

religious ceremonies like *Khuaroini* (village puja), taboo days, etc. They had noble priests and prophets who had authority over the religious matters. Their religion was exclusive. In course of such state, Christianity came in early twentieth century. Since then, persecution evolved. The local people vehemently opposed the New Faith and preachers as they thought Christianity would annihilate their religious beliefs and practices. Therefore, the non-Christians were hostile to the new converts and imposed a fine on them. Wherever Christianity was spread, a persecution occurred.³ For fear of such oppositions, some people ~~hesitate~~ to embrace Christianity. Therefore, Christianity spread slowly. Furthermore, Christians now lost their standard discipline in religious matters after embracing Christianity. For instance, Sunday and other religious ceremonies are not strictly observed as practised in pre-Christian society.

b) Creation of denominations:

In the traditional religion of Hrangkhols, denominationalism was unknown, though they never had any guidelines nor written literatures. But Christianity has the religious books such as the 'Bible' emphasising on One Faith, One Holy Church, One Baptism and Solidarity; yet the Churches are now split into several denominations that led to the loss of solidarity. Perhaps, it is the one reason why non-Christians dislike Christianity.

2. Socio-cultural life

In pre-Christian days, the Hrangkhols strictly preserved their cultural heritage. After they embraced Christianity, some of their traditional cultures were gradually abandoned. It is the negative impact of both British administration and

³ Interview with *Chonsuilian* of Tangpui, on 13th May, 1997.