

Lifestyle and culture of Bede community.

The Beders are a well-known ethnic group of Bengalis. They are commonly known as 'Badia' or 'Baidya'. At that time the Bede community lived mostly in boats, but in the evolution of time most of them are living on land. Now lives in most places. In the past, snake markets were held in the morning and evening in the Bede countryside, snakes were bought and sold.

The Bede call themselves 'mangata' or 'manta'. Mangata means begging or eating. They dance snakes, monkeys, bears, etc., physical exercises - playing magic, throwing insects, blowing horns, selling roots and amulets, reciting tantras - they make a living from what they get from people. They like to introduce themselves as 'Manta'.

The religion of the Bedes, however, is mixed. Many are followers of Pir, some are devotees of Manasa or Bishahari. The Vedas are not usually interested in religion. Praises of Hindu gods and goddesses, Bede worship does not worship even though they take part in various festivals. It goes without saying that there is no social relationship with Bengali Muslims. Although marriage is according to the Muslim religion, there are different customs in marriage. These customs differ from group to group. If they died the day before, their bodies would be floated on a banana raft. Their bodies are still buried in an abandoned place or on the banks of a river.

In Bede society, customs such as child marriage, polygamy and joint family are not common. Bedenis are independent. In the Vedas, young men and women voluntarily agree to marry each other. Family weddings are arranged. Everyone present, including the bride and groom, joined in the festivities through dance songs. The Bedes are known to have an excellent marriage ritual. The future groom sits on the highest branch of the tree. Then the bride has to promise to take the responsibility of the mother-in-law and the child to bring down the future groom. Then the groom promises lifelong sustenance but he comes down. Then they got married. Bede young women are tempted to marry if there is an outsider. Attempts were made to keep him in the tribe after marriage. On the other hand, if a young man from outside marries a young woman in the Vedas, he has to pay compensation. The groom has to pay the bride to get married. After marriage, the husband goes to his wife's family. If the husband and wife ever get divorced, the children and property are divided on the instructions of the chief. Widow marriage is also common in Bede society.

Bede boys do not usually work. When the girls go out to earn money, they take care of the family and the children. But the Bedenis love their lazy husbands very much. Husband means like a god, always keeps him at bay. To keep her husband subdued, she sometimes massages the body with snake fat oil, sometimes she uses amulets and charms. Bedeni's favorite snake is the terrifying, fierce-tempered Kalnagini. They behave and imitate this Kalnagini by nature. These girls love to dress up. With a tip on the forehead and a flower on a high hoop, they come out in groups wearing colorful saris. Hansuli, bala, baju, nolak, foot stool or kharu, scorpion, these ornaments are still adorned on their limbs from time immemorial. Another reason behind this wonderful magic is professionalism. They resort to this decoration to attract people.

With the change of days, change is also coming in the work of Bedes. Many are involved in selling bangles and ribbons, toys and small businesses. Again, many are accused of involvement in the drug business. Allegations of deception in the name of medical treatment

are often found against the Vedas. Nowadays, they are also seen on city streets to embarrass people and raise money.