

# Kudmi community

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**In news**– Kudmi community has recently demanded Scheduled Tribe (ST) status and the inclusion of their language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

## **About the community-**

- The Kudumi Mahato are a community found in states of Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha of India.
- They are **also known as Kurmbi, Kudmi, Kurmi Mahto/Mahato** (not to be confused with Kurmi) or Kudumi Mohanta/Mahanta.
- The Kudumi **were classified as a Notified Tribe by the British Raj** under the terms of the Indian Succession Act introduced in 1865 as they have customary rules of succession.
- Subsequently, in **1913, they were classified as a Primitive Tribe**. Despite being a tribe, they were **omitted from the list of communities listed as tribes in the 1931 census**.
- Again, they were **omitted from the Scheduled Tribe list drawn up in 1950**, for reasons that are unknown.
- In 2004 the Government of Jharkhand recommended that they should be listed as a Scheduled Tribe rather than Other Backward Class.
- Kurmali is an Indo-Aryan language spoken in Eastern India. **Kurmali is generally linked to the Kudumi Mahato** (also known as Kurmi, Mahanta or Mohanta) community of Jharkhand, Odisha & West Bengal.
- **Kudmali is also spoken by the Kudumi people of Assam**, and was brought to the tea gardens from Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal.
- Chait Parab, Karam, Jitiya, Badna, Tusu are the major festival of Kudmi. They worship Budhabaap in Madapthan and Garam at gramthan. Jhumar and Chhau are their folk

dance.