Leaving No One Behind
Convention on
Land and Forest Rights of the Marginal and Excluded Communities

Cultural Program

Bangladesh is a country of an overwhelming Bangalee majority. But there is a significant number of indigenous, marginalized and excluded communities living in the country who have different languages and cultures. According to the government census, there are 27 small ethnic communities in Bangladesh. However, in its recent research, Society for Environment and Human Development (SEHD) has found 37 ethnic communities in the plains outside of the Chittagong Hill Tracts and tea gardens who are not included in the government list. Nine of 80 communities living in the tea gardens are on government records as ethnic communities. In addition to indigenous people and tea communities, other key marginal and excluded communities include Harijan, Kaiputra (pig rearing community), Bede, Jaladas, sex workers, and Biharis.

The diversity added by the languages, education, technology, cultural heritage, history and food habits of these communities is very important in the Bangalee majority country. The cultures of small ethnic communities have enriched Bangla language, literature and culture in many ways. The roots of Bangla music, dances and elements of lifestyle are embedded in the indigenous culture.

In order to highlight the cultural heritage of these marginalized and excluded communities, lectures and cultural evenings have been arranged.

**Venue:** RDRS Bangladesh, Jail Road, Radhaballav, Rangpur
**Date:** 16-17 November 2017
**Lecture:** 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm
**Cultural function:** 06:30 pm to 08:30 pm

Dr. Masudul Haque, professor of Dinajpur Government College, journalist Chitta Ghosh, educationist and cultural activist Professor Dr. Shashwata Bhattacharjee and Philip Gain will lecture on the identity, language and culture of the indigenous and marginalized communities.

Cultural groups from Santal, Mushohor, Oraon, Garo, Mahle, Kora and Turi will perform their traditional songs and dances on cultural evening of both days.

You are cordially invited to the cultural evenings.
Display of Photographs, Traditional Artifacts and Publications

Venue: RDRS Bangladesh, Jail Road, Radhaballav, Rangpur

Date: 16-17 November 2017
Time: Everyday from 09:00 am to 08:00 pm

There are lots to know about the identities, geographical locations, diverse languages and problems of the culturally diverse indigenous, marginalized and excluded communities of Bangladesh. Display of photographs, books and cultural elements at the convention venue will be enlightening for the visitors. You can collect traditional artifacts of the indigenous and marginalized communities and exclusive publications of different organizations on ethnic and marginalized communities from the display.

You are welcome to visit the display with your family and friends.

Contact

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