The aim of this study is essentially to examine the cultural modalities of the two hill tribes of Thailand, the Yao and the Lisaw, primarily in the context of their clothing and ornaments. As the study unfolded, it was realised by me that the value of this investigation would be substantially enhanced if a study of the musical instruments, which are also an integral part of their cultural modalities is made. It was felt also that a study of the same artefacts of the Ladakh region would also be useful to draw comparisons between those of the hill tribes of a different socio-cultural syntax.