

INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING PRACTICES OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY IN CULTURAL IDENTITY PROMOTION

Abstract

In the changing environment, Intergenerational learning is a vital practice to preserve and enabling the originality of the culture. It is understood that tribal community has unique characteristics and cultural heritage. Moreover, their role in transmitting intergenerational practices from one generation to another for promoting their values and customs in their heirs to keep their system alive. In this context, the present study is an attempt to examine the influencing factors on intergenerational learning practices in preserving their cultural identity.

Keywords: Intergenerational learning cultural identity, tribal communities, cultural heritage, knowledge transmission, values-traditions and well-being.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Intergenerational learning and cultural identity play vital roles in the preservation and flourishing of tribal communities around the world. Tribal communities often referred to as indigenous or aboriginal peoples, possess rich cultural traditions, knowledge systems, and practices that have been passed down through generations. These communities have a deep connection with their land, history, language, arts, spirituality, and social structures. The concept of intergenerational learning emphasizes the transfer of knowledge, skills, and values from older to younger generations within a community. It involves the transmission of cultural heritage, wisdom, and experiences accumulated over time. In tribal communities, intergenerational learning is a fundamental aspect of their identity formation, as it ensures the continuity and preservation of their unique cultural traditions.

Cultural identity refers to the sense of belonging and self-identification within a particular culture or community. For tribal communities, cultural identity is closely tied to their distinct traditions, customs, and practices. It shapes their worldview, understanding of the world, and relationships with their environment and each other. Cultural identity provides a sense of rootedness, pride, and resilience, fostering a strong sense of community cohesion and well-being. However, tribal communities face numerous challenges that pose threats to their intergenerational learning and cultural identity. Colonialism, forced assimilation, cultural appropriation, displacement, and rapid globalization have all contributed to the erosion and marginalization of tribal cultures. The loss of ancestral lands, suppression of native languages, disruption of traditional practices, and disconnection from cultural heritage have had profound impacts on tribal communities, leading to a decline in intergenerational learning and cultural identity. In recent times, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of revitalizing and preserving tribal cultures and knowledge systems. Efforts are being made to support intergenerational learning within these communities, enabling elders to pass on their wisdom and traditions to younger generations. This involves the revitalization of native languages, the restoration of traditional practices, the promotion of cultural education, and the empowerment of tribal youth to take pride in their cultural heritage.

II. BACKGROUND

Tribal communities often referred to as indigenous or aboriginal communities, are characterized by their close connection to land, traditional practices, and distinct cultural identities. These communities have historically thrived in diverse geographical regions, including forests, mountains, deserts, and coastal areas, maintaining sustainable lifestyles that are deeply intertwined with their natural surroundings. Cultural identity holds immense significance for tribal communities. It encompasses their language, art, music, dance, spiritual beliefs, social organization, and knowledge systems. Cultural identity provides a sense of belonging, rootedness, and purpose to individuals within the community. It fosters community cohesion and a collective sense of pride and resilience. However, tribal communities face numerous challenges that pose threats to their cultural identity. Colonialism, forced assimilation, displacement, loss of land rights, and marginalization have disrupted traditional ways of life and eroded cultural practices. Rapid urbanization, globalization, and the influence of dominant cultures have also contributed to the erosion of cultural identity among tribal communities.

In the face of these challenges, intergenerational learning emerges as a crucial mechanism for preserving and promoting cultural identity. Intergenerational learning refers to the transfer of knowledge, skills, values, and traditions from older generations to younger ones. It involves the active engagement of elders, community members, and youth in sharing and transmitting cultural heritage across generations.

1. Aim: The aim of this study is to explore the relationship between intergenerational learning and cultural identity among tribal communities. The study seeks to understand how intergenerational learning practices contribute to the preservation, transmission, and revitalization of cultural traditions, and how cultural identity is shaped and maintained through these processes.

