The tea workers of the present study are the direct descendents of those migrant Adivasis who came to Assam from different parts of India during British era to work as plantation labourers. These people belong to a number of ethnic communities. The Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the "Others" are the four communities considered for the present purpose. The demography and the infant and early childhood mortality of these four communities have been studied in the present work. The data for the present purpose were collected from three tea-estates namely Rajgarh, Dirai and Pithagooti situated in the Dibrugarh district of Assam.

Altogether 1067 families were visited and surveyed, of which 264 families belong to the Mundas while the number of families for the Oraons and the Tantis are 203 and 301 respectively. 299 families are included in the 'Others' group. This group has been made by pulling together a number of ethnic communities such as Bhuyan (23), Bhumiz (14), Bawri (14), Guwala (25), Gond (11), Gonju (19), Kharia (12), Kisan (21), Pradhan (17), Lohar (11), Mahili (15), Majhee (17), Mudi (12), Porja (26), Santal (13), Turi (21), Kondh (14) and Kumhar (18).
To get the detail demographic account of the people, information regarding age-sex distribution, family type, family size, education and occupation of the people, religion, house-type, income etc. were recorded.

**DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE MUNDAS**

264 Munda families were surveyed for the present study. The total population is 1549 of which 49.32% are male and 50.68% are female. Nuclear family predominates over the other types of families and the percentage is 63.64%. Majority of the people are Hindu by religion and the percentage is 86.74. The literacy percentage of the Mundas is 39.39%. Male literacy is 45.81% and the female literacy is 33.29%. Of the total 839 workers 51.01% are male and 48.99% are female. Again out of the total 710 non-workers, 47.32% are male and 52.68% are female. The worker dependant ratio is 846 dependants per 1000 worker. Wage labour is the major type of occupation among the Mundas.

**INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY**

133 Munda mothers having 0-5 years children have been interviewed for the present study. These mothers have a total of 324 live births. The numbers of surviving and dead children are 272 and 52 respectively. The percentages for survivality and mortality of the 0-5 years children are 83.95 and 16.05 respectively. Again of the surviving children 139 (42.90%) are male and 133 (41.05%) are female. The number of dead children is 52 (16.05%) of which 28 (8.64%) are male and 24 (7.41%) are female. Of the total deaths, 43 (13.27%) deaths are of infants while 9 (2.7%) deaths have occurred to the children of 1-5 years. Again of the total infant deaths, 29 (8.95%) are of neo-natal stage and 14 (4.32%) are of post natal stage and
the remaining deaths occurred to the children of 1-5 years. Diarrhoea is identified as major cause of death of the 0-5 years children of the Mundas, and the percentage is 32.69. Out of the total 264 Munda families, 43 (30.28%) families have experienced infant and early childhood mortality.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE ORAONS

The total population of the Oraons is 1565 and it is distributed in 203 families. The percentage of male is 51.44 and that of female is 48.56. The demographic findings show that nuclear families are more in number than the joint families and the percentage for nuclear family is 68.96. 69.95% of Oraons are Hindu by religion. The literacy rate of the Oraons is 34.62%, while 65.37% of them are illiterate. Male literacy is higher than the female. The percentages for male and female literacy are 44.58 and 26.25 respectively. Of the total 872 workers 50.46% are male and 49.54% are female. Likewise out of the total 693 non-workers, 52.67% are male and 47.33% are female. Very few people are engaged in jobs other than labourer.

INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY

125 Oraon mothers, having 0-5 years children were selected for interview. These mothers have 317 live births, of which 276 (87.07%) are surviving children and 41 (12.93%) are dead children. Of the surviving children, 161 (50.79%) are male and 115 (36.28%) are female. Of the dead children 23 (7.25%) are male and 18 (5.68%) are female. Of the total deaths, 37 (11.67%) are infants while 4 (1.26%) deaths occur to the children of 1-5 years. Again of the total infant deaths 26 (8.20%) are of neo-natal stage and 11 (3.47%) are of post natal stage while 4 (1.26%) deaths occur to children of 1-5 years. Diarrhoea is the prime cause of death of the Oraons
and the percentage is 24.39%. Out of the total 203 Oraon families 36 (17.73%) families have infant and early childhood mortality.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE TANTIS

The 301 Tanti families of the present study have a total population of 1670. 844 i.e. 50.54% of them are male and 826 i.e. 49.46% are female. The percentage of nuclear family is 61.46 and it is the highest of all the types of families. All the Tanti people of the study area are Hindu by religion. The literacy rate is 28.35%. 71.65% of them are illiterates. Male literacy is slightly higher (29.76%) than the female (27.09%). Of the total 839 workers 51.97% male and 48.03% female. Again out of the total 831 non-workers, 49.10% male and 50.90% female. Wage labour in the garden is the prime occupation of the Tantis.

INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY

107 Tanti mothers having 0-5 years children have been considered for the present study and they have a total of 243 live births. Of these, 204 (83.95%) are surviving children and 39 (16.05%) are dead children. Out of 204 surviving children 84 are male and 120 are female. Of the 39 dead children 19 (7.82%) are male and 20 (8.23%) are female. Again of the total deaths, 14.81% are infant and 1.23 is the percentage of death for 1-5 years children. 11.11% (27) deaths, occurred in the neo-natal stage, 3.71% (9) occur in the post natal stage, remaining 1.25% (3) deaths occurs to the children of 1 to 5 years. The major cause of death among the Tantis is stomach trouble and the percentage is 28.20%. Out of the total 301 Tanti families, 32 (10.63%) families have experienced infant and early childhood mortality.
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE 'OTHERS'

The 299 'Others' families have a total population of 1664 of which 49.88% male and 50.12 female. Nuclear family is the major type of family among the 'Others' and the percentage is 65.55. Majority of the people are Hindu by religion and the percentage is 65.55. The literacy rate of the 'Others' is 24.22%. The male literacy is 29.39%, while 17.96 is the percentage of female literacy. The total working population of the 'Others', is 873, of which, 52.56% are male and 47.54% are female.

INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY

The number of mothers having 0-5 years children in the 'Others' group is 142. They have a total of 263 live births of which 228 are surviving children and 35 are dead. The percentages of survivality and mortality are 86.69 and 13.31 respectively. Of the total surviving children, 37.64% (99) are male, 49.05% (129) are female. Again of the total 35 (13.31%) deaths 16 (6.08%) are male and 19 (7.22%) are female. It has been revealed from the data that among the 'Others', of the total 299 families, 268 (89.63%) families do not have any mortality of 0-5 years children, but 10.37% families have experienced infant and early childhood mortality. The major cause of death identified among the 'Others' is diarrhoea. It has also been found that of the total 35 deaths, 22 (8.37%) deaths occur at the neo-natal stage, 9 (3.41%) occur in the post natal stage and the remaining 4 (1.52%) deaths occur in the 1-5 years age group. Therefore, the percentage of infant mortality among the 'Others' is 11.79 and that of 1-5 years is 1.51%.

A number of demographic, socio-cultural, health and medical, housing and environmental and nutritional factors have been considered to see their effect on infant and early childhood mortality.
A. INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORALITY ACCORDING TO DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS

Mother's age at first child birth, birth interval between two children and mother's parity are the three demographic factors considered to see their effect on infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities.

Mother's age at first child birth

The Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' show that the infant and early childhood mortality is the highest to those mothers who had their first child at the age of 15 years or below and the percentages for the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' are 6.17, 5.68, 8.64 and 5.70 respectively.

No statistically significant differences are observed amongst the four communities regarding infant and early childhood mortality.

Birth interval

The Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' show the highest incidence of mortality to those children who were born with an interval of twelve months or less and the percentages are 5.86, 6.31, 8.64 and 5.70 respectively.

No statistically significant differences are seen amongst the four communities.

Mother's parity

In all the four communities, mother's first order parity experienced the highest infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages for the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' are 4.63, 4.10, 6.58 and 4.56 respectively.
The four communities when compared with regard to infant and early childhood mortality according to mother's parity the results of significance tests show that except the Mundas versus the Tantis, the differences amongst the remaining communities are not statistically significant.

B. INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS

Parent's faith in talisman

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the parents who have faith in talisman for welfare of their children have experienced the highest infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 11.42, 8.83, 10.29 and 8.75 respectively.

When the infant and early childhood mortality is compared in relation to parent's faith in talisman, the results of significance tests show that the differences of the four communities are not statistically significant.

