



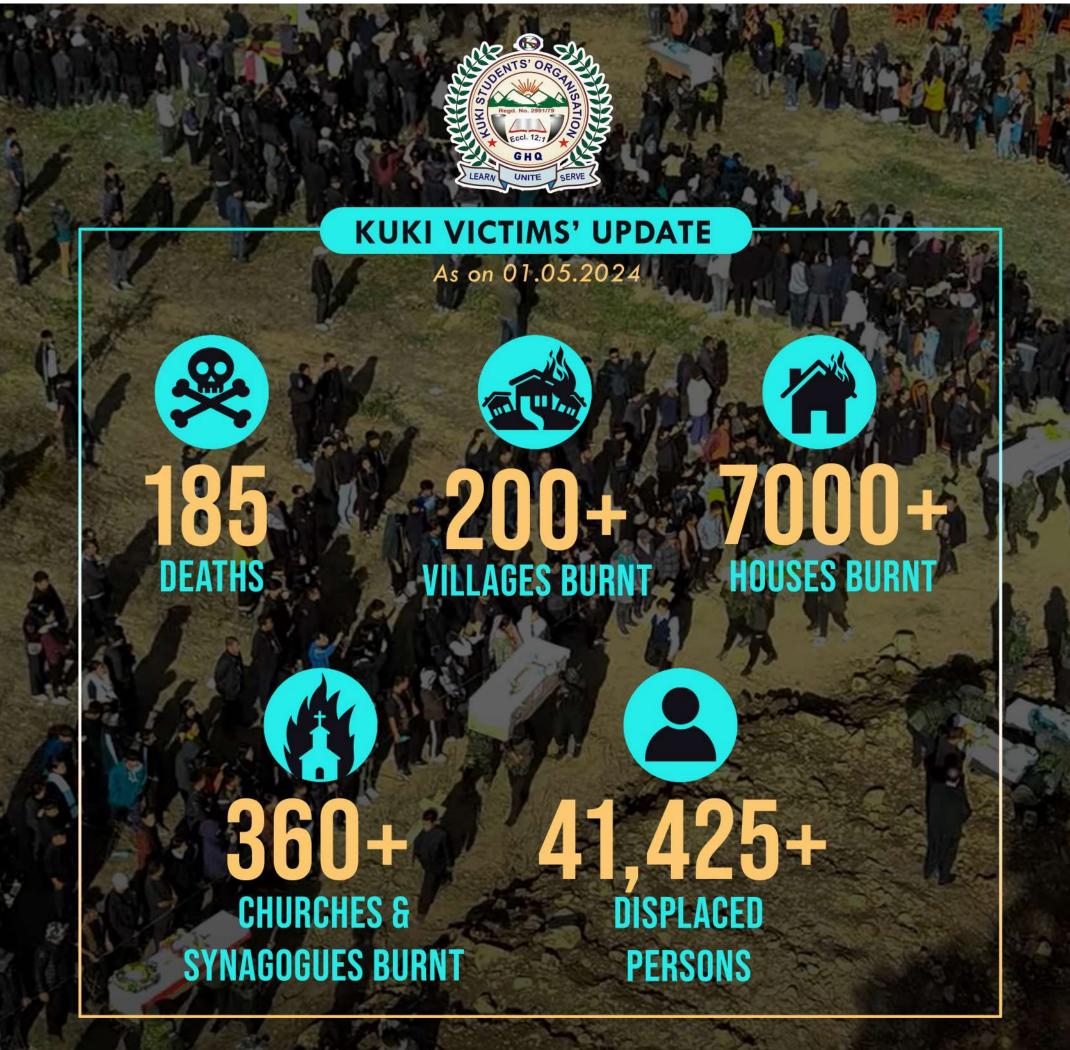
LALTHANSANG HRANGCHAL (47 YEARS)

F/O THANGKHONGAM MATE ADDRESS: GANGPIMUAL, LAMKA DATE OF DEATH: 4TH MAY, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: LAMKA

CAUSE OF DEATH: SHOT DEAD BY MEITEI MILITANTS





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.













