# A Study Of Religious Identity Among The Bru Of Mizoram

#religious identity #Bru Mizoram #Mizoram tribes #ethnic identity India #religious beliefs Mizoram

Explore a comprehensive analysis of religious identity among the Bru community residing in Mizoram, examining the unique interplay of faith, culture, and self-perception that shapes their collective and individual spiritual experiences within Northeast India.

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# A Study of Religious Identity Among the Bru of Mizoram

The book challenges the stereotypes about and narrates the daily lives of the Mizos through the use of vernacular photography.

#### The Camera as Witness

The volume revolves around the theme 'inclusive oppositions' in social sciences that address the issue of making of distinctions and create artificial dichotomies and dualistic view of society. It is set against the currents of systematic reduction of anthropodiversity and psychodiversity, which appears as a pathology of the current neo-liberalist and colonialist model of development. The volume is an attempt to overcome the colonial tendencies and forces to 'standardize' and 'homogenize' various categories and institutions in society by establishing structural relationality and intersectionality between the parts of the whole ecosystem where in the human and non-human intersect and interact. The volume brings together a unique collaboration in the field of Cultural Psychology and offers the intellectual tools to grasp how a syncretic understanding of Identity and Culture unfolds, particularly in the key domain of gender. The chapters and commentaries uncover cultural dynamics and identity formation from a specific location, the region of Kerala in south-western India. The chapters and commentaries in this volume illustrates that Kerala is a cultural micro-cosmos, in which gender, identity, religion, ethnicity, caste, global market and tradition intersect to create complex and multiple subjects that do not fit in binary categorizations. The compiled volume will be of great value to scholars, researchers and academicians in Social Sciences, particularly Cultural Psychology, Social Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Political Science, Philosophy, Anthropology and Economics.

# Making of Distinctions

Frankfurt/M., Berlin, Bern, Bruxelles, New York, Oxford, Wien, 2002. Studies in the Intercultural History of Christianity Vol. 129 General Editor: Jan A. Jongeneel Two of the most intense movements for political secession from India had been staged in the two - tribal states of Northeast India, namely Nagaland and Mizoram. Because the two states record the country's highest percentage of Christian populations, Christian missions in the Northeast have been suspected and accused of having played clandestine roles. This book challenges this pre-sumptuous allegation, and proposes that the root of the ethno-political movements must be sought in the identity-formation process of the people. The Northeast tribals' resentment to the depressing political identity imposed on them and their resistance to the threat of domination are identified as the immediate factors for the ethnopolitical revolutions.

The development of Christianity in Mizoram is selected as the focus of the study. The Study discloses that the Mizo Christian experience of ecstatic revivals uniquely interlaced Christianity with the people's cultural identity, engendering the spirit of Mizo ethnonationalism. The emergent people's strong sense of identity resisted the threat of cultural domination and political assimilation by the Indic India. Contents: Introduction - Northeast India: - The Problem Child of Modern India - Crucial Milestone in the History of Mizoram - Christianity and the Ethnic Identity - Consciousness of the Mizos - Christianity and the Politics of Identity in Mizoram."

# Ethnic Identity and Christianity

On the religious proselytizing of Dafla, Indic people of Arunachal Pradesh; a study.

## **Emerging Religious Identities of Arunachal Pradesh**

"Chinram was once an independent land ruled by local chieftains and following traditional Chin religion. This world was abruptly transformed in the early twentieth century, however, by British annexation and the arrival of Christian missionaries. As the Chin became increasingly related to Burmese independence movements, they began to articulate their own Christian traditions of democracy and assert a burgeoning self-awareness of their own national identity. In short, Christianity provided the Chin people with a means of preserving their national identity in the midst of multi-racial and multi-religious environments."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

## In Search of Chin Identity

Religious Identity and Political Destiny: "Hindutva" in the Culture of Ethnicism is an ethnography of a contentious on-going debate about the place of religion in Indian civic life. Exploring Hindu nationalism from the varied perspectives of its critics in women's activist and Left intellectual circles, its ideologues, supporters, and sympathizers, Deepa S. Reddy locates "Hindutva" in a broader culture of critique in which identity movements of all kinds compete for recognition, representation, and rights. This book will be of interest to anthropologists, historians, and sociologists, as well as readers of ethno-nationalist movements, religion, activism, global feminisms, and all matters Indian/South Asian.

