ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Ladakh has attracted attention of many scholars, travelers and administrators but very few studies have been carried out in ethnographic depth. Turtuk region remains unnoticed until 1999 Kargil war. After that, the attention of central government as well as state shifted towards this region because of its strategic importance bordering with Pakistan. The present study serves to fill up this gab by studying a lesser known tribe of Turtuk area of Leh district viz, the Balti- inhabitant of Baltistan. Their Habitat, Socio-economic and Political structure have been studied in depth. An effort has been made to portray the mechanism of change in the above spheres. The Balti culture has been continuously changing and the resultant consequences due to Tibetanization, Islamization, Baltiazation and Nationalization as reflected upon the society have been dealt with.

Many individuals as well as organizations have helped me to take my present work see the light of the day. First, I would express my gratitude to Prof J.R Panda, Supervisor and former HOD, Department of Sociology, University of Jammu, Jammu, who showed keen interest in this work at all stages. Dr Suresh Babu GS, Co-Supervisor and Senior Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Jammu, Jammu, has helped me in every moment and offered his valuable comments from time to time. I feel obliged to him. Mr. Vivek Kumar (BHU) and Miss. Mitushi Gupta (JNU) owe my thanks for going through the draft thesis and Mr. Ghulam Mahdi Ashur (Turtuk) for preparing glossary. Er. Ali Shah (uncle), Dr. Zahid Hussain (uncle), Mr. Ghulam Hussain (maternal uncle), Mr. Mohd Ibrahim (maternal uncle), Shabir Ahmed (brother), Mr. Abdul Qayum (friend), Mr. Mohd Ibrahim (cousin), Mr. Mubarek Ali (cousin) and Abbas Ali (cousin) painstakingly helped me financially as well as morally throughout life also deserve my thanks.
I would express my gratitude also to Dr. Abha Chauhan, HOD, Sociology, Dr. Vishav Raksha, Dr. Sapna Sharma and Dr. Hema Gandotra who extended their ungrudging assistance during the progress of this work.

I am also thankful to my parents, wife, brothers, sisters and friends for their support and cooperation. It will be an act of ingratitude, if I fail to mention the love and affection shown to me by the people of entire Turtuk region. My special thanks are due to Mrs. Konchok Angmo, wife of Chief Executive Councilor, Mr. Rigzin Spalbar, who not only extended all possible help but also showered in me the best possible way to support from time to time. It is only lingering memory of the acts of kindness shown by various individuals which is my everlasting asset.

Finally, I would like to thanks my late maternal uncle Mr. Ali Mohd (Shingkhanpa) who showed his keen inquisitiveness in the present work until he breathed his last.

Jammu: Ghulam Mehdi
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