

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell

**BIREN SINGH,**  
Thank you for  
the **Demographic**  
and **Geographic**  
**SEPARATION**

**N. BIREN SINGH'S**  
**SEPARATION**  
**REDUX**



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 01.04.2024



**170**  
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.

# PM MODI'S STATEMENT ON MANIPUR VIOLENCE LACKS SUBSTANCE; NORMALCY IS STILL A FAR CRY

In contrast to the claims made by Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, the ground situation in the strife-torn state of Manipur remains far from normal but tense, ready to erupt again with another wave of more violence anytime soon. The uneasy calm for a few periods is just due to the perpetrators' hectic engagement in the electoral process.

The Meitei extremist groups are still undergoing hectic training to carry out another wave of attacks on the minority Kukis as soon as the 18th Lok Sabha polls are over in Manipur.

On Monday, PM Modi said that there has been a marked improvement in the situation in the violence-hit Manipur. Speaking to The Assam Tribune, a regional newspaper, the PM said, "We have dedicated our best resources and administrative machinery to resolving the conflict. Because of the timely intervention of the Government of India and efforts made by the Government of Manipur, there has been a marked improvement in the situation of the state."

Asked about the flak the Union government received for the handling of the Manipur crisis, the PM said, "It is our collective responsibility to deal with the situation sensitively. We have dedicated our best resources and administrative machinery to resolving the conflict. Because of the timely intervention of the Government of India and efforts made by the Government of Manipur, there has been a marked improvement in the situation of the state."

Reacting strongly against the Prime Minister's statement, Congress leader, Jairam Ramesh said, "It is disgraceful and shameless for the BJP to claim that the PM has saved Manipur. Hundreds of people have been killed, and lakhs displaced. An atmosphere of fear and intimidation prevails, and communities are living apart. The PM has not made a visit to the state in 11 months, nor has he spoken about it, except for three



minutes. He has not even met the Chief Minister or MLAs or MPs from the state."

The Congress leader also alleged that the violence was the result of the politics of division and polarisation that the BJP excels in. This is the reality of Manipur, he said.

While Narendra Modi said that the centre has saved Manipur, in reality Manipur is still burning. It is no longer a State but two States. The land and its people are totally separated with the 'Lines of Control' (buffer zones) fully guarded by the central security forces. The Meiteis' cannot crossover the territory of the Kukis and the Kukis can no longer go to their "valley of death", Imphal.

It is outrageous and insensitive on the part of the Prime Minister Modi to claim that he has saved Manipur when he did not even have time to visit. Manipur's wounds did not get the balm that were desperately sought from the PM of India whose duty it was to rush to their aid. For nearly a year Manipur was burning, women were stripped and humiliated, killings continued unabated. Modi didn't utter a single word about Manipur, let alone visit.

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The fact is that the Centre has completely abandoned Manipur, particularly the minority Kuki-Zo communities. It has been a year since the violence started in Manipur, yet the PM hasn't found a single day to visit the state. When videos of Kuki women being paraded naked came out, his government's first reaction was to ban the internet so that the rest of India is kept in the dark. And now he has the gall to claim his 'intervention' has saved Manipur!

As the Prime Minister of India, Modi is equally responsible for the rapes and murders, molestations and killings, beheading in Manipur violence, engineered and sponsored by State's machinery. He could have stopped the ethnic cleansing pogrom long before, but he did not

The PM and the CM N. Biren Singh treated the minority Kukis of the State in such an unjustifiable manner. If

saving Manipur means Saving Biren, Modi might as well be true!

A question remains: When will the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi visit the violent-hit Manipur?

The Centre government must note that when a long term injustice is served by state entity to its minority people, then a separate administration kind of thing emerges, which becomes justified because the state has totally failed to provide them with justice. Otherwise, the violence in Manipur will remain as the darkest incident in India's history where a BJP-led government took side and worked towards genocide of the other minority community. The rape and parade of two sisters will remain in history forever.

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## SUPREME COURT TO HEAR PLEA FOR VOTING FACILITIES FOR DISPLACED PEOPLE IN MANIPUR

The Supreme Court said on Monday it will hear a plea seeking voting facilities for around 18,000 people displaced internally due to the ethnic strife in Manipur for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

The polling for two Lok Sabha seats of Manipur will be held in two phases on April 19 and 26.

The plea was mentioned for urgent hearing before a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, with the counsel telling the court that the first phase of polling has to take place on April 19.

"There are 18,000 internally displaced people. They want to vote in the elections in Manipur," the lawyer said.