## Religious Identity and Political Destiny

This is a book about religious transformation in South Asia in the nineteenth century. On the one hand, a fundamental conceptual transformation in the world of religion among people who were exposed to English language and culture took place. This transformation crystallized religious communities with sharp boundaries and distinct histories. On the other hand, the emerging feeling of religious-communal identity motivated religious and lay leaders to work in the interest of thecommunity. This book is about both of these interrelated developments: the conceptual change and the application of the new ideas to political discourse; the construction and the politics of religious identity.

## Makers of Modern Indian Religion in the Late Nineteenth Century

This book explores the role of religion in a great number of the South Asian diaspora communities around the world and is unique in its emphasis on religious diversity, both across and within the religious traditions.

## South Asians in the Diaspora

Religious identity constitutes a key element in the formation, development and sustenance of South Asian diasporic communities. Through studies of South Asian communities situated in multiple locales, this book explores the role of religious identity in the social and political organization of the diaspora. It accounts for the factors that underlie the modification of ritual practice in the process of resettlement, and considers how multicultural policies in the adopted state, trans-generational changes and the proliferation of transnational media has impacted the development of these identities in the diaspora. Also crucial is the gender dimension, in terms of how religion and caste affect women's roles in the South Asian diaspora. What emerges then from the way separate communities in the diaspora negotiate religion are diverse patterns that are strategic and contingent. Yet, paradoxically, the dynamic and evolving relationship between religion and diaspora becomes necessary, even imperative, for

sustaining a cohesive collective identity in these communities. This bookw as published as a special issue of South Asian Diaspora.

## Religion and Identity in the South Asian Diaspora

Rahman Yakubu critiques the notion that Islam and Christianity in Africa have been benevolent to African Traditional Religion (ATR) in their interreligious encounter. Rather, he argues that ATR plays an active and central role in creating a peaceful interreligious space in Africa. Using an ethnographic study of rituals in the rites of passage among Dagomba Muslims, Christians and adherents of ATR of Ghana, the author concludes that Dagomba religio-culture has influenced not only the identity of adherents of the two faiths, but also the relations between them. This book proposes that, for a constructive negotiating of religious identity and peaceful interreligious existence, Traditional Religions should be considered an equal partner in interreligious dialogue.

#### The Gods are not Jealous

Rahman Yakubu critiques the notion that Islam and Christianity in Africa have been benevolent to African Traditional Religion (ATR) in their interreligious encounter. Rather, he argues that ATR plays an active and central role in creating a peaceful interreligious space in Africa. Using an ethnographic study of rituals in the rites of passage among Dagomba Muslims, Christians and adherents of ATR of Ghana, the author concludes that Dagomba religio-culture has influenced not only the identity of adherents of the two faiths, but also the relations between them. This book proposes that, for a constructive negotiating of religious identity and peaceful interreligious existence, Traditional Religions should be considered an equal partner in interreligious dialogue.

The Social Construction of a Collective Indian Ethno-religious Identity in a Context of Ethnic Diversity, a Case Study of an Indo-Caribbean Hindu Temple in Toronto

This is an ethnographic study of the Ngaju Dyaks, rain forest dwellers of the remote interior region of Central Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo). Like many indigenous peoples, the Ngaju have lately been affected by exposure to world religions, technological advances, and myriad external factors involving their growing incorporation into the rapidly expanding state system. Schiller demonstrates that their responses to these pressures are most clearly seen in the religious sphere and involve the recasting and reinterpreting of their indigenous religion. She focuses particularly on the changing form and content of "tiwah," an elaborate ritual of secondary burial with multiple and diverse meanings for Hindu Kaharingan Ngaju as well as for those who have converted to Islam or Christianity.

