutionary and dynamic journey that the persons or the communities achieve their liberty to act on by their own.

DFID(2011) defined that the focus of empowerment is to support the downtrodden people to get rights and chances and to make use of the key resources.

Buchanan, (2010) recognized that the social movements usually starts with a small group. They regularly gather for a social issue and then they organize so many activities for social change. So basically they focus on societal change. At the beginning they connect each other personally and then slowly they formalize everything and work constantly and collectively.

Bailey (1992) understood that empowerment is more of particular people in need and the situation where it is around.

Timare (2006) explained that the Indian society is based on the caste, class and gender discrimination. And thus, empowering the societies involved in creating a new environment of chances to strengthen their standings and renewing them whose rights were forbidden so far to get their due share in the public life.

Koundal, V(2016)viewed that the aim of empowering the society is to have a change from an elite structural ranking

order to an ordinary participatory society where equality is respected and practices. This is about to get right share in education, medication, economic advancements, social welfare systems for those who are so far curtailed from the mainstream.

Nanette Page& Cheryl E. Czuba(1999) defined that empowerment is a manifold and a series of actions which bring people their responsibility of their own life. It will lead to that the people with their capacity to implement what they define as important.

William Littleexplained in the book "Introduction to Sociology" thatSocial movements have a common goal to work for. These movements are based on three dimensions: to generate change, to prevent change,and to raise voice against the injustice in the society.

Richard Greggory Johnson III(2013) Social movements designed to orient their groups for political actionthat they stand for the needs of their citizens. They have local, state, national and international level functioning.

TarrowSidney(2005) defined a social movement as joint opposition to higher personnel, laws and codes by people with genuine reasons and keeping unity throughregular dialogue with superiors or opposition parties. He differentiates between social movements from other groups and parties of various titles.
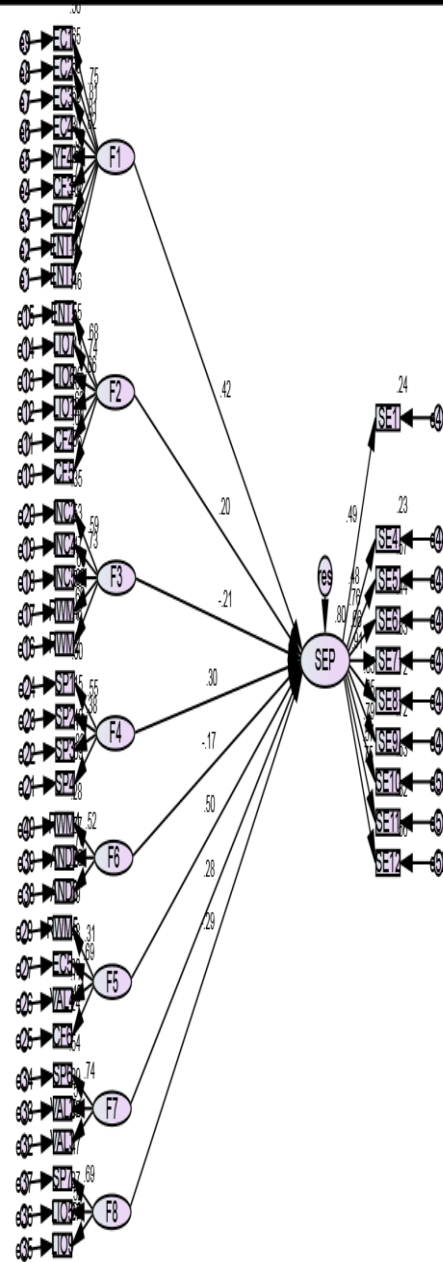
III. OBJECTIVES

1. To study the impact of social traits of members and leaders of social movements in kanyakumari district.
2. To identify the influencing factors of social empowerment
3. To find out the most influencing factor for social empowerment

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research design is the plan of action with proper structure to make a research. This is the framework that has been designed to seek answers to research questions. The study is intended to find impact of the social traits of social movements towards social empowerment. The design of the study is explorative in nature. This study is to explain the relationship between the social traits of the members and leaders of social movements in kanyakumari district and the social empowerment.The Cronbach's alpha is a measure of internal consistency which was developed by Lee Cronbach in 1951, that is, how closely related a set of items are as a group. It is considered to be a measure of scale reliability. Cronbach's alpha tests to see if multiple-question Likert scale surveys are reliable and the result also shows that satisfactory. The researcher has collected 119 samples from kanyakumari district by using purposive sampling techniques and identified the members and leaders of various social movements. The collected data have applied factor analysis to explore the new dimensions for the social empowerment. The dimensions are Life-orientedness(F1), Caring(F2), Inclusiveness(F3), Knowledge-seeking(F4), Self-responsible(F5), Equality(F6), Health Consciousness(F7), Democracy(F8). Analysis of data was performed with (AMOS) using techniques Structural Equation Modeling.

