

Demographic Structure of the Khasi-Muslims of Shillong, Meghalaya

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ABSTRACT The present study has been carried out among the Khasi-Muslim population, residing in the capital city of Meghalaya, Shillong. The Khasi-Muslim is a resultant population which has emerged out of the inter-marriages between the various matrilineal Khasi subtribes and different non-tribal immigrant Muslim populations, who came from other parts of this country and eventually settled here. Besides the demographic composition, the present study indicates that admixture rate was quite high in this comparatively small population of recent origin. Selection pressure was moderate, with greater contribution of differential fertility than differential mortality. The Khasi Muslims choose mates mostly from within the group indicating that they have maintained and established themselves as a separate religious endogamous group within the Khasi fold.