

# Thingkho Le Malcha

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 07, 2023



## Trinity College & Seminary (TCS) RELIEF CENTRE Sielmat, Lamka

Managed by Hmar Youth Association GHQ

**Total Inmates Registered: 162**

- Male: 79
- Female: 83
- Children: 74
- Adult: 106

(As on 13.09.2023)

### VILLAGE COVERED

Sokom, Chandel



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 05.10.2023



**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.

## No Meitei Harmed in Thingkangphai, Properties of Meiteis Neither Looted nor Destroyed

Denying the allegations published by an Imphal based local daily, the Village Authority of Thingkangphai had clarified that no Meitei was harmed by Thingkangphai Kukis and that the properties of Thingkangphai Meiteis were neither looted nor destroyed/vandalised.

The Thingkangphai Village Authority issued a rebuttal in response to an Imphal based daily report in its September 25 publication under the headline - "Looking back at how Thingkangphai in CCpur was purged of indigenous Meiteis on May 3," which claimed how properties of Thingkangphai Meiteis were looted and vandalised on the intervening night of May 3 and 4. The report mentioned names of several Kuki men allegedly involved in looting and vandalising properties of Meiteis.

Rejecting the news report as unfounded, The village authority explained how the Kuki Zo locals of Thingkangphai had extended helping hands for the safety of the Meitei settlers of Thingkangphai.

The authority stated that the details of the report submitted to the Manipur Human Rights Commission as published in the newspaper were purely against the good samaritan villagers of Thingkangphai, and that the allegation was found to be baseless but a synopsis to trigger the communal riots.

The authority made it clear to the public that the mob was very violent on the 3rd of May and the alleged youth leaders were busy running to and fro to lend a helping hand to their Meitei neighbours to atleast save a few houses. They do not have time to loot shops and properties as alleged in the news report of the Sangai Express.

The authority claimed that Ashok Meitei, Commanding Officer of Khuga Battalion, could be a good witness of how the alleged youth had suffered the night. Ashok was rang up all night but he did not pick up the phone. However, the village authority claimed, without any hesitation, the locals of Thingkangphai waited for the morning protecting their Meitei neighbours.

"In the next day, they were evacuated safely and more than 100 Thingkangphai Meiteis were handed over to AR Khuga Battalion," it said.



The Thingkangphai authority requested the villagers who fled the village to have some human decency in their future course of action and not to malign one particular community wrongly which could hinder the peace process.

The village authority highlighted the steps taken under the leadership of Thingkangphai Youth Progressive Association (TYPA) on May 3 and 4 in order to ensure the safety of the Meiteis. It stated that the Kukis understood their tensions, particularly the Thingkangphai Meiteis, resulting from the ethnic clash in several parts of Manipur on 3rd of May. And as such, Thingkangphai Meiteis who did not feel safe at their own homes were given shelter in Kuki houses, it said.

The authority claimed that Kala Meitei, an 80 years old villager, had to be carried on the back by a Kuki young man and taken to safety, and one Ngouba Konthoujam, who was in an inebriated state, had to be taken to a Kuki house, as per the request of his panicking family members.

The authority stated that his ordeal of the incident has also been narrated by Ngouba Konthoujam's daughter, Renuka, in an interview with Imphal-based social media channel. The trust that Thingkangphai Meiteis have in finding shelter in houses of Thingkangphai Kukis was a testimony to the fact that Kukis left no stone unturned in ensuring the safety of Meiteis, the authority added

On the other hand, the authority also clarified one Rohan Philem's claim on the Church being destroyed in Yaiphakol, Thingkangphai, as baseless and deviod of any factual scenario of the village. The authority requested Rohan to refrain from evil propogandas and abstain from those social evils.

## State Government Restricts Deliberate Act of Renaming Districts, Sub-Divisions, Places, Institutions, Address of Such Institutions

The Government of Manipur has issued an order restricting any deliberate act of renaming districts, sub-divisions, places, institutions and address of such institutions without the approval of the government.

