

# Review of: "Alcohol Consumption in Ancient India and the Contemporary Challenges: A Study of Socio-Economic Implications and Anti-Liquor Protests in Tamil Nadu"

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Review of the article *Alcohol Consumption in Ancient India and the Contemporary Challenges: A Study of Socio-Economic Implications and Anti-Liquor Protests in Tamil Nadu*

The paper analyses several effects of alcohol consumption in contemporary India and takes a look at the ancient past and contradictory attitudes towards alcohol in ancient sources.

The author uses a wide range of different source material and literature, including data from reports, statistics on alcohol-related issues, epics and religious scriptures, newspapers, academic articles, and personal interviews. The author also conducted interviews with community members and experts. The different sources complement each other and are well combined.

The first part of the paper reveals how ancient Indian literature both supported and criticized alcohol consumption using good and effective examples. The section begins with the information that a legendary Indian Emperor and his soldiers were given wine as a sign of hospitality by a sage. On the other hand, a Hindu lawyer condemned alcohol consumption as a vice in 500. B.C.

Other subsections of the paper analyse various topics related to alcohol consumption in Tamil Nadu in contemporary India, including the impact of alcohol addiction on India's working class, the impact of domestic violence, and the resilience of women in rural areas.

The section "Alcohol Consumption in India: Trends, Consequences, and Illicit Production" is rich in statistical data from various sources. Although the article focuses on India, it occasionally shifts to the global scale, allowing the author to make comparisons with the Indian situation. Paragraphs on global trends in alcohol consumption are also supported by reputable statistical data.

The article explores multiple effects of increased alcohol consumption in Tamil Nadu, linking alcohol consumption to a lack of work efficiency and domestic violence. The author highlights the links between alcohol consumption and domestic violence and includes extensive references to research that explores this relationship, which strengthens his arguments. All the ill effects of alcohol consumption and alcohol addiction are convincingly explained, with references to several other works that support the argument. The local situations in Tamil Nadu are illustrated clearly to the readers with case studies.

The final part of the paper examines the interrelationship between policy, government revenue from the sale of alcoholic beverages, and the issue of alcohol prohibition. The author shows the multiple issues associated with alcohol prohibition and demonstrates how good policies face many obstacles to implementation in reality.

The author convincingly explains how the two leading parties in Tamil Nadu were reluctant to ban alcohol because of the revenue it brings to the state. However, the author is more positive about the AIADMK government's promises to phase out liquor shops. Perhaps the author could add brief information on the status of the alcohol prohibition measures taken by the governments from 2016 until today.

Although it covers several topics, the paper has a good flow, and the transition from one topic to another is logical due to a good structure. The objectives of the article are stated at the beginning and have guided the author through a well-structured paper covering different (aspects of) topics.

The various topics have been well explored, and the limited space does not allow for their expansion in this article. However, some of the issues could be explored in further articles. For example, it would be interesting to read an article on the perception of alcohol in ancient Indian texts.

The paper *Alcohol Consumption in Ancient India and the Contemporary Challenges* is a very good exploration of an interesting topic that is very relevant today. The author skilfully combines different sources and sheds light on various effects of alcohol consumption. The article could be valuable literature for researchers writing about the effects of alcohol consumption and addiction, focusing on India as well as other countries.