

# Thingkho Le Malcha

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 03, 2023



## Mount Carmel School

### RELIEF CENTRE Muolvaiphei

Managed by Hmar Youth Association GHQ

**Total Inmates Registered: 151**

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ■ Male: <b>50</b>                   | ■ Female: <b>101</b>                  |
| ■ Children (0-10 years): <b>55</b>  | ■ Adolescent (11-17 years): <b>45</b> |
| ■ Adult (18-59 years): <b>39</b>    | ■ Old age (60 above): <b>12</b>       |
| ■ Pregnant Mother: <b>00</b>        | ■ Lactating Mother: <b>11</b>         |
| ■ Person with Disability: <b>01</b> |                                       |

VILLAGES COVERED

- K. Phaijang
- Game Village, Imphal
- Lamphel Officer Colony
- Nambol
- Sizang
- K. Songdojang
- Changpikot
- L. Thinghangphai
- Sahumphai
- Langsei
- TN Vaisuon
- Nazareth Sugnu
- K. Phaijang
- Sugnu Tribal





## KUKI VICTIMS UPDATE

As on 03.10.2023



**143**  
DEATHS



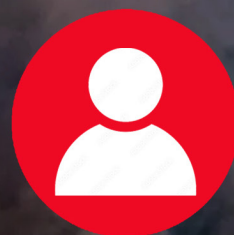
**200+**  
VILLAGES BURNT



**7000+**  
HOUSES BURNT



**360**  
CHURCHES &  
SYNAGOGUES BURNT



**41,425**  
DISPLACED  
PERSONS

Thingkho Le Malcha (charred wood tied with chilli): A war symbol; a pre-arranged secret code agreed upon by the Kukis to inform the people about the commencement of war and on receiving this, one has to remain alert and be ready for the battle.



## Candlelight Vigil, Coffin Rally Marks CoTU's 'Fifth Remembrance Day'



The Fifth Remembrance Day of Manipur violence since the 3rd May was held today at Brig. M. Thomas Ground, Kangpokpi town under the aegis of the Committee on Tribal Unity Sadar Hills, demanding the Centre for settlement of their political aspirations for the sake of justice and long-lasting peace.

As part of the observation, CoTU also imposed a 15-hour total shutdown in the entire district apart from displaying a coffin rally and candlelight vigil to pay tribute to the Kuki Martyrs.

CoTU's General Secretary, Lamminlun Singsit gave the welcome and keynote address as the village volunteers displayed the coffin rally while Rev. Lamkeng Lhouvum, Chairman of Kangpokpi District Tribal Churches Forum dedicated the coffin and altars or offerings for the Kuki-Zo people.

Rev. Prim Vaiphei, former President of All Manipur Christian Organization, who is also among the last Kuki-Zo evacuated from Imphal attended the event as the main speaker.

A minute silence was observed by the thousands gathering as the village volunteers laid the coffins and various prominent Kuki-Zo leaders put a garland each over the coffins as a mark of respect and tribute to the Kuki-Zo martyrs.

CoTU's Media Cell Coordinator, Ng. Lun Kipgen said that the fifth Remembrance Day was observed to commemorate and pay respect to the departed souls who died in the hands of the majoritarian Meiteis in their quest for ethnic cleansing pogrom.

He continues that as a religious minority, we are constantly facing subjugation and oppression from the Meitei-centric government and it is extremely sad that the NIA and CBI are busy arresting our people including students' leaders and minor girls. He appealed to the central investigating agencies to be impartial in delivering justice.

We demand the immediate release of all the innocent Kuki as they were arrested on flimsy grounds without any substantial evidence apparently to appease the majority Meiteis, he added.

He also said that the Central Government must also acknowledge the ground reality that it is impossible for us to live together again and initiate the settlement of our political aspirations for the sake of justice and lasting peace.

Ng. Lun Kipgen further said that the Centre must not play partisan politics over the Manipur crisis, and stop using a prescriptive policy of giving suco to one community over the other "If the Centre really wants to solve the issue, they have to act in a non-partisan manner", he asserted.

