

Raji Tribe

July 20, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Raji Tribe Latest News

In Khetar Kanyal, a village dominated by the Raji tribe in Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district, the absence of a female candidate for the village head (pradhan) reveals a deeper crisis.

About Raji Tribe

- The Raji tribe is a small indigenous community from the **Kumaon region of Uttarakhand**, India, and **parts of western Nepal**.
- The Raji tribe is **one of the smallest tribes** of India.
- They **reside primarily** in the remote areas of **Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district**.
- They are also called "**Banrawats**," "**Ben-Manus**", and "**cave dwellers**."
- They are classified as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)**.
- Traditionally forest dwellers and cave dwellers, they speak the **Tibeto-Burman language Bat-Kha**.
- **Livelihood:**
 - They work as **gatherers**, collecting honey from bee-hives, fishing, and hunting.

- In recent decades, many have **shifted to agriculture**, with rice, maize, and barley being the staple crops.
- In addition to agriculture, the Rajis are **skilled in various handicrafts**, including **weaving and basketry**
- **Religion:** They **worship Hindu gods**, and they **worship nature**.
- **Social Organization:**
 - The Raji tribe has a **well-defined social structure**, with **elders** playing a **crucial role in decision-making** and conflict resolution.
 - The community is **organized into clans**, each with its customs and traditions.
 - **Panchayats (local councils)** are responsible for **maintaining social harmony** and addressing issues within the community.
- **Housing and Architecture:**
 - The traditional homes of the Rajis are constructed using locally available **materials like wood, stone, and mud**.
 - These houses are designed to **withstand the harsh climatic conditions** of the region and are **typically built on elevated platforms** to protect against floods and wild animals.

Source: OLI

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/raji-tribe/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.