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INFLUENCE OF BURMESE FOOD CULTURE ON CHENNAI CUISINE

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Abstract

The social role of food has sustained growing interest in recent times. These studies become even more meaningful to sociological discussions when the research participants have faced multiple levels of disadvantage based on immigration status, ethnicity, experience of trauma, language abilities, and geographic location. This research maps the social and cultural food journeys of people from Myanmar to the regional city of Coffs Harbour, Australia. This interdisciplinary study uses focused ethnography and participatory/collaborative research methods to document and analyse food experiences. The findings reveal a positive settlement story, one where differences and challenges have been overcome and a resilient community has utilised networks built to confidently mark out its place in a new home. The role of food in bringing together communities and individuals, has allowed these networks to be strengthened. This study also investigates the influence of Burmese food culture on Chennai cuisine.

Key words: Immigration status, Burmese food culture, Chennai cuisine.

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INTRODUCTION

This paper gives a brief overview of our ongoing research on the culinary influences of Burmese cuisine on Chennai cuisine. By examining the social and cultural elements that encourage or restrict the consumption of culturally significant, nourishing, and palatable foods, my study aims to analyse and describe the eating habits of humanitarian migrants. Poor nutritional results for migrants have been observed in Chennai, particularly for those with refugee histories. However, in order to comprehend dietary "choices," it is important to look at the sociocultural environment in which they occur. Beyond identifying the dietary difficulties this population has, the research also examines the benefits of food exchanges, such as preparing traditional foods at home, participating in community cooking events, and gardening. Although the focus of my research is on the unique experiences of the Myanmar community in Chennai, similar problems can also be seen in settlements for former refugees from other cultures and by migrant communities more generally. The fieldwork has been finished, but early results point to the need for a theoretical framework that takes place-making, identity, power, and agency concepts into account. Before I start, just a brief clarification. In order to express support for Burma, I purposefully used the word Burma instead of Myanmar when I started my study. My research contributors, who represent a range of ethnic groups, have recently pushed me to choose Myanmar because they believe it to be more inclusive of ethnic minorities.

➤ Burmese cuisine consists of delicacies from different parts of Myanmar. Although the Barmars are the majority, other ethnic groups, like the Karen, also have distinctive foods.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

- To study the business market of Burmese food culture.
- To know customer preference of Burmese market.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study cross country food culture between Indian and Burmese
- To study the prospective customers for these cuisines
- To study the scope in this food culture to a business venture
- To understand the evaluation of food passing through two entirely different culture

LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The output of the focus group interview may be somewhat slanted in certain of its portions, which is one of its drawbacks. Furthermore, a questionnaire survey cannot adequately address some issues that are qualitative or subjective to individual perception. A combination of open-ended questionnaires and focus group interviews were utilised to streamline the research process and guarantee that the respondents' impressions were accurately captured. The surveys were initially distributed to a sizable sample, and smaller focus group interviews were done based on the respondents' desire to participate in a discussion. The technique of sampling was convenience and random sampling in light of the length of the study and other current societal issues. Although every effort has been made to reduce bias, because the survey was conducted, some bias may still exist.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- Desmond Tan (Author), Kate Leahy (Author) 28 March 2017. Burma Superstar is a Bay Area institution that serves up a taste of Myanmar's addictively savoury and spicy cuisine. It is known for its crowded tables, the sizzle of onions and garlic in the wok, and a wait time so infamous that people begin to queue before the doors even open. The distinctive Tea Leaf Salad, Chilli Lamb, Pork and Pumpkin Stew, Platha (a buttery layered flatbread), Spicy Eggplant and Mohinga, a fish noodle soup that is arguably Myanmar's national dish are just a few of the standout dishes in Burma

Superstar. Burmese food is a unique blend of flavours with influences from neighbouring India and China, as well as Thailand and Laos.

- William J. Topich and Keith A. Leitch (2013). *the nation's past*. ABC-CLIO. The History of Myanmar offers a thorough historical review of the significant figures, locations, and occasions in the history and present of this frequently-overlooked nation. It provides a background for the further investigation of Myanmar's complex history by chronologically examining the country's history from the Neolithic to all of its reigning dynasties to the current period. The specific conditions that led to the creation of the contemporary nation of Myanmar are given particular focus in this essay.
- Nalini Ranjan Chakravarti. *The Rise and Fall of an Immigrant Community: The Indian Minority in Burma* (1971), Oxford University Press, London. The goal of this article is to examine the contemporary significance, influence, and function of Burmese Indian minorities in post-1988 Burma as well as the attitudes that elite and society among the Burmese indigenous people have evolved towards them since colonial times. Indian communities immigrated in large numbers to British Burma (1826–1948), which resulted in a colonial enterprise that was disproportionately dominated by Indian communities.
- Walter S. Desai, from 1954. *Orient Longmans, Calcutta, published India and Burma*: This book was written by W S Desai in the year 1952. It is mainly a brief examination of Indo-Burmese ties with a focus on the contemporary era. The author claims that by doing this, the two countries will be better able to comprehend one another and develop stronger empathy for one another's points of view.
- K. S. Sandhu and A. Mani, 683–706. This article aims to examine the contemporary function, importance, and

influence of Burmese Indian minorities in post-1988 Burma as well as the attitudes that the indigenous elite and society of Burma have evolved towards them since colonialism. Indian people immigrated in great numbers to British Burma (1826–1948), where they unjustly predominated the colonial enterprise. Thus, a deep sense of resentment developed among the majority of Burman Buddhists, as evidenced by the rise of the 'indophobia' phenomenon.