"I will give you an early date," the CJI assured the advocate.

Manipur has been caught in a spiral of violence since May 2023. More than 160 people have been killed and several hundred injured since ethnic violence first broke out in the state on May 3 when Meitei radical groups responded violently to the peaceful 'Tribal Solidarity March' organised in the hill districts to protest against the majority Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status.

Though the number and intensity of incidents of violence are slowly ebbing away, many people are still living in relief camps far from their homes.

# MEITEI LEEPUN RESURFACES: DEFENDS N. BIREN SINGH AMID GOVERNANCE CRITICISM

After a quiet few months in the political arena, the Meitei Leepun, known for their aggressive stance against the Kukis, has reemerged to support their political ally N. Biren Singh. Their vigorous response to the Congress manifesto reaffirms their role as a group dedicated to safeguarding N. Biren Singh's political position, rather than representing the broader interests of the Meitei community.

Meitei Leepun Chief Pramot Singh strongly reacted against the removal of CM Biren, which is included in the Congress manifesto. He asserts that it is their duty to support CM Biren. He emphasized the significance of this election. He said that "the campaigning approach this time should be different, advocating for a focus solely on discussing issues, unlike previous elections."

Beyond partisan politics, Pramot Singh stressed "the importance of safeguarding the Chief Minister's position and supporting him, asserting that it is the duty of both Meitei Leepun and the people of Manipur." Furthermore, he questions the confusion created by the Congress manifesto regarding administrative settlements and rejected the need for reconciliation, saying that "the criminal actions committed by the Kuki community against Meiteis is the cause of the violence."

The Meitei Leepun and the Arambai Tenggol are two of the organizations who are actively involved in state-sponsored ethnic cleansing against the Kukis. However, the Meitei Leepun maintained stoic silence for the last few months after an attempt was made on the life of their Chief Pramot Singh by unknown miscreants. There have been rumours about their discord with the Arambai Tenggol in their attempt to maintain supremacy over the public. Meitei Leepun too assembled few youths to train and impart physical training but not upto the mark and strength of Arambai Tenggol. This has put Meitei Leepun on the backseat.

However, Pramot Singh, the comic figure of this violence, came back with a point to salvage his declining popularity through Mr. N. Biren. He has openly advocated



for his political boss N. Biren Singh saying that he should not be removed from his Chair. When most political analysts and the Meitei public squarely blame N. Biren for all the mess, Meitei Leepun publicly endorsed N. Biren's leadership, thereby solidifying that their group commitment extends only to protecting the political throne of their political boss.

It is a well-known fact that Meitei Leepun and Arambai Tenggol are the brainchild of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and RS MP Leishemba Sanajaoba. These two organizations are serving the interest of Biren and Sanajaoba in the disguise of protecting Manipur integrity. They have been sloganeering "Manipur Kaiba Yaroi" on the one hand and on the other, they are here to subdue a genuine voice of the Meitei populace who pointed out the wrongdoings of the current dispensation.

The re-emergence of Meitei Leepun at a time when the election is round the corner speaks volumes about their close affinity with the Chief Minister and their organizational's motive. They have been fooling the general public of the Meitei community by branding themselves as an organization for the cause of Meitei community. Their actions and statements validate that they are just political tools for few individuals.