To find a way forward, the Centre must impose the President's Rule or remove the incompetent Chief Minister and reconsider its decision and impose AFSPA in the entire state including the 19 Police Stations which have been exempted from the disturbed areas tag, he further added

Various prominent Kuki-Zo leaders, village chiefs, civil society organizations also attended the event.



## Kuki-Zo Bodies' Total Shutdown Ends Peacefully; ITLF to Monitor Situation

Two days total shutdown called by the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) and Joint Students' Body (JSB) ended with no report of unwanted incidents in the entire district of Lamka.

Normal life, however, was greatly affected and the streets looked empty except bandh supporters blocking all the roads leading to the town, and only emergency services vehicles were seen plying on the roads. Shuttlers down without a single business transactions and all governmental offices remained closed during the whole two days.

The total shutdown was called in protest against the 'selective justice' conducted by the concerned authorities by unwarrantedly arresting student leaders, School teacher, women and abduction of two minor girl children in connection with the case of killing of two Meitei teenagers in war zones in July this year.

On September 29, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) had arrested Mr. Seiminlun Gangte, a School teacher, near Pholjang in Lamka district, in a case related to Kwakta

Bomb Blast in the month of June this year. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had another arrest of four individuals including women and two KSO leaders, and detained two minors on October 1 in connection with a case related to the killing of the Meitei duo.

After careful consideration, the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) called-off the total shutdown by 6:00 pm of October 3, and asserted that it would continue to monitor the situation; and if required, intense agitation notice be issued in the days to come. All borders with the Meiteis, however, were still closed and no person would be allowed to cross the border unless permitted by ITLF.

In regards to its Women Wing weekly dharna, ITLF also announced that considering the continuous two-day shutdown, the dharna would be canceled tomorrow (i.e. 4th October 2023) and would be resumed as usual from next week.

ITLF thanked the general public and the volunteers for their cooperation during the shutdown.

## Symbolic Posters-Protest Conducted in Different Places

Demanding justice for the Kuki-Zo victims who have been killed in the ongoing conflict, and claiming that there has been discriminatory justice done by the Central government in present Manipur conflict, the representatives and volunteers of Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO), Churachandpur, and Zomi Students' Federation (ZSF) on Tuesday launched posters-protest against the concerned authorities within Churachandpur town area

The volunteers of the two student bodies put up an effigies with inscription- 'Justice is dead' written on it along different locations in the district such as the Anglo Kuki War 1917-1919 Memorial Centenary Gate at Leisang, Tuibuong near Mini Secretariat, near Police Station and also near Lanva bridge. Along with the effigies, volunteers also dangled different posters, pamphlets/ placards written against the State government on the side of the roads, suspended with long rope "This is a protest and a symbol to show that justice is dead for the Kuki-Zo and justice is done selectively," said Minlal Gangte, Vice—President of KSO Churachandpur.



The KSO leader also made an appeal to the Central government and all human right agencies that justice should not be one sided and justice should also be delivered for the Kuki Zo people who have lost their lives in the ongoing conflict and for those who were paraded naked.



## Seiminlun Gangte's Custody Extended by Another Eight Days

The Patiala House Court has extended the custody of Seiminlun Gangte, an accused in Kwakta Bomb Blast case, by eight days.

Investigating the Kwakta Bomb blast related case in July last, the National Investigation Agency had on September 29 arrested Seiminlun Gangte for his alleged involvement in an international conspiracy to wage war against the Government of India on the pretext of Manipur violence.

The court remanded Seiminlun Gangte to the custody of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for two days on Sunday. After two days in NIA custody, he was brought before the National Investigation Agency Special Court.

After hearing the NIA's and the accused's representations, Special NIA Judge Sachin Gupta today prolonged the custody for eight days.

The special court also ordered the agency to provide a copy of the FIR to the accused's attorney. The special court has also permitted his attorney to visit him in NIA custody on alternate days. The federal investigative agency has opened an inquiry under anti-terrorism legislation, the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), and other statutes.

