



Department of Anthropology, Cotton University, Guwahati

Organizes an online lecture on

Burial rites from prehistoric to present day:

A comparative study of tribes from East India and North East India



Speaker

Ranjana Ray

Emeritus Professor,

Former Professor, Department of Anthropology, Calcutta University

e-mail: prof.ranjana.ray@gmail.com

Abstract

Of all the life cycle rituals of human beings, those connected with the dead has endured a long precedence in the history of man. There are evidences of careful disposal of the dead from the prehistoric time onward. Megaliths as gravestones are very common all over the world. In India prehistoric megaliths are studied and classified. The practices of erection of megalithic structure over the interred remains of human being are still practiced but there is some change. Study of the living megaliths reveals some of intangible elements of the belief system. Present discourse will be on a tribe called Bhumij from eastern India and another tribe called Kom from Manipur in North eastern India. Both the tribes have a common element in the form of great respect for the ancestors. On the other hand the Bhumij are much Sanskritised, whereas the Koms are all converted to Christian religion. The former cremates the dead and the latter buries the body. A continuity of belief and ritual is reflected in the study.

Monday, the 20th September, 2021 at 12 noon

To join the meeting on Google Meet, Click this link:

<https://meet.google.com/xfp-ddve-rcc>

Or open Meet and enter this code: xfp-ddve-rcc