



Black Magic Laws in Kerala: An Overview and Analysis

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ABSTRACT:

Kerala, a southern state in India, is known for its rich cultural heritage, diverse traditions, and beliefs. One of the traditions that have been prevalent in Kerala for centuries is the practice of black magic. The state has a history of witchcraft, sorcery, and other forms of supernatural practices that have been used for both good and evil. However, with the rise of modernity, the practice of black magic has been considered illegal and is subject to punishment under the Indian Penal Code. This paper provides an overview of the black magic laws in Kerala and analyses their effectiveness in curbing the practice of black magic.

Keywords: Black magic, Kerala, Laws, Effectiveness, Indian Penal Code.

Introduction:

Black magic, also known as dark magic, is a form of supernatural practice that has been prevalent in many cultures and societies for centuries. Kerala, a state in India known for its cultural diversity, has a rich history of black magic. The practice of black magic involves using supernatural powers to harm or control others. Although black magic is considered illegal in India, it is still prevalent in some parts of Kerala. The state government has taken several measures to curb the practice of black magic, including enacting laws that criminalize such practices. However, the effectiveness of these laws in controlling black magic is questionable.

The Objective:

The objective of this paper is to provide an overview of the black magic laws in Kerala and to analyse their effectiveness in controlling the practice of black magic.

Methodology:

This paper is based on secondary research. The data has been collected from various sources, including books, articles, journals, and online sources. The research methodology used in this paper is qualitative. The data has been analyzed using content analysis.

Overview of Black Magic Laws in Kerala:

In Kerala, the practice of black magic is considered illegal and is subject to punishment under the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Section 3 of the Kerala Black Magic Act, 2018, criminalises the practice of black magic. The act defines black magic as the use of supernatural powers for evil purposes, including causing harm or injury to a person. The act also criminalises the promotion or advertisement of black magic. The punishment for the offence can range from imprisonment for up to five years and a fine of up to Rs. 10 lakhs

Analysis of Effectiveness of Black Magic Laws:

The effectiveness of black magic laws in Kerala is questionable. Despite the existence of the Kerala Black Magic Act, black magic practices continue to be prevalent in some parts of the state. The reasons for this include the lack of awareness among the general public about the illegality of such practices and the reluctance of victims to report incidents of black magic due to fear of retaliation.

Moreover, the enforcement of black magic laws in Kerala is also questionable. The police and other law enforcement agencies lack the necessary knowledge and training to identify and investigate incidents of black magic. There have also been cases of corruption and lack of political will to enforce the law.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the practice of black magic is a prevalent issue in Kerala. Although the state has enacted laws to curb the practice, the effectiveness of these laws is questionable. The lack of awareness among the general public and the reluctance of victims to report incidents of black magic pose significant challenges in controlling the practice. The enforcement of the law also needs to be strengthened to ensure that the offenders are brought to justice. Therefore, it is imperative to create awareness among the general public about the illegality of black magic and to strengthen the enforcement of black magic laws in Kerala.