

# Konda Reddy Tribe



- ✓ The Reddy are a prominent community of Karnataka. It is one of the most backward tribal groups in the state.
- ✓ They can also be found in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa and Maharashtra. However, traditionally the Reddy belong to the fourth of the Hindu Varnas, Sudra.
- ✓ One section of the Reddy is called Kapu which means guardian.
- ✓ They inhabit on both the banks of the Godavari River (East and West Godavari districts), in the hilly-forest region of Khammam (Telangana) and Srikakulam (Andhra Pradesh).



## Food and agriculture:

- ✓ The majority of the Reddy communities are non-vegetarian, and all the communities take rice as their staple cereals. Jowar, wheat, bajra and ragi are the other cereals for them.
- ✓ The traditional occupation of most of the Reddy groups is settled cultivation, followed by animal husbandry and labour.
- ✓ Both men and women smoke a homemade cheroot (chutta) which results a high incidence of mouth and throat cancer.



## Society

- ✓ The Reddy community has social divisions such as clans, lineage, subcastes and sects. These social divisions regulate marital alliances. They speak the Kannada and Telugu languages.
- ✓ Among the Reddy people, cross-cousin marriages of both types are allowed. Widow Remarriage is not permitted.
- ✓ Being a dominant community, the Reddy have been primarily landlords and landholders. Social control is regulated through traditional caste and village councils.



## Worship

- ✓ They are Hindu by faith and worship many deities. Their main festivals are Ugadi, Akshade and Dussehra. They play bhajans and kirtans.