

Karens are good fishermen too. They fish in the streams, creeks and coastal waters. Shell-fishery is one of the quite remunerative occupation for the Karens. They dive into the sea to collect the shells. These shells after being treated are sold to others and as such the Karens are the major group who contribute for the collection of the raw-material for the shell craft industry in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

They fish the prawns and lobsters and make a unique food item called "Napi". The Napi is the paste of fish dried and mixed with salt. It is one of the important items of the food for Karens and it can be preserved for long time.

Karens appear to be easy going simple minded people. They were contented with their subsistence economy earlier. Not many children went for further and higher studies because free hunting, fishing and cultivating pattern of life was more natural for them. However, due to subsequent restrictions in hunting and shell fishing the Karen parents have realised, of late, the necessity of education. Therefore, gradually a number of people have taken to further studies and entered into government service like teacher, clerk etc.

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