

Visit examrace.com for free study material, doorsteptutor.com for questions with detailed explanations, and "Examrace" YouTube channel for free videos lectures

Examrace

▶ Examrace 398K

Andaman Sentinelese: Pre Neolithic Tribe (Download PDF)

(January 21, 2019)

American was killed w/arrows by tribal people of restricted island of Andaman. Sentinelese people who live in small forested island are known to resist all contact w/outsideers, often attacking anyone who comes near.

Image of Andaman Sentinelese

Sentinelese, a Negrito Tribe in North Sentinel Island:

Visit examrace.com for free study material, doorsteptutor.com for questions with detailed explanations, and "Examrace" YouTube channel for free videos lectures

- Sentinelese, a negrito tribe who live on North Sentinel Island of Andamans, have not faced incursions & remain hostile to outsiders.
- Inhabitants are connected to Jarawa on basis of physical, as well as linguistic similarities.
- Based on carbon dating of kitchen middens by Anthropological Survey of India, Sentinelese presence was confirmed in islands to 2,000 years ago.
- Genome studies indicate that Andaman tribes could have been on islands even 30,000 years ago.
- Sentinelese are pre-Neolithic people, who have inhabited North Sentinel Island for estimated 55,000 years, w/o contact w/outside World.
- Sentinelese & other aboriginal tribes are protected under “Andaman & Nicobar Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulation, 1956”.
- Having lived in isolation in island in Bay of Bengal for thousands of years, Sentinelese have no immunity or resistance to even commonest of infections.
- They are short statured possibly due to “island effect” that causes genetic limitation over time.
- Various degrees of protection are in place for indigenous people of A&N Islands, but it is complete in case of Sentinelese.

Protection of Sentinelese

- GoI issued Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 to declare traditional areas occupied by tribes as reserves & prohibited entry of all persons except those w/authorization.
- Photographing or filming tribe members is offence. Rules were amended later to enhance penalties. But restricted area permits were relaxed for some islands recently.
- Sentinelese’s language is so far understood by no other group & they have traditionally guarded their island fiercely, attacking most intruders w/spears & arrows.
- Arrows were fired even at govt. aircraft that flew over island after 2004 Tsunami.

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing scheme namely “Development of PVTGs” which covers 75 identified PVTGs among Scheduled Tribes in 18 States/UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Priority is assigned to PVTGs under schemes of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub-Scheme (TSS), Grants under Article 275 (1) of Constitution, Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations.

Criteria Was Categorized by Ministry of Home Affairs

- Pre-agriculture level of technology
- Stagnant or declining population
- Extremely low literacy
- Subsistence level of economy

Visit examrace.com for free study material, doorsteptutor.com for questions with detailed explanations, and "Examrace" YouTube channel for free videos lectures

- This is despite laws like Andaman & Nicobar Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulation (1956). There is Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti, special policy for Jarawas framed in 2004 & dedicated Protection Police.

Declining Immunity of Tribal Resulted in Their Declining Population

- Large chunk of population of 10 Great Andamanese tribes was wiped out after indigenous peoples caught syphilis, measles, & influenza on epidemic scale following contact w/early settlers.
- B/w 1998 & 2004, when Jarawa started to respond to state, all govt. hospitals bordering their reserve opened special wards to treat them for infections.
- Govt. gave up in mid-1990s, & in order to safeguard their health & sovereignty, decided that no one could enter 5-km buffer zone around their island, which was already out of bounds.
- There are more than 100 uncontacted tribes around World & most of them are in Amazon forest of South America & New Guinea, island off Australia.
- North Sentinel Island was protected area & not open to tourists. "Exact population of tribe is not known, but it is declining. Govt. has to protect them. "
- Poachers are known to fish illegally in waters around island, catching turtles & diving for lobsters & sea cucumbers.
- Various degrees of protection are in place for indigenous people of A&N Islands, but it is complete in case of Sentinelese. Administration enforces 'eyes-on & hands-off' policy to ensure that no poachers enter island".

- Published/Last Modified on: January 21, 2019

[International Relations/Organizations, Geography](#)

[← PREVIOUS](#)

[QS Asia Rankings 2019: 8 Universities from India Among Top 100](#)

[NEXT →](#)

[5 Issues Dominating the RBI Board Meeting](#)

-Examrace Team

▶ Monthly-updated, fully-solved, large current affairs-2018 question bank(more than 2000 problems): Quickly cover most-important current-affairs questions with pointwise explanations especially designed for IAS, NTA-NET, Bank-PO and other competitive exams.