Decision takers regarding treatment of ill children

Among the Mundas, infant and early childhood death is the highest, when decision takers are the husbands only and the percentage is 1.09; while in case of the Oraons, the highest percentage of mortality is 5.68 and the decision takers are the relatives and in-laws. Likewise, in case of the Tantis and the 'Others' the percentages of infant and early childhood mortality are found to be the highest when the decision takers are the parents and the percentages are 8.64 and 6.46 respectively.

When infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities is compared in relation to decision taker regarding treatment of ill children,
the results of significance tests show that the differences between the Mundas versus the Oraons, the Oraons versus the 'Others' and the Tantis versus the 'Others' are not statistically significant. But the Mundas versus the 'Others' and the Oraons versus the Tantis show statistically significant differences.

Religious notion

Except the Oraons, in the other three communities i.e. the Mundas, the Tantis and the 'Others', the highest infant and early childhood deaths occurs to the children of those parents who believe that mortality is the result of the sins of the parents and the percentages are 8.02, 5.76 and 4.94 respectively. In the Oraons the highest percentage is 5.04 and the parents of these babies think that there is no relation between death and sin.

The differences of the four communities in relation to religious notions and childhood death are not statistically significant.

Status of the mother in the family

Among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' women having low status in their families have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 10.80, 8.52, 9.47 and 8.74 respectively.

The tests of significance show that the differences amongst the four communities are not statistically significant.

Parent's attention given to children

The Mundas, the Oraons and the Tantis have experienced the highest infant and early childhood mortality in the category where parents leave their
children to themselves and the percentages are 7.10, 9.46 and 7.82 respectively. In the 'Others' the highest percentage is 6.08 and it is in the category "occasionally watching their children".

When infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities is compared in relation to parent's attention given to children, the results of significance tests show that there are no statistically significant differences among the Mundas and the Tantis, the Mundas and the 'Others', and the Tantis and the 'Others'. But the Mundas and the Oraons, the Oraons and the Tantis and the Oraons and the 'Others' show statistically significant differences.

Activity of women during pregnancy

The pregnant women of the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', who did heavy duties during pregnancy, have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 11.11, 8.20, 11.11 and 8.74 respectively.

The tests of significance show that the differences regarding infant and early childhood mortality in relation to activity of the mother during pregnancy are not statistically significant.

Religion

The infant and early childhood mortality has been found to be the highest among the Hindus of all the four communities. The percentages for the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' are 11.42, 10.09, 16.03 and 9.88 respectively.

The tests of significance regarding infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities in relation to religion show that between the Mundas
and the Oraons, the Mundas and the 'Others' and the Oraons and the
'Others' there is no statistically significant differences.

Family income

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the families
with an income of Rs. 2000 to 3000 per month have experienced the highest
infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 10.49, 6.31,
9.88 and 7.22 respectively.

The infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities
regarding family income, show no statistically significant differences.

Father's occupation

The fathers working as tea labourers have experienced the highest
incidence of infant and early childhood mortality. The percentages for the
Mundas, the Oraons, the Tanti and the 'Others' are 11.42, 8.83, 9.47 and
5.70 respectively.

The results of significance tests of infant and early childhood mortality
in relation to occupation of the father show that except the Oraons and the
'Others' no statistically significant differences are found amongst the
remaining groups.

Occupation of the mother

Among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the
mothers working as labourer have experienced the highest incidence of
infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 8.95%, 9.14%,
8.23% and 11.02% respectively.
The infant and early childhood mortality in relation to occupation of the mother when compared it is seen that except the Mundas versus the 'Others', the remaining communities show no statistically significant differences.

Education of the father

(The illiterate fathers have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality) and the percentages are 8.95, 7.25, 12.35 and 8.74 respectively.

Infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities when compared with one another in relation to the education of the father the differences are not statistically significant.

Education of the mother

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', (illiterate mothers have the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality) and the percentages are 8.95, 7.25, 12.35 and 8.74 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences.

Type of family

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis, the 'Others' the nuclear families have the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 9.88, 7.25, 11.93 and 9.12 respectively.

The differences regarding infant and early childhood mortality in relation to type of family among the four communities are not statistically significant.
Size of family

The highest percentages of infant and early childhood mortality are found in very big families among the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' and the percentages are 5.68, 8.64 and 4.94 respectively. On the other hand among the Munda the highest percentage of infant and child mortality is 6.17 and it is found in small size families.

The results of the tests of significance regarding the infant and early childhood mortality in relation to size of family are not statistically significant.

C. INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO HEALTH AND MEDICAL FACTORS

Medical check-up of the mother during pregnancy

The pregnant women of the Munda, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' communities, who did not have any medical check-up during pregnancy have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 12.04, 10.41, 13.99 and 7.60 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that the differences are not statistically significant in case of the Munda versus the Oraons; the Munda versus the Tantis; the Munda versus the 'Others'; and the Oraons versus the Tantis. While the Oraons versus the 'Others' and the Tanti versus the 'Others' show statistically significant differences.

Type of treatment received by the mother during pregnancy

In the Munda, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the women who did not have any medical treatment during pregnancy have the highest
incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 6.17, 5.68, 8.64 and 4.94 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that the differences are not statistically significant amongst the four communities.

General health status of the mother

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the women who were frequently ill during pregnancy, have the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 12.35, 10.09, 11.52 and 10.26 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that the differences are not statistically significant amongst the four groups of the tea workers.

Immunization status of the mother

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', the women who were not immunized during pregnancy have experienced the highest infant mortality and the percentages are 10.49, 7.57, 11.11 and 7.22 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences amongst them.

Consumption of iron and folic acid tablet

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' communities, the women who did not consume iron and folic acid tablets during pregnancy have experienced the highest incidence of infant mortality and the percentages are 10.80, 8.83, 11.93 and 7.98 respectively.
The differences amongst the four communities are not statistically significant.

**Gestation period**

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', the highest mortality is seen in the prematurely born children and the percentages are 9.26, 8.83, 8.23 and 7.22 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences amongst them.

**Delivery attendant**

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' communities the deliveries attended by the neighbours and relatives, experienced the highest infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 8.95, 7.26, 8.64 and 6.46 respectively. The mortality is the lowest when doctors attend deliveries.

The tests of significance show that the differences amongst the four communities are not statistically significant.

**Nature of delivery**

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the women who suffered long labour at the time of child birth have the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 9.26, 6.62, 7.82 and 8.74 respectively. It is found that the differences are not statistically significant amongst the four groups of the tea workers.
Instrument used to cut umbilical cord

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the mortality is found to be the highest to those children for whom indigenous equipment were used to cut the umbilical cord and the percentages are 10.49, 8.83, 8.23 and 7.22 respectively.

The results of significant tests show that the differences among the four communities are not statistically significant.

Material applied to the umbilical cord

Among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', those who applied indigenous materials for drying and treatment of umbilical cord of their babies have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 10.49, 8.83, 8.23 and 7.22 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences amongst them.

Place of delivery

In all the four communities i.e. the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' it is found that the child mortality is the highest when deliveries take place in home and the percentages are 10.80, 8.83, 11.11 and 9.50 respectively. The child mortality is the lowest in all the four communities when the place of delivery is hospital.

The results of significance tests show that amongst the four communities the differences are not statistically significant.
Birth weight

In the Mudas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Other', the infant and early childhood mortality is found to be the highest to those who were less than 2.5 kg. at the time of birth and the percentages are 9.26, 6.94, 8.64 and 4.94 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that the differences are not statistically significant amongst the four groups of the tea workers.

Frequency of bathing

In the Mudas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the babies who were given occasional bathing have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 10.49, 9.46, 10.29 and 7.98 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no any statistically significant differences among the four communities.

Immunization status of surviving and dead children

In the Mudas and the 'Others' early childhood death is found to be the highest to those children who were not immunized at all and the percentages are 8.03 and 6.86 respectively. In case of the Oraons and the Tantis, it is found to be the highest when immunizations of the children were incomplete and the percentages are 6.31 and 7.0 respectively.

When the infant and early childhood mortality is compared in relation to immunization status of the children, the results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences.
D. INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

House type

Among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' infant and early childhood mortality is found to the highest to those children who live in the kutcha houses and the percentages are 8.95, 8.23 and 7.22 respectively. But among the Oraons the percentage is the highest to the children living in semi-pucca houses and it is 6.30.

Hygienic condition of the mother

The mortality is found to be the highest in those infants and children who live in poor hygienic condition. The percentages among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' are 8.0, 9.46, 7.82 and 6.08 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that there are no statistically significant differences amongst the four groups of the tea-worker.