It instructed all the district magistrates and superintendents of police of all districts to take up necessary action to enforce the orders.

In the order issued on Friday, the Chief Secretary of Manipur, Dr. Vineet Joshi said, 'No one shall make or attempt to make any deliberate act of renaming Districts, Sub-Divisions, places, institutions and address of such institutions without the approval of the State Government.'

It has come to the notice of the State Government of Manipur from reliable sources that many Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Institutions, establishments and persons are deliberately renaming or trying to rename Districts, Sub-Divisions, places, institutions and address of such institutions which are objectionable, or likely to create controversy and conflict between communities

residing in the State more particularly in the context of the ongoing law and order crisis in the aftermath of the Tribal Solidarity March organised by All Tribal Students Union Manipur (ATSUM) since May 3, stated the order

It stated that the government viewed the matter very seriously with utmost sensitivity as the same practice cited above may create mistrust amongst the communities and is likely to create divide or aggravate the current law and order situation in the State.

The government warned that anyone found violating the order should be prosecuted under relevant law of the land for the time being in force.

It advised all central and state government authorities and management authorities of institutions/ establishment/ autonomous bodies to check the name / address of respective offices / establishments under them in all signage, official communications, websites, all documents related to services provided, etc. and also to ensure compliance of the orders.

## FIR Should be Lodged Against 10 Kuki MLAs, says Khaidem Mani

Former acting Chairperson of Manipur Human Rights Commission, Khaidem Mani, has said that an FIR should be lodged against the 10 Kuki MLAs and action should be taken up against them as per the law for trying to disintegrate the integrity of Manipur and inciting hatred among different communities.

The former MHRC chairperson was addressing a gathering at a public convention organised by the Coordinating Committee Against the Action of the Chin-Kuki-Narco-Terrorists and Illegal Immigrants at HAU ground in Singjamei, Imphal on Saturday.

Khaidem Mani said, "There are many people who have become MLAs and Ministers with the help from poppy cultivation business and they are the ones who have openly worked to disintegrate Manipur by colluding with illegal immigrants in Manipur."

Urging the people to identify the common enemy of the State, he said that the Meiteis enemies are the Narco-terrorists who have entered the State from outside and few Kukis in Manipur.

## Bomb Blast at Minister Y. Khemchand's Residence, CRPF Jawan Injured



Amidst the ongoing tension in strife-torn Manipur, a powerful bomb exploded at the gate of Yumnam Khemchand, Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj's residence, at Singjamei under Imphal West district.

The bomb blast took place at around 9.50 PM today, resulting in injuring one CRPF personnel on the right hand.

The bomb was reported to be thrown by unknown miscreants coming on one KTM Bike, white and orange in colour.

Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh, with security forces rushed to the spot and enquired the situation. However, security forces are yet to ascertain the reason behind the attack, and the official statement is awaited.

## Modi Stands in Solidarity with Israel; X Users Ask Him to Focus on Manipur

Expressing his deep concern over the news of terrorist attacks in Israel on Saturday, the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, has said that the people of India stood in solidarity with Israel at such difficult hours.

“Deeply shocked by the news of terrorist attacks in Israel. Our thoughts and prayers are with the innocent victims and their families. We stand in solidarity with Israel at this difficult hour,” Modi said on X.

Reacting to the Prime Minister’s post on X (formerly Twitter), social media users slammed his remaining silence on Manipur burning issue.

An X user said, “Dear Sir, nobody questions your stand on the attack on Israel. Could you clarify your stand on what is happening in a state in our country, Manipur, ruled by your party? Is Israel more important to you than Manipur?”

Opposition leaders slammed Narendra Modi stating that within hours of the Israel violence, Narendra Modi tweeted his solidarity; but even 6 months after the Manipur violence, he still cannot not bother to tweet his condemnation or show any solidarity over Manipur.

