

MUSLIMS OF BARAK VALLEY REGION IN SOUTH ASSAM, INDIA: A SOCIO-HISTORICAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT: The Barak Valley region in the southern part of the Indian province of Assam houses a large number of Muslims. These Muslims are converts from local Bengali speaking people divided into various groups and sub-groups. Being a heterogenous group of people they are divided into two broad divisions of Ashraf and Atraf, resembling to upper and lower caste Hindus. Aim of this paper is to investigate the social demography and social history of this group of Muslims so that a social scientific view can emerge regarding regional social structure.

KEYWORDS: Caste, caste among Muslims, social demography, social history and social structure.

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