COTU, TYA RENEW CALL FOR AFSPA IN MANIPUR VALLEY AS SECURITY FORCES' SAFETY DETERIORATES

The Committee on Tribal Unity, or the CoTU, Sadar Hills and the Thadou Youth Association, or the TYA, Sadar Hills Branch have voiced serious concerns over the safety of Central Security Forces in Manipur in the aftermath of the audacious abduction of a CRPF Jawan on the morning of May 8 along the National Highway 2 in broad daylight.

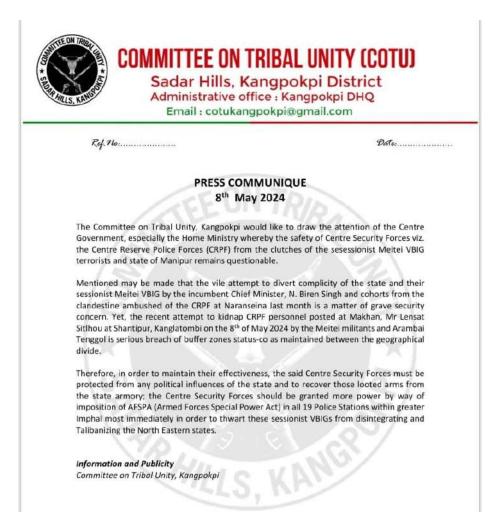
The Committee on Tribal Unity, Kangpokpi drew the attention of the Central Government, especially the Home Ministry, to the questionable safety of the Central Security Forces, particularly the Central Reserve Police Forces (CRPF), from the clutches of secessionist Valley-Based Insurgent Group, or the VBIG, in the state of Manipur.

The Committee underscored the gravity of the situation, condemning the incumbent Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh, and his allies for their reprehensible attempt to absolve the state and their secessionist VBIGs from culpability in the shocking ambush of CRPF forces at Naranseina last month. This brazen maneuver, they declared, is not only deeply concerning but also highlights severe lapses in security protocols, warranting immediate attention and action.

The Committee also asserted that the recent abduction of a CRPF personnel, Lensat Sitlhou, at Shantipur in the Nepali-dominated Kanglatongbi area on May 8 by Meitei militants and Arambai Tenggol, constitutes a serious violation of the status quo in buffer zones, as established along the geographical divide.

"Hence, to uphold their efficiency, the Central Security Forces must be shielded from any political interference by the state", CoTU stated.

While emphasizing the need to recover the looted arms from the state armory, CoTU stated that the Central Security Forces should be endowed with increased authority through the immediate imposition of the



Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) in all 19 Police Stations within greater Imphal, aiming to thwart the disintegration and Talibanization efforts of these secessionist VBIGs in the North Eastern states.

Similarly, the Thadou Youth Association, or the TYA has expressed grave concern regarding the safety of Central Forces amid the ongoing crisis in Manipur asserting that security personnel have been victimized through political manipulation.

Citing recent incidents, such as the attack on CRPF personnel allegedly by Meitei radicalist militants in Naranseina, Bishenpur on April 27, which resulted in casualties and injuries, the TYA highlighted the precarious situation faced by security personnel.

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It also stated that the distressing development on May 8, where a CRPF personnel was abducted in broad daylight at Shantipur, further underscore the risks faced by security forces while mentioning that the victim had reportedly been subjected to torture and sustained critical injuries, prompting urgent medical attention.

The TYA emphasized that such targeted attacks not only jeopardize the safety of security personnel but also undermine law and order, paving the way for separatist agendas.

"If the guardians of the masses, those men in uniform, are not secure, it becomes a distant hope for civilians to experience peace and harmony", stated TYA.

While vehemently condemning the prolonged ethnicbased political crisis in Manipur, the TYA expressed dismay over the lack of concrete action from the Central Government to address the escalating violence in the state. "The crisis in Manipur is viewed as one of the most severe globally and has garnered condemnation from numerous organizations. Yet, it remains unresolved and unaddressed, as there seems to be no guiding force to lead us out of this turmoil", it stated.

"With the crisis entering its second year without significant progress, concerns mount over the repercussions for civilian safety and the overall democratic fabric of the region", it further stated.