“Modi can tweet about Israel but can’t say a word on Manipur which is in India. In his desperation to be seen as a “vishwaguru”, Modi doesn’t mind ignoring killings and rapes in Manipur,” said an X user.



Replying to Modi’s post on X, another X user said, “The Manipur violence was erupted on 3rd May 2023. The women were paraded naked on the streets on 4th May 2023. The video was published in August after 78 days and PM Modi is yet to take any action or tweet on the incident. And, all it took was 7 hours of operation in Israel by Palestine to bring him on the keypads of Twitter. He is the leader of such a large democracy, there is nothing wrong with taking a stand on global war but there is a lot wrong about not taking stand for our own people. The more disturbing thing is that these incidents wipe out the strains on our own shirt (Manipur) in a few days.”



**Kham Khan Suan Hausing** @kksuanh

If speaking truth to power is muzzled & not tolerated, we have lost our sanity. As @StevenLevitsky et al reminded us in their recent book, democracy dies when populist leaders & by extension vigilante groups use law & democracy for their partisan interest in the name of the people

12:21 AM · Oct 7, 2023 · 5,775 Views



## EXCLUSIVE DOMINANCE AND RACIAL POLITICS

The Shillong Merger Agreement of September 21, 1949 stands as a watershed moment in Manipur's history, signifying its assimilation into the Indian Union. This pivotal event catalyzed the emergence of armed factions like PLA, UNLF, and KYKL, championing sovereignty and espousing communist ideologies. Subsequently, India designated these groups as terrorist entities. The drive for self-rule stemmed from the armed Meiteis' desire to regain Manipur, viewing its incorporation into India as coercive. Notably, the Kuki and Naga tribal communities were excluded from discussions pertaining to this crucial political aspiration. The representation of Manipur was predominantly Meitei, underscoring their regional dominance. Consequently, Meitei's exclusive policies and the exercise of hegemonic power persisted in the post-Merger Agreement period.



Meiteis had the opportunity to embrace inclusive politics, accommodating both Nagas and Kukis. Regrettably, they inadvertently sowed the seeds of ethnic discord. The Kukis, once substantial landholders in Northeast India, now contend with sentiments of marginalization and oppression. Post-independence Manipur deprived them of economic, cultural, and political entitlements. Historically, Kukis resisted the British primarily to safeguard their land. However, in independent Manipur, their rights were unfairly curtailed.

of the Nagas, geographical proximity to Meitei villages, and internal divisions among Kukis. Consequently, Kukis are seen as easy targets for implementing the Meitei agenda as an alternative to sovereignty.

As the attainment of political sovereignty for the Meiteis became increasingly challenging, they contemplated alternatives, including expanding the valley area to accommodate the growing Meitei population. Although perceived as a substitute for sovereignty, this approach is rooted in racial prejudices. Meiteis view Kukis as convenient targets due to historical conflicts with Nagas in the 90s where Kukis are seen wrongly as natural enemy

This stance is anti-tribal, specifically targeting the Kukis. Their lack of inclusion within a diverse society is evident in their opposition to constitutional mechanisms designed to safeguard tribes, such as the Hill Areas Committee (HAC) and acts like MLR and LR. Both the government and civil society organizations (CSOs) have exhibited communal biases, fostering an atmosphere of hatred and suspicion. The perception of these constitutional provisions as threats by the dominant community has exacerbated animosity and sparked communal debates, further deepening divisions. Additionally, the longstanding focus on the valley in political and economic spheres has become a point of contention, causing dissatisfaction among tribal communities



**Take time to deliberate; but when the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in.**

-Andrew Jackson



A SERIES ON HUMANITARIAN WORKS-02

# Bridging Ministries



## Bridging Ministries

Registered in 2019

Co- Ordinator ( in Manipur ) : Mr. Jangminlal Mate

The Ministries work throughout the cities where Kuki people settle.