V. ANALYSIS

A. Structural equation modeling

B. Regression Weights: (Group number 1 - Default model)

			Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	P	Label
SEP	<---	F1	0.255	0.062	4.081	***	
SEP	<---	F2	0.249	0.098	2.543	0.011	
SEP	<---	F3	-0.153	0.058	-2.652	0.008	
SEP	<---	F4	0.16	0.048	3.334	***	
SEP	<---	F6	-0.111	0.05	-2.204	0.028	
SEP	<---	F5	0.349	0.101	3.463	***	

Path			Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	P
SEP	<---	F7	0.276	0.094	2.938	0.003
SEP	<---	F8	-0.268	0.1	-2.674	0.008
ENT3	<---	F1	1			
ENT1	<---	F1	0.714	0.111	6.418	***
LIO4	<---	F1	1.117	0.146	7.632	***
CF3	<---	F1	0.893	0.141	6.323	***
YF4	<---	F1	0.52	0.091	5.69	***
EC4	<---	F1	0.986	0.116	8.466	***
EC3	<---	F1	0.9	0.108	8.347	***
EC2	<---	F1	0.842	0.101	8.319	***
EC1	<---	F1	0.755	0.097	7.754	***
CF5	<---	F2	1			
CF4	<---	F2	1.16	0.221	5.256	***
LIO1	<---	F2	1.004	0.196	5.127	***
LIO6	<---	F2	1.218	0.224	5.446	***
LIO7	<---	F2	1.274	0.216	5.898	***
ENT5	<---	F2	1.287	0.231	5.564	***
RWM2	<---	F3	1			
RWM1	<---	F3	0.667	0.122	5.456	***
INC5	<---	F3	0.673	0.111	6.085	***
INC4	<---	F3	1.142	0.18	6.356	***
INC2	<---	F3	0.631	0.117	5.391	***
SP4	<---	F4	1			
SP3	<---	F4	0.79	0.13	6.073	***
SP2	<---	F4	0.433	0.117	3.683	***
SP1	<---	F4	0.555	0.109	5.113	***
CF6	<---	F5	1			
VAL4	<---	F5	1.701	0.375	4.541	***
EC5	<---	F5	1.558	0.351	4.44	***
RWM5	<---	F5	0.627	0.237	2.65	0.008
VAL3	<---	F7	1			
VAL2	<---	F7	1.122	0.266	4.222	***
SP6	<---	F7	1.081	0.243	4.457	***
LIO9	<---	F8	1			
LIO5	<---	F8	1.281	0.379	3.383	***
SP7	<---	F8	1.527	0.445	3.43	***
AND3	<---	F6	1			
AND2	<---	F6	0.692	0.124	5.566	***
RWM4	<---	F6	0.558	0.116	4.803	***
SE1	<---	SEP	1			
SE4	<---	SEP	1.122	0.272	4.128	***
SE5	<---	SEP	1.955	0.37	5.287	***
SE6	<---	SEP	1.443	0.291	4.96	***
SE7	<---	SEP	2.29	0.403	5.684	***
SE8	<---	SEP	2.196	0.396	5.545	***
SE9	<---	SEP	2.056	0.371	5.548	***
SE10	<---	SEP	2.14	0.397	5.393	***
SE11	<---	SEP	1.355	0.297	4.571	***
SE12	<---	SEP	1.896	0.36	5.266	***

C. Standardized Regression Weights: (Group number 1 - Default model)

			Estimate
SEP	<---	F1	.422
SEP	<---	F2	.204
SEP	<---	F3	-.214
SEP	<---	F4	.302
SEP	<---	F6	-.168
SEP	<---	F5	.497
SEP	<---	F7	.284
SEP	<---	F8	-.293
ENT3	<---	F1	.707
ENT1	<---	F1	.620
LIO4	<---	F1	.739
CF3	<---	F1	.611
YF4	<---	F1	.549
EC4	<---	F1	.823
EC3	<---	F1	.811
EC2	<---	F1	.808
EC1	<---	F1	.751
CF5	<---	F2	.603
CF4	<---	F2	.623
LIO1	<---	F2	.602
LIO6	<---	F2	.656
LIO7	<---	F2	.745
ENT5	<---	F2	.677
RWM2	<---	F3	.694
RWM1	<---	F3	.597

