

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57033

Title: Indigenous Knowledge of Salt-making among the Nocte: Integrating Local Economies, Lores, and Cultural Narratives

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer's ID: JPR-002

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The manuscript titled “*Indigenous Knowledge of Salt-making among the Nocte: Integrating Local Economies, Lores, and Cultural Narratives*” presents an insightful and interdisciplinary exploration of the traditional salt-making practices of the Nocte tribe of Arunachal Pradesh. The study effectively combines historical analysis, ethnographic insights, and cultural narratives to highlight the economic, social, and spiritual significance of salt springs in the life of the community. The topic is highly relevant, especially in the context of preserving indigenous knowledge systems and understanding their role in shaping local economies and cultural identity. The originality of the study is commendable, as it brings attention to a relatively underexplored subject and integrates multiple dimensions such as trade history, folklore, rituals, and medicinal uses of salt.

From a technical standpoint, the manuscript demonstrates a satisfactory level of scholarly effort, supported by references to historical records such as Buranjis, colonial documents, and field-based interviews. The descriptive sections on salt extraction techniques, construction of salt wells, and traditional practices are particularly valuable, providing rich empirical content. However, the paper would benefit from a clearer methodological framework, as the research design, data collection methods, and analytical approach are not explicitly articulated. Including a dedicated methodology section would enhance the academic rigor and credibility of the study.

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In terms of clarity and organization, the manuscript is generally well-structured, progressing logically from introduction to thematic discussions on economic, religious, and cultural aspects. The use of subheadings improves readability. Nevertheless, there are instances of grammatical errors, repetition, and inconsistent formatting that need careful editing. Some sections appear overly descriptive and could be made more concise, while others would benefit from deeper analytical interpretation rather than narrative presentation. The inclusion of folk tales and songs adds cultural richness, but their relevance to the core argument could be better integrated through critical analysis.

The significance of the study is notable, as it contributes to the documentation and preservation of indigenous knowledge, which is increasingly at risk due to modernization and changing socio-economic conditions. The discussion on the decline of traditional salt-making practices and the need for preservation initiatives is particularly important. The manuscript could be further strengthened by linking its findings to broader theoretical frameworks such as sustainable development, indigenous rights, or cultural heritage conservation. Additionally, policy implications and practical recommendations for revitalizing these traditional practices could be elaborated in greater detail.

Overall, the manuscript is a meaningful contribution to the fields of anthropology, cultural studies, and economic history. With revisions focusing on methodological clarity, language refinement, and enhanced analytical depth, the paper has strong potential for publication. The reviewer recommends **minor to moderate revisions** before acceptance.