



The Unexplored Kingdom of Bhutan

People and Folk Cultures of Bhutan
Subrata Sanyal Sanyal

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- *The Unexplored Kingdom* takes the reader on a journey through the cultural and ethnic heritage of Bhutan, reflected through the author's own love and fascination for the country and its people
- Photographs and information obtained at a grass-roots level reveal aspects of the simple but sophisticated lifestyles and traditions of the Bhutanese, which have been carried forward even to this day
- This book aims to record knowledge of the folk-life of Bhutan, preserving them for researchers and future generations

Bhutan is a country rich in ethnic, cultural, and religious traditions, having moved towards modernization only in the latter half of the 20th century. While some initiatives have been undertaken to understand the history of the land and its people, there is so much that is yet to be discovered. It is this fascination for Bhutan and its people that drove the author to pen ***The Unexplored Kingdom: People and Folk Cultures of Bhutan***. The book reveals the diverse facets of the Land of the Thunder Dragon, exploring its historical background, ethnic lifestyles, and cultural and religious practices.

Contents:

Preface; Historical and Geographic Background of Bhutan; Demographic Dispersal and the Art of Living; Buddhism and Ethnic Rituals; Language and Folk Literature; Arts, Crafts and Architecture; Acknowledgements; Bibliography; Index.

Subrata Sanyal, an engineer by profession, is currently engaged as a consultant of techno- commercial services. Born and brought up in North Bengal, he feels a close relationship with the people of Bhutan, with whom he has interacted during the course of his professional visits to Bhutan. This book is a direct result of his visits to Bhutan over the last 20 years.