

KOLHA

Kolha settlements are generally unclan and homogenous. Family is mostly nuclear, patrilocal and patrilineal. Family is monogamous but polygyny exists in some cases. Marriage through negotiation (*Andi*) is regarded as prestigious. Bride price (*Gonam*) is prevalent and is paid both in cash and kind, in the form of cows and goats etc. Cross cousin marriage, junior levirate, junior sororate, remarriage of widows, widowers are permitted. The other forms of marriage are by capture (*oportipi*), by mutual consent (*Raji Khusi*) and by intrusion (*Anadar*). They observe birth pollution for a period of seven days. The Kolha practise burial for their dead. They have their tribal deities like Sing Bonga, Nagea Bonga, Marang Bonga, Basgea Bonga, Borum Bonga, Sendra Bonga, propitiated by their traditional priest, Dehuri. The Kolha have their own traditional community council. Pradhan is the village head who is assisted by village elders and a messenger (*Dakua*). The regional head is known as Sardar.

