

Jodidara Tradition

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Why in News?

Recently, Jodidara tradition practiced in the Hatti tribes of Himachal Pradesh.

- **Jodidara** - It is a traditional form of **polyandrous marriage** practised among the Hatti tribe in Himachal Pradesh.
- **Polyandry** — Where a **woman marries two or more men** at the same time, usually brothers.
 - The term derives from Greek Polys, meaning "many," and Andros, meaning "man."
- Like any conventional wedding, the event was marked by vibrant folk music, dance, and community festivities.
- **Unique Ritual**
 - **Jajda** - The wedding is called Jajda, which begins with the bride arriving in a procession to the groom's village.
 - **Seenj** - A ritual known as Seenj is performed at the groom's home, where a priest chants mantras in the local dialect and sprinkles holy water.
- The ceremony ends with the couple being offered jaggery, with blessings from the Kul Devta for a sweet and harmonious life ahead.
- **Significance** - The polyandry system helped prevent the division of ancestral land among multiple heirs.
- Other reasons include fostering unity among brothers, preserving joint family systems, and ensuring a secure and stable environment in remote, hilly terrains.
- The tradition also helped manage scattered agricultural lands, which required collective, long-term attention.
- Under Indian law, polyandry is not allowed.

Hatti Tribal Community

- They reside in the Trans-Giri region of Himachal Pradesh and the Jaunsar Bawar region of Uttarakhand.
- The Hatti tribe was recently granted **Scheduled Tribe status**.
- The Hattis is a close-knit community who got their name from their tradition of selling homegrown vegetables, crops, meat and wool etc. at small markets called '**haat**' in towns.
- They live in the Giri and Tons River basins near the Himachal-Uttarakhand border.
- **Governed by** - Traditional council called 'khumbli' which handles community matters.
- **Traditional Practices** - Hatti men wear distinctive white headgear on ceremonial occasions.

Reference

[Hindustan Times| Jodidara, Traditional form of Polyandry among the Hatti tribe](#)

