

Hidden Truth of Ethnic Clash Between Boro Tribe and Santhals in Assam, India

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ABSTRACT Ethnic clash between Boro tribe – one of the largest tribe in Assam and in North East India and Santhals – descendents of indentured tea laborers erupted in early 1996. This paper is a humble attempt to review and counter argue the existing literature and highlight the hidden truth of ethnic clash between these communities. Available literature on this ethnic clash says that Boros are trying to solve the demographic equation in the northern bank of the Brahmaputra to create separate state Bodoland through ‘ethnic cleansing’! Superficially this idea holds very good but critical analysis of various facts disproves this view. This study found that infliction of the ethnic clash between these two highly inter dependent communities was the killing of three Boro ladies. Hidden truth of the ethnic clash is the banning of entry into the forest, which caused heavy blow to the economy of Santhals, besides conspiracy and upper hand of third party is not denied.