Calling on the Central Government to prioritize resolving the crisis, the TYA emphasized the urgent need for the government to implement all necessary measures to tackle the enduring division caused by ethnic-based political crises as such divisions are deemed unwarranted and inconsequential in a diverse nation like India.

TODAY IN HISTORY/EVENTS RECALLED: MAY 9, 2023

A RECAP OF THE HORRIFIC INCIDENTS ON MAY 9, 2023 AS A RESULT OF PRE-PLANNED STATE-SPONSORED ETHNIC CLEANSING POGROM AGAINST KUKI-ZO

A group of individuals from the Meitei community, armed with sophisticated weapons and disguised as Manipur Police personnel, approached Haolai Khopi. However, vigilant village volunteers recognized the ruse and responded by opening fire, preventing the unauthorized individuals from entering the village.

Another alarming situation unfolded when members of the Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun cadres, accompanied by Manipur Police commandos, launched

an attack on Dampi village in Lamka district around 10:00 PM. In a courageous act of self-defense, village volunteers retaliated, forcing the attackers to flee for their lives.

These incidents highlight the ongoing tensions and conflicts in Manipur, where communities are taking measures to protect themselves against potential threats, even from those impersonating law enforcement authorities



AMIT SHAH SAYS MANIPUR ETHNIC VIOLENCE 'NOT TERRORISM', STRESSES NEED TO 'BRIDGE' DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEITEI, KUKI

Union Home Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Amit Shah, in an interview, dismissed claims that the ethnic violence that broke out in Manipur between Kuki and Meitei communities in May 2023 was 'terrorism'.

Amit Shah also stressed that the government would need to resolve 'differences' between two communities through 'dialogue and empathy'.

"It will be our priority after elections that we hold discussions with both the sides and come up with an amicable solution. The situation in neighbouring Myanmar has added to our problem, but we have taken steps like fencing of the border and regulating the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the India-Myanmar border," Amit Shah said in the interview.

Manipur Chief Minister and BJP leader Biren Singh also claimed that the peaceful situation in Manipur had been disrupted by the 'infusion of people from the outside (Myanmar)' and hailed the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's decision to remove the FMR.

A year after clashes broke out between Kuki Zo and Meitei indigenous communities, Manipur continues to remain on edge with even a minor incident, such as sporadic clashes between volunteer groups, capable of tipping it over. Moreover, the security agencies are yet to recover all the firearms looted during the violence last year that left 200 dead and 60,000 people displaced.

The anger and tensions came to a boil on May 3, 2023, when a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status, which led to ethnic clashes between the Meitei and the Kuki communities.

The three main ethnic groups in the northeast state have historically clustered in different parts of the state's geography—the Meiteis in the valley, the Kukis



in the southern hills, and the Nagas in the northern hills. But there has never been an absolute, hostile segregation of the communities—until last May.

The Meiteis population is now concentrated in Imphal Valley, and the Kukis have shifted to the hills.

On the national political front, the Congress has charged the ruling BJP in Manipur and Prime Minister Narendra Modi with not doing enough for the strife-torn state. The Grand Old party also accused PM Modi of not visiting Manipur, while Rahul Gandhi began his Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra from Manipur ahead of the Lok Sabha elections 2024.

According to officials, more than 50,000 people live in camps following the unrest.

The Lok Sabha elections in Manipur were held on April 19 and April 26 for the constituencies of Inner Manipur and Outer Manipur.

Source: Live Mint







FLESH TRADE RAMPANT BETWEEN FEMALE DRUG ADDICTS AND MEITEI MINISTERS IN MANIPUR

An alleged flesh trade among drug users in Manipur has unfolded, implicating pimps and ministers.

This sex racket has came to light after Village Defense Volunteers rounded up some alleged drug addicts — boys and girls in Kadangband village in Imphal West district recently.

Talking to newsmen in Imphal on Thursday, Kh Indu Devi, the Advisor of the Nupi Samaj, one of the powerful women's organizations in the state disclosed that some drug addicts including girls having illicit activities were rounded up by the VDVs and handed over to the Nupi Samaj for proper treatment and rehabilitation.

In turn, the Nupi Samaj has handed over these addicts to the Meitei Leimarol Sinai Sang, an NGO to start a new lease on their lives for them, the Advisor said.

