

Child Mortality in Three Tribal Populations of Shillong

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ABSTRACT The present paper deals with the early childhood mortality among the Khasi, Garo and Mizo tribe of Shillong in respect of causes of death, mortality rates and medical facilities. The study reveals that diarrhea, respiratory troubles, asphyxia and jaundice are the main factors causing child mortality in these three populations. Infant and under five mortality both are found to be very low among the Mizo than India's urban rate, whereas among the Garo these rate are slightly higher but among the Khasi these rate are considerably lower in comparison with India's urban population. When the medical facilities availed by these communities are taken into consideration it is found that the Mizo availed considerably more facilities than the Khasi and Garo, and in turn, the Khasi availed more medical facilities than the Garo.