

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**OBSERVATION ON PLANTS ASSOCIATED WITH MAGICO-RELIGIOUS  
BELIEFS AND SOCIO RELIGIOUS OCCASSIONS AMONG THE ETHNIC  
COMMUNITIES OF KOCH BIHAR DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL, INDIA**

**Subhajit Bandyopadhyay**

Department of Botany, Narasinha Dutt College, Howrah-711101  
E-mail-subhajitb6@gmail.com

**Abstract:** *The district of Koch Bihar of West Bengal is inhabited by five major ethnic communalities viz Kheria, Oraon, Rabha, Rajbanshi and Santal. All these communities use various plants which are linked with magico-religious beliefs and their socio-religious & cultural heritage. The present study on the subject reports a total of 41 species of flowering plants under 38 genera belonging to 26 families. Out of them 11 species are trees, 6 species are shrubs, 21 species are herbs and 3 species are climbers. A total of 49 uses of plants have been recorded during study among which 30 uses are related with magico-religious beliefs and 19 are linked with socio-religious customs.*

**Key Words:** Ethnic community, Magico-religious belief, Socio-religious, Koch Bihar.