In response to a question posed by a newsman, Indu Devi said that these girls are drug addicts and it is due to their addiction that they are involved in such activities.

An alleged pimp who was handed over to the Nupi Samaj by the VDVs had also attended during the press



meet held at the Manipur Press Club, Imphal.

He also disclosed the involvement of influential individuals including ministers in this illicit activity. Devi further stated that as per disclosure from the addicted girls, a few Manipur ministers and MLAs are also involved in the sex racket.

Additionally, all the addicts were later handed over to their relatives for proper rehabilitation, Devi added.



Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed.

- Martin Luther King Jr.





CRIME SITUATION DETERIORATES IN IMPHAL VALLEY; RE-IMPOSITION OF AFSPA, NEED OF THE HOUR

Law and disorder deteriorate each passing day in and around the Meitei's valley of Kangleipak. Gun culture, bomb threats, rampant extortion and talibanization of the Meitei populace have become the new norm under the present regime led by the narcissistic Chief Minister N. Biren Singh.

On May 8, suspected Meitei militants had planted an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) at the residence of Sapam Romi in Singjamei Mayengbam Leikai in Imphal West. As per sources, the bomb was discovered by family members around midnight yesterday, prompting swift action from the concerned local authorities. It was safely disposed off at approximately 4 AM today.

Condemning the bomb attack at the residential area, a sit-in protest was staged by the womenfolk of Singjamei Mayengbam Leikai. It was organised under the aegis of Singjamei Mayengbam Leikai Apunba Lup, who demanded justice and security in the community area.

Expressing strong condemnation, the wife of Sapam Romi stated that her family has a simple with limited income as her husband is an autorickshaw driver. She questioned the rationale behind such attack.

Sapam Diparan, Secretary of the Singjamei Mayengbam Leikai Apunba Lup, demanded a thorough investigation and swift apprehension of the culprits.

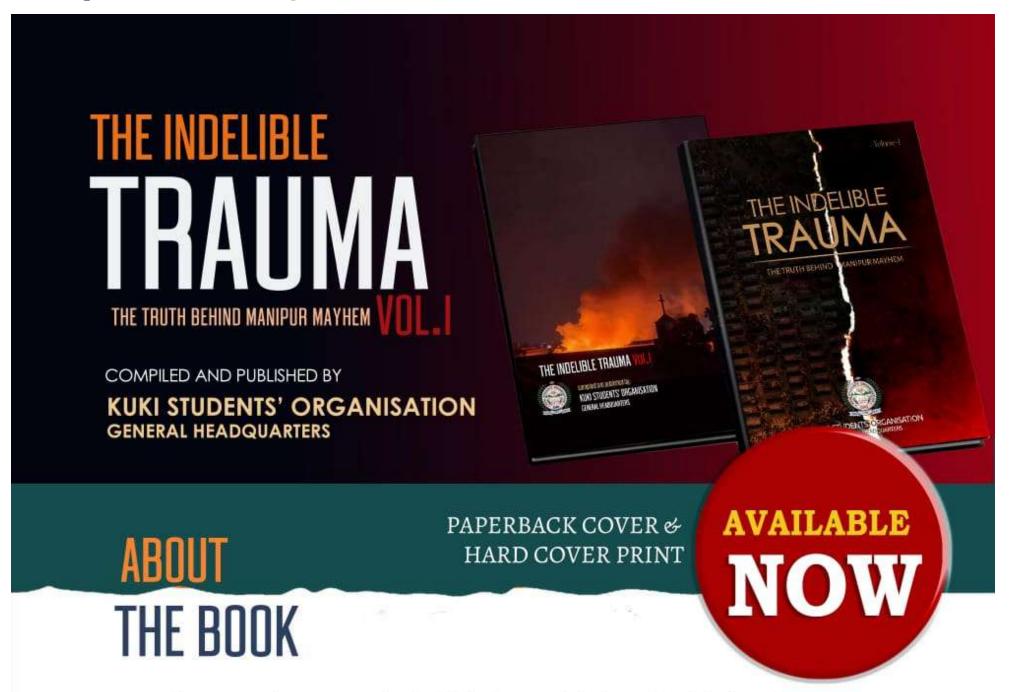
The incident, once again, proved that there has been a complete breakdown of law and order in the valley, particularly the areas under the jurisdiction of 19 Meitei police stations. The State government had lifted the imposition of AFSPA despite the abundant presence of



all Meitei secessionist groups. The Meitei valley has become the central hub for the proscribed outfits with unlawful association of private militia groups. They looted weapons from police armouries and roam freely in and around high security zones becoming the de-facto enforcement agency and displacing the legitimate government law enforcement agencies.

