

Soliga Tribe

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Soliga Tribe Latest News

A recent study showed that fortress conservation approach has led to uprooting, ongoing distress and despondency worldwide, and offers the Soligas in the Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary (BRTWS) as a prime conservation exemplar.

About Soliga Tribe

- The term “Soliga” **literally translates to “children of bamboo”**, which reflects the tribe’s relationship with nature and their belief that they too have emerged from it.
- **Distribution:** They are a group of **indigenous, forest-dwelling people** found mostly in **Tamil Nadu and Karnataka**.
- They reside in the peripheral forest areas near **Biligiri Rangana Hills and Male Mahadeshwara Hills**.
- Soligas was the first tribal community living inside a **tiger reserve** and getting their forest rights recognised by a court in a judgment in 2011.

- **Language:** The Dravidian language **sholaga is spoken by the Soliga**. They also speak Kannada and Tamil.
- The Soligas live in single-room huts, built **of bamboo and mud**.
- They believe in **coexisting with the environment** and have indigenous ways of using nature to make unique **utility products, such as the 'jottai'**, which is a cup made out of leaves.
- **Religion of Soliga Tribes :** Along with adhering to Hindu customs, the Soliga people **practice naturism and animism**.
- **Economy:** The traditional economy of the Soliga is **mostly based on shifting cultivation** and collection of **minor forest produce**.

Source: TH

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