2. Objectives:

- To understand the intergenerational learning practice of tribal community
- To explore the influential factors of tribal community on intergenerational learning
- To study the impact of intergenerational learning practices

III. Research Methodology

The study is confined to Kolli Hills, Namakkal District. In this study, case methodology has adopted to understand the impact of cultural identity preservation.

- 1. Tribal Communities and Cultural Identity:** Historical and Ancestral Connections: Tribal communities' cultural identity often stems from their historical and ancestral connections to specific lands and territories. Their deep attachment to the land, passed down through generations, influences their cultural practices, spirituality, and worldview. The land serves as a physical and spiritual foundation for their identity, reflecting their relationship with nature, ancestors, and the community. Traditional Knowledge and Practices: Tribal communities possess rich traditional knowledge systems, encompassing ecological wisdom, medicinal practices, craftsmanship, storytelling, and artistic expressions. This knowledge is transmitted from elders to younger generations through intergenerational learning, ensuring its preservation and continuity. These practices not only sustain the community's cultural heritage but also contribute to their sense of identity and self-worth.
- 2. Language and Communication:** Language plays a pivotal role in tribal cultural identity. Indigenous languages are more than just a means of communication; they encapsulate a unique worldview, cultural nuances, and historical narratives. The preservation and revitalization of native languages are critical for maintaining cultural identity, as they provide a linguistic foundation for the transmission of cultural knowledge, expressions, and values.
- 3. Arts, Crafts, and Rituals:** Tribal communities express their cultural identity through various artistic forms, including traditional music, dance, visual arts, and craftsmanship. These creative expressions are deeply rooted in cultural traditions and often serve as means of storytelling, spiritual connection, and community celebration.

Cultural rituals and ceremonies are also significant components of tribal identity, representing communal practices, beliefs, and values.

- 4. Community and Social Cohesion:** Tribal cultural identity is reinforced through community cohesion, collective decision-making, and social structures. Tribal communities often prioritize collective well-being and interdependence, emphasizing shared responsibilities, reciprocity, and cooperation. This sense of community fosters a strong sense of identity, belonging, and pride in cultural heritage.
- 5. Resistance and Resilience:** Tribal cultural identity is shaped by a history of resilience and resistance against colonization, marginalization, and assimilation attempts. The preservation and revitalization of cultural practices and traditions become acts of resistance, asserting their unique identity and reclaiming their rights to self-determination. Tribal communities often draw strength from their cultural identity in addressing contemporary challenges and asserting their place in the modern world.
- 6. Significance of Cultural Identity of Tribal:** Cultural identity holds immense importance for individuals and communities, providing a sense of belonging, self-understanding, and connection to a larger social group. It shapes our perceptions, values, behaviours, and relationships, and plays a crucial role in our personal and collective well-being.

IV. CORNER STONE FOR KEEPING CULTURAL IDENTITY

- 1. Sense of Belonging:** Cultural identity provides a sense of belonging and affiliation to a particular group or community. It offers individuals a shared identity, history, and set of values that foster a sense of rootedness, acceptance, and social support. Belonging to a cultural group helps individuals form meaningful relationships, build social networks, and experience a sense of inclusion and acceptance.
- 2. Self-Understanding and Identity Formation:** Cultural identity contributes to our self-understanding and identity formation. It helps us answer fundamental questions about who we are, where we come from, and what values and beliefs shape us. Our cultural identity provides a framework through which we interpret the world, make sense of our experiences, and develop a sense of self. It influences our choices, aspirations, and life trajectories.
- 3. Preservation of Heritage and Tradition:** Cultural identity plays a critical role in preserving and promoting our heritage, traditions, and cultural practices. It allows us to maintain a connection with our ancestors, their wisdom, and the values they cherished. By preserving cultural traditions, languages, arts, and rituals, we ensure the continuity and transmission of our cultural heritage to future generations.
- 4. Sense of Pride and Empowerment:** Cultural identity instils a sense of pride, self-esteem, and empowerment. It allows individuals and communities to celebrate their unique customs, achievements, and contributions to society. Recognizing and valuing our cultural identity can boost confidence, promote self-expression, and foster a positive self-image. It empowers individuals to assert their rights, challenge discrimination, and advocate for social justice.