Not only the minority Kuki community in fringe areas, the existence of national security has became a matter of great concern under the incompetent dispensation. In such circumstances, the Government of India must ensure the safety of the common people by enforcing law and order in the valley of Imphal and re-impose the AFSPA in all 19 police jurisdictions.





This treatise is being prepared and published to unravel the lies and perfidy of our adversaries and put in perspective the authentic truth so that it stands as a testimony of the genocide that is being perpetrated on us and our people

With the hope and expectation that the perpetrators of these reprehensible crimes are brought to justice; and ignite a glimmer of solace and consolation to our indignant souls The treatise also seeks to debunk the patently false canards, innuendoes and narratives that are being peddled as the gospel truth, and the aspersions that are being casted without any substance And to put in perspective the historical misdeeds meted out to the tribal society by the extremely self-centered Meitei society with the clarion call to stand united and the urgent need for the convergence of our political position so as to collectively extricate ourselves from this oppressive dispensation If we are to march forward like our tribal counterparts of Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh-SEPARATION IS THE ONLY SOLUTION.

Issued and published by

Kuki Students' Organization-General Headquarters















Even after one year of the state-sponsored ethnic without the complicity or incompetence or both cleansing and genocide pogrom against the Kukis, of the state machinery. the fascist regime under communal chief minister N. Biren Singh still resort to spreading false and unfounded allegations against a particular community, dehumanising the minorities out of jealousy and hatred. in the state. In a post on the microblogging site

For the past 12 months, the Kuki and Meitei communities survival, mother nature will continue to thrive in India's northeastern state of Manipur have been locked in what is arguably the country's longest-running ethnic conflict of the 21st century under the watch of a federal government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

As per reports, the ethnic clash occurred as a result of N. Biren Singh's "political authoritarianism and ambition", and his wrong policies of deliberately targeting the Kuki community. The report also noted the "state forces' tacit support" of the clashes and the "dismemberment" carried out throughout the state, and it was never of law-and-order machinery".

Unable to escape from the state's genocidal pogrom It must be noted here that Biren's he ignited against the minority community, narcissistic concerns about poppy cultivation and its CM N. Biren Singh constantly change his narratives environmental impact are disingenuous and statements to justify himself over the blood on his and aimed solely at targeting the Kuki community. hands, but the truth prevails. The fact of the matter is Public data showed that while forest cover in the that no major ethnic/communal violence takes place hills remains consistent, it has nearly vanished in

The Meitei Chief Minister, N Biren Singh on May 4 raised concerns over the declining forest cover X, Singh said, "We rely on mother nature for our without us", sharing his purported mind boggling data of declining forest cover from 17,475 Sq. Km in 1987 to 16,598 Sq. Km in 2021.

He stated that 877 square kilometers of forest cover were destroyed, primarily for the cultivation of poppy, adding that eviction carried out since BJP Government came to power in Manipur stands at 291 encroachers. He also said that evictions from the Reserved Forest and Protected Forest were targeted towards any particular community.

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the valley areas dominated by Meiteis. If environmental conservation is truly his concern, efforts should begin in the valley. The accusation against the Kukis of degrading the environment through jhumming or poppy cultivation is baseless and an evident diversion from the real issues.

The fact is that there are no Reserved or Protected Forests within the ancestral land of the Kukis. If any such things exist, it would be treated as illegal or unconstitutional as such proclamation of Reserved or Protected Forests is done without the knowledge and consent of the ancestral land owner(s).

What the Manipur Government failed to acknowledge is that of the land ownership rights of the Kuki tribes. It is worthwhile to ask, 'Who owned the lands before Manipur was formed before India gained independence and before the British came?'.

