

Opportunity of Selection in the Khamti of Lakhimpur District, Assam, India

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ABSTRACT In the present communication an attempt has been made to measure the Index of Opportunity for selection in the Khamti, a migrant, endogamous, community of Narayanpur, Bihpuria areas in Lakhimpur district, Assam, based on data on pregnancy outcome of 29 Khamti ever-pregnant women aged 45 + years. The results of the present work were compared with those of the available data on the tribal populations of North Eastern India. It is observed from the present analysis that childhood death and embryonic death are very low but mean offspring size is high. The value of I and its mortality and fertility components are also low. It is evident that selection is operating with low intensity in the Khamti of Lakhimpur district, Assam and the average general fitness of the population is high.