

THE IMPORTANCE AND STATUS OF CLAN IN THE CUSTOMARY LAW OFFICE AMONG THE KARBIS OF KARBI ANGLONG DISTRICT OF ASSAM

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ABSTRACT

The Karbis are one of the major tribe of Assam mostly inhabiting the district of Karbi Anglong, the largest district of the state. They are also found in other parts of the state – Nagoan, Morigaon, Kamrup, Sonitpur, Golaghat, N.C Hills and are also found in other parts of the North Eastern States. The “Mikir” or the Karbis is one of the Scheduled Tribes of Assam as given in the Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe list modification order, 1956. The Karbi called themselves as *Arleng* or ‘Men’ also called the “Mikirs’ by the plains people. Racially the Karbis are Mongoloid and linguistically belong to the family of Tibeto Burman of Indo Chinese languages.

KEYWORDS: Clan, Customary Law Office, Importance