- **Michael Adas**. *The Burma Delta: Economic Development and Social Change on an Asian Rice Frontier*, 18. Adas has significantly improved our knowledge of the economic history and development of Burma and shown how creative and meticulous studies may significantly advance our knowledge of colonial regimes in Southeast Asia.
- Lewis, C. J. *Madras: Oxford University Press*. 1982. This book explores how people have developed knowledge about agricultural geography and cultural identity. A population was fixed in a resacralized territory as a result, which proved valuable in many ways to British officials, Tamil nationalists, and local farmers of various classes. In order to address pressing problems about the relationship between culture and villages as a component of that recently consecrated geography, this book examines how both the British and locals in the Madras region of what would become South India came up with solutions. In an effort to ease tensions inherent in the formation of a new society, the people came up with these challenges and the solutions.
- Cheng Siok-Hwa, This investigation into Burma's rice business is limited to the period under British rule before to the Second World War. The rice industry, which is still Burma's most significant industry in terms of export earnings and the percentage of the population employed in it, underwent many changes during the Japanese occupation and the post-war

years, some of which were far-reaching and cataclysmic. Before World War I, private enterprise gave way to varying degrees of state control.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The strategies or methods utilised to perform the research may be referred to as the research methodologies. The following three categories can be applied to research methodologies.

First, we include the techniques that focus on data collecting. These techniques are utilised when the data currently at hand is insufficient to reach the desired conclusion.

The second category comprises of statistical techniques that are employed to determine the link between various variables.

The group consists of approaches that are employed to assess the correctness of the outcomes.

The actions and tools used in choosing and putting together research methodologies are referred to as research methods.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY TO BE USED

SAMPLE OF THE SELECTED ORGANISATION	Research and analysis from the field
NATURE OF DATA	Primary and secondary
SAMPLING	Paris corner(Chennai),Burmese food street
COLLECTION METHODS	Structured Questionnaire
TOOLS & TECHNIQUES OF ANALYSIS	Percentage Analysis

SAMPLING DESIGN

The Sampling designs has been designed by taking in to customers and shop holders of Chennai Burmese food street in Paris corner Chennai

Follow table shows sample size

S. No of Respondents	Numbers
Customers	100
Shop Holders	10
Total	110

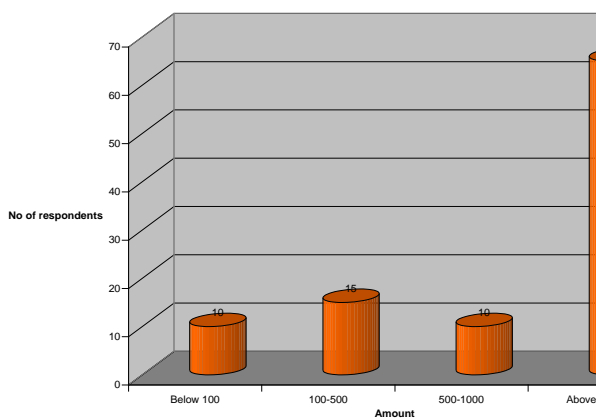
DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1

Amount Spent By the respondents per Month for Having Burmese street Food in Chennai

S. No	Amount	Number of respondents	% of respondents
1	Below 100	10	10%
2	100-500	15	15%
3	500-1000	10	10%
4	Above 1000	65	65%

Chart 1



INFERENCE

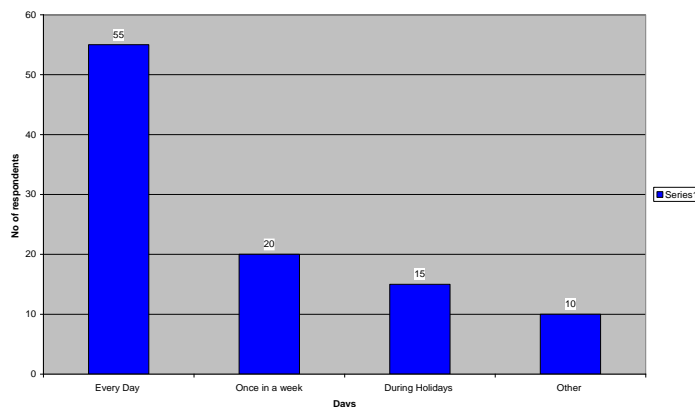
- Majority of 65% of the respondent’s spending above 1000 per month for having Burmese food .
- Less majority of 15% of the respondent’s spend between 100-500 per month for having Burmese food.
- Minority of 10% of the respondent’s spending between 500-1000 per month for having Burmese food .
- Less minority of 10% of the respondent’s spend below 100 per month for having Burmese food .

