

Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



Rostad Memorial High School RELIEF CENTRE Compound Veng, Lamka

Managed by Young Vaiphei Association, General Headquarters (YVA GHQ)

Total Inmates Registered: 693*

■ Male: 347

■ Female: 346

*As on 24th October, 2023



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 01.11.2023



146
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.

ONE AMONG FOUR MISSING KUKIS REPORTEDLY LYNCHED, MURDERED IN IMPHAL

One of the four missing persons from yesterday's incident at Kangchup Chingkhong, Mr. Jamkhothang Lhanghal was said to be tortured and lynched by the Meitei militants. A video surfaced on social media platforms where the said individual was made to run for his life with no way out of their grasp. He was publicly tortured and later killed. Reports from some eye-witnesses present in the vicinity suggested that the deceased's body was tortured to an extent that his body could be folded like a paper.

Meitei "Nongsa and athouba (brave and courageous Meiteis)" have once again proved their "mettle" by meting out such inhumane treatment to yet another innocent and helpless Kuki individual. The individual was travelling to Kangpokpi district, alongwith four others, when they lost their way and headed towards the Meitei dominated area. They were waylaid and captured by the Meitei mob.

Yet another innocent life is mercilessly taken only because he belonged to the Kuki community. Such inhumane show of strength to a helpless individual is no sign of bravery and courage in any form although the culprits call themselves "athouba" and "nongsa".



Will this prompt a swift action from the state security force? Will there be an action against the culprits? Will the central government depute an investigation team to nab the culprits, similar to earlier instances where the "alleged" kidnaping and killing of Meitei youths with no concrete evidence, were swiftly carried out?

Kuki-Zo lives matter too. And the differential treatment to different communities by the governments, both state and centre, reaffirms the legitimacy of the demand for a separate administration by the Kuki-Zo community.

MEITEIS CONTINUE INDISCRIMINATE FIRING TOWARDS KUKI-ZO VILLAGES IN KANGGUI DISTRICT

Indiscriminate gun firings by the majority Meiteis radicalised armed groups continued the whole day in the peripheral areas of L. Tangnom (Haorathel) and Lambung villges under Kanggui district, Manipur.

The firings came from the Meitei inhabited area of Koutruk. From today's early morning till night, the Meitei armed groups including Police commandos, Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun began unprovoked firing towards the Kuki-Zo areas. The firing occurred in intervals including shelling of bombs or mortals. The Kuki volunteers however responded with few rounds of fires towards them.

As per sources from the ground, the firings came from a distance and as such no serious gun battle occurred in the area. There was also no report of casualty from the side of the Kuki volunteers.

After sufficient uneasy rests, the majority Meiteis' radicalised armed groups had resumed their attacks to the Kuki-Zo villages since yesterday in the peripheral areas where the Meiteis and Kukis inhabited districts meet, surrounding the valley of Imphal. The firing incidents



were reported from Maphou Kuki village, Kangchup, Tingkai and Haraothel areas of Kangpokpi district.

Tension still ran high after five Kuki-Zo civilians, who lost their way near Kangchup Chingkhong, were captured by the Meitei mob led by the radicalised armed groups. One Manglun Haokip, amongst the five persons, was beaten and left to die with severe head injuries and later air-lifted to a neighbouring state. The other individuals are reported to be missing as their whereabouts are still unknown.

MEITEI ASSAM RIFLES CO ABETS MYANMAR-BASED MEITEI TERRORISTS INFILTRATION BID TO INDIA

With inputs received from ground zero, the Commanding Officer of 1st Assam Rifles at Sehlon was reportedly abetting the infiltration bid of Meitei terrorists to India from Myanmar. The Meitei militants were trying to enter India illegally from Myanmar via Aivomjang village, bordering India (Manipur) and Myanmar.

Locals said that at around 7 pm on Wednesday, some Meitei militants tried to cross over to India through Aivomjang village. The CO of 1 AR, Colonel SB Sharma, who is a Meitei, tried to illegally welcome those Meitei militants to India.

At Aivomjang village, the militants took shelter at the nearby dense forest and took captive four agricultural labourers. Later, the four villagers were sent to the village to take food and warned of dire consequences if they did not return.

