

KANDHA GAUDA

The term **Kandha Gauda** has been derived from the words “Kond” meaning hill and Gauda meaning the village headman. The community is divided into several exogamous lineage groups i.e. Pradhan, Behera, Nayak, and Boi etc. Monogamy is the common rule. They consider marriage through negotiation as prestigious. The other modes of acquiring a life partner is through capture, elopement, purchase etc. Junior levirate, sororate, remarriage of widows and widowers are permitted in their society. Their family is nuclear, patrilocal and patrilineal. Inheritance of paternal property follows the rule of equigeniture in male line only. They observe post delivery pollution for ten days, and after the pollution period is over the name giving ceremony is performed. The dead are either cremated or buried and death pollution is observed for eleven days. They have their own traditional community council known as Samaj to deal with their customary norms and traditions.

