# **Hmar Community**

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### About

- The Hmar tribe, also called Mhar or Mari, lives in the northeastern part of India in states of Manipur, Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Tripura.
- They belong to the Chin-Kuki-Mizo group of tribes and are recognized as a tribe under the Constitution of India.

## Origin CI

- The Hmar tribes claim descent from Singlung in central or southwestern China
- They are found in Rippaimukhi district, Jiribam and Khuga districts and Churacandpur district of Manipur.
- They mostly live in the southern part of Manipur, especially in and around Churacandpur.

## Clans

- Hmar society is based on the clan system.
- Each clan had its own dialect, although the common dialect used by the Hmar people today was developed by Christian missionaries.
- The head of the village council is called "Lal". Everyone follows his lead and command.

## **Economy**

- The Hmar tribes depend on forest products.
- Shifting cultivation is the main and traditional occupation and blacksmith, carpentry, poultry, basketry, priesthood, herbal medicine are subsidiary occupation.

## Society

- Society is patrilineal and patriarchal in nature. Father is the head of the family. Joint family is common among them. The clan is not exogamous in Hmar society.
- They practice both chaste and intra-clan marriage. The Hmars built their village on top of a hill and their houses on wooden planks.