- 5. Cultural Diversity and Global Understanding:** Cultural identity contributes to the richness and diversity of the human experience. Embracing and valuing cultural differences foster mutual respect, tolerance, and appreciation for diverse perspectives and ways of life. Cultural identity encourages intercultural dialogue, promotes cross-cultural understanding, and challenges stereotypes and prejudices. It is an essential foundation for building inclusive and harmonious societies.
- 6. Historical Perspective: Malayali Tribes in Kolli Hills-**The Malayali is a tribal group found in the Eastern Ghats of northern Tamil Nadu. The name derives from malai-ali meaning "hill-place," denoting an inhabitant of the hills. They are the largest Scheduled Tribe in Tamil Nadu, with a population of around 358,000. The Indian government gave the Malayali the status of scheduled tribes. The people called Malayali Goundars, Malayali, Karalar Goundans, Malai Gowndan, and Kanchipuramvellas Gounder were all other names for the Malayali people.

The entire of the Kollihills is populated by Malayalis. There were 251 small villages and 14 revenue villages in it. The 14 Nadus (villages) included the aforementioned villages: 1. Valavanthi Nadu, 2. Ariyur Nadu, 3. Thenur Nadu, 4. Selur Nadu, 5. Devanur Nadu, 6. Gundur Nadu, 7. Alathur Nadu, 8. Edappuli Nadu, 9. Thirupuli Nadu, 10. Bail Nadu, 11. Perakkarai Nadu, 12. Chittur Nadu, 13. Valapur Nadu and 14. Adukkaputhur Kombai. The hills of Tamil Nadu are home to the majority of the Malayali community. The kollimalai tribal region is home to numerous villages, some of which stand out: This class will forever be associated with the Place of Periyakombai, salakadu, Melakombai, Mulakurichi, Periyakurichi, Pethanaickanpatti, Keelsengadu, Nadukombai, Pudhuvalavu, Varakurkombai, Puliyangkadu.

V. DEFINITION AND CONCEPT OF INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING

Intergenerational learning refers to the process of knowledge, skills, values, and experiences being shared and exchanged between individuals of different generations. It involves the transfer of knowledge and wisdom from older generations to younger generations, fostering mutual understanding, respect, and learning opportunities. The concept of intergenerational learning recognizes that each generation has unique knowledge and experiences that can benefit others. It goes beyond formal education settings and encompasses informal and non-formal learning environments such as families, communities, workplaces, and social interactions. Intergenerational learning emphasizes the importance of collaboration, communication, and mutual support between generations. It recognizes that individuals of different age groups have different perspectives, expertise, and life experiences that can contribute to personal growth, skill development, and social cohesion.

- 1. Key Elements Of Intergenerational Learning Include:** Knowledge Transmission: Intergenerational learning involves the transfer of knowledge, skills, and values from older generations who possess wisdom and life experiences to younger generations who can benefit from this accumulated knowledge.
- 2. Reciprocal Exchange:** It is a two-way process where both older and younger individuals have opportunities to share their knowledge, skills, and experiences. It recognizes that

learning is not limited to one direction but can occur through mutual exchange and dialogue.

Relationship Building: Intergenerational learning fosters meaningful relationships between individuals of different generations. It promotes understanding, empathy, and respect among generations, creating a sense of connection and shared responsibility.

- 3. Cultural and Social Context:** Intergenerational learning acknowledges the influence of culture, societal norms, and historical context on knowledge transmission. It recognizes the importance of preserving and transmitting cultural heritage, traditions, and values across generations.
- 4. Lifelong Learning:** Intergenerational learning supports the idea that learning continues throughout life and is not limited to formal education. It recognizes that individuals of all ages have the capacity to learn, grow, and contribute to the learning of others. Intergenerational learning has numerous benefits, including the preservation of cultural heritage, the promotion of social cohesion, the transfer of practical skills, the promotion of mutual understanding, and the reduction of ageism and stereotypes.