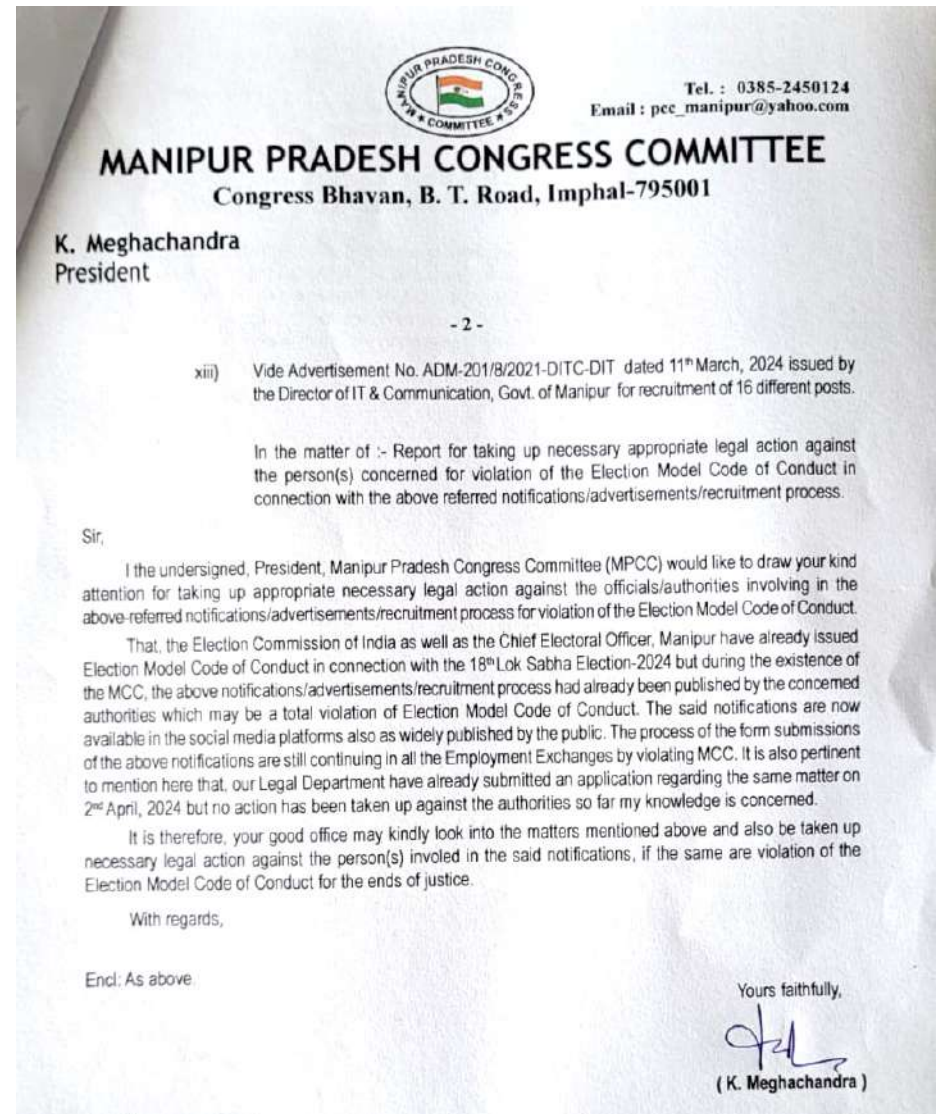
# MANIPUR CONGRESS ASKS CEO MANIPUR TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST OFFICIALS VIOLATING ELECTION MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee has requested the Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur, to take up necessary legal actions against the officials/ authorities, involved in violation of the election Model Code of Conduct for the end of justice.

In its letter to the CEO Manipur, the President of MPCC, Keisham Meghachandra, highlighted 13 recruitment notifications/ advertisements issued by various departments of the Government of Manipur which he alleged were issued after the existence of election Model Code of Conduct.

The letter stated that the Election Commission of India as well as the Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur have already issued the Election Model Code of Conduct in connection with the 18th Lok Sabha Election-2024. But during the existence of the MCC, the said notifications/ advertisements/ recruitment process have been published by the concerned authorities, which is a total violation of the Election Model Code of Conduct.

The MPCC stated that the said notifications are now available on social media platforms and are also as widely published by the public. The process of the form submissions of the said notifications are still continuing in all the Employment Exchanges, violating the election MCC, the letter stated.



Meghachandra also said that the MPCC legal department has already submitted an application regarding the same matter on 2nd April, 2024 but no action has been taken up against the authorities so far as his knowledge was concerned.



**They tried to bury us. They didn't know we were seeds.**

— Mexican Proverb

# KUKI-CHIN HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATION, AIZAWL SEEKS UN INTERVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION FACED BY KUKI-CHIN COMMUNITY IN BANGLADESH

Kuki-Chin Human Rights Organisation Aizawl has appealed to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volkar Turk to urgently address the ongoing human rights violations faced by the Kuki-Chin community in Bangladesh.

In a letter to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, KCHRO stated that the Kuki-Chin community, a minority group residing in various regions of Bangladesh, continues to endure egregious human rights violations that undermine their dignity, security, and well-being.

“Throughout our extensive documentation and testimonies gathered from members of the Kuki-Chin community, it has become apparent that they are subjected to a range of violations, including arbitrary arrests, extrajudicial killings, forced evictions, land grabbing, sexual violence, and harassment” stated the letter.

KCHRO stated that such atrocities are perpetrated with impunity, exacerbating the vulnerability and suffering of the Kuki-Chin people.

