



**Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat**  
 Department of Higher Education, Government of Gujarat  
**JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
 ISSN : 2279-0241

Year-1 | Issue-5 | Continuous issue-5 | March-April 2013

### The Bodo (Tribes of Assam)

Bodos are the ethnic tribes of Assam and were among the early settlers of Assam. They are the majority tribes in Assam with 1.2 million people according to 1991 census and they constitute 5.3 percent of Assam population. The Bodos belong to a larger ethnic group known as Bodo Kachri. Bodo tribe is considered as the earliest immigrants in Assam and are said to be the most culturally rich community of the north western part of the state. Bodo is derived from the term "bod", which means Tibet, thus signifying that majority of the Bodos arrived from Bhutan passes. The 6th schedule of the Constitution of India has conferred the Bodo tribal community the status and prestige of a plain tribe. Bodo tribes are found in several in Assam. These Bodo tribes are amongst the primitive settlers of the valley of Assam. KHOKRAJHAR town is regarded as the hub of the Bodo tribal community. Other main concentration includes the BRAHMPUTRA valleys and also its adjacent areas.

#### **LANGUAGE OF THE BODO TRIBE :**

As far as the language are concerned, Bodo tribe people speak Bodo language. Which has been derived from famous Tibeto-Burmese family. Majority of these Bodo tribes of the primitive ages make use of the Roman script and Assamese script. As a recent phenomenon, this Bodo tribe community has taken up the Nagri script. There are also some eminent scholars who are of opinion that the Bodo language their indigenous script which is popularly called Deodhai.

#### **COSTUMES OF BODO TRIBE :**

Dresses of Bodo tribe community is quite exquisite, there by the beauty and glamour of females to wide extent. The conventional dress of a Bodo people is popularly called Dokna, which these Bodo women knit themselves. Shawls also are in fashion of the Bodo tribe community.

#### **RELIGION OF BODO TRIBE :**

Like many of tribal communities of Indian subcontinent these Bodo tribe have got orientations towards religion as well as spiritulism. Despite the advancement of Hinduism amongst the Bodo community the majority Bodo of Hindus follow a set of rules called Brahma Dharma. Also there are various religious practices and beliefs have been adapted by all the contemporary period these Bodo tribes have undertaken the diverse practices like bathouism and Christianity. To be precise bathouism Hinduism is a special type of worship of progenitors, better known as Obogloree.

#### **CULTURE OF BODO TRIBE :**

This tribe group is known for their rich and diverse culture. Culture exuberance of the whole of the society of the Bodo tribal community incorporates elements like dancing, singing, language etc. Also if one studies the society of the Bodo tribe community one can find several surnames like Bargavary, Basumatary, Bodosa, Boro, Bwismuthiary, Dwimary, Goyary, Ishlary, Iswary, Khaklary, Mushahary, Narazary, Oway and Wary.

#### **OCCUPATION OF BODO TRIBE:**

Over the years following the tradition and culture of some of the other tribal communities of the whole of the Indian subcontinent this Bodo tribes to have taken up several occupations in the early years, this Bodo tribal community has practiced of all types of cultivation and farmig tea plantation pig and poultry farming and silkworm rearing are quite significant amongst them. More ever the Bodo are excellent bamboo craftman and the Bodo tribal community has also developed craftsmanship in creating several products from things like bamboo. Weaving is also a popular occupation of the Bodo tribes.

## **FAIRS AND FESTIVALS OF BODO TRIBE :**

Fairs and festival constitute a significant of the part of the culture of the bodo people .one of the most cherished festival of this tribal group is baisagu.it is basically a spring time festival and is celebrated during mid april .these people are popularly known for their colourful folk dance.

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