

**Chapter-11: Minority Ethnic Groups of Bangladesh**  
**Lesson- 4 & 5:****#Lecture-3**

**The Saontals:** The Saontals are a Munda ethnic group native to India and Bangladesh. Saontals are the largest tribe in the Jharkhand state of India in terms of population and are also found in the states of Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal. They are the largest ethnic minority in northern Bangladesh's Rajshahi Division and Rangpur Division.

**Social life:**

Saontal family



village ponchayet

- The main pillar of society is 'village ponchayet'
- Patriarchal family

## Economic Life:



Saontal market



Paddy cultivation

- Economy mainly depend on agriculture
- Prepare different types of bamboo and cane item and sell them in market.

## Religious Life:



Hindu temple



Christian church

- Some are following Hindu religion and some christian
- They worship to shidhu and kanu

## **Cultural Life:**



Jhumur dance



Rice with different vegetable

- Females wear saree and males wear lungi
- Sohrai, Baha, jumur dance are mentionable program

## **The Marmas:**

The Marma people formerly known as Mogh are the second-largest ethnic community in Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts, primarily residing in the Bandarban, Khagrachari and Rangamati Hill Districts. Some Marmas live in Bangladesh's coastal districts of Cox's Bazar and Patuakhali, while others live in Tripura, India and Myanmar. There are over 210,000 Marmas living in Bangladesh. Since the 16th century, the Marma have considered the Bengal's Chittagong Hill Tracts their home, where they have established the Bomang Circles.

## Social Life:



Marma women



Marma kids

- Patriarchal family
- Bomang King is the chief of the society

## Economic Life:



Jum cultivation



preparing Nut

- Economy is agriculture based
- Cultivate paddy, nut, vegetables etc

## Religious Life:



Buddha purnima



Ramu Buddha temple

- Followers of Buddhist religion
- They go to temple and light the lamp with flower in various occasion

## Cultural Life:



Sanrai festival



Rice with meat and vegetable

- Celebrate sangria on the occasion of giving farewell to the last year and reception to the new year.
- Men wear Gabang, shirt, lungi and women wear Anji and thami