

# Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## B. Phaicham RELIEF CENTRE

B. Phaicham Presbyterian Church Sunday School Hall  
Tuibong, Lamka

Managed by  
Kuki Khanglai Lawmpi  
General Headquarters(KKL-GHQ)

**Total Inmates Registered: 190\***

■ Male: 86

■ Female: 104

\*As on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2023



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 16.12.2023



**158**  
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.

## KUKI-ZO BODY WARNS OF PICKETING OFFICES OVER THE PRESENCE OF COMMANDOS IN MOREH, ACCUSES CM OF TRYING TO PROLONG CONFLICT



The Kuki-Zo women in Kangpokpi district today protested against the non-withdrawal of Manipur police commandos from the border town Moreh and accused the state's Chief Minister N. Biren Singh of trying to prolong the conflict in Manipur.

The women protestors at Gamgiphai, the peripheral area in Kangpokpi district with Imphal West also shouted slogans, "Removed Meitei Commando from Moreh", and "Reimposed AFSPA in the Valley".

Reiterating the demand of the Kuki-Zo people, CoTU's Media Cell Coordinator, Ng. Lun Kipgen while speaking on the sideline of the protest, said that we have demanded the withdrawal or removal of the state Meitei commandos from the Kuki-Zo-dominated border town Moreh.

He said that the deployment of state Meitei police commandos in Moreh is devoid of sound logic and rationality as tension and suspicion are bound to surface if Meitei militants are certified to roam and loiter freely in areas dominated by the Kuki-Zo.

He also pointed out that the deployment of state Meitei police commandos in Moreh led to renewed violence in the Kuki-Zo-dominated areas where lives were lost and public properties were destroyed.

He continued that we want to know the logic behind

delegating the state Meitei police commandos in an area dominated by the Kuki-Zo community where they are certified to roam freely.

"This is the precursor to the tension that has happened recently in Moreh and the incumbent Chief Minister N. Biren Singh is responsible for the renewed or fresh violence in the border town", he asserted.

"In fact, there is ample peace in all areas dominated by the Kuki-Zo community until shattered by attacks from the valley-based militants", he added.

He also said that the presence of state forces, especially the Meitei police commandos in Moreh is nothing but Biren's sinister ploy to prolong the conflict and wanton display of political dominance over the minority Kuki-Zo community by the majoritarian Meitei community.

He asked, "What is the logic and rationality behind delegation of the state Meitei forces, especially, the Meitei commandos in the Kuki-Zo dominated town Moreh when an adequate number of neutral central forces, such as BSF, CRPF, and the Assam Rifles are already there in the areas".

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While strongly urging the Central Government for swift action, the CoTU's Media Cell Coordinator, Ng. Lun Kipgen appealed to the Central Government to instruct the state Government to remove the Meitei police commandos, and also the Meitei militants in the guise of police commandos, donning police uniforms, using the state equipment, and using the state police vehicles from the border town Moreh.

While cautioning against various intense forms of agitation, the Committee's Media Cell Coordinator said that we will be waiting for the Central Government's direction to the state, and if there is no swift action taken, the Committee along with the sister organizations will be constrained to picket the state Government's offices located in Kangpokpi district and also within the Kuki-Zo dominated areas.

He also said that for any unwanted incidents arising out of it, the incumbent Chief Minister N. Biren Singh will be solely held responsible.

The Committee on Tribal Unity, or the CoTU, Sadar Hills also reiterated its demand to reimpose the Armed Forces Special Power Act, or the AFSPA, in all the 19 Police Stations in the valley, which were earlier exempted from the purview of the Act, for semblances of law and order in the state as it is highly necessitated for national security reasons.

Meanwhile, the Kuki-Zo women folks in Moreh reportedly caught a Meitei Police officer disguised as an Army this morning at Moreh's morning bazar and escorted him back.

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## PHOUGAKCHAO IKHAI LOCALS OBSTRUCT PERSONNEL OF KUMAON REGIMENT FROM ENTERING POLICE STATION

The "undisturbed" valley area has again witnessed a disturbing incident of mobs blocking the peace keeping forces from performing their diligent duties on Monday.