This illegal infiltration bid and the act of Assam Rifles CO has caused an alarming situation in the area. It may be noted here that after heavy exchange of fire between PDF and Meitei militants at Canan in Myanmar, the Meitei militants took shelter at Aivomjang village and sought the support of Meitei Assam Rifles officer.

Angered over the deliberate act of the Assam Rifles official, the locals in the region gathered at around New Samtal Assam Rifles Camp in a bid to stop the transportation of Meitei militants to Imphal valley. The Assam Rifles CO was reportedly planning to transport the militants to Imphal valley and had already arranged a truck for their transportation.

The CO is now flexing his muscles and authority against the locals by forcing them to accept his plans. Till the time of filing this report, womenfolks in the area gathered in large number to block the



transportation of Meitei militants into the Imphal valley. It may be recalled that Dingpi area under Khengjoi Sub-Division in Chandel district on September 2, protested against the proposed deployment of Assam Rifles Unit under the command of a Meitei officer at Sehlon, Chandel district.

TLM Views: One of the many baseless allegations leveled by the majority Meitei against the Kuki-Zo people is their projection of Kuki-Zo people as a threat to national security, which doesn't hold water. It is the Meitei militants who had been waging war against the Indian government from their hideouts that poses a serious threat to national security. The constant ban on various national importance day including the Independence Day and the Republic Day is a testimony to this fact. Several attacks and ambush on Central Security Forces by the Meitei militants is a perfect display of their secessionist movement, which itself is a threat to the national integrity of India.



A man's rights rest in three boxes: the ballot box, the jury box, and the cartridge box.

- Frederick Douglass

NESO DECRIES CENTRE'S FAILURE TO BRING PEACE BACK TO MANIPUR

The NESO (North East Students' Organisation) is going to organise demonstrations in all the state capitals of the North-Eastern states on November 9, 2023, as a result of the the failure of the Central Government in bringing back peace to the state of Manipur. In a statement issued to the media today, NESO President Samuel Jyrwa and Secretary General Mutsikhoyo Yhobu revealed that the NESO took this decision at its October 31, 2023 Executive Committee meeting held in Guwahati.

The statement said that the Centre had failed utterly to bring peace back to Manipur for the past six months. "Lives and property are not secured in Manipur, where the students seem to have a bleak future. The Centre has to take result-oriented measures to bring back peace in Manipur. Had such incidents occurred in any other state in the rest of India, the Centre would have taken prompt action to restore peace, besides law and order," the statement said.

NESO's adviser, Samujjal Bhattacharjya, said, "The unrest in Manipur has continued for about six months, but the



Centre has turned a blind eye to all that is happening in the state. In this hour of crisis, Manipur is not alone. We, from all other states of the Northeast are with the people of Manipur". The statement quoted AASU's president-in-charge, Utpal Sarma, and general secretary, Sankor Jyoti Baruah, as saying, "The Centre has failed to deliver justice to the people of Manipur. The Centre lacks the will to solve the problems in Manipur."

TANGKHULS HOLDS RALLY IN SUPPORT OF NAGA PEACE PROCESS

In support of the ongoing peace talk between India and NSCN-IM, around 5000 students participated in the rally organised by Tangkhul Katamnao Saklong (students' union) at Ukhrul town on Wednesday.

Wednesdays rally is organised to show support at the backdrop of peace talk being held at New Delhi between the NSCN-IM and India today. The political dialogue is being held between the collective leadership of NSCN-IM who are spearheading the peace talk and the peace process.

Speaking at the rally, CAO of Wung Tangkhul Region, Ayung Sayai stated that "no single individual owns or owned the Naga movement. It is a people's movement. Everyone should be in the forefront of Naga political movement. Nagas have not submitted to be ruled by anyone and that is our political uniqueness. There is a delay in flag and constitution, which is our core issue. There is no compromise on our core issue."



Students in huge numbers came out demanding to expedite the Indo-Naga peace process. The rallyist shouted slogans such as "Implement – Framework Agreement," "We Want -Solution," "In Solidarity With -Collective Leadership," etc. The rally started at two points and converged at Ukhrul town ground for a public meeting.

