

**VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS: COAL MINING AREAS IN JAINTIA  
HILLS, MEGHALAYA**

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**Abstract**

In the Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya large scale coal mining operation is on since 1970, wherein coal is extracted by Rat Hole mining. Rat Hole mining in Jaintia Hills involves large scale labor intensive operation, employing child labor in the age group of 10 - 14 years, brought especially from Bangladesh and Nepal. There is Human Rights abuse in these mining areas as these children are forced to work for long hours in violation of Article 23 of the Indian Constitution. These children are victims of human trafficking and they are forced to work constantly under dangerous conditions which is blatant exploitation, violating their human rights.

*Keywords:* Jaintia Hills, Human Rights, Labour, Exploitation, Coal Mining