

Historical study on Religious Influence on Social Structures in West Bengal

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Abstract: *West Bengal, with its diverse religious traditions, has experienced significant socio-cultural transformations influenced by religious practices and institutions. This study examines how religion has historically shaped social structures, including caste dynamics, economic systems, gender roles, and political alignments. By analyzing historical records, sociological theories, and ethnographic accounts, the study explores the interplay between religion and social hierarchy in the region. The findings reveal that religious beliefs have played a dual role—both as instruments of social cohesion and as catalysts for conflict and reform. The study highlights the ongoing relevance of religion in shaping West Bengal's social fabric*

Keywords: Religion, Social Structures, Caste, Economy, Gender, West Bengal, History, Culture