TRANSNATIONAL CONSPIRACY CASE: MOIRANGTHEM ANAND SINGH WITHDRAWS BAIL PLEA FROM NIA COURT

The NIA Special Court on November 8 informed that the bail plea of accused Moirangthem Anand Singh, arrested in relation to the Manipur Transnational Conspiracy case, has been withdrawn.

Lawyers of Moirangthem Anand Singh on November 8 informed the Additional Sessions Judge Sachin Gupta that the bail application was withdrawn without pressing or without going on merit.

Recently, the NIA, in its reply, opposed the bail plea and said that Moirangthem Anand Singh has an association with a proscribed organisation and was arrested with sophisticated arms and ammunition along with his associates in an area affected by the ongoing strife.

If the accused is released on bail, it will cause hardship to the ongoing investigation, and considering the history of the accused, there is a high probability that he shall again indulge in the same activities, which will exacerbate the present security situation in the State of Manipur, submitted the NIA.

The accused was in communication with several of his associates during this period of ethnic unrest in the State of Manipur, and considering the present situation, there is a very high probability that he will abscond and/or indulge in detrimental activities to influence other suspects, witnesses, etc. by various means, including tampering with the evidence if he is not kept in judicial custody during the period of investigation, submitted the NIA.

According to the NIA, the accused was brought to New Delhi after his arrest and produced before the Delhi Court on September 23, 2023. After his custodial remand to the NIA, the court later sent him into judicial custody.

The Additional Sessions Judge, Sachin Gupta, on October 27, 2023, after noting down the submissions made in the reply copy filed by the NIA, fixed November 8, 2023, for arguments on the bail plea. Advocates Ashish Kashyap, Rahul Kumar, and David Ahonsangham appeared for Moirangthem Anand Singh.

According to the NIA, it was revealed during the field investigation that five accused persons having links with terror outfits operating in Manipur were arrested by the Manipur State Police and that accused Moirangthem



Representational image: The Economic Times

Anand Singh was arrested by the NIA on September 22, 2023, from Imphal West Police Station

Earlier, the NIA submitted in court that the revelations made by the accused be further corroborated through a detailed investigation, including identification and examination of potential leads and individuals related to the matter; the accused is a trained cadre of proscribed organisations and was in communication with several of his associates during this period of ethnic unrest in the State of Manipur.

NIA had registered a suo moto case on July 19, 2023, in New Delhi under the various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The NIA said an investigation revealed that, in furtherance of the conspiracy hatched by the leadership based in Myanmar of insurgent groups and proscribed terrorist organisations, they are recruiting overground workers (OGWs), cadres, and sympathisers to augment their strength to carry out attacks on security forces and opposing ethnic groups by exploiting current unrest in the state of Manipur.

For this purpose, the aforementioned leadership is collecting arms, ammunition, and explosives by unlawful means, including plunder and pillage of Government facilities and resources, NIA added.

INSANE MEITEIS' FALSE INFORMATION WILL COST THE WHOLE MEITEIS DEARLY IN THE LONG RUN

The Meitei media houses of Imphal valley have claimed that about 8 Kuki militants had been killed in the firing incidents yesterday, and videos of Meitei radicals celebrating those deaths have surfaced on social media. It is imbecilic to have such fake news reports from such uninformed media houses based in Imphal.

The fact, however, is that there has been no report of such casualties amongst the Kuki community and such false reports were made deliberately by some self-interested individuals, aiming at only one thing that is "to garner support from the majority Meitei populace and maintain their strong-hand images by the radicalised armed groups in cohort with top political leadership of the Meitei community."

Except the four Kuki civilians who were waylaid by the Meitei mob in the aftermath of losing their way near Kangchup Chingkhong yesterday, none of the Kuki-Zo people even sustained minor injury in yesterday's violent incidents.

One Manglun Haokip who was beaten and left to die with severe head injuries and later air-lifted to a neighbouring state, was reported by Kuki groups, while other individuals are reported to be missing as their whereabouts are still unknown.