			Estimate
INC5	<---	F3	.683
INC4	<---	F3	.727
INC2	<---	F3	.588
SP4	<---	F4	.832
SP3	<---	F4	.703
SP2	<---	F4	.384
SP1	<---	F4	.546
CF6	<---	F5	.491
VAL4	<---	F5	.772
EC5	<---	F5	.694
RWM5	<---	F5	.307
VAL3	<---	F7	.645
VAL2	<---	F7	.537
SP6	<---	F7	.737
LIO9	<---	F8	.524
LIO5	<---	F8	.517
SP7	<---	F8	.687
AND3	<---	F6	.836
AND2	<---	F6	.757
RWM4	<---	F6	.525
SE1	<---	SEP	.486
SE4	<---	SEP	.482
SE5	<---	SEP	.756
SE6	<---	SEP	.660
SE7	<---	SEP	.912
SE8	<---	SEP	.850
SE9	<---	SEP	.851
SE10	<---	SEP	.792
SE11	<---	SEP	.568
SE12	<---	SEP	.749

D. Squared Multiple correlation : R^2

Variables	Estimate
SEP	0.798
SE12	0.561
SE11	0.323
SE10	0.628
SE9	0.725
SE8	0.723
SE7	0.831
SE6	0.436
SE5	0.572
SE4	0.232
SE1	0.236

E. Summary of the Various Goodness of Fit Statistics and other values corresponding to the influence of Social traits of members and leaders of Social Movements on the dependent factor Social Empowerment

S. No	Measures of fit	Output of Model	Acceptable level for good fit
1	Chi-square ($\chi2$) at p 0.01	2.02	
2	Degree of freedom (df)	1026	
3	CMIN	2072.35	2-4
4	Comparative fit index (CFI)	0.902	>0.90
5	Bentler – Bonett Index or Normed Fit Index (NFI)	0.749	>0.90
6	Root mean squared error of approximation (RMSEA)	0.063	<0.08
7	HOELTER .05	203	<= 75 poor fit
8	HOELTER .01	205	Atleast 200
9	RFI	0.699	>0.90
10	IFI	0.913	>0.90
11	TLI	0.867	>0.90

Source: AMOS 21.0 output

F. Structural equation modelling

Since the dimensions taken for the study, Social traits are empirical constructs; the researcher has defined its dimensions based on the setting used to explore the construct. If social empowerment decision model is to be applied in the context of Kanyakumari district, the dimensions and taken have to be reliable and valid in predicting the social empowerment decision of the district. The model examines the relative importance of dimensions, Life-orientedness, Caring,Inclusiveness, Knowledge-seeking, Self-responsible, Equality, Health Consciousness and Democracy in influencing the social empowerment decision of the district. These are the dimensions taken to measure the Social Traits of members and leaders of social movements in Kanyakumari district. After identifying a potential model that best explains the data in terms of theory and model fit, a structural equation modeling (SEM) was used to test the invariance of the factorial model. The data for all groups were analyzed simultaneously to obtain efficient estimates (Bentler, 1995). The constraints used include, from weaker to stronger: (1) model structure, (2) model structure and factor loadings and (3) model structure, factor loadings and unique variance.

F. Evaluation of model fit

Several well-known goodness-of-fit indices were used to evaluate model fit: the chi-square $\chi2$, the comparative fit index (CFI), the unadjusted goodness-of-fit indices (GFI), the normal fit index (NFI), the Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI), the root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA) and the standardized root mean square error residual (SRMR). Goodness-of-fit (GOF) indices provide "rules of thumb"for the recommended cutoff values to evaluate data-model fit. Hu and Bentler (1999) recommend using combinations of GOF indices to obtain a robust evaluation of model fit. The criterion values they list for a model with good fit are CFI >

0.90, TLI > 0.90, RMSEA < 0.08, and SRMR < 0.08 for assessing fit in structural equation modeling. Hu and Bentler offer cautions about the use of GOF indices, and current practice seems to have incorporated their new guidelines without sufficient attention to the limitations noted by Hu and Bentler. Moreover, some researchers (Beauducel& Wittmann, 2005; Fan &Sivo, 2005; Marsh, Hau, & Wen, 2004; Yuan, 2005) believe that these cutoff values are too rigorous and the results by Hu and Bentler may have limited generalizability to the levels of misspecification experienced in typical practice. In general practice, a "good enough" or "rough guideline" approach is that for absolute fit indices and incremental fit indices (such as CFI, GFI, NFI, and TLI), cutoff values should be above 0.90 (0.90 benchmark) and for fit indices based on residuals matrix (such as RMSEA and SRMR), values below 0.10 or 0.05 are usually considered adequate. All analyses were conducted using AMOS 18.0 was used to analyse all.

