

Folk Beliefs in Ilam Province

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Abstract

Beliefs and trusts, as an extensive social system, have been considered a part of a broader system of public knowledge and culture. The way to preserve and transmit them, as a common heritage of social life of a group, has mainly been verbal and by the words of mouth. The origin of part of these beliefs and trusts (superstitious or non-superstitious) caused by human reaction in facing with nature and his surrounding mysterious environment which occurred in crucial situations and moments when there was no trust or confidence in future has been created. With due attention to these beliefs and practicing based on them, people have been prevented from managing the affairs based on logic and planning. This paper aimed at opening a window to understanding Ilami culture and specially their beliefs and trusts. In addition to giving a number of folk beliefs and trusts (without the approval of being right or wrong), applications are also shown. The methods of data collection used in the article consist of library method as well as interviewing the elderly people. The result of this research shows that people of any kind, with any insight and vision, intentionally or unintentionally, can never neglect these beliefs and trusts entirely and put them aside.

Key words: Ilam, Southern Kurdish, folklore, folk beliefs

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