The Meitei media based in imphal valley has failed to uphold their integrity as journalists by reporting pre-fabricated lies from the government and the armed radicals since the initial days of the violence. The reports of Meitei deaths have always been falsely reported while the Kuki deaths are always exaggerated to high numbers. To note here, is that the sane Meitei civilians do not have any second thoughts on the authenticity of such reports and assume all reports to be facts and the numbers thereof are true. The Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun and several state government officials under N Biren singh has assumed total control of the media and censored all news reports to maintain the status quo and any reports which could damage the victorious image created by the said groups are censored. Blatant lies have been told to the kin of

তিংখাই খুনৌ কুকি খুলদা কুকি মিলিটেটশিংগা সেকুরিটি ফোর্সকা কাপুবদা কুকি মিলিটেট ৮ শিরে থাজনরি

কলৈপাকী মৈরা নাজ সার্ভিস
ইম্ফাল, নবেম্বর ০৭ ৪ বিষ্ণুপুর
দিষ্টিক্তি অমদি কাংপোকপী দিষ্টিক্তিকা
লোমবা ইরেংবম খুল মনিংদা লৈবা
আইমোল ভিলেজকা লোমনা
কাংপোকপী দিষ্টিক্তিকা মনুং চমা লৈবা
তিংখাই খুনৌ (শাগোল ফার্ম কুকি
খুল) হায়না খঙনবা মফম অসিদগী
ঙসি নুংখিল পুং ১.০৫ রোম তাবা

মত্ৰমদা কুকি মিলিটেটশিংগা বিষ্ণুপুর
দিষ্টিক্তিকা মনুং চমা লৈবা ইরেংবম
খুলরোমদা নোংমৈ রাউদ ১০ রোম
লেগুনা কাপথরকশ্ৰে। মদুদা মফম
অদুদা খুঞ্জাশিং ঙাক শেদুনা লৈরিবা
গোৰ্খা রেজিমেণ্ট, সি দি ও বিষ্ণুপুর
অমদি অসাম রাইফলস যাওনা
কন্বাইন্দ ফোর্সকা অকনবা মওংদা খুং
থোকুবদা কুকি মিলিটেট ৮ রোম

শিরে হায়রি।

সেকুরিটি ফোর্সকা মায়কৈদগী
ফঙবা পাউগী মতুং ইমদি, কুকি
মিলিটেটশিং অদুনা তিংখাই খুলদগী
কুমথরজুনা জি আর গী মায়কৈদা
নোংমৈ কাপশিল্লকখিবনি। মদুদা
হন্দুনা অকনবা মওংদা নোংমৈ
কাপুখি। পাউ অসি তাবদগী অসাম
রাইফলসকা (মখা লমায় ২ দা...)

তিংখাই খুনৌ কুকি খুলদা কুকি ...

(লমায় ১ গী মখা...)

কাংবু অমদি বিষ্ণুপুর দিষ্টিক্তিকা সি দি ও কাংবু থোমজিন্দুনা মখা তানা নোংমৈ
কাপুখি।

নোংমৈ কাপুবা অদুদা কুকি মিলিটেটশিংগা তিংখাই খুলদা শারহা বন্ধর
অহম থুগায়খি। নোংমৈ কাপুবা লোইরবা মতুংদা মফম অদুদা সেকুরিটি ফোর্সশিং
চশিন্দুনা য়েংবদা বন্ধর ১ গী মনুংদা কুকি মিলিটেট ৩ শিদুনা লৈরমখি।
অদুগা অতোপ্পা কুকি মিলিটেট ৫ না শিরগা তাদুনা লৈরহা থেংখি হায়রি।

কাংপোকপী দিষ্টিক্তিকা মনুং চনবা মফম ওইবনা হৌজিক ফাওবা অশিবা
হকচাং অদু লৌথোকপা ঙমদনা লৈরি হায়নসু অন কনফার্ম ওইবা পাউ অসিনা
হায়রি।

কুকি মিলিটেটশিংগা খঙহৌদনা নোংমৈ কাপথরকপা অদুদা লৌবুজা
লৌ শুদুনা লৈবা খুঞ্জাশিং মীপাইনদুনা চেনখৎহনখি। মসিদা নত্তনা ইরেংবম
খুলদা লৈবা খুঞ্জাশিংসু ময়ুম থাদোজুনা লাঞ্জেনবা যাওখি।

*Newsclipping of a typical Meitei
Newspaper spreading misinformation*

deceased. When questions are raised by the family they are told that the children are "defending" the Meitei villages. There is a huge disparity in the manner of condolence given to the different groups amongst the Meiteis themselves. Some parents have come on to social media platforms asking for help to locate the bodies of their children, but their cry found no ears. Whereas, a certain death would generate huge public outcry and grand processions. Many Meitei mothers have cried, prayed and approached officials to hand over their children or at least their lifeless body if deceased.