The actions of the Bangladesh army are deeply concerning as they continue to arrest civilians without justification, segregating them based on gender. Additionally, they have imposed strict restrictions on economic activities, prohibiting the buying and selling of goods, further exacerbating the hardships faced by the affected communities, it added.

Moreover, intrusion of Bangladesh Army into civilian homes with arms and weapons has instilled fear and apprehension among the populace, violating their sense of security and privacy, the letter added.

Such egregious actions not only undermine the rule of law but also constitute severe violations of human rights, depriving individuals of their fundamental freedoms and subjecting them to arbitrary treatment.



The KCHRO also urged the Bangladesh High Commissioner for Human Rights Organisation to intervene on civilian safety, forced evictions and violence, protection of civilian rights, protection of civil society and support for affected individuals.

Further KCHRO calls upon the international community, human rights organizations, and media outlets to amplify the voices of the Kuki-Chin community, advocate for their rights, and support efforts to bring about meaningful change and accountability.

**ANALYSIS****Biren's Logic on Viral Paraded Naked Video Suggest Nirbhaya Gangrape Must Also Have Been Pre-Planned by Opposition**

They are not women without clothes but they are made to be one.

At that moment, had I been the victim, I would have prayed to God to take away my life or for any natural calamity that could save me from the embarrassment, shame and humiliation. Or will the experience be so torturous that I would be dead mentally to feel anything? If only putting oneself in their shoes sends chills across our bodies, the torture they underwent must have no words to illustrate how excruciating it must have been. They were raped and subjected to inhuman cruelty not once or twice, but thousands of times, as the top court in Rajiv Gandhi Case says, "the culprit has died a thousand deaths," due to uncertainty of the time of their execution. The paraded victims were raped and brutally tortured thousands of times as well. Each step they were forced to take subject to public humiliation and embarrassment on their path to despoilment amounts to one heinous cruel and torturous crime the culprits committed against them. Thus, crimes committed by the culprits in this case have to be considered under the category of "Rarest of the rare crime".

The statement made by the chief minister who vows to protect the integrity of Manipur, on why the prime minister has to speak in the parliament is utterly shameless, insensitive and animalistic. Rather than condemning the heinous, inhumane and barbaric act,

to Biren the video becoming viral was a bigger problem in the whole issue than the content - the victim's grievances and injustice. As the saying goes, 'how you view things mirrors your thoughts', he downgraded the prime minister's image to his level as a biased, communal, insensitive and inhumane being who has to think about the sentiment of the Meitei public before making a statement even on crime against women and humanity. He forgets Mr Narendra Modi is not the prime minister for the Meiteis alone but an Indian prime minister as well, unlike him who is only the Meitei chief minister. With his insensitive statement and animalistic tone, he made his intention clear; the integrity of the Manipur he vows to protect is only the geographical territories that sought their separation from Manipur due to unbearable and inhumane injustice done against them, not the residents.

Going by Mr. Biren's logic, the Nirbhaya gang rape must have been pre-planned by the opposition, to shame and frame the government during the parliament session, is it not? Being old does not prevent someone from accepting his incapability, inefficiency and failure.

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Thus, you Biren must then, like Mrs. Shiela Dikshit, accept the responsibility, especially as in your case the presence of your state police did not stop the culprits from committing the crime. Thus why defend the indefensible even if the defendant is you yourself? Like you today, who can't utter the words to describe their act for what it is - barbaric, cruel, heinous and an inhumane act. Your police then surrendered the victim to the culprits, like you to the Meitei public. You must know the victims are not women without clothes like you said but they are made women without clothes. Thus mind your language and words, stop misleading the world by opting for words that portray the victim in the bad light rather than the culprits.

Exhibiting "Nari Shakti" Tableaux on Republic Day or putting the blame on the opposition won't wash away your incapability and inefficiency. As Emma

Watson says "Rape is not just a physical, violent act perpetrated against one victim, it is an assault on humanity". Those in your community who protect the culprits and those who bow before them are partners in the crime. The victims shall live with the scar due to your incapability and inefficiency. If you cannot speak up for their justice, you have no right to either defend yourself or talk about them.

The Chief Minister of Manipur's stance on the issue and the need for clarification on why the PM commented speaks volumes of the grim reality of what awaits the victims as far as justice is concerned. To protect humanity in general and Kuki women in particular, a separation from the clutch of Meiteis and Mr. Biren, who defended and protected the culprit is a Necessity.

