

## **RELIGION AND LIFE, SOME NEW TRENDS, A STUDY ON THE PILGRIM HEAD QUARTERS OF KERALA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Religion is an important characteristic of the people in any country. This paper studies the changes in the religious trends of a hilly district of Kerala, Pathanamthitta, which is regarded as the pilgrim headquarters of Kerala. As far as religion is concerned, Pathanamthitta district is special in many ways. Belief in God is like breathing air to this pilgrim district of the State. Due to this reason, even the river sand bed of the district is rich with a religious color. Besides the traditional religious groups, the district is witnessing the growth of new sects probably in need of upward mobility. This is also because almost every other aspect of life here is deeply related to religion.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Religion, Pathanamthitta, Witnessing*

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