

***Pranjal Patiri and Bedabrat Saikia***  
Civil Societies and Socio-Cultural Harmony in Assam

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## Srimanta Śaṅkaradeva Sangha: A Message of Social Harmony

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*Sanchita Bora  
Ranjana Borah*

### **Introduction**

Primarily, religion is a matter of individual faith. But its social significance cannot be ignored. The social aspect of religion unites man with his fellow man. Religion is essential for man's noble living. To become vibrant, the teachings of a religion need to be propagated. Its rituals to be performed, for which an institution or organization play a pivotal role. For this reason, there generally exist religious organizations. On the other hand, social organization is a pattern of relationships between and among individuals and groups. Social organization refers to a group of social positions, connected by social relations, performing a social role. In the broader sense religious organizations are social organizations. Moreover, there are some organizations which fulfill both the needs. These can be termed as socio-religious organizations. Sometimes, culture of a community or a race is closely knitted with its religion and belief. In such situation, the religious organization can also be termed and religio-cultural organizations. We may term Srimanta Śaṅkaradeva Sangha as such a socio-religious and cultural organization which contribution is mainly two-fold; social as well as religious.