### Vision/Objectives:

To establish connections among diverse individuals, bridging the gaps that exist in our society. The organization aspires to unite the educated with the uneducated, the privileged with the marginalized, and the fortunate with the disadvantaged through meaningful partnerships, initiatives, and community engagement. Its primary goal is to break down barriers.

### Sponsors:

Sponsors and collaborations sometimes, come from visionary individuals.

### Humanitarian Works:

Distribution of daily essentials to:

1. Over 100 families who do not reside in Relief Centers.
  2. 25 frontline villages.
- Total Rounds/Phases of Distribution to Date: 2 rounds.

### Ongoing Projects:

**1. Relief Materials Distribution:** Currently, the organisation is providing relief materials to 60 families who are not in Relief Centers. This initiative is made possible through financial support from Centre Church in Bangalore, facilitated by Rev. Lunmang and Mrs. Nenem.

**2. Skills Training Program for Relief Center Inmates:** Bridging Ministries is collaborating with the District Administration on ' Skills Training Program'. This program focuses on tailoring program taken up at Songja Village. The organization believes that empowering inmates with valuable tailoring skills will not only help them sustain themselves but also contribute to the revitalization of the local economy. The training is not just about teaching a skill but also fostering hope and community development.

### Challenges:

1. Limited Sponsorship
2. Marketing of Products

### Overall Approach:

The overall approach is to sustain the chain of bridging. This is one of the reasons why collaborative coaching for over 30 students and youths was undertaken before May 3rd. The organization hopes that these youths, once they become independent and resourceful, will continue to bridge the gaps in society.