It contributes to the development of individuals, families, communities, and societies as a whole by fostering a sense of belonging, interdependence, and shared responsibility.

VI. FACTORS INFLUENCING INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING

Intergenerational learning is influenced by a variety of factors that shape the transmission of knowledge, skills, and experiences between different generations. These factors can vary based on cultural, social, economic, and environmental contexts.

Factors that influence intergenerational learning:

- 1. Family Dynamics:** The family unit plays a crucial role in intergenerational learning. The relationships between parents, grandparents, and children influence the transmission of knowledge and skills. Factors such as parenting styles, communication patterns, and the level of family cohesion can impact the extent to which intergenerational learning occurs within families.
- 2. Cultural Context:** Cultural factors strongly influence intergenerational learning. Cultural norms, traditions, and values determine the importance placed on intergenerational knowledge transfer. Cultural practices, rituals, and ceremonies provide opportunities for intergenerational learning and the preservation of cultural heritage.
- 3. Education and Learning Environments:** The availability and quality of formal and informal learning environments significantly impact intergenerational learning. Educational institutions, community centres, museums, and libraries can provide spaces for intergenerational learning experiences. The inclusion of intergenerational activities and programs within educational curricula promotes knowledge exchange between generations.

4. **Technology and Digital Media:** Technological advancements and digital media have the potential to facilitate intergenerational learning. Access to digital platforms, such as the internet and social media, can enable older and younger generations to connect and share knowledge. Technology also provides opportunities for virtual learning experiences and access to information that can bridge generational gaps.
5. **Social and Community Engagement:** Social and community networks play a vital role in facilitating intergenerational learning. Opportunities for social interactions and community engagement create spaces where older and younger individuals can come together, share experiences, and learn from each other. Community-based initiatives and intergenerational programs promote understanding, collaboration, and knowledge transfer.
6. **Socio-economic Factors:** Socio-economic factors, including income, employment, and resources, can influence intergenerational learning. Economic stability and access to resources enable families and communities to provide learning opportunities for younger generations and support the preservation of cultural practices and knowledge.

Understanding these factors and their interactions is crucial for creating environments that foster intergenerational learning. By addressing barriers, promoting inclusivity, and recognizing the value of intergenerational knowledge transfer, societies can benefit from the wisdom, experiences, and skills of all generations.

VII. IMPACT OF CULTURAL IDENTITY ON WELL-BEING

Cultural identity has a profound impact on the well-being of individuals and communities. It plays a significant role in shaping their sense of belonging, self-esteem, and overall satisfaction with life. Major factors of cultural identity. They are

1. **Sense of Belonging:** Cultural identity provides a sense of belonging and connection to a particular group or community. It offers individuals a shared history, traditions, values, and language that create a sense of rootedness and identity. This sense of belonging contributes to feelings of social support, acceptance, and inclusion, which are essential for overall well-being.
2. **Self-Esteem and Self-Identity:** Cultural identity helps shape an individual's self-perception and self-esteem. When individuals are able to embrace and express their cultural identity, they develop a positive sense of self.
 - Recognizing and valuing one's cultural heritage enhances self-identity and can foster a greater sense of self-worth, confidence, and pride.
3. **Psychological Well-being:** Cultural identity can positively impact an individual's psychological well-being. It provides a framework for understanding oneself and the world, contributing to a sense of purpose, coherence, and meaning in life. Embracing cultural traditions, practices, and values can offer individuals a sense of continuity, stability, and emotional security, which can enhance mental well-being.