Whose land is it anyway?

The Kukis have a clear history of them living freely in their ancestral lands. That they have fought the British in the Anglo- Kuki war 1917-1919 in defense of their ancestral land and freedom is well documented and acknowledged worldwide. Ironically, the state government had declared a restricted state holiday in acknowledgment of the centennial commemoration of the Anglo-Kuki war, also known as the Kuki Rising/Kuki Rebellion.

With regard to their ancestral land, there has been no formal agreement between the Kukis and the government after the British left India. It is however understandable that since the ancestral lands of the Kukis politically fall under India and Myanmar, they will be subjected to the laws of the respective countries. But to disregard their interests and proclaim their ancestral lands without any consideration and consultations whatsoever is highly authoritarian and does not augur well for a state government in a democratic country that should adopt a people-centric approach to governance.

The continued attempts to demarcate the land of indigenous tribes into reserved land/forest would only alienate the already deprived and marginalized tribes in the state.

The Meiteis must confine themselves to their traditional and historical territory of 700 sq miles. Let the hill people live and develop their land freely as they deem fit. They must maintain the traditional boundaries. There should be no encroachment.

Many Meiteis talk as if they own the whole of Manipur and treat the tribals as subjects or migrants or guests which is ludicrous and utterly wrong. They must remember that they have a clearly defined territory gifted by the Maharaja of Kangleipak (Manipur). The rest belong to hill tribes.

Geography has placed them as neighbors. They have a common destiny. They must remove all social and political irritants that spoil their relationships. They shouldn't covet each other's land. Live and let live.

It is essential to recognize the rights of the hill tribals to live separately, independently, and with dignity, free from any form of dominion or social discrimination. It is necessary to consider separation based on historical, geographical, ethnic, linguistic, and cultural differences without any social discrimination or pollution against one another. It is essential to promote social, political, and economic justice. Neglecting this issue for trivial matters is unacceptable. The hill tribes should be able to exercise their right to self-determination and autonomy within the constitution of India without any interference from other groups. The government of India should take proactive measures to promote peaceful coexistence among all ethnic groups in Manipur and ensure that their rights are protected and upheld.







On May 3 last year, violence erupted in Manipur. Manipur and regard the Kuki-Zos as interlopers. Churches and homes of the Kuki-Zo people in Imphal were targeted. In the weeks that followed, people had to flee, leaving behind cherished memories and losing a part of themselves — as well as papers that are proof of their identity. Neighbours and colleagues began to see each other as enemies. What had gone so wrong that people who had lived and worked together for years were now up in arms against each other?

As the Japanese novelist Shusaku Endo has written, "Atrocity doesn't just come out of evil. It emerges from self-interest, timidity and the desire for status". His novel, Silence, written during the period when Christians were persecuted in Japan is a heart-wrenching account of people deluding themselves into committing atrocities. Social factors strain relations between people. But Endo also tries to find elements of humanity in the perpetrators of violence. He seeks it in their confusion, self-justification and the willingness to lie to themselves.

The communities in Manipur — the Meiteis, Kuki-Zos and Nagas — are Tibeto-Burmans, believed to have migrated from the northwestern frontiers of China. They first settled in present-day Myanmar before migrating to what is today Manipur. This history is, however, crimes have been committed against women, contested — the Meiteis claim to be indigenous to

The Nagas of Manipur claim to be indigenous to the state's hill regions. Landholding patterns, much of which are a product of colonial rule, add to the state's complexity — the tribal communities are spread over the hill areas, while the Meteis are concentrated in Imphal Valley.

Political discourse in the state often skims the surface of deep faultlines. It takes the form of an "them versus us" binary with the Meiteis blaming the Kuki-Zos of being illegal migrants and poppy growers, responsible for the drug abuse amongst a large section of Manipur's youth. The hill tribes accuse successive state governments of forcing them to the margins of development. For instance, healthcare and education facilities are scarce in Kangpokpi, a hill district scarred by recurring violence in recent times. Churachandpur, with a 90 per cent tribal population, fares no better.