#### The Gods are Not Jealous

The Book Is A Collection Of Seminar Papers On Hmars Of The Mizo Group Presented At Different Regional And National Seminars During The Last 35 Years. It Discusses The Origin Of The Hmars, Including Their So-Called Israelite Origin, Socio-Political Develop

### **Small Sacrifices**

Thesis (M.A.) from the year 2018 in the subject Cultural Studies - Middle Eastern Studies, grade: 2.1, Bournemouth University, language: English, abstract: This dissertation is a discursive analysis approach of the concept of transformation of social identity contribution into the study of caste, class and religion in South Asia. Understanding the class segregation, gender, upholding system of sovereignty in India. I argue that identity is transformational but even though the surface level artefacts (embodied clothing practices) vary in degree and deep ethics and beliefs will remain unaffected. Particularly focusing on the Syrian Christian community in Kerala. From examining the clothing practise of wearing a chatta in colonial India by the women in the Syrian Christian community, to how women of all race, religion and embraced churidar. This research aims to fill the gap in current scholarship, with respect to transformation of Syrian Christian social Identity and aims to fill it. This paper explores social identity with respect to Kerala's assumed exceptionalism, contending that such idea is a recent social construct and historically the state held rigorous caste based distinction. And with respect to the community's transformation, the paper analyses cultural changes within the Kerala society as well. Here by, considering that culture is not identified as static system, but dynamic and changes with the people in the system

## In Search of Identity

Ethnographic Research An Three Prominent Kerala Communities-Ezhava Hindus, Mapila Muslims And Syrian Christian, Whose Members Migrated To West Asia For Better Prospects. Explores The Factors Responsible For Differences Between Then His Their Pattern Of Migration And The Resultant Social Change.

# Ethnocultural Transformation of Social Identity. Syrian Christians in Kerala

This study is an attempt at understanding the complex issues of identity formation in the relatively unexplored region of Northeast India. The work adopts the methodology of historical anthropology to make sense of a particular ethnic group, namely the Mizo, one of the many such groups in the region. While taking into consideration presentist self-perceptions of who the Mizos are, the study engages with their history as well as social practice to show the contours of identity-shaping and identity-making.

## Kaleidoscopic Ethnicity

This book brings together multidisciplinarity, desirability and possibility of consilience of borderline studies which are topically diverse and methodologically innovative. It includes contemporary tribal issues within anthropology and other disciplines. In addition, the chapters underline the analytical sophistication, theoretical soundness and empirical grounding in the area of emerging core perspectives in tribal studies. The volume alludes to the emergence of tribal studies as an independent academic discipline of its own rights. It offers the opportunity to consider the entire intellectual enterprise of understanding disciplinary and interdisciplinary dualism, to move beyond interdisciplinarity of the science-humanities divide and to conceptualise a core of theoretical perspectives in tribal studies. The book proves an indispensable reference point for those interested in studying tribes in general and who are engaged in the process of developing tribal studies as a discipline in particular.

## Being Mizo

Originally presented as the author's thesis--University of Oxford.

# Shifting Perspectives in Tribal Studies

Edinburgh 2010 has a special relevance for Christians in India, particurlarly when we consider the contributions Indian Christians continue to make both academically and in their day-to-day lives to living out and promoting interfaith relations and interfaith dialogue. For the typical Indian Christian, living with a neighbor of another faith is a daily reality. This pluralism has influenced Christians in India to view ecumenism in a realistic and appreciative manner. The essays in this book reflect not only this acceptance and celebration of pluralism within India but also, by extension, an acceptance of and a need for unity among Indian Christians of different denominations. The essays were presented and studied at a preparatory consultation on Study Theme II: Christian Mission among Other Faiths, under the theme Interfaith Relations among Other Faiths at the United Theological College, Bangalore, India, July 17-19, 2009.

#### Education and Missionaries in Mizoram

Tudor Parfitt examines a myth which is based on one of the world's oldest mysteries - what happened to the lost tribes of Israel? Christians and Jews alike have attached great importance to the legendary fate of these tribes which has had a remarkable impact on their ideologies throughout history. Each tribe of Israel claimed descent from one of the twelve sons of Jacob and the land of Israel was eventually divided up between them. Following a schism which formed after the death of Solomon, ten of the tribes set up an independent northern kingdom, whilst those of Judah and Levi set up a separate southern kingdom. In 721BC the ten northern tribes were ethnically cleansed by the Assyrians and the Bible states they were placed: in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan and in the city of Medes. The Bible also foretold that one day they would be reunited with the southern tribes in the final redemption of the people of Israel. Their subsequent history became a tapestry of legend and hearsay. The belief persisted that they had been lost in some remote part of the world and there were countless suggestions and claims as to where.

