



7. Dress and ornaments:

Hrangkhols dress is very simple. In early period, men generally wore a long woven cloth of about 12 inches wide tied at the abdomen downwards covering only their private part and the buttock at the back, which is called 'peduri'. They wore simple shirt in their fashion. They wore a strip cloth called "diar or dhoti" tied round their waist, and hanging both in front and behind.⁴⁴ Women wore 'puanbom tak', a black colour made by themselves tied their waist with enough to cover upto the knee and also wore 'lungbom' a woven cloth covers their breast. Both men and women kept their hair long, and combed back and tied in a knot at the back of their head. In the knot, a samkil (hair-pin) is fastened.⁴⁵ Woman's ear is decorated with ornaments. Ornaments like banhrial (bracelet), toia-kuardoi (earrings) and irthei (necklace) were worn by women in great profusion.⁴⁶

8. Death rites:

The Hrangkhols believed in the existence of human spirit called 'mihriam, irtha'. So when a person dies, the spirit is to be remained either around the dead body or hovering in the vicinity of the village. For this belief, women and children dreaded when a person dies. Messengers called 'thang in thei' were sent for informing the relative of the deceased. When the blood-relative came, they hack the door-post with a dao indicating their sorrow and anger at the misfortune.

The corpse, as a custom, was washed with hot water and wrapped with clothes, adorned with some ornaments. Food and chicken were prepared for

⁴⁴ C.A.Soppitt, *A short Account of the Kuki- Lushai Tribes on the North- East Frontier with An Outline Grammar of the Rangkhoh-Lushai Language*. Reprinted, Aizawl, 1976, p.6.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*