An altercation/ scuffle broke out between Meitei mob of Phougakchao Ikhai and personnels of Kumaon Regiment of Indian Army on Monday when the locals of Phougakchao - both men and women - obstructed personnel of the Army from entering Phougakchao Police Station.

As per sources, it was learned that the incident happened when the personnel of Kumaon Regiment tried to enter Phougakchao Ikhai Police Station as they suspected the presence of Arambai Tenggol and proscribed Meitei militants inside the police station.

Upon learning the activities of the Kumaon Regiment, the locals + both women and men - obstructed and prevented the Army personnel from entering the police station. The Army personnel were not only obstructed but



also hurled with slur words by the insane Meitei mob. The absence of AFSPA disadvantages the security personnel from performing their assigned duties.

Phougakchao Ikhai is the last Meitei village of Bishnupur district bordering Lamka district and people have been talking about the presence of Arambai Tenggol militia in the village.

## KUKI WOMENFOLK NAB A MEITEI POLICE OFFICER DISGUISED AS ARMY; NO PEACE IN MOREH TOWN UNTIL MEITEI FORCES ARE REMOVED, SAYS KUKI INPI TENGNOUNPAL

The Kuki Inpi Tengnoupal has stated that the Senior Superintendent of Police of Manipur police Nectar Sanjenbam who was disguised as an army was caught by the Kuki women folk in Moreh morning bazar area on Monday.

A release issued by KIT stated that KIT Defence Wing vehemently condemns the act of the so-called Manipur police Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) donning Army uniform and 'trying to massacre Kuki-Zo people in Moreh morning bazar area'.

"In an attempt to carry out a massacre upon Kuki-Zo people, the SSP of Manipur police Nectar Sanjenbam, donning Army uniforms and disguised as the Army, went to the crowded morning market with automatic rifles during curfew relaxation hours" stated the release.

Luckily, the local womenfolk who kept vigil at the area noticed him and caught him before he executed his evil plan, KIT stated.

While the womenfolk escorted the fake Army Sanjenbam Nectar back to Moreh bazar, the meitei militants and Arambai Tenggol open fired towards innocent civilians following which the village guards retaliated, it added.

KIT stated that, "There will be no peace in Moreh town until the meitei forces are removed. The Indigenous Kuki-Zo people in Moreh and Tengnoupal District will not succumb to the dictated deployment of Meitei forces in Moreh town and will continue to fight against the forced deployment of Arambai Tenggol and Meitei insurgents in Kuki-Zo areas."

KIT claimed that it is now crystal clear that the Meitei commandos and its militia groups (Arambai Tenggol and surrendered militants) are deployed by the Meitei govt in Moreh town to terrorise the Kuki-Zo people.

The release stated that KIT Defence Wing is surprised and perplexed to learn how and why the Assam Rifles allowed the meitei police SSP Nectar Sanjenbam to masquerade as an army and carry out attack on Kuki-Zo people in Moreh town with Arambai Tenggol and meitei militants.

Questioning the Assam Rifles whether they are involved in conspiring against Kuki-Zo people by colluding with



the Meitei forces, KIT added that the indigenous Kuki-Zo people in Moreh and Tengnoupal district will not remain a silent spectator on this alarming threat.

KIT urged the authority concerned in the Army to take the matter seriously and look into the same and initiate necessary action against Nectar Sanjenbam and its cahoots.

KIT further stated that the open deployment of Meitei militia in the name of state forces in the ruthless attacks against the lives and properties of the Kuki-Zo people in Moreh town is senseless and outrageous and is therefore most condemnable.

In fact, such illegitimate use of Meitei militia (Arambai Tenggol and Meitei insurgents) against the Kuki-Zo community only expresses the disrespect for law and order duly established under the Constitution of India, the release added.

The Kuki Inpi Tengnoupal district strongly condemns the dictated deployment of Arambai Tenggol and Meitei militants and how they are being allowed to masquerade as state and centre security forces.

There are enough central forces including BSF, GR, AR, and RAF and state civil police and Moreh was a peaceful place before the deployment of Meitei militia (Arambai Tenggol & Meitei insurgents) in the name of state forces to annihilate Kuki-Zo people, KIT stated.