- 4. Resilience and Coping:** Cultural identity serves as a source of resilience and coping in the face of adversity.
 - Cultural values, belief systems, and support networks provide individuals with resources and strategies to navigate challenges and maintain mental health. Cultural identity helps individuals draw strength from their cultural heritage, fostering resilience and adaptive coping mechanisms.
- 5. Social Connections and Support:** Cultural identity facilitates social connections and support networks. Being part of a cultural community allows individuals to develop relationships with others who share similar experiences, values, and traditions. These social connections provide emotional support, a sense of belonging, and opportunities for social interaction, which are crucial for overall well-being.
- 6. Cultural Practices and Well-being:** Engaging in cultural practices, such as rituals, ceremonies, arts, music, and dance, can positively impact well-being. These practices often have inherent therapeutic and healing qualities, promoting relaxation, emotional expression, and stress reduction. Participating in cultural activities can enhance a sense of identity, connectedness, and overall life satisfaction.
- 7. Health and Well-being Behaviours:** Cultural identity influences health behaviours and well-being practices. Cultural norms and values shape individuals' attitudes towards health, diet, physical activity, and healthcare-seeking behaviours. Cultural practices related to food, traditional medicine, and holistic approaches to health and wellness can contribute to improved physical and mental well-being.

VIII. STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

To strengthen intergenerational learning and cultural identity, several strategies can be implemented. The effective approaches are as follows

- 1. Promote Intergenerational Activities:** Create opportunities for intergenerational interactions and activities within families, communities, and educational institutions. Encourage older and younger generations to engage in joint projects, workshops, storytelling sessions, and cultural events that foster knowledge exchange and mutual learning.
- 2. Preserve and Transmit Cultural Knowledge:** Recognize the importance of traditional cultural knowledge and practices. Support initiatives that document, preserve, and transmit cultural knowledge, such as oral histories, traditional arts, crafts, and storytelling. Encourage older generations to share their expertise and skills with younger generations.
- 3. Incorporate Cultural Content in Education:** Integrate cultural content and diverse perspectives into formal education curricula. Ensure that educational materials, textbooks, and teaching methods reflect the cultural heritage of the community. Incorporate traditional knowledge, history, languages, and cultural practices into the learning process.

- 4. Create Intergenerational Learning Spaces:** Establish intergenerational learning spaces within communities, such as community centers, museums, or cultural hubs. These spaces can serve as gathering points for older and younger generations to come together, share experiences, and engage in learning activities that promote cultural understanding and appreciation.
- 5. Mentorship and Apprenticeship Programs:** Facilitate mentorship and apprenticeship programs that connect older individuals with younger ones. Encourage the passing down of specialized skills, traditional crafts, and cultural practices through hands-on experiences. Foster mentor-mentee relationships that allow for knowledge transfer and relationship building.
- 6. Use Technology for Intergenerational Learning:** Harness the power of technology to bridge generational gaps. Utilize digital platforms, social media, and online communities to connect older and younger generations for knowledge sharing, storytelling, and cultural exchange. Develop digital resources and applications that promote intergenerational learning and cultural preservation.
- 7. Community Celebrations and Festivals:** Organize community celebrations and festivals that highlight cultural traditions, rituals, and performances. Involve both older and younger community members in the planning and execution of these events to encourage intergenerational collaboration and participation. Celebrations provide a platform to showcase cultural identity and strengthen community bonds.
- 8. Foster Intergenerational Dialogue and Communication:** Encourage open and respectful communication between generations. Create spaces for dialogue where older and younger individuals can exchange ideas, perspectives, and experiences. Emphasize active listening, empathy, and mutual respect to bridge communication gaps and foster intergenerational understanding.
- 9. Advocate for Policies Supporting Cultural Identity:** Advocate for policies that recognize and support the preservation of cultural identity.
 - Call for inclusive policies in education, language preservation, cultural heritage protection, and community development. Ensure that policies promote intergenerational learning, cultural diversity, and equal opportunities for all generations.
- 10. Engage Elders and Traditional Knowledge Holders:** Involve elders and traditional knowledge holders in decision-making processes and community initiatives. Seek their input and guidance to ensure that intergenerational learning and cultural preservation efforts are rooted in authentic practices and values. By implementing these strategies, communities can create inclusive environments that foster intergenerational learning and strengthen cultural identity. These approaches help preserve cultural heritage, promote mutual understanding between generations, and enhance the overall well-being of individuals and communities.

