

Baluvu: A Ritual among Kadu Kuruba Tribe of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT Kadu Kurubas are religious minded people and have a strong belief in their ancestors. *Baluvu* is a sacred ritual performed at *Ambala* to fulfill their vows to their deities. *Ambala* is the place where *Baluvu* is performed. It is very sacred and central place for all activities of their community. This ritual is very significant and it is believed that without fulfilling their vows by performing *Baluvu*, a deity or spirit would take possession and cause misfortune or troubles. They worship ancestors and holy spirits and believe in the existence of supernatural beings as guardian and benefactors of humans. This ritual is carried out throughout the night. A hen is sacrificed and eaten after cooking to fulfill their benediction.