# NAGALAND DEPUTY CM Y. PATTON MEETS MIZORAM'S CM, DISCUSSES BORDER ISSUES

Nagaland's Deputy Chief Minister, Y. Patton, met with Mizoram's Chief Minister, Pu Lalduhoma, at his residence today evening. The leaders engaged in a discussion about various topics, including the contentious border issue.

Y. Patton asserted that the Nagas and Mizos share a common ancestry, making the Mizoram Chief Minister a representative for the Naga people as well.

He expressed the Naga people's disagreement with the closure of the Myanmar-India border, given that a significant portion of the Naga population resides in Myanmar, with their homes and farms straddling the border. He stated that both Nagaland and Mizoram hold the same stance on this issue.

They also covered topics related to the development of North East states. Y. Patton gifted the Chief Minister



traditional Naga attire, weapons, and costumes. The Chief Minister's wife, Pi Liansailovi, was also present at the meeting.

## THE BUZZ SOCIAL MEDIA

**Arijit nobody**  
@phoenixpaul2023

In Moreh combined force of Arambai tenggol and state police commandos are engaged in a massive gunfight with village volunteers, while trying to attack the tribal civilians..more power to our village volunteers, don't let them leave without good dose of lead .

#Manipur  
#Moreh

1:18 AM · Jan 8, 2024 · 4,499 Views

**The Tribal Herald** ✓  
@TribalHerald

Indian Army, acting on reported presence of Meitei Secessionist and terrorists Arambai Tenggol in the Police Station at Phougakchao, Bishnupur District, were stopped by terrorist sympathizers from entering the police station. While Meitei armed secessionists have been attacking Indian army for years, their public now have the audacity to assault Indian army on duty. This is the current law and order in Manipur under #MeiteiAggression. #SaveKukiZo #SeperateAdministration #ManipurViolenceMeiteiAggression. #SaveKukiZo #SeperateAdministration #ManipurViolence @narendramodi @AmitShah @ncsthq @Spearcorps @official\_dgar @rashtrapatibhvn @TheQuint @thewire\_in @ThePrintIndia @scroll\_in @IndianExpress @IndiaTodayNE @the\_hindu @TheStatesmanLtd @Outlookindia @TOIndiaNews @DeccanHerald @htTweets



5:35 PM · Jan 8, 2024 · 144 Views

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# UNWAVERED MEITEI BUT INDIAN ONLY WHEN IT SERVES: THE GOLD DIGGER INDIAN

India has a federal system of administration. Federalism allows for the accommodation of diversity and regional autonomy within larger political units. The central agencies act as forces that facilitate the idea of unity in diversity. Thus, every Indian gives the same honour and respect while they discharge their duties and responsibilities as they do the state agencies.

The Meiteis on the other hand have an alternative view of our central agencies. They have hindered the central agencies from executing their duties and responsibilities not once but on multiple occasions, ranging from stopping a CBI team who arrived Imphal to probe the large-scale loot of a cache of arms and ammunition from Manipur police training college's armoury to forcing the Indian Army to release 12 KYKL militants in June 2023. They see them as an ally outside Manipur valley but as an enemy inside their stronghold. While in Moreh, Manipuri commandos take the help of Indian central forces like Assam Rifles to protect and aid them, on the other we have a situation like that of what happened in Phaogakchao police station where mobs denied the central forces entry into the police station. One need not have an IQ like that of Einstein's to question the dubious intentions of the Manipuri community - Indian when it serves their interest but Meitei where they are strong.

The lukewarm attitude of Biren against all their actions is very, very dubious. Repeated hindrances to Central agencies from exercising their duties and responsibilities by mobs where a war for cessation from India is waged by militant groups of that community is a serious threat to India's sovereignty and security. It may be noted that these militant groups are hand in glove with the Junta government in Myanmar to suppress the democratic movement. And it is now a well-accepted fact that Arambai Tenggols and Meitei militant groups wear the Manipur police and commando outfit. Under whose permission are they allowed to use their uniforms? Mr. Biren should come out clean else he's a serious threat to India's integrity and sovereignty.



