

Tharu Tribe

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Tharu Tribe Latest News

The Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court recently set aside a district-level committee's decision to reject the community forest rights claims of the Tharu tribe in Lakhimpur Kheri.

About Tharu Tribe

- The Tharu tribe is one of the **indigenous groups** living in the **Terai plain** on the **Indo-Nepal border**.
- The Tharu are the **largest and oldest ethnic group of the Terai region**.
- They live in both **India and Nepal**.
- **In the Indian Terai**, they live mostly in **Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar**.
- In 1967, this tribe was **documented as a Scheduled Tribe by the Government of India**.
- **Language**: They have their own language called **Tharu or Tharuhati**, a language of the **Indo-Aryan subgroup of the Indo-Iranian group** of the **Indo-European family**.
- **Economy**: Most Tharu practice **agriculture**, raise cattle, hunt, fish, and **collect forest products**.
- **Most of their food involves rice, lentils, and vegetables**.

- Tharu **traditional homes**, known as “**Badaghar**,” are **made with local materials** such as **mud, wood, and thatch**.
- **Society:**
 - **Despite their patrilineal social system, women have property rights** greatly exceeding those recognized in Hindu society.
 - Tharu **marriages are patrilocal within the tribe**.
 - A common feature of the Tharu community is the **joint family system of living in long houses**.
 - Tharus live in **compact villages**, usually in the **middle of a forest clearing**.
 - The **Panchayat system (Local Social Council)** is very strong in this tribe; the **head of the panchayat** is called “**Pradhan**” in the local Tharu language.
- **Religion:** The Tharu people practice a unique **blend of animism, Hinduism, and nature worship**.

Source: LAWTON

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/who-are-the-tharu-people/>

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