Seiminlun Gangte was a resident of Lamka and served as a School teacher before the violence broke out on May 3. His wife, Mangshi Gangte had claimed that he was innocent and the charges against him were wrongly implicated. The School Principal had also issued that Mr. Gangte was innocent to the best of his knowledge and he had no report of involvement in any anti-social or anti-national conspiracies.

## 5-day CBI Custody of Four Accused Held in Killing of Meitei Duo Granted

A Special Court in Guwahati on Monday granted the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) five-day custody of the four accused arrested in connection with a case related to two Meitei youth who were allegedly killed in July last.

The CBI on Sunday had arrested two men, Paominlun Haokip and Boisawm Haokip, and two women, Lhingneichong Baite and Tinneihing Lenthang, in connection with the case registered by it.

The accused were produced before a Special Court in Guwahati which said "prima facie" enough material exists to send them to CBI custody for five days.

The accused will be produced before the Court again on October 7.

## SC Appointed Panel to Visit Kanggui & Lamka

The 3 Judges Committee appointed by the Supreme Court of India to look into the Meiteis' violence against the Kukis will be visiting Lamka and Kangpokpi tomorrow (October 4, 2023).

The committee may interact with the inmates of Relief Camps, and may also interact with the CSOs.

The committee is composed of Retired Judges - Justice Gita Mittal, Justice P Shalini Joshi and Justice Asha Menon.

## Disqualification of 10 Kuki MLAs Actively Considered: Biren

The 10 Kuki MLAs who are demanding separate administration from Manipur are likely to face disqualification. The Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh made this statement to reporters on the sidelines of an event in Imphal, on Monday. He said that he is in constant touch with central BJP leaders, including the Prime Minister and Union Home Minister, and that the matter is being actively considered.

The ten Kuki MLAs, which includes 8 from the ruling BJP, (after JD (U) legislators merged with the BJP), have demanded a separate administration after they alleged

that the state government failed to protect them during the communal violence between non-tribal and tribal communities that began on May 3, 2023. There are ten Kuki MLAs in the 60-member Manipur Legislative Assembly.

Meanwhile, various political parties, including the Janata Dal (United), the regional Manipur People's Party (MPP), the National People's Party (NPP), and the Congress, are demanding the disqualification of these non-functional Kuki MLAs at the earliest.



## HEALING WOUNDS: A CRY FOR JUSTICE



The enduring conflict in Manipur, persisting for over 150 days, has laid bare a distressing reality where the majority systematically oppresses the minority. In the face of constitutional failures, the anticipated imposition of President's Rule has remained elusive, allowing the Chief Minister, who bears responsibility for the state's suffering, to continue in power. This crisis in Manipur mirrors a harrowing tale of state-sanctioned oppression, specifically targeting the minority Kuki community.

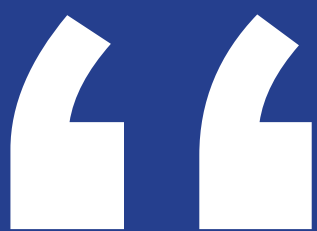
The ongoing conflict has shattered the Kukis' faith in the principle of coexistence, a concept that can only thrive when based on mutual understanding and respect. The demand for a separate administration for the Kukis has become an undeniable necessity in light of the relentless persecution they face.

Recent events unfolding since May 3 have brought to light alarming developments. The state government's legitimization of militant groups like Arambai Tengol, instrumentalized to target the Kukis, is deeply troubling.

Furthermore, the misuse of social organizations such as Meira Paibis, under the guise of their gender identity, has disrupted central security forces. Shockingly, the state machinery, including the police, has been turned against the oppressed Kuki community, exacerbating their plight.

It is imperative to acknowledge the historical contributions of the loyal Kuki community to India's progress and freedom. They are not terrorists, as unjustly labeled, but victims of a system that has failed them. Their demand for a separate administration is not rooted in political opportunism or religious bias; it is a legitimate cry for justice and recognition of their rights.