The central government is sending out the wrong signal as well by staying as a mute spectator. Undermining the central agency's authority is undermining India itself as they execute all their duties and responsibilities representing India. Thus, by not making them held accountable for their actions, be it the mobs or Mr. Biren, the central government is sending out the message that these mobs are above all law and order in India even if that costs the sovereignty of India.

# CONTINUATION OF GUNFIGHT IN MOREH A RESULT OF STATE-SPONSORED TERRORISM; CHIEF LIAR BIREN LIES AGAIN

The State-sponsored terror activities of the Meitei aggressors continued in the Kuki-Zos' ancestral hill town of Moreh, a key trading town on Indo-Myanmar border, on Monday.

At around 9:30 AM, the women's group of the town caught the Meitei police officer Nectar Sanjenbam red-handed disguised as an Army officer in the crowd during curfew relaxation hours while trying to carry out massacring the Kuki-Zo civilians and escorted back to his station.

Within a few minutes, the combined communal forces of Meitei militants, Arambai Tenggol and police comandos fired towards the civilians. The village guards retaliated and a fierce gunfight ensued for about two hours. However, there was no report of injury to the Kuki-Zo village guards and the civilians. Sources said that the Village Volunteers inflicted few casualties to the communal forces.

Meanwhile, the chief liar N. Biren Singh has reportedly said that the violence in Moreh has been shifted from clashes between Kuki-Zo and Meiteis to clashes between security forces and militants.

"The nature of the violence in Manipur has shifted from clashes between two communities to attacks by insurgents on security forces now. The violence during the new year was between the state security forces and militants, not between two communities. Now, the dimension of the conflict has changed to state forces fighting against militants," the Chief Minister N Biren Singh told NDTV in an exclusive interview.

Here, the pathological liar Biren did it again and he will continue to lie more until he breathes his last. The Village Volunteers of Tengnoupal have time and again clarified that the gunfights in Moreh are between them and the state-sponsored terror groups of radicalised goons including proscribed Meitei militants and Meitei police comandos. There is no involvement of the Kuki-Zo insurgent groups who are under "suspension of operation" with the Government of India.



The violence in Moreh is a result of the Meiteis' aggressive policy to grab the Kuki-Zo tribals' ancestral land, and a continuation of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom perpetrated under the patronage of the narcissist Biren Singh and his political cohorts since May 2023. The village volunteers have no option but to fight back the ethnic cleansing policy extension of the communal Meitei forces on the indigenous inhabitants of the hill town tooth and nail.

Until and unless the concerned authority withdraws the Meitei militants and police comandos from Moreh, the Kuki people will continue to fight back and defend their ancestral land and freedom from the Meitei state-sponsored aggressors. There will be no Meitei in the Kuki-Zo hills and no Kuki-Zo in the Meiteis' valley.



# MEITEIS REJOICING OVER MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS LETTER EXPOSES THEIR SHALLOW KNOWLEDGE

The Meitei populace rejoiced over a letter sent by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India to the Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur in reply to a representation for deletion of Chin Kuki from the list of Scheduled Tribes of Manipur.

The letter was in response to the representation sent by one Maheshwar Thounaojam, National Secretary of Republican Party of India (Athawale) on December 12, 2023 to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

Many gullible Meiteis shared it widely on various social media platforms not knowing the contents of the letter, believing and fooling themselves that the Central government had agreed to their unreasonable demand.

However, the letter did not mention anything about the agreed position of the central government for deletion of 'Chin Kuki' from the ST list of Manipur. Rather, the letter in question talks about the criterion for inclusion of a tribe in the list. Moreover, there is no 'Chin Kuki' in the list of STs from Manipur. In short, the letter is only about inclusion and there is no issue of deletion.

The letter only notifies the state government about the procedures for inclusion of a community under Schedule Tribe list. The Ministry letter said: "In this regard it is to state that Scheduled Tribes (STs) are notified under Article 342 of the Constitution. Government of India had on 15.6.1999 (and further revised on 25.6.2002 and 14.09.2022) approved modalities for determining claims for inclusion in and other modifications in list of STs. As per these modalities only proposals recommended and justified by the State Government concerned and agreed to by RGI as well as NCST are considered for amendment of legislation. All the actions are taken as per approved modalities. The recommendation of the concerned State Government is pre-requisite to process the case further."

