# Fertility and Mortality Differentials Among The Different Population Groups of Sikkim, India

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**ABSTRACT** Selection potential based on differential fertility and mortality has been computed for various sub-groups of Buddhists and Hindus of Sikkim using the methodology of Crow (1958) and Johnston and Kensinger (1971). It is evident that irrespective of methodology the index of total selection among Buddhists was found to be highest among Bhutias (0.477) and the lowest among Tamangs (0.394). Among the Hindus, however, the highest value for the index of total selection as computed by Crow's methodology was obtained for Limboos (0.472) while its value was found to be highest for Scheduled Caste group (0.515) when computed through Johnston and Kensinger's methodology. These differences can be accounted for by the fact that Johnston and Kensinger's takes into account embryonic mortality, which is fairly high among Scheduled Castes group. The relative contribution of fertility component to the index of total selection in the present investigation has been found to be higher than corresponding mortality component among Buddhists as well as among Hindus. Interestingly though, among most of the sub-groups of Buddhists and Hindus it is the contribution of mortality component to the index of total selection which exceeds the fertility component.