The recognizing the Kukis' demand for a separate administration is not merely a political imperative; it is a moral obligation essential for healing the wounds of the past and securing the future of the oppressed Kuki community.



**Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.**

— Martin Luther King Jr.



## EXPLORING NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF MANIPUR VIOLENCE ON DISPLACED KUKI-ZO STUDENTS AND THE IMPACT ON EDUCATION

Education is one of the most important parts of development and is necessary for uplifting society and a country. That is why it is one of the fundamental rights that is bestowed upon every citizen of India by the Indian Constitution. Students play an important role in shaping the status of a country therefore, education is the backbone of any country. It plays a very crucial role in technological development and imparts various skills, values, and awareness.

However, due to the recent conflict that has been going on in Manipur, many students have lost the opportunity to continue their education keeping a gap in their academic year and eventually putting a chokehold in the process of pursuing their dreams. Among the 40 thousand-plus Kuki-Zo people, there are thousands of students that have also been displaced.

Medical students have also not been spared and they have also been suffering the consequences of this ethnic violence that has escalated over the past two months. It has caused great distress and uncertainty to many aspiring students that have no choice but to wait for a solution.

Targeting of schools or students is considered a violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law but the recent conflict has created a devastating impact. The state has reopened schools and colleges resuming classes however, the thousands of displaced students have no choice or alternative. Going back to join classes is a far-fetched dream for them. Although undergraduate medical students were transferred to different districts for the continuation of their classes there are still a large number of displaced Kuki-Zo medical interns who have also kept their professional careers on hold with no means to continue their practice in another institute without a proper NOC certificate given by their parent medical college while their peers have continued their internships back in Manipur with no problem.

This has caused stagnation of continuing training and learning and has become a roadblock for their career as medical practitioners. The only thing they can do is hope that the National Medical Council to come up with a solution to solve the dilemma that is keeping the careers of the medical interns at stake.

Many postgraduate students from Manipur University are also unable to continue their classes which will affect their degrees in the end. Kuki-Zo students in Lamka have



protested against the disregard for the education of displaced students by the state government and the state education board and councils. This is a huge problem because for students' the academic year is very crucial. The conflict has brought enough trauma and mental stress to the many displaced Kuki-Zo people, it has now given another major setback and obstacle regarding the education and careers of many students.

Education is the most important aspect of a person's life and it also guarantees the betterment and development of a person as well as a society at large. Therefore, hindering or blocking the path of education and career for thousands of students is outright unfair and must be considered a very important issue that must be tackled as soon as possible. It is only fair for the many aspiring students irrespective of their fields be they graduates, post-graduates, medical interns, engineering students, research scholars, etc. to be given priority and a proper elucidation for their educational and career paths.

Last, but not least, this conflict may have caused emotional trauma, mental and emotional stress. This conflict may have caused us to lose our homes, properties, assets, etc. but it must not take away our education and our academic accomplishments, our careers, and our intellectual capabilities too.

"Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army." – Edward Everett.

(First Published by [The Hills Journal](#))



**FACT CHECK** 13

**CLAIM:**

A Meitei Twitter handle by the name @ **BijuThokch36377** posted a video on X (formerly Twitter) on 2/10/2023 wherein she claimed that the video is of Kuki militants firing openly in broad daylight at Meitei Villages in Manipur.

**FACT:**

TLM fact-checkers, on further research, found the video to be of some armed men firing automatic weapons posted by a X handle @ **EIPortal24** and captioned in Spanish which translates to "Its the underworld: Machine guns and tricolor bags full of bullets in Cota 905". Circulating misleading/unverified information intended to malign and spread hatred against a particular community is highly condemnable.

