

Ethnic Relations Among the People of Sikkim

Veena Bhasin

Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, Delhi 110 007, India

KEY WORDS Scheduled Tribes; Scheduled Castes; castes; Sikkim; ethnic relations.

ABSTRACT Anthropological studies have been carried out in the field of ethnicity, ethnic relation and ethnic groups. In the traditional anthropological studies the tribe, race and ethnic groups were considered fundamental for classification of human populations which existed to distinct, integrated social units whose boundaries were clear and disdain. Later anthropological research has been carried taking into account the nature and persistence of ethnic boundaries, incorporation of ethnic populations, organization of inter ethnic relations and consequent competition of resource distribution. The present paper attempts to analyse the social relations among different ethnic groups inhabiting Sikkim state, their place in the total environment, their relations to resources and other stakeholders.