The scale of violence has come down in the past eight months. But regular incidents of brutality underline that much more needs to be done. More than 200 people have lost their lives, heinous

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more than 250 churches have been burnt and a large number of Kuki-Zo families are living in relief camps. Meiteis in the hill districts have also lost their homes and many people of the community are in refugee camps in Imphal. Rapprochement seems difficult because both parties feel wronged. The Meiteis feel they have a right to ST status. The Kuki-Zo feel that would reduce their employment opportunities. In February, a bench of the Manipur High Court modified its last year's instruction to the state government to consider the inclusion of Meiteis in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

The state's poor economic status adds to people's anxieties — after UP and Bihar, Manipur has the third lowest per capita income in the country. Urban poverty is the highest in the state. Economic anxieties often manifest in animosity between communities. A section of the Meiteis feel that the Biren Singh government must do more to prevent illegal migrants.

Manipur needs a calming hand. It needs a leadership that can bring Meiteis and the Kuki-Zos to the talking table. But a year has passed and there are no visible signs of peace-building. The warring communities have not met, even at common platforms outside Manipur. Even the best-known human rights activists from Imphal seem to have gone incommunicado. Chief Minister Biren Singh, a Meitei, has rarely given the assurance that he is above the state's identity politics. He has continued to stoke anxieties by playing up divisions in the state and referring to the drug problem as a creation of outsiders. In a post on the microblogging site X on April 29, he spoke of the "unnatural" growth of 996 villages due to illegal migration and described it as "a threat to indigenous people and national security". Are these figures backed by research?

Meanwhile, the Kuki-Zo people are confronted by serious existential questions: Is it safe for them to return to their workplaces in Imphal — Manipur University, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) and

other state government establishments? Can they use the Imphal airport to travel outside the state? It seems many have to take a circuitous route through Nagaland or Mizoram making the journey arduous and expensive.

The missing weapons, seized from armouries in the first weeks of the conflict, continue to be a problem. In February, the police recovered a huge cache of arms and explosives at two villages in Churachandpur district. On Tuesday, the army's attempt to take away arms and ammunition was thwarted by protestors in Bishnupur district. The resistance from people is a sign of the limitations of a top-down security-centred approach.

The Kuki-Zos have lived with the hope of a healing touch from the Centre. They have lived with the false hope that the BJP leadership will nudge Biren Singh to action. But they now seem to have resigned themselves to the fact that the Centre will not upset his applecart. Polls in several parts of the state have been marred by violence. Would the Centre have kept silent had an Opposition-ruled state seen so much turmoil?

There are even more important questions: Can the people of Manipur, especially the hill tribes, be left to fight their own battle? Will the young generations of Kuki Zos and Meiteis grow up embittered? Today, there's a mix of shock, pain, anger and fear. Above all, there is the reality of being abandoned.

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The writer is editor, Shillong Times









"Kangla was orchestrated to show the centre that he [N Biren Singh] can't be rendered inconsequential," the officer told @jeegujja. "And, if it were to come to that, he can run his own parallel government in Manipur."

caravanmagazine.in/conflict/biren...



7:00 pm · 09 May 24 · **2,796** Views





The same CM who is known for making racist remarks, labelling the people of #Kuki Zo as monkeys, illegal immigrants, is getting immensely hostile & defensive towards someone who speaks on a same note. So in short, not everyone who is racist realises that they're racist. They go on to believe that they're the real victims. Hypocrisy at its finest!!

#Manipur #MeiteiPropagandist



Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India and 5 others

11:25 am · 09 May 24 · 1,911 Views



THE **RELIEF PACKAGE GIMMICK**















ASCENSION OF THE KUKI-ZO MARTYRS

In the hearts of those who mourn,
Memories of you will forever adorn.
May your journey be serene and bright,
As you ascend beyond the night.

In KuKi-Zo's hallowed ground,
Your courage and spirit resound.
Rest now, dear ones, in eternal grace,
In a peaceful, celestial embrace.

Though tears may fall and hearts may ache, Your legacy will never forsake. Fly high with the angels, free and light, Guiding us through the darkest night.

In memory of the departed, we pray,
For comfort to come their loved ones' way.
Rest peacefully, KuKi-Zo martyrs, in endless love,
As you watch over us from realms above.

- Ch. Roberth Mate