#### Being Mizo

Since the British withdrew from the subcontinent, nations in the region have been at war with each other. But instead of fighting long-drawnout wars like that between Iran and Irag, nations of South Asia have sponsored guerrilla armies and armed, trained and equipped them to harass, bleed or embarrass their rivals. The four wars in the region's post-colonial era were also born out of sponsored guerrilla wars. In 1948 and 1965, Pakistan first tried to have its way in Kashmir by sponsoring irregulars on a large scale and then followed it up with unsuccessful military campaigns aimed at ensuring the state's secession from India. In 1962, China attacked India not so much over a disputed border or India's much publicized Forward Policy but essentially in response to what it felt was a joint Indo-US covert effort in Tibet. In 1971 India rounded off its successful sponsorship of the Bengali guerrilla struggle in erstwhile East Pakistan by a speedy military campaign that resulted in the break up of Pakistan. Insurgent Crossfire examines the origins of sponsored insurgencies and how they have shaped South Asia's tense diplomatic environment. Having done that, it studies the major sponsored guerrilla campaigns in South Asia and then seeks a detailed case study of the phenomenon by focusing on the far eastern slice of the subcontinent. The author argues that this region, with its multitude of tribes and battling ethnicities, has been the most durable theatre of insurgent crossfire – in which nations like India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and China (a major actor in South Asian politics) have backed insurgencies against each other.

#### Interfaith Relations After One Hundred Years

This book presents a socio-economic and livelihood analysis of agriculturally-dependent communities of Mizoram, the eastern extension of the Himalaya, using the sustainable livelihood approach. Such an approach to poverty reduction is inevitable, particularly, in areas where livelihoods depend largely on biomass-based agriculture and livestock production. Mizoram possesses abundant natural resources – land, water and forest – but those resources are largely unused. The region suffers from chronic poverty and malnutrition, and climate change has further influenced livelihood patterns. This work studies all the aspects of natural potentials and livelihood status in Mizoram. It also discusses the major driving forces that influence livelihood patterns. Based on a detailed analysis of empirical data, several policy measures are suggested to cope with chronic poverty and malnutrition. The book is therefore highly useful for all stakeholders; students, researchers, academicians, policy makers and politicians involved in rural/community development.

#### The Lost Tribes of Israel

Katharine Adeney demonstrates that institutional design is the most important explanatory variable in understanding the different intensity and types of conflict in the two countries rather than the role of religion. Adeney examines the extent to which previous constitutional choices explain current day conflicts.

## **Insurgent Crossfire**

In Secession and Security, Ahsan I. Butt argues that states rather than separatists determine whether a secessionist struggle will be peaceful, violent, or genocidal. He investigates the strategies, ranging from negotiated concessions to large-scale repression, adopted by states in response to separatist movements. Variations in the external security environment, Butt argues, influenced the leaders of the Ottoman Empire to use peaceful concessions against Armenians in 1908 but escalated to genocide against the same community in 1915; caused Israel to reject a Palestinian state in the 1990s; and shaped peaceful splits in Czechoslovakia in 1993 and the Norway-Sweden union in 1905. Butt focuses on two main cases—Pakistani reactions to Bengali and Baloch demands for independence in the 1970s and India's responses to secessionist movements in Kashmir, Punjab, and Assam in the 1980s and 1990s. Butt's deep historical approach to his subject will appeal to policymakers and observers interested in the last five decades of geopolitics in South Asia, the contemporary Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and ethno-national conflict, separatism, and nationalism more generally.