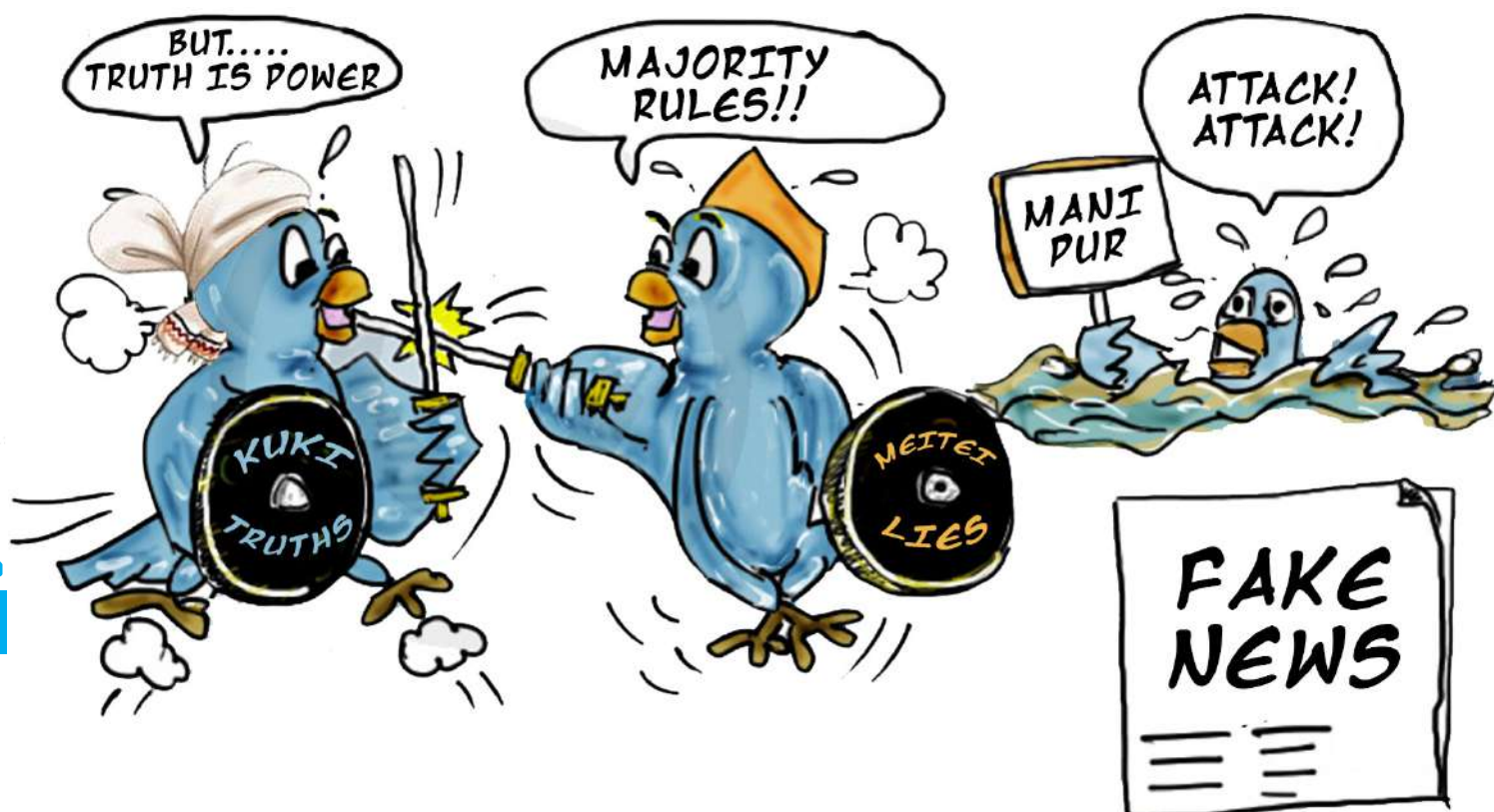
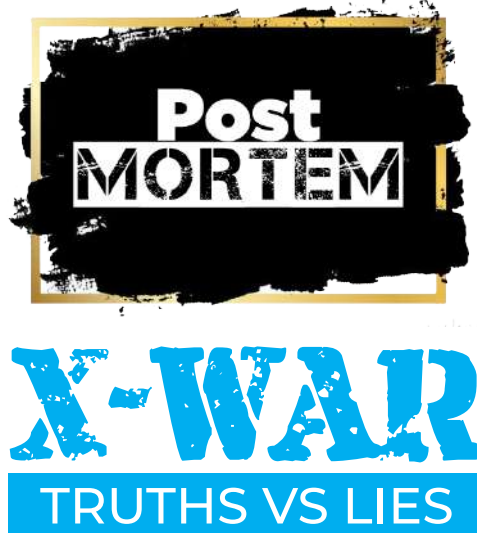
**IN OTHER NEWS**

**4 Kuki Lads to Represent Gujarat in the Upcoming Santosh Trophy**

Four Tahchapas namely, Stenis Touthang, Tongminsei Kipgen, Chinkhosiam Dimngel and Seigoumang Doungel will be representing Gujarat State in the upcoming 77th National Football Championship SANTOSH TROPHY 2023.

Tongminsei Kipgen is a midfield maestro teammate with Chinkhosiam during their CFA days.

Stenis Touthang will also represent the Gujarat Team along side Seigoumang Doungel, the younger brother of ISL player Len Doungel, played for ATK during his early career and shifted to KSC and lifted several trophies with KSC before joining a club in Gujarat.







# HE ANSWERS

*(Matthew 11:28)*



**Is your life full of questions?  
Filled with unasked explications  
Damned in an abyss with restlessness  
Brimful of sorrow and glumness**

**Are you worn out and weary?  
Thinking the world not so cheery  
Carrying your burdens heftily  
Squandering your days forlornly**

**Do you yearn for solacement?  
Looking for your life's contentment  
Peeking for joy and fascinations  
Wanting a life of elations**

**Are life's questions answerable?  
Yes! Very much! God is able  
He'll ceaselessly lead you in your ways  
Answering your questions always**

*Letginmang Singsit*