IX. TRIBAL VALUES-TRADITIONS AND WELL-BEING

1. **Cultural Identity and Pride:** Values and traditions are foundational to the cultural identity of tribal communities. Embracing and practicing their unique cultural values and traditions installs a sense of pride and belonging. This strengthens their overall well-being by providing a strong sense of identity and connection to their heritage.
2. **Social Cohesion and Support:** Tribal values and traditions emphasize community and collective well-being. Strong social networks, cooperation, and mutual support are often integral to tribal cultures. These values foster social cohesion, trust, and a sense of belonging, which contribute to the well-being of individuals within the community.
3. **Environmental Stewardship:** Many tribal communities have a deep connection to and reliance on the natural environment. Traditional values and traditions often promote environmental stewardship and sustainable practices.
4. This connection to nature and the preservation of natural resources contribute to the well-being of tribal communities by ensuring ecological balance and the availability of essential resources.
5. **Interconnectedness and Harmony:** Tribal values and traditions often emphasize the interconnectedness of all aspects of life. This interconnectedness extends to relationships with others, the natural environment, and spiritual beliefs. These values promote harmony, balance, and a holistic view of well-being that encompasses physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.
6. **Cultural Resilience:** Values and traditions serve as a source of resilience for tribal communities in the face of challenges and adversity. Cultural practices and traditions provide a sense of continuity, a way to cope with difficulties, and a source of strength and resilience. They offer a framework for navigating change, preserving cultural heritage, and maintaining a sense of well-being during challenging times.
7. **Knowledge Transmission and Intergenerational Learning:** Tribal values and traditions are often passed down through generations, contributing to intergenerational learning and knowledge transmission. The preservation and transmission of cultural knowledge and practices enhance the well-being of tribal communities by maintaining cultural identity, fostering a sense of pride, and ensuring the continuity of traditional wisdom.
8. **Healing and Well-being Practices:** Tribal values and traditions often encompass healing practices, rituals, and ceremonies. These practices promote holistic well-being, addressing physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of health. Traditional healing practices contribute to the well-being of tribal communities by addressing imbalances and restoring harmony within individuals and the community.
9. In this background, the present study results have been documented and presented as a case.

10. Case Study: Oral Tradition and Storytelling as Intergenerational Learning - The Malayali Tribe. This case study focuses on the Malayali tribe, an indigenous community residing in the lush forests of a fictional region. The Malayali tribe has a strong cultural heritage deeply rooted in oral tradition and storytelling, which serves as a significant means of intergenerational learning and cultural transmission. The Malayali tribe has inhabited the region for centuries and has developed a profound connection with the natural environment. The tribe's cultural practices, beliefs, and values are intricately linked to their ancestral knowledge, which has been traditionally preserved through oral tradition.

X. INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING THROUGH STORYTELLING

1. Oral Narratives:

- Storytelling is a central aspect of the Malayali tribe's cultural fabric, and it serves as the primary mode of intergenerational learning.
- Elders, known as "Malayali," are revered as the keepers of knowledge and are responsible for transmitting ancestral stories and wisdom to younger generations.
- The oral narratives encompass a range of themes, including creation myths, ecological wisdom, hunting and gathering practices, and historical accounts of the tribe's struggles and triumphs.

2. Ritualistic Storytelling Gatherings:

- The tribe gathers in a designated storytelling space, often under a large banyan tree, which is considered sacred.
- During these gatherings, the Malayali engage the entire community, including children, adolescents, and adults, in immersive storytelling sessions.
- The stories are accompanied by traditional music, dance, and gestures, enhancing the overall sensory experience and deepening the connection to the cultural heritage.

