

Section VI

SOCIAL LIFE

INHERITANCE (ir-chon luo) :-

- (a) Only the males have the right to inheritance. No female have any right over the ancestral property.
- (b) If the man has no son, has daughter, he may made a will, on condition that the daughter must not convert to other clan.
- (c) If the man has no son or no daughter of his own, the nearest clan member (paruol irnaitak) will get the property.
- (d) The property may be shared among the sons equally, but the eldest son getting larger share.

Adoption:- A Hrangkhoh family has the right to adopt a child with the consent of both the spouses. A childless man can adopt any boy or girl. The adopted boy or girl must be converted (pumichang) into the clan of his/her adopter father. The son is entitled to inherit half the property, leaving the other half to the nearest clan relative (paruol irnaitak) of the deceased. He/she is treated equal with other children.

Nu le pa lakai tuom:- It is deserved necessary for the salvation of debt soul. The son, sons, grandsons be made liable to pay the debts of their ancestors. If he has no son, the clan members (paruolhai) is liable to repay the debts.

Ruongmabe:- If there are 12 (twelve) sons/daughters from same parents and all a live in good health, the father has to pay the half of the bride value (hloman) to his father-in-laws' family. This is a mark of excellence and goodwill.

Bachei luo (Marry to elder's wife):- It is not exactly illegal. It is an arrangement for the sake of the children. If the elder brother dies and leave behind children, the fate of his widow is

to be decided by her in-laws. If she has no issue, she could choose to remain faithful to her in-laws, her position is decided in two ways -

- (a) She can remain as mother of the children and live in-laws house.
- (b) If she still young and has children, who needs her supports, her in-laws will ask the younger brother of the deceased husband to marry her for the love of the children and also to prevent the widow from committing adultery.

In this system of marriage, the bride value will be usual and he is to pay any left by the deceased brother.

An elder brother cannot marry his younger's widow. However a man can marry the younger sister of his wife. But not her elder sister.