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ

Jairam Ramesh  
@Jairam\_Ramesh

It is disgraceful and shameless for the BJP to claim that the PM has saved Manipur. Hundreds of people have been killed, and lakhs displaced. An atmosphere of fear and intimidation prevails, and communities are living apart. The PM has not made a visit to the state in 11 months, nor has he spoken about it, except for three minutes. He has not even met the Chief Minister or MLAs or MPs from the state.

The violence was the result of the politics of division and polarisation that the BJP excels in. This is the reality of Manipur.

5:29 pm · 08 Apr 24 · 22.9K Views

Paul Koshy  
@PauL\_Koshy

someone fixed it

#NarendraModi is personally responsible for the rapes, molestations and killings in #ManipurViolence

He could have stopped the violence. But he DID NOT

The PM and the CM treated our brothers and sisters in this state in an unjustifiable manner

could have  
Timely intervention by Centre saved Manipur: PM Modi  
TOI News Desk / TIMESOFINDIA.COM / Updated: Apr 8, 2024, 14:11 IST  


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**OPINION**

## Disgracing Self in Disgracing Others – Attacking One's Religion

**L. Singit**

Many media houses and various well-known personalities have downplayed the role of religion in the ongoing Manipur conflict which started since May 3, 2023. However, the truth is, the role that religion played in and during this conflict and even before the conflict started cannot be ignored and understated.

According to the 2011 census of India, Hinduism constitutes 41.39% of Manipur population. And it is estimated that about 7.79% of the population are people who follow “Sanamahism” the traditional Meitei religion of the ancient Meiteis. The dominant Hindus and the “Sanamahists” are all Meiteis.

On the other hand, the Kukis are largely Christians with only a few hundreds of them following Messianic and Judaism.

It was not a surprise to many that many religiously motivated attacks were seen especially during the earlier days of the conflict in Manipur because of the things that occurred even before 3rd May 2023. Yes, there were problems, and many churches belonging to the Meitei Christians vandalized and burned down by the extremist Meitei groups during this conflict is the result of it, which ultimately gives us the corroboration that religion is the major element in those attacks. There is no question to it, whether accepted or not.

Coming to 3rd May 2023 and since, in most cases, whenever and wherever the Kukis were attacked, the

attackers (the Meiteis) made sure that the church or synagogue or churches in these villages were also burnt down to ashes with their houses and other buildings. This is a fact. That is why, it is acceptable to the Kukis that this conflict is ethnic but at the same time, concomitantly not acceptable for them to dismiss or de-emphasize the role of religion. They are right in every sense because more than 360 churches and synagogues have been looted, vandalized, and burnt down by the Meiteis.

On 3rd May 2023, that evening itself, the Kuki Baptist Convention (India) Centre Church New Lambulane, believed to be the largest church in Imphal, became the first victim amongst all the churches in the Imphal valley. The church was vandalized by the miscreants who threw stones and sticks, throwing fire to the building which fortunately didn't get burned due to certain reasons. It is said that the Church Pastor and his family, and the Church caretaker's family were inside the church campus during all those scary times. Later, all the church properties, which included the sound system that was bought only a few months back and believed to be one of the best church sound systems all over India, was seen looted and stolen by people belonging to the Meiteis including the women folk. Added to

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that, the Meitei indigenous flag known as the “Salai-Taret” was shamelessly installed on top of the church. *(Source: WhatsApp/Facebook)*

On 13th June 2023, the Meitei attackers after burning down a few Kuki villages in the Khamenlok area took rest inside the Aigejang Church. This group of people, thinking that they had driven away all the Kukis from their villages were all in joyous moods. Therefore, they started drinking and celebrating that they had taken the villages of the Kukis in that area. They were drunk and feasting inside the Aigejang Church. Some of their chants and victorious slogans were also heard by the Kukis who were some kilometers away from the village through the walkie-talkie sets they were using. Their celebration was short-lived when the Kuki volunteers stormed and charged them when the party spirit was on a high note. The same Church building was bulldozed and demolished using an excavator on 27th January 2024. *(Source: The Wire/Youtube)*

In a Facebook video post shared by a Meitei Facebook user Romio Khaba-Nganba (formerly Romio Chongtham Khaba-Nganba) in January 2024, 8 months since the start of the conflict, the Meitei attackers are seen mockingly mimicking the Christian holy matrimonial ceremony inside the Govajang Church in the Khamenlok area. In the video posted, one man blasphemously acted as the minister of the ceremony taking vows from two other men while some of them watched on, thereby desecrating the place of worship also. It appeared that he later deleted the post, but the video went viral anyway. *(Source: Romio Khaba-Nganba/Facebook)*

