

# SCARE DEVILS

While the people acknowledge the existence of benevolent spirits, these are practically ignored. Their chief endeavor is to protect themselves from the evil spirits causing sickness and misfortune. To frighten away these demons they carve large wooden figures of animals, or men with weapons, and place them in the house near the entrance.

Such figures are made in the central and southern islands of the group. In the northern islands, in order to scare away the evil spirits, they erect tall bamboos on the beach and fasten coconut leaves to them at intervals.

## NICOBAR ISLANDS