Table 2

Frequency of eating Burmese street food in a week

S .No	Days	Number of respondents	% of respondents
1	Every Day	55	55%
2	Once in a week	20	20%
3	During Holidays	15	15%
4	Other	10	10%

CHART 2



INFERENCE

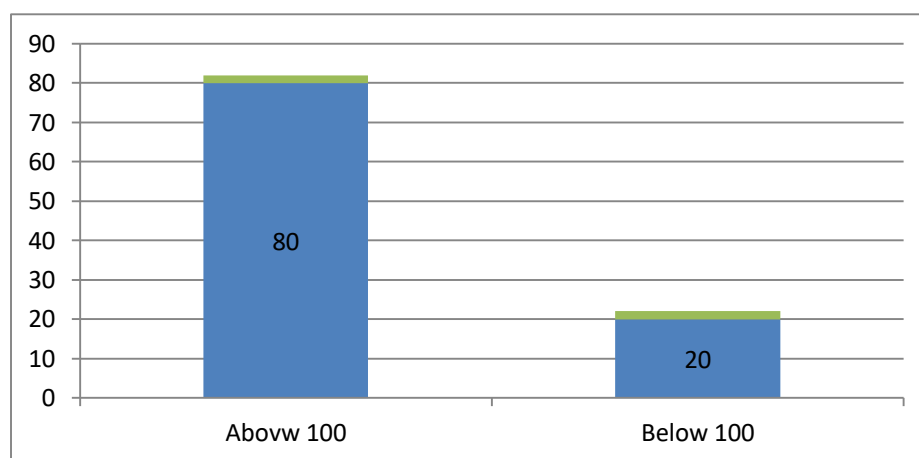
- Majority of 55% of the respondent's eating Burmese food every day.
- Less majority of 20% of the respondent's eating Burmese food once in a week.
- Minority of 15% of the respondent's eating Burmese food during holidays.
- Less minority of 10% of the respondent's eating Burmese food on other days

Table 3

Approximate guest arrival per day.

S NO	Guest arrival per day	%Guest arrival per day
1	Above 100	80%
2	Below 100	20%

CHART 3



INFERENCE

- Majority of 80% of guest arrival per day.
- Less majority of 20% of guest arrival per day.

FINDINGS

- According to the survey most of the male respondents prefer Burmese street food.
- Most of the respondent's age lies between 15 to 30 years of age group.
- In Burmese street food majority of the respondent is other peoples like students, local peoples etc.
- Majority of the of respondent's monthly income lies between five thousand to fifteen thousand.

- Most of the respondent's eating Burmese food every day.
- Most of the respondent's spending above thousand per month for having Burmese food .
- Large number of the respondent's prefer to have their food along with friends.
- According to the survey most of the respondent's prefer to have both vegetarian and non vegetarian food.
- Most of the respondent's prefer to give 5 stars for the Burmese street food
- Most of the respondent's likes the Burmese street food.
- According to the survey large number of guest arrival per day for the Burmese street food is 80%.
- According to the survey they handle Less guest complaint about the food.
- According to the survey the Stall running in high profit.

CONCLUSION

Indian migratory movements in Myanmar and the rest of Southeast Asia have four defining traits. First, the majority of the migrants were labourers and auxiliary, most of whom were indentured. But there was also a constant stream of traders and merchants. Second, a higher influx of Indian populations moved to Southeast Asia, primarily to Malaya and Myanmar, as a result of the area's rapid economic expansion brought on by the region's abundant natural resource economies. Since Myanmar and India were once a part of the same colony, this movement was not cyclical or temporary and permitted long-term habitation. Thirdly, neither the demographic makeup nor the geographic origins of the Indian communities were consistent. Fourth and lastly, after World War II, there was a rapid reduction in the dominance, prominence, and significance of the Indian communities, which was

consolidated by the process of decolonization and the establishment of sovereign nations. The two largest minorities are Shan (9%) and Karen (7%). The Mon, Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Kayan, Danu, Akha, Kokang, Lahu, Rohingya, Tavoyan, and Wa peoples are among the other indigenous minority tribes. They make up around 5% of the total population. The nation had never been a single State before to Burma's acquisition as a crucial component of the Indian Empire in 1886. Additionally, the British allowed numerous indigenous groups to have their own administrative structure while residing in frontier areas. The government might take into account leveraging this evolving relationship with the young democratic nation to improve the status or at the very least offer consular support to the PIOs in Myanmar. Better migratory policies for the Indian population in Myanmar could follow from talks, opening the door for their development.

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