Sources of drinking water

In the Mundas, the Oraons, the Others, the Tantis and the 'Others', the infants and children who used to take drinking water from Kutcha well faced the highest incidence of mortality and the percentages are 8.02, 7.89, 8.23 and 6.84 respectively.

The significance tests show that the differences are not statistically significant amongst them.
Treatment of drinking water

Among the Mudas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', the families who used to take ordinary water (without any treatment) for drinking purposes experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 11.73, 9.49, 11.52 and 6.46 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that except the Mudas versus the Tantis, the differences amongst the remaining communities are not statistically significant.

Use of latrine

Among the Mudas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' the families lacking latrine facilities have the highest infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 10.19, 9.15, 10.29 and 7.22 respectively.

The results significance tests show no statistically significant differences amongst the four groups of the tea workers.

E. INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO NUTRITIONAL FACTORS

Fasting during pregnancy

The mothers of the Mudas, the Oraons, the Tantis, and the 'Others' who have the habit of fasting during pregnancy have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 9.57, 7.88, 11.93 and 7.22 respectively.

The results of significance tests show that the differences amongst them are not statistically significant.
Food taboos during pregnancy

The mothers of the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and 'Others' who have some food taboos during pregnancy have experienced the highest infant and early childhood the mortality and the percentages are 10.49, 8.23 and 7.98 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences.

Weight of mother

Among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' who have the weight of less than 39 kilogram during pregnancy have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 8.02, 7.88, 8.23 and 6.84 respectively.

The results of significance tests show no statistically significant differences.

Initiation of breast feeding

Among the 'Oraons', the 'Tantis' and the 'Others', the mothers who initiated breast feeding to their new born babies after 24 hours of birth have experienced the highest incidence of infant and early childhood mortality and the percentages are 7.25, 9.05 and 8.74 respectively. While among the Mundas, the highest mortality is seen to those who were breast fed within 24 hours of birth and the percentage is 8.33.

Except the Oraons versus the 'Others', no significant differences are seen among the remaining groups.
Duration of breast feeding

The infant and early childhood mortality of the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others' vary in regard to duration of breast feeding.

Among the Mundas, the highest percentage of infant and child mortality (7.72) to those who were breast fed up to more than 1 year, among the Oraons, it is 7.25 and breast fed up to 1 year. Among the Tantis the highest percentage of mortality is 9.05 and they were breast fed up to 1 year. Among the 'Others' the highest percentage is 8.74 and they were breast fed up to 1 year.

The results of significance tests show that except the Oraons versus the 'Others', all other communities show significant differences to one another.

Introduction of solid food

Among the Mundas, the Oraons, the Tantis and the 'Others', the highest percentage of infant and child mortality is found when solid food was introduced to the infants at the age of 9 months and the percentages are 10.80, 7.26, 9.47 and 6.46 respectively.

If we compare the infant and early childhood mortality of the four communities in relation to introduction to solid food, the results of significance tests show that the differences are not statistically significant.
CONCLUSION

From the findings of the present study it can be said that the tea-garden labourers came to Assam in the 19th century during the period of the colonial government. Though they belong to individual ethnic communities, living in the same environment for years together sharing the same economy, same ecology today in various fields they represent themselves as a single population i.e. the tea-garden labourer which can be called the unity in diversity. In the garden they even speak a common language called "Sadani". Most of them have either forgotten or have not been rigid about their social and cultural beliefs, ideas, rituals, customs etc. They are maintaining a very simple life with their limited income, but still they are enjoying their lives in their own ways. A section of them have come out and have shown their talents in different fields, though the number is small. Parents are generally not interested in educating their children, because most of them think that their children should be absorbed in the gardens as labourers when they get the chance. Of course the whole unemployment scenario of Assam compels them to think so. People are not aware of their health and hygiene, which ultimately results a high infant and early childhood mortality. The male folk addicted to alcoholic drink is a major familiar problem. The females are overburdened with household duties as well as earning duties. They get little time for taking proper care of their infants and children. Like other illiterate and economically depressed communities of Assam or India, the tea-garden labourers of the present study are also indifferent to many important aspects of day-to-day life. With the help and cooperation of the plantation authorities, awareness and sincerity of the labourers the infant and early childhood mortality could be reduced to a
substantial level. For example though medical facilities are available in the gardens, many of them still believe the illness in infants and children, are caused by ghosts and spirits and to get the blessings of these spirits, they practice and perform various rites and rituals at the time of crisis.