Contd.

Some deaths have no mention in any reports and their bodies left to rot in the open, their deaths are meaningless and hold no value to the same person who recruited them to fight for an unjust cause.

Yet the Meitei populace is easily swayed by such lies and false reports. The media is intentionally reporting lies to defame the Kukis in every possible way, to plant the seed of fanaticism on the minds of the innocent Meitei youths and recruit them thereafter to fight for a cause they are ignorant of. Some individuals with vested interest took advantage of the nationalist feeling of the youths for a different purpose which is not nationalistic in any imaginable way. The self-styled leaders deliver speeches and openly call on the radicalized youth for manpower in their war against the Kuki community, sacrificing the lives of the poor lads in the process. The media houses

would never report the fact that it is them who started the ongoing conflict by acting upon a fake news. They use everything in their power to capitalize on such fake-propagandas to garner support. Fake reports are written and publicized to the extent that the whole Meitei populace, with no thought of checking on the authenticity, grasp it as the truth.

Dear sane Meiteis, the false naratives and propagandas created by your leaders from top to bottom in complicit with their cohorts will cost you dearly in the long run. Your civilisation is doomed the more you spread false information and if your false propagandists are at work. To the radicalised Meiteis, you should remember that it is dangerous to sit in your comfort zone and write a narrative or false propaganda that will influence the sane young minds and give wrong information purely for your own benefits.

THE **SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ**



Paul Meitei
@PMeitei66

Follow ...

Manipur is ruled by Meitei mob - shameless meira paidabis, Aramboys, Leepuns and their followers. Indian armies have no power, no authority, no control. They surrendered to the mob and let them do whatever they wanted to do. A SAD state in 21st century India.

7:31 PM · 08/11/23 from Earth · 983 Views



Sushant Singh
@SushantSin

Follow ...

This is happening to a serving soldier's family. You won't hear a word from the top military brass. This is not the first such instance - Manipur has been aflame for more than six months.

Mob abducts mother, three others of soldier's family from security checkpoint in Manipur

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The mother and three more family members of a soldier, hailing from a tribal community, are missing after they were taken away by a mob when their vehicle was stopped at a security checkpoint near Kangchup Chingkhong village in Kangpokpi district of Manipur on Tuesday, a defence source said.

The 65-year-old father of the soldier, who was also in the vehicle, was rescued by the security forces. He suffered multiple injuries and was admitted to hospital in a critical state.

The soldier, belonging to the Kuki-Zo community, is not posted in Manipur. The incident was reported in areas bordering Kangpokpi, a hill district with a



Disturbed state: Residents stop an Army vehicle from moving towards a gunfight site in Imphal on Tuesday. REUTERS

majority Kuki-Zo population, and Imphal West, a Meitei-dominated district.

Exchange of fire
The abduction followed an exchange of fire between armed miscreants of the Kuki-Zo and Meitei communities in the same area

for more than two hours in which several people, including passers-by, were said to be injured.

The source said that efforts were on to rescue the civilians. The Manipur Police said on X, "Security forces are actively working to locate the missing indivi-

duals and rescue them," the police said. It said that the "five individuals belonging to Kuki community (two women and three men) were en route from Churachandpur to Leinakhong and was confronted by an enraged mob".

Amid the confrontation between the mob and the Security Forces, armed miscreants exchanged fire in the areas of K. Songlung hill range, Koutruk, and Tairenpokpi, the police said.

'Injuries sustained'
"In this incident, two police personnel and seven civilians sustained injuries and were evacuated to hospital. Security forces could eventually bring the situation under control. Further, security forces carried out search operations in

the area and destroyed one bunker," it added.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum (ITLF), a Kuki-Zo body, said that five civilians were travelling towards L. Phatjang village when they were accosted by gunmen.

On Sunday, two teenage boys belonging to the Meitei community went missing in the same area.

The police said on Monday that three individuals had been detained from the hill district of Kangpokpi in connection with the incident.