# A Sustainable Livelihood Approach to Poverty Reduction

Languages are not only tools of communication, they also reflect a view of the world. Languages are vehicles of value systems and cultural expressions and are an essential component of the living heritage of humanity. Yet, many of them are in danger of disappearing. UNESCO's Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger tries to raise awareness on language endangerment. This third edition has been completely revised and expanded to include new series of maps and new points of view.

# Federalism and Ethnic Conflict Regulation in India and Pakistan

"The Indigenous World 2005 gives an overview of crucial developments in 2004 that have impacted on the indigenous peoples of the world."--BOOK JACKET.

#### Hindu Dharma and the Culture Wars

The book provides significant information on some of the promising edible medicinal plants and how these possess both nutritive as well as medicinal value. The significance of these edible plants in traditional medicine, their distribution in different regions and the importance of their chemical constituents are discussed systematically concerning the role of these plants in ethnomedicine in different regions of the world. The current volume focuses on the economic and culturally important medicinal uses of edible plants and a detailed survey of the literature on scientific researches of pharmacognostical characteristics, traditional uses, scientific validation, and phytochemical composition, and pharmacological activities. This book is a single-source scientific reference to explore the specific factors that contribute to these potential health benefits, as well as discussing how to maximize those potential benefits. Chemists, food technologists, pharmacologists, phytochemists as well as all professionals involved with quality control and standardization will find in this book a valuable and updated basis for their work.

# Secession and Security

This book looks at the major policy challenges facing developing Asia and how the region sustains rapid economic growth to reduce multidimensional poverty through socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable measures. Asia is facing many challenges arising from population growth, rapid urbanization, provision of services, climate change and the need to redress declining growth after the global financial crisis. This book examines poverty and related issues and aims to advance the development of new tools and measurement of multidimensional poverty and poverty reduction policy analysis. The book covers a wide range of issues, including determinants and causes of poverty and its changes; consequences and impacts of poverty on human capital formation, growth and consumption; assessment of poverty strategies and policies; the role of government, NGOs and other institutions in poverty reduction; rural-urban migration and poverty; vulnerability to poverty; breakdown of poverty into chronic and transitory components; and a comparative study on poverty issues in Asia and other regions. The book will appeal to all those interested in economic development, resources, policies and economic welfare and growth.

## Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger

This book explores discrimination against Northeast Indians, who have been frequently stereotyped as backwards, anti-national, anti-assimilationist, immoral, and relegated to low paying positions across retail, hospitality, telecommunications and wellness industries. The contributions draw on interviews with individuals who have migrated to other Indian cities and towns to find jobs and escape from native poverty, and provide a critical examination of the intersections between power, privilege and racial hierarchy in India today. The chapters cover a variety of perspectives including social movements and activism, history, policy, youth studies and gender studies. With a focus on marginalised communities, and the effects and persistence of racial inequality in a South Asian context, this collection will be an important contribution to critical race studies, public policy, human rights discourse, and social work.

# The Indigenous World 2005

The assertion that even institutions often viewed as abhorrent should be dispassionately understood motivates Arkotong Longkumer's pathbreaking ethnography of the Sangh Parivar, a family of organizations comprising the Hindu right. The Greater India Experiment counters the urge to explain away

their ideas and actions as inconsequential by demonstrating their efforts to influence local politics and culture in Northeast India. Longkumer constructs a comprehensive understanding of Hindutva, an idea central to the establishment of a Hindu nation-state, by focusing on the Sangh Parivar's engagement with indigenous peoples in a region that has long resisted the "idea of India." Contextualizing their activities as a Hindutva "experiment" within the broader Indian political and cultural landscape, he ultimately paints a unique picture of the country today.

#### Am I A Hindu

Over 800 million adults worldwide, two thirds of them women, are unable to reap the benefits of literate expression. In this book, the author aims to dispel the notion that illiteracy is principally confined to rural areas, which has for many years been the main focus of development programmes. Through a series of case studies and analysis this book provides a valuable insight into what literacy can mean in an urban setting and explores the many ways it is used to enhance the lives of individuals. It highlights the need for greater understanding of the diversity of literacy learning and explores the practical issues in providing assistance to those who aspire to improve their literacy skills.

Edible Plants in Health and Diseases

Poverty Reduction Policies and Practices in Developing Asia

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