The inclusion of communities in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list in India involves a well-defined procedure. The process is governed by guidelines set by the Government of India. Here are the general procedures

F.No.12026/02/2023- C&LM(E:25198)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Tribal Affairs  
(C&LM Division)  
\*\*\*\*

Gate No. 5, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Jeevan Tara, Sansad Marg  
Patel Chowk, New Delhi  
Dated: 26.12.2023

To

The Adl. Chief Secretary,  
Government of Manipur,  
Secretariat, Tribal Affairs & Hills Department,  
Imphal, Manipur.

**Subject: Representation for deletion of the Nomadic Chin Kuki from the list of Schedule tribes of Manipur -reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to forward a copy of representation dated 12.12.2023 of Shri Maheshwar Thounaojam, National Secretary of Republican Party of India (Athawale), R/o Keishampat aheibam leirak, Imphal, Manipur-795001 received in this Ministry on 13.12.2023.

2. In this regard it is to state that Scheduled Tribes (STs) are notified under Article 342 of the Constitution. Government of India had on 15.6.1999 (and further revised on 25.6.2002 and 14.09.2022) approved modalities for determining claims for inclusion in and other modifications in list of STs. As per these modalities only proposals recommended and justified by the State Government concerned and agreed to by RGI as well as NCST are considered for amendment of legislation. All the actions are taken as per approved modalities. The recommendation of the concerned State Government is pre-requisite to process the case further.

Yours faithfully,

(Ashish Kumar Agrawal)  
Under Secretary to the Government of India  
Tel. No. 011-23340455

Encl: As above.

Copy for information to:

Shri Maheshwar Thounaojam, National Secretary of Republican Party of India (Athawale), R/o Keishampat aheibam leirak, Imphal, Manipur-795001

for the inclusion of a community in the ST list:

## State Government Proposal:

The process typically begins with the State Government identifying and recommending a community for inclusion in the ST list. This proposal should include detailed documentation and justification for the inclusion.

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**Verification and Recommendation:**

The State Government forwards the proposal to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) for examination. The NCST verifies the claims and assesses the social, economic, and cultural characteristics of the community in question.

**Recommendation to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs:**

If the NCST is satisfied with the proposal, it recommends the inclusion to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, which is responsible for tribal welfare in India.

**Approval by the Cabinet:**

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs places the recommendation before the Cabinet for approval. The Cabinet examines the proposal, considering various factors, including the historical background and cultural distinctiveness of the community.

**Parliamentary Approval:**

Once the Cabinet approves the inclusion, the proposal is placed before both houses of Parliament for approval. This is typically done through an amendment to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order.

**Presidential Assent:**

After receiving approval from Parliament, the President of India gives the final assent

to the inclusion. The community is then officially recognized as a Scheduled Tribe.

**Inclusion in the ST List:**

The inclusion is published in the official Gazette of India, and the community is added to the list of Scheduled Tribes.

It's crucial to note that the process is rigorous, involving detailed scrutiny at various stages. The aim is to ensure that only those communities with distinct tribal characteristics and socio-cultural identities are included in the ST list. Additionally, the process is meant to be thorough and deliberative to avoid arbitrary or hasty decisions that may impact the welfare and rights of tribal communities.

The Kukis are not troubled by the cheap propaganda of a half-baked person like Maheshwar Thounaojam, it's the gullible Meiteis who have been deceived or misled into supporting a particular agenda or viewpoint by a self-vested person for political gain. The gullible Meiteis who unquestioningly accept and believe in propagandistic information without critically evaluating it will be the real propaganda victims.



**He will win who knows when to fight  
and when not to fight .**

*– Sun Tzu*



OPINION

## The Christmas 'Party' That Turned Sour

M.G. Devasahayam

The 'Hail-Modi' Christmas 'party' for a select group of Christian busybodies who consider themselves 'leaders' has backfired.

