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Witch Hunting as a form of Gender Violence among the Rabhas: A Major Challenge of Women

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Abstract

One of the big challenges of tribal society is the superstition. Witch as a superstitious belief stand as a barrier in the tribal development process. Witch hunting is one of the major social problems among the tribal people of Assam. Like the other tribe, the Rabhas of Assam are facing the same problem. Though both 2 male and female face this problem but mostly women are targeted by the culprit. Witch hunting not only a social problem but create a barrier in socio economic development especially in the developing countries. Witch hunting is the violation of human rights and it is a crime in the civilized society. In the present article the researchers try to analyze the probable solution of witch hunting prevalent among the Rabhas. Present article is also an attempt of the researchers to analyze the different causes of witch hunting among the Rabha tribe of Kamrup and Goalpara district of Assam.

Keywords: Challenge, Hunting, Violence, Witch, Women Introduction

The problem of witch hunting is an age old phenomena. It is a big challenge for making a civilized society and one of the most brutal forms of violence against women. Though both men and women both have the equal contribution in the world society but it is observed that in a few societies women are suppressed in some extent. The concept of witchcraft is not a new. It has been prevalent since the ancient times. In many anthropological studies especially