

Godavari River, an Archeological View

by Potluri Rao In Seattle ©2018 (CC BY 4.0)

The Godavari river is in fact three different tributaries: Godavari, Wainganga, and Indravati. Twenty thousand years ago, the Indian monsoon winds blew from the Arabian Sea to Bay of Bengal. The area to the west of the Satpura Ridge was fertile lands and the area to the east was wastelands deprived of rainwater. The DNA H who lived on the West Coast 200 miles west of Mumbai 500 feet below the current sea levels were forced to move along the Narmada river to its headwaters when the melting glaciers swallowed their homelands.

At the time the H moved to the Narmada, the only place to the east of the Satpura with perpetual rainwater was the Nilgiri Hills at the bottom of the peninsula. The H who spoke the Kui language were split into two groups: Tamil, and Teli. The Tamil moved to the Nilgiri along the Wainganga. They lived only at the Nilgiri.

Four thousand years ago, the monsoon winds reversed direction and blew from the Bay of Bengal to Arabian Sea. The wastelands on the east side of the Satpura turned to fertile lands, and the fertile lands on the west side turned to wastelands. The Teli who were on the west side moved to the east side. At that time, the Krishna and Godavari delta was flood prone. The flood zone was occupied only after the British built dams to control floods. The area between the Satpura and Nilgiri was occupied only 4,000 years ago. The flood zone was occupied only 400 years ago. The Nilgiri was occupied for 20,000 years. The current population along the Godavari, Krishna, and Mahanadi are the Teli who lived on the west side of the Satpura for 20,000 years.

