

The Hajong and ther Culture

Lakhyajit Buragohain

Ph.D. Research Scholar

Department of Assamese

Dibrugarh University, Assam, India.

Abstract:

The Hajongs are one of the ethnic tribes who live in different regions of India and Bangladesh. They are mongoloid and they belong to Tibeto-Burman Language family. Their culture is different identity. They are not rich in written Literature but they have such oral Literature.

Key word : Hajong, Literature, Culture

Introduction:

The Hajongs are scheduled tribe. The name Hajong has a particular significance in the Garo Language 'Ha' means earth and 'Jong' means insect. They are called 'Hajong' means insects of earth. The name was given to them because the Hajong peoples life and activity is deeply associated with land. In Meghalaya they are mainly concentrated in the plans of the South-West and the western border of the west Garo Hills district while some Hajong villages are situated in the East and the West Khasi Hills as well some of them also live in different districts of Assam.

Methodology:

In this paper mostly field study and interview as a sources of data collection have been followed. Secondary sources such as relevant books, articles and journals.

Religion:

The Hajongs are Hindus, yet different traditional rites and rituals and beliefs are prevalent among them. Most of the Hajongs are the worshippers of various mother goddesses Shiva, Parvati, Brahma, Kartic etc.

Dress:

Hajong are loved traditional attire. Hajong men wear bhiza and women wear Ranga parhin and phulau aagon. Hajong man and women both are very influential in weaving.

Family Structure:

Patriarchal family structure is one of the most important cultural aspects of the Hajong. The line of decent is traced through the father. Father is the head of the family at his death.

Marriage:

Clan endogamy is the main future of the Hajong marriage system. They are seen to be very orthodox regarding marriage that their custom doesnot allow marriage to be held outside their community. Four type of marriage are held in the Hajong society. There are Shubh Bibah, Songa or Hanga Bibah, Daipora Biya and Jangoy Biya.

Hajongs Culture:

Hajong people celebrate various festivals and ceremonies round the year. Of this following festivals are worth mentioning. Cai tra sankranti, Loua Tana Bihu, Kati Bihu or kati Gacha, Magh Bihu or pushna and soon. They observe various worhip of different Gods and Goddess among their worship Basnh puja (Bamboo worship), Kartika worship, Kali Puja and Padma puja. They believe in various ghosts and spirits like Tanrang Deo, Machang Deo, Jukhani, Daini etc.

Hajongs Oral Songs:

The Hajongs group is not rich in written Literature, but not poor in oral Literature. The oral songs found prevalent in the language of the Hajongs many rightly be subdivided into the following types-

- i) Songs connected with worship
- ii) Songs connected with seasonal festival
- iii) Love songs
- iv) Work songs
- v) Children songs

Lewa-tana song, Thubau-maga song, Jakha-mara song are very prevalent in the Hajong society.

Conclusion:

The above are regarding the Hajongs inhabited in Assam that like other tribal groups. They have such own cultural identity. The Hajong people are very simple and they carry on their own culture and tradition.

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