Despite obstructions and attempts to split the Christian community, the statement titled 'Christmas Celebration with the PM is Not in Our Name!' has drawn over 3,200 signatures in a very short time:

"We are in the Christmas Season: a time when we are all called to internalise and actualise the gifts of joy, love, peace, truth, justice and hope which Jesus our Saviour offers to us! Today we also need to take legitimate pride in the fact that Christians in India have contributed significantly to the country... However, in the recent past, particularly since 2014, Christians in India have been victims of continued attacks and vilification from members of the ruling regime, all over the country. Christians and Christian schools and institutions have been hounded and harassed, their places of worship destroyed, they have been denied their ordinary rights as citizens and been subject to denigration and demonization.... Since May 3, 2023, the Christians of Manipur have been subject to constant attacks which still continues unabated and with apparent approval from the BJP Governments both in the State and at the Centre. In the wake of all this, it is ironic that the Prime Minister hosted around 100 Christian representatives of different denominations on Christmas morning for a celebration."

What was touted as "hosted by the prime minister" was a party conceived and organised by one Anoop Antony Joseph, the former national secretary of the Bharatiya

Janata Yuva Morcha, the youth wing of the BJP. He now "coordinates" work at the 'Modi Story' dedicated to projecting the prime minister as a larger-than-life politician, focusing on the "inspiring life of Shri Narendra Modi ji." In short, he is an activist of the "cult-worshipping" brigade that is springing up like a poisonous mushroom.

Those who willingly walked into this brazen "cult-trap" included Cardinal Oswald Gracias, head of the Roman Catholic Church and an advisor to the Pope; Anil Couto, the archbishop of Delhi, and Paul Swarup, the Delhi bishop of the Church of North India, which serves the Anglicans. The guest list also included Thomas Mar Anthonios, a bishop of the Kerala-based Syro-Malankara Catholic Church in Gurugram, Haryana, and Kuriakose Bharanikulangara, the archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Eparchy of Faridabad.

In his address to them, Modi drew a link between his government's policies and the message of Jesus Christ. "In a Christmas address, the Holy Pope once prayed to Jesus Christ that the people who are trying to abolish poverty should be blessed," he said. "These words of the Holy Pope are in line with our mantra of development. Our mantra is 'Sabka saath, sabka vishwas, sabka vikas, sabka prayas'." But the fact of the matter is that ever since Modi came to power, civil society, voluntary agencies, and community-based organisations have been driven to the ground and

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poverty has been accelerating by leaps and bounds.

Over 810 million people, who account for 59% of the country's population, have been put on free ration because of deep deprivation. About 40.2% of Indians did not have enough money for food in 2018. This rose to 48% in 2021. In 2023, it seemed to have climbed up further and is nearing the 60% mark. This abject poverty is further evidenced by the 2023 Global Hunger Index, wherein India ranks 111th out of the 125 countries. What is deeply distressing is that India's low-income levels and deprivation is accompanied by it being among the most inequitable countries in the world with the richest 1% owning more than 40% of the country's total wealth, while the bottom half of the population together share just 3%.

The reality is that over the last decade, the wealthy have been growing richer while the less privileged have been becoming poorer.

It is learnt that the prime minister underlined the values of compassion and service that Jesus lived by. He said Jesus worked to create an inclusive society where justice prevails for all and it is these values that are illuminating the way like a guiding light in the development journey of India. He highlighted the similarity of values between different streams of social life, which unite people as he gave the example of the Bible which emphasizes the service of others.

"Service as the supreme religion. In The Holy Bible, truth has been given great importance and it is said that only truth will show us the path to salvation," said the prime minister.

But what is happening on the ground is just the opposite – a regime led by hate, intolerance, lies, and injustice. There are plenty of instances to cite. As far as "compassion and service that Jesus lived by" are concerned, there cannot be a better example than that of Mother (now Saint) Teresa and her Missionaries of Charity (MoC). Ironically, on the Christmas day of 2021, the Ministry of Home Affairs gave a present to the MoC and its sisters by refusing to renew their registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010. In the event, the MoC's registration expired on December 31, 2021, and after that, the bank accounts under FCRA could not be operated, threatening the closure of their 240 homes for orphans, dying destitutes, and AIDS patients.

The licence was, however, restored in January 2022. The new FCRA certificate will be valid till the end of 2026, the Indian Express had reported.

