

**AN ETHNO-HISTORICAL STUDY ON TRADITIONAL SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE NAHS: FAMILY, CLAN, SLAVERY, SOCIAL STRATIFICATION**

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**ABSTRACT**

*In Nah family, father is regarded as the head of the family. The family is based on patriarchal system. They prefer nuclear family system. However, in the olden times, they preferred joint family system. But gradually, joint family system is disappearing as of now. Also, the Nah society is divided into four clans so called- Chader, Hapi, Hari and Tissi respectively. Again these clans are divided into various sub-clans. In addition, it is revealed from the present study that slavery system was prevailing in earlier days. Due to the slavery system, the society of the Nahs was divided into two social groups namely- Nahs (the master) and Solung (the slave). However, in recent times, the slavery system and social stratification have totally vanished in Nah society due to governmental interferences. It is interesting to note that the Nahs of Taksing circle are very similar to other tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. Especially, they share lot of commonalities with Nyishi, Tagin and Monpa tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. With this background, the present study makes an attempt to provide an ethno-historical account on family system and clans of Nahs. Further, it endeavours to give an ethno-historical account on social stratification and slavery in Nah community.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Arunachal Pradesh; Clan; Family; Nah; Slavery and; Social Stratification*

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