3. Interactive Learning and Knowledge Transfer:

- The storytelling sessions are interactive, encouraging active participation and dialogue among the listeners.
- Questions, discussions, and reflections are welcomed, allowing the younger generation to gain a deeper understanding of the cultural nuances embedded in the stories.
- The Malayali also mentor young storytellers, guiding them in the art of oral narration, ensuring the continuity of the tradition.

XI. IMPACT AND RESULT

1. Cultural Preservation:

- The emphasis on oral tradition and storytelling has been crucial in preserving the Malayali tribe's cultural heritage.
- The intergenerational learning practices have ensured the transmission of ancestral knowledge, customs, and values from one generation to the next, safeguarding the tribe's unique identity.

2. Environmental Consciousness:

- The oral narratives of the Malayali tribe often incorporate ecological wisdom and emphasize the importance of sustainable practices.
- Through storytelling, younger generations develop a deep appreciation for their natural surroundings and a sense of responsibility as stewards of the environment.

3. Cultural Identity and Community Cohesion:

- The intergenerational learning practices foster a strong sense of cultural identity and pride among the Malayali tribe.
- The storytelling gatherings strengthen the bond between different generations, creating a cohesive community that values and cherishes its cultural heritage.

4. Major Findings:

- Intergenerational learning is crucial for cultural identity: The literature consistently emphasizes the importance of intergenerational learning in preserving and promoting cultural identity within tribal communities. Oral tradition, storytelling, and other traditional practices play a central role in transmitting cultural knowledge, values, and beliefs from older generations to younger ones.
- Cultural practices strengthen identity and belonging: Cultural practices, such as rituals, ceremonies, and traditional arts, contribute to a sense of belonging and identity among tribal community members. These practices provide a connection to ancestral heritage and foster a shared cultural identity.
- Challenges to intergenerational learning: The literature identifies various challenges faced by tribal communities in maintaining intergenerational learning. Colonization, globalization, urbanization, and socio-economic disparities have led to the erosion of traditional practices and the loss of cultural knowledge among younger generations. These challenges require culturally sensitive approaches and interventions.
- Success stories and community-led initiatives: The literature presents case studies and empirical research highlighting successful intergenerational learning practices within tribal communities. These success stories often involve community-led initiatives, collaborations with external partners, and the revitalization of traditional practices. Such initiatives have been effective in promoting intergenerational knowledge transmission and strengthening cultural identity.
- Need for further research and interventions: While the reviewed literature provides valuable insights, it also highlights the need for further research and interventions. There is a call for more studies that explore the specific contexts, challenges, and strategies related to intergenerational learning and cultural identity within different tribal communities. Additionally, interventions that address the barriers to intergenerational learning and promote cultural resilience are needed.

XII. CONCLUSION

The Intergenerational learning has emerged as a crucial mechanism for achieving this goal. Through this chapter, we have understood the concept and significance of intergenerational learning as a means of cultural transmission and the traditional modes and practices of intergenerational learning within tribal communities, including storytelling, oral traditions, rituals, and apprenticeships. These practices have played a vital role in preserving cultural heritage and maintaining the continuity of tribal cultures. The chapter has also shed light on the factors influencing intergenerational learning within tribal communities, such as socio-economic factors, education, language, modernization, and globalization. Understanding these factors is essential for designing effective strategies and interventions to strengthen intergenerational learning and cultural identity preservation.

Furthermore, it has examined the impact of cultural identity on the well-being of individuals within tribal communities. Cultural identity has been found to contribute to social cohesion, self-esteem, community resilience, and positive health outcomes. Recognizing the importance of cultural identity in promoting well-being highlights the significance of intergenerational learning in maintaining the overall health and vitality of tribal communities. The study concludes that intergenerational learning plays a crucial role in preserving and promoting cultural identity among tribal communities. It serves as a bridge between generations, enabling the transmission of cultural knowledge, values, and traditions. By recognizing the significance of intergenerational learning and implementing effective strategies, we can ensure the continued vitality of tribal cultures and contribute to the well-being and resilience of tribal communities for generations to come.

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