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ANALYSIS OF THE KINSHIP TERMS OF THE BHUTIA COMMUNITY OF SIKKIM

DR. SWATI AKSHAY SACHDEVA*

ABSTRACT

This paper aims to bring out the nature and significance of the kinship terms in the Bhutia community of Sikkim. Though Bhutia is a generic term used to designate several socially unrelated group of Indo-Tibetan borderland. Bhutia,, of Sikkim is an exclusive ethnic community different from both Hindu and Tibetans. Kinship terms which refers to the way relatives are addressed in a particular community, reflect the values and the perceptions of the community. Although now Nepali language is the lingua franca of the state, this community has retained its cultural autonomy which is reflected in the usage of their kinship terminologies