What the Modi government tried to do was to suppress, oppress, and then shut down MoC, which "served the poorest of the poor, irrespective of all castes and creed, nationality, race or place – giving the individual person whole-hearted and free service." To them, the "poorest of the poor are the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the homeless, the ignorant, the captives, the crippled, the lepers, the unloved, the alcoholics, the dying and the sick destitute, the abandoned and the outcastes." Their motto is taken from Jesus's words in the Bible: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren you did it to me." (Mathew, 25:35-40). "Compassion and service that Jesus lived by" is eons away from Modi's style of governance.

Whether it is tongue-in-cheek or genuine, Archbishop Peter Machado of Bangalore, who was not part of the 'party-pack,' welcomed the prime minister's "wonderful gesture." "It was beautiful to hear from our prime minister that Jesus's life was a message that is centred on compassion and service. No wonder the people were full of praise for the prime minister, who acknowledged the best in Christianity and, for which, he merits the highest praise from the Christian Community." He wants the prime minister to address the concerns of the Christian community by taking into confidence its leaders. Indeed, everyone is entitled to their own delusions.

The 100-odd 'unelected' persons who attended the 'party' do not have the mandate of the Christian community. I do not know them, except His Eminence Cardinal Oswald Gracias, whom I know of. To my knowledge he has committed two grievous sins as per Catholic Lexicon: bearing false witness and giving false evidence. The first related to the Manipur crisis, in which over 220 churches were destroyed and over 60,000 people displaced. The common view was that it was a well-orchestrated plan to create religious conflict.

John Dayal, a prominent Catholic lay leader, and veteran journalist, who was part of a peace team that visited

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Manipur, urged the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI), to issue "a categorical statement" that Christians have been the victims of the state-sponsored violence against the Kuki-Zo tribes of Manipur. Even Archbishop Dominic Lumon of Imphal, the head of the Catholic Church in Manipur, endorsed this view. Yet Cardinal Gracias, who was president of CBCI, while sitting in the comforts of Mumbai, said that the riots were not a Hindu-Christian conflict but clashes between two tribal groups, thereby pandering to the BJP-RSS combine, which quoted him immediately.

The second case comes from my personal experience.

About two decades ago, he filed a false affidavit in the Madras high court in a case aimed at recovering the super-prime landed property owned by the John DeMonte Trust of the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore. The case revolved around a corrupt deal orchestrated by the property-in-charge of the archdiocese, with a land-grabber to alienate 12.5 acres of land in the prestigious Boat Club area of Chennai, then valued at nearly Rs 1,000 crores, and leasing it for a mere Rs 50 crore.

The CBCI was a respondent in the case, and Bishop Oswald Gracias (of Agra) filed an affidavit in support of the corrupt deal, falsely claiming to be the secretary of CBCI, even after leaving that office – committing plain perjury. Despite their efforts, they lost the case, and the property was successfully retrieved. One wonders about the kind of advice such a person is offering to the Pope.

Nevertheless, as evident from the "Not in Our Name" campaign, a vast majority of Christians are hurt by this display of cult-sycophancy and the Christmas festival that was to bring joy has gone sour. A small community like Christians in India stands tall due to their adherence to honour and self-respect. Once these are compromised, the community diminishes first and then could perish. This cannot be countenanced.

M.G. Devasahayam is a former Army and IAS officer.

First published by [The Wire](#)



## THE EVIDENCE ERASER



Evidences





# Ode to the Kuki-Zo Martyrs

*Like summer tempest,  
Come the clouds of hatredness,  
Thread of generational bonding;  
Slashed into irreparable parting.*

*The Hilly-Valley corridors ghastly segregated,  
Thro' bitterness of darkened hearts;  
The roots of envy penetrated,  
Unimaginably to the warring "salai taret's bearers."*

*Howbeit, the Kuki-Zo sways in tune of unison,  
As did Leihao trees amidst the blue hills of pupagam;  
Gone were thunders laddened Nimbus and darkest storms,*

*Gaily, comes the winter breeze,  
Awakening immortal souls home;  
Solemnly laid to 'Rest In Peace,'  
For eternal trophy as deeds' reward,  
To welcome the next Gen valiants in the next abode!*

*'Viva la Vida' to Kuki-Zo Gam!*

*- Rev. Dr. H. D. Angam Haokip*