**FACT-CHECK RESULT:**

FALSE, MEITEI LIE EXPOSED



Witness the heart-wrenching video of [#KukiMilitants](#) ruthlessly attacking a peaceful Meitei village in broad daylight. Their audacity is beyond belief, & we implore the government of [#Manipur](#) to act swiftly to end this brutality. Lives are at stake! [#Bihar](#) @AmitShah



2:48 PM · 02/10/23 · 9,623 Views



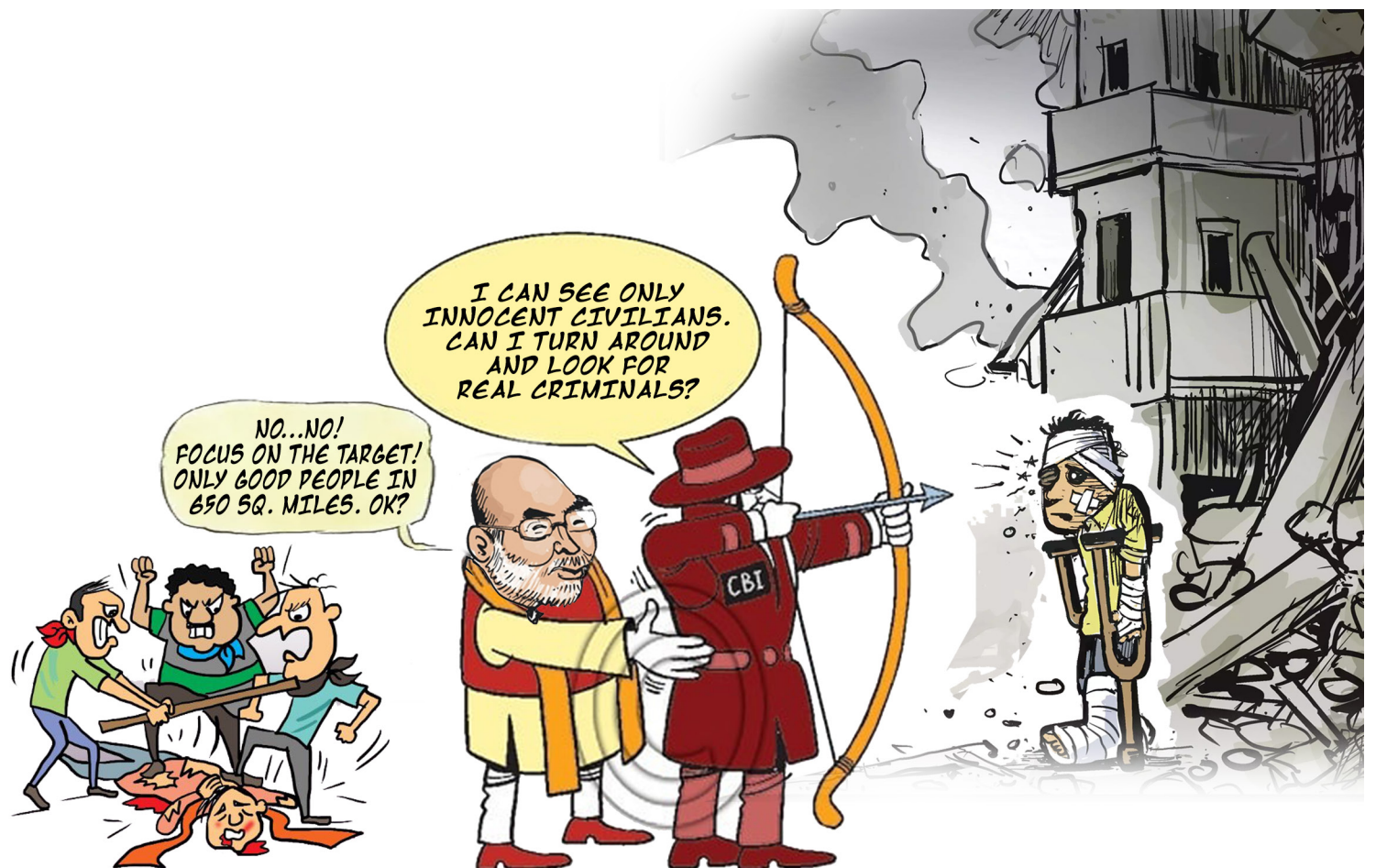
"Es el hampa": Ametralladoras y bolsitos tricolor llenos de balas en la Cota 905 (Video) - [elportal24.com/2021/07/es-el-...](#)