On Tuesday, two members of the Kuki Revolutionary Army (U), an insurgent group in a ceasefire pact with the Central and State governments, were arrested for alleged involvement in the abduction of the two teenagers.

9:15 AM · 08/11/23 · 28K Views





OPINION

WHO IS IN CHARGE OF MANIPUR?

NGARANMI SHIMRAY

In 2017, the Bharatiya Janata Party in Manipur cobbled up a majority and formed a National Democratic Alliance government for the first time.

Then, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh proved his political acumen by mustering sufficient support in the face of strong attempts by the Congress to win the Rajya Sabha MP seat, and succeeded in sending Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba to the Rajya Sabha as a BJP MP.

Looking back, one can say that CM Biren had made significant compromises when it came to showing his true character in the first term.

The BJP returned to power in 2022 with a resounding single-party majority. They formed the government with participation of other parties even though they did not need their support in the assembly. CM Biren inducted a few not-so-tall yet youthful elected representatives as ministers. They owed their allegiance to the CM, who ignored more experienced and qualified MLAs.

In the course of a year in his second term, CM Biren gradually began wielding enormous power through ministers loyal to him. The CM and the Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba are understood to have heavily promoted the Meitei Leepun and Arambai Tenggol respectively, with the stated objective of promoting Meitei culture and traditions, including the traditional martial arts.

With no one to challenge Biren's authority, the state government slipped into what is called a kakistocracy, a government formed by the least suitable or competent citizens of a state. There were no opposing voices in the council of ministers and young cadre under the Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun were loyal to Biren.

The first disquiet occurred in Churachandpur district leading to the bold eviction of allegedly illegal settlements of immigrants from Myanmar in the protected forest. The wound was raw when out of the blue the Manipur high court passed an order in April 2023 directing the Manipur government to send the Meitei demand for Scheduled Tribe status to the Union government.

The order of the Manipur HC provoked a strong reaction from the Hill Areas Committee as custodian of all matters that would affect the welfare of the tribes in the Hill Areas.

It also triggered a peaceful protest by the tribal students on May 3 in all hill district headquarters except in Churachandpur where the post-protest disbursement of students turned violent. The people in Churachandpur district were already unhappy with the state government over the eviction.

Contd.

Contd.

Among them, resentment had grown against the Meiteis, who were seen as powerful and enjoying the government's attention. The Meiteis are already an advanced community according to the Kaka Kalekar Report of 1956. They also wield political power by virtue of holding 40 seats out of 60 in the state assembly and dominates the administration.

It was felt that the Meiteis now proposed formally subjugate the tribes of Manipur by becoming ST and grab all reserved posts and tribal lands and forcibly reduce tribal population through use of administrative machinery dominated by Meiteis. The tribal youth, already faced with lack of development of the hill areas, neglect, deprivation and unemployment, felt they have been pushed against the wall. In this modern world of internet technology nothing can be hidden from people and the youth are more aware of discrimination than ever before.

The violence started in Churachandpur district in the afternoon of May 3, but the most surprising thing was the short response time for retaliation to it in Imphal. By the afternoon of May 3, violence and killings started in the streets of Imphal city with Kuki houses set aflame and people killed. These continued unabated for weeks.

Many wondered at how the reaction of the Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun had had military precision. Meitei youth attired in black uniform perpetrated violence and arson in Imphal city from the night of May 3 itself. The mob knew exactly which houses to target. As mobs ruled the streets, looted and burned down Kuki houses and the police watched the mayhem, the government of Manipur sunk to a new low of mobocracy. This is a government ruled by mob or mass of people and the intimidation of legitimate authorities.

The state government did not even try to stop the mobs, according to many who have written first-person accounts.

Now, women have been identified as leading some mobs and blocking roads. The women, popularly

known as Meira Paibis, are believed to have given support to the radical elements that raided police armouries and looted more than 4,000 guns, supported the village volunteer armed youths, snatched 12 armed militants from the army, blocked and prevented action by army that resulted in the deaths of two village volunteers and on June 30, blocked Biren's convoy while he was on his way to submit his resignation.

If this is not a mobocracy, what is?

