
A Short Note on Modern Bodo Short Stories

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Joykanta Sarma

The history of Bodo short stories is not very old. Bodo, a language of the Bodos who are the aboriginal tribes of Assam and North East India, is, however, well-developed. *Bibar*, a hand-written magazine edited by Satish Ch. Basumatari was the first Bodo magazine (1920). But the stories published in it were not up to the standard.

In 1952, when All Bodo Sahitya Sabha was formed, its mouthpiece *Bodo* was also published simultaneously. Writers like Michael Basumatari, Dani Ram Basumatari, Jagadish Ch. Brahma etc. contributed their stories towards the fiction section of the magazine. Thereafter, another Bodo magazine *Bairathi* also came up under the editorship of Samar Brahma Chowdhury.

Fiction books published so far are yet a few in number. Chittaranjan Musahari's *Faimal Mijink* is the first published story collection in Bodo. *Thalim* published in 1974 is his second story-collection. Nil Kamal Brahma edited one story book *Hangra-Guduni* in 1972. He wrote and compiled more books in this genre and could establish himself as the best Bodo fiction-writer within a very short time. A number of fiction books came up during the later period.

Some young writers like Ranjit Kumar Bargiary, Hareswar Basumatari, Janil Kumar Brahma, Bandhu Ram Basumatari, Heramba Narajari and Benoy Kumar Brahma have also made a mark in the field, although they have not been able to publish their own collections.