Translate post



3:30 AM · 09/07/21 from Earth

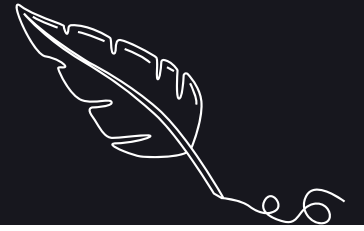
**Post MORTEM**





# PROFOUND SOLIDARITY

*Abigail Misao*



## POST SCRIPT

Its now Our 5th Month into  
this and times have been as  
trying as ever,  
A hundred and fifty days on  
the tip of our toes  
Yet the Lord renews our  
strength and we shall  
continue to soar on wings  
like eagles!  
Be it another 5 days, 5 weeks  
or 5 months, we shall run  
and not grow weary  
(Isaiah 40:31)

Injustice is all but a shadow  
of the abomination that is to  
come their way,  
Injustice will be the  
unfolding of their wrath.  
And while we go to rest for  
another 3rd  
May we awaken with hope,  
the hope that comes with  
each new morning;  
The hope that we have  
stitched together into  
Profound Solidarity.

Because all we have is  
ourselves,  
And because all a man has  
but himself in this world is  
his hope,  
And because Hope is the  
one golden string inside of  
us,

We must hope!  
Hope against all odds,  
against all logic!  
We must!  
For our vanity, we must!  
We have to!

For we stand, still!  
Through it all we stand, still!



It was June,  
It was a silent summer end,  
Bullets hieved through the paddyfields,  
Demons of Lust on one end, Brave sons of  
the hills on the other,  
And in the middle-the scornful heat.  
Injustice hid behind the peach tree upon the  
last hill, as it watched the rain come down.

The men began to grow weary,  
Their hopes were wilting  
And so was our wails,  
Yet our prayers stood firm in faith.

Summer passed and so did Justice,  
Fall approached and so did Injustice.  
It was now September,  
It was now enough time for Closure, for  
Dialogue, for Justice,  
Yet none of them found their way to our  
graveyards.

The pioneers of hate held onto Injustice,  
We held onto Resilience.  
The instruments of evil marked us out with  
blasphemous aggression,  
We marked aggression with profound  
Solidarity.

Justice was burnt along with  
Tonsing in his ambulance,  
Justice was beheaded alongside  
David Thiek,  
Justice was paraded naked alongside the  
rough county road of B. Phainom.  
Justice lay dead and decaying amongst the  
bodies of our fallen soldiers.  
Justice was all but a mere whiff for us.

All that's left now is the grim shadow of  
Injustice.  
So when Injustice came in the form of  
Selective outrage,  
When Injustice rode on the rough edges of  
corruption,  
When Injustice mirrored selective Justice  
When Injustice murdered the Judiciary,  
Resistance and Resilience became our duty.

All that's left of us now, is what was once  
was and what will always be- Ourselves.  
October the 3rd, 2023  
It is a ceremonious fall day,  
I think forward,  
Scattering long and wild across the  
entangled webs of evil,  
Dissolving into grace,  
Along the reaches of heinous crockery,  
light comes my way  
Light from the eyes of my brothers  
fetching water from the eastern well,  
Light from the smile of my grandma  
counting the tales of her scars,  
Light from the sound of the firm clutches  
of my sisters' barrel.  
Justice may have failed them, for now  
But I shall not,  
Justice may have forgotten their names  
but I shall never.

The demons of the valley may shut  
Justice out for now,  
But My God sees,  
The demons of the valley may employ  
rigorous intrigues for now,  
But My God is Greater.  
Injustice may loom large for now,  
Justice may forsake us,  
But History shall remember;  
All our names, all our tears and all our  
cries.

October will pass and we will still be here,  
So bring on the calvary!  
Bring on the flutes,  
Bring it on.

We may fall a hundred times, but we will  
rise a thousand more.  
We may crumble, but we will rebuild.