It was only on arrival of the central security forces that a modicum of normalcy returned in Imphal city for a few hours but the looting, arson and killing continued, unabated, everywhere. Mobs accosted people in the street and asked if they were "Kukis or Nagas".

All Kukis have fled Imphal city now and their houses have been razed to the ground. The Meitei and Kuki villages in the periphery of the hill slope and Imphal valley are deserted and houses were burned down on both sides. Monsoon has arrived and there is no cultivation in either sides of the valley adjoining the hill slopes. The poor people will become poorer.

The Union home minister stayed for three days from May 29 to June 1 and announced a slew of measures for relief, security and peace overtures but there was nothing concrete. The Peace Committee under the Governor became a non-starter mainly on account of the Kukis objecting to the presence of Biren.

Many complain that authorities are going easy on those who have stolen arms. Police personnel guarding the armouries are reported to have retained Aadhaar cards while giving away guns. No action has been taken by the state government against erring policemen. No action has been taken against the Meira Paibis who, among other things, got the Army to free 12 miscreants. These are clear cases fit for filing FIRs.

What is the role of the CM in the current crisis? Why is the Union government and the ruling party not removing him to facilitate reconciliation?

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Kuki government employees cannot come back to their jobs in Imphal and yet the government has issued orders of “no work, no pay”. How can they return when they have no houses to return to? Even their government-allotted quarters have been burned or damaged. There is an unspoken advisory among the Meiteis that accommodations should not be rented to Kukis. This advisory also applies to landlords of other communities.

The Kukis are still refusing to be part of any committee where CM Biren is present. No headway has been made on peace efforts. There have been no official peace talks between the two feuding communities.

An alternative is to allow Biren to remain as CM and give him the concrete responsibility of bringing peace. Stern action has to be taken against the known perpetrators of violence, from both feuding communities.

He should be tasked to oversee the restoration of all looted and illegal guns.

Exemplary treatment should be meted out uniformly to both the feuding communities without bias and in fairness.

He should be also tasked to open up the national highway from Imphal to Dimapur block at Kangpokpi area.

If these three big tickets are delivered, perhaps victims will be open to peace talks.

And the state will not suffer under a CM who has allowed mobs to dictate terms to his government.

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Of you, of me, of us

When all is left of you and me-but what was of us,
When all that's left is us, maybe then?
Maybe then.

Egos bloom on the swift tide of hatred and hatred gives
way to further tidal waves of breakage.
Evil cannot exist alone the same way the dark fills the
empty space deserted by light.

Light and dark are bubbling lines we each draw ourselves
and while the truth is somewhere lost between the
heavens and the earth,
I feel there are things that serve more importance to us
than the piercing arguments of "I am right, you are
wrong".
for to nibble at ourselves at the price of right and wrong,
to hussle at the mere words of men would cost us a price
much higher.

Trying times bring out the worst in men and shatter all
light but trying times also bring out the best of hope. The
choice is ours.

If you and I are busy picking ourselves apart, who will
fight for us?
If you and I are busy burning down bridges,
who will hurt for us?
Will I? Will you?

I believe, strongly and wholly that there are things better
left unuttered if such things sting and kill, at the price of
unity.
There is no me here the same way there is no you. None
greater than the other, none smaller.

I heed to no name, no body, no person that says you are
not my own and I not of yours.
I heed to no politics, no frolic, no spirit that says you and
I are to be exiled different ways.
I heed to no truth, no lie, no history that pens us
different.
Because the convenience of time,
Of age,
Of right and wrong,
Is out of our hands.
Because the convenience and the stinging array of
breakage will bear the wrath of our own demise.

In yellow lands of untowed history,
Upon streams of untethered folktales,
Why must we burn?
Why must we hate?

"Its easier said than done", they tell me,
So I'll echo it across until we can do it.
Because the dead don't waver and the living must live
And while we're at it, we might as well live well, live
good, live proper, shake hands as we shake off grudges,
smile as we throw down frowns and walk as we run down
rifts.

We must leave the madness of men behind,
For what is it worth anyway?
Of me, of you, Of us, what is it worth?
Is the politics of madness worth it?

*[Shallow and steep as it is, we are who we allow
ourselves to be and I hope we allow ourselves to be
anything but unkind, arrogant, conceited and imperious.]*

~Abigail Misao