On 8th February 2024, one X (formerly Twitter) user Chingsang\_Lakpa posted an edited and immoral photo with the caption, “Is mount Olive the place where this incident happened?” in which Jesus Christ is being raped by men (depicted to be of the Roman Soldiers) who crucified him at Golgotha. The photo was made to mock the Christians particularly the Kukis, who believed that Jesus died for the sins of the world and was resurrected. The odious photo went viral in many social media platforms. *(Source: Chingsang\_Lakpa/X)*

Similarly, around the same time as above, another X user Satyajit Loitongbam was seen spreading obscene photos – first, where Jesus is hung on the cross, naked, with all his anatomy shown with titles like, “Here is another pic of your Lord”, “You will die like this when we come”; second, where Jesus is standing naked with his backside shown beside a Cross with a heading, “Jesus Christ using KNO, KNA, ZRA, UKLF as proxy war militant”; third, where Jesus is holding a cigarette with a slogan, “Jesus Christ, watching some of the worst people on Earth claim to be his followers”. This man seems to be very happy in sharing all these photos everywhere. *(Source: Satyajit Loitongbam/X)*

It is shameful that these nefarious things are seen in public and even more disturbing to notice people sharing these items pillar to post with excitement and enthusiasm. And it is appalling that all these are done without any guilt and discomfort. At the same time, it is astounding that the law enforcement agencies are taking no action against them, blind-folding themselves to not see what’s transpiring around them.

The intention to tarnish ones’ religion is obnoxious and illogical for any right-thinking human being. The policies that some extremist or right-wing groups have, that operates within the states of India might have influenced and lured the minds of the people of the once peace-loving state of India. There is no excuse to stupidity. Every citizen must abide by the law and law must not be stopped from taking their own course. The religiously motivated attacks meted out to any religious group or groups are highly abominable and loathsome.

Regardless of which society we belong to – whether a Meitei, or a Kuki, or whoever it may be, we must accept that we have become a monster if we’re involved and vital in mugging and desecrating one’s faith. It is excruciating to see that numbers

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have stooped so low to the point of no return. It is woeful to see youngsters imprudently engaged in attacking one's religion like never before. Many have used their intellectual faculty and technical proficiency to scorn at someone's valued beliefs. If anyone committing such heinous crimes after retrospection and introspecting himself or herself has no conviction over all these wrongdoings, he or she has become a matured monster. In trying to defame and affront other's religion, we must never forget that we are disgracing ourselves and dishonoring the principles and ethics of our own religion.

Many of us have failed as human beings as we try so hard to belong to the core of our community by instigating hatred and animosity towards other communities. We must enlighten and put into a perspective that one doesn't have to detest other communities for the sake of affiliating to his or her community. It is never a wrong

thing to promote our cultures and traditions, and champion our faith and beliefs. Howbeit, we must validate that our actions and manners do not go against the general principles of humankind, and specifically in India, its Constitution.

Religion must be purely based on faith. When that happens, it is highly foreseeable that there will be no cases of sacrilege or blasphemy amongst the diverse populace. The unfortunate things that have unfolded and that are going to happen again are due to the fact that we are foolishly attached to our religion without the understanding of the dogmas of the religion that we follow.

(The writer can be reached at [gidosingsit@gmail.com](mailto:gidosingsit@gmail.com))



**THE  
CONFUSED  
POLL  
AGENDA**



# Mayhem in May

In the terror of the Third,  
They waged a war in her heart.  
May has blood on her hands,  
Kerosene and fire to burn my roots.  
She came for me but I didn't run,  
I've got a child and a land to defend.

In the heart of the unsafe city,  
I could not hide my tribal blood.  
My vulnerable body being hunted, by  
Thirsty mobs in black:  
They chased away my freedom,  
They burnt my home  
They bombed the House of God.  
I saw a father beaten to death,  
And a son who had to watch him die.  
I saw a daughter given away to men,  
By women her mother's age.  
I saw everything in May,  
She has blood on her hands.

You there, bearing black and weapons.  
I'd be ashamed to stoop this low:  
A machinery of the State,  
A mind without a light,  
A body without a heart,  
I dare you to write a poem  
With the blood of innocent women.

You there, defender of the Hills.  
Body and soul covered in Grace,  
Keep your humanity intact,  
And your bloodline of insane courage.  
He is still the Commander:  
The Lord of your ancestors.

The Hills too has a voice,  
I'm digging my roots everyday.  
May still has blood on her hands,  
May June give birth to a free state.

- Annie Beichong