

DISPLACEMENT AND ITS SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS ON HEALTH

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Abstract: Every culture irrespective of its simplicity and complexity has its own believes and practices concerning health, disease and treatment. These practices are keenly interrelated with surrounding environment. During the past few decades the concept of health has emerged as a fundamental human right and a world wide social goal. But there are a number of factors which are a great hindrance for health and these factors are creating a number of health hazards to the people. In this regard the study has been done among the Rajbansis who are the early settlers of North Bengal and Bangladesh. Partition of the nation, a number of political unrest and other factors have forced some section of them to migrate from Bangladesh to the different districts of North Bengal located in Indo- Bangladesh border region of West Bengal. Displacement and migration had resulted the fact that the concerned people were forced to loss their permanent settlement and traditional occupational pursuit. They were struggling for the livelihood and desperately needed any means of survival. Among them a certain portion of the people started to settle down on the vested land of Balasan river bed of Darjeeling district in search of a new occupational pursuit, which is the stone based occupation. The prime objective of the present study is to analyze the implications of displacement on the socio- cultural factors and its overall impact on the health situation of the concerned people. The present study has been primarily conducted through intensive field work and it revealed the fact that the new occupational pursuit is unable to provide them the adequate requirements to secure their livelihood and the allied issues have seriously told upon their health situation. All the concerned factors are discussed here in brief.