The above results also show the regression and standard regression weights. It is understood that the factors which are considered in this study are clearly explained by the variables as the regression weights are more than 0.5 except few. The dependent variable social empowerment is influenced by the social traits Life-oriented, Caring, Inclusiveness, Knowledge-seeking, Self-responsible, Equality, Health-consciousness and Democracy as the R^2 value is 0.473.That is, these independent variables are explaining the dependent variable social empowerment about 47.3% percentage. The goodness of fit indices shows satisfactory.

G. Managerial Implications

1. It is found that the independent variables are significantly influencing the dependent variable social empowerment. The self-responsibility, life-orientedness, knowledge-seeking are the most influencing factors to the social empowerment.

2. The natural environment in the district is highly responsible that it provides precious water and food and conducive climate to the living. So a person growing in the district has to be definitely responsible for his or her life. There is more hope for the sustainable resources that every member of the district can survive without much risk. There is no much murmuring about the government that the people themselves safeguard their life and their physique by the nutritious food culture support the self-responsibility.

3. The factor life-orientedness means the people preserve the Eco sensitivity. There is a strong opposition from the people always that whenever a policy which disturbs the eco-balance by government or private. And there is more mutual support between entrepreneurs. The fishermen do fishing as a small group where there is equal share. The villagers support the other for employment. Child labor is totally abolished in the district. Even though there is more suicides there are many preventive awareness programs regarding suicide. Christianity which covers half of the population by

its priests and pastors motivate people regularly for better life. That is why there arefewer suicides among Christians comparing with other communities. So there is always a cordial relationship between social movements and Christianity.

4. The knowledge-seeking factor gets strengthenedin the district as it stands first in education among other districts in Tamilnadu. Automatically they enjoy the techno world. More educational institutions by non-governmental sector is the sign that the people are more knowledge seeking.

5. The factor caring means deeper that there is a constant education to respect life, to become aware of the rights of children, to support the pregnant women, to stay with the children that they feel the presence of their parents especially the father. Since the people are hard-working and always wanted a standard life the fathers and brothers of the family leave the family and work in abroad or in other states. So the social movements and church movements become caring instruments to support the people.

6. The factor inclusiveness is inherited much among the people of kanyakumari district that there is not much gap between rich and poor. The church plays a vital role to bring them under one umbrella. The caste discrimination is comparatively less in the district. The influence of caste group is little only. By the strong education there is a new hope that marriage between different castes gets accepted well.

7. Equality is another factor which significantly influencing social empowerment. The domination by men is totally opposed by all communities. There is always wage for workers are high in the district. There arefewer gaps between workers and owners that the owner of the building feeds the workers while working. The family of the employer takes care of the workers with highrespect.

8. When there is privatization in school and college education then there is health declination in the district. In private schools there is no opportunity to eat well, play well. There are so many martial arts school in the district helping people be fit. The social movements support these schools and campaign against private schools which cause health declination.

9. Democracy is a global factor which covers everything. People like the participatory model for any organization. Even the Catholic Church has changed its governance by the strong campaign of social movements. The village (parish) administration follows the participatory model only. Again the

educational institutions become autocratic that the social moments stand strongly for mother tongue and propagate democracy. There is a strong political stand against death penalty by which a government becomes more than people. So the district is people district where democracy is fundamental.

10. By all these independent factors the dependent factor social empowerment is much in the district. It is evident that people become conscious of their rights and freedom. They believe that they are responsible for their freedom. People feel that they are important in the society. The people hope that they can overwhelm any social evils with their leaders. They are able to identify the right leaders and they support new emerging leaders. Above all they are constantly conscious about the presence of social movements and their contribution towards the welfare of the society.

11. The research motivates that there can be further studies on other sectors like NGOs, Religious Organizations, Entrepreneurs, etc. for the empowerment of the district.

VI. CONCLUSION

As the majority of people in the world run towards profit and luxurious life style the marginalized and poor long for food and cloth? It is unimaginable that if there are no social movements there is no survival of poor. So to say people live by social movements. Social movements give meaning to the life that their members are always ready to sacrifice life for people. There are so many martyrs from these movements that they lost their life for the public cause. Later they become the models to refer. Kanyakumari district too finds so many martyrs from social movements for the betterment of people. In kingly rule the profit is for the king but todays in democracy the profit must reach to people. If it is not then there needs a social movement. All the social movements which work for dalits, women, children, workers, education, culture, minorities have contributed a lot to the empowerment. Sometimes the social movements are cornered as anti-social elements. But they never look for name and fame or awards from the government. It is the duty of every individual to encourage the social movements. From the school age the children must be to join the various movements of their interest. It is visible that the persons from the social movements are contributory to the empowerment. They must be recognized and it is proved clearly that the social traits to be inculcated are life-orientedness, caring, inclusiveness, knowledge-seeking, self-responsible, equality, health consciousness and democracy.

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