



K. Salbung RELIEF CENTRE

K. Salbung ECA Church Sunday School Hall, Lamka

Managed by
Kuki Khanglai Lawmpi
General Headquarters (KKL GHQ)

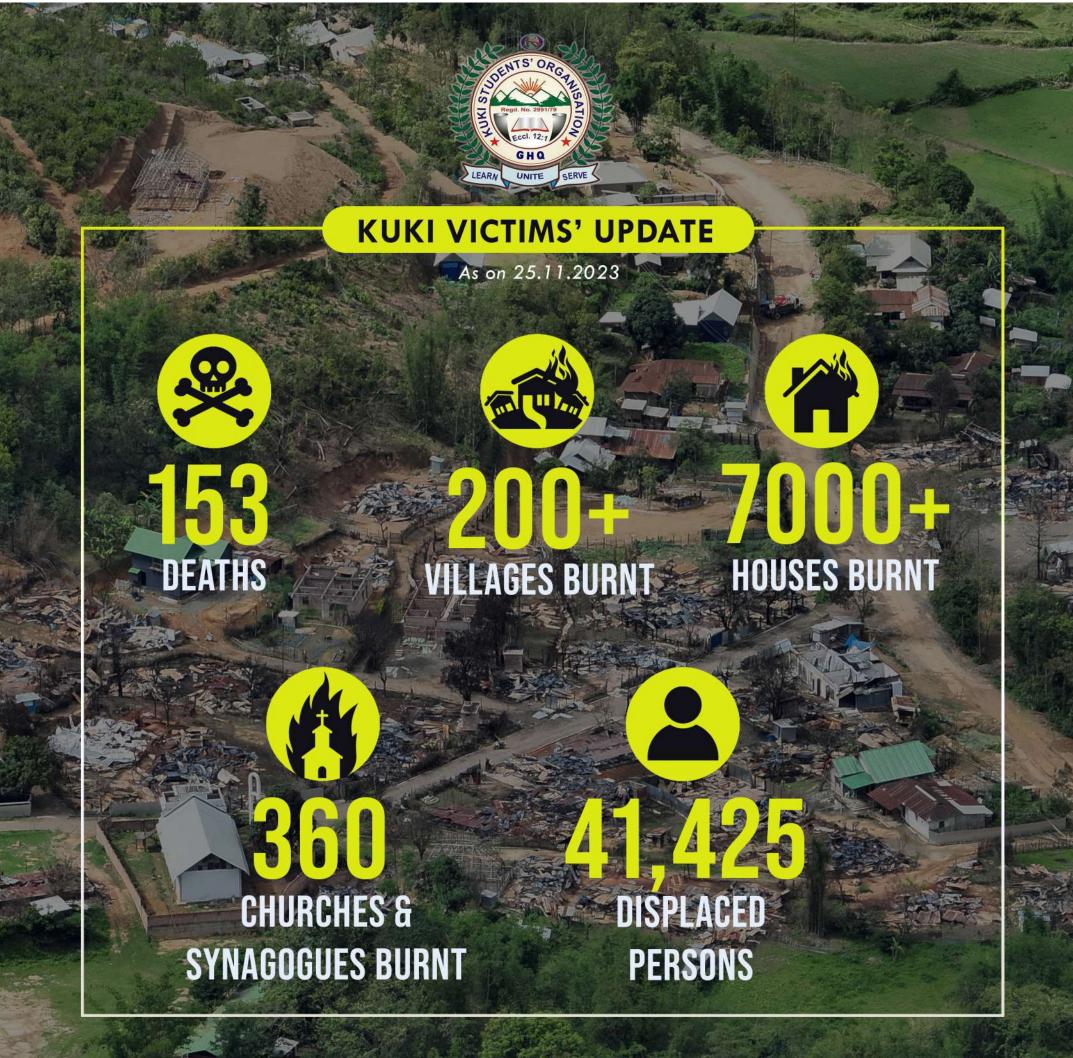
Total Inmates Registered: 95*

Male: 51

Female: 44

*As on 7th August, 2023





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.



BJP MANIPUR MINORITY MORCHA PRESIDENT FILES FIR AGAINST KUKI BODY FOR RAISING EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

The Bharatiya Janata Party Morcha President, Asker Ali Mkm, has filed a First Information Report (FIR) against various Kuki Civil Bodies for raising emergency and relief funds for the ethnic violence victims belonging to the Kuki community.

The complaint was lodged against Kuki Welfare Association, Guwahati; Kuki Inpi Finance Department and the Kuki Inpi Karnataka.

The complainant accused the three civil bodies of raising emergency and relief funds for waging war against the government of Manipur, demanding that the same needed to be dealt with seriously.

The complainant further alleged that the raising of emergency funds for waging war against the state government was illegal and accused the three organizations of having nexus with the narco-terrorists or drugs mafia operating in the state of Manipur.

However, the fact of the matter is that, Kukis, since the outbreak of the violence, have more than 41,425 displaced persons owing to the war. These people are housed in various Relief Camps spread across the Kuki dominated districts. Various Philanthropic organizations are manning the Relief Centres without any aid from the responsible authorities, be it the state or Centre government. The Philanthropic organizations, with the assistance and donations from various Kuki civil NGOs are running the Relief Centres, providing food and other necessities smoothly till today. The complainant, without having an iota of knowledge about the hardships faced by the displaced Kuki community, accused the Kuki civil bodies of raising funds for waging war against the state government, while the truth is that the raised funds are used for maintenance of displaced persons in Relief Camps. This only exposes his shallow knowledge about the present crisis.



Who is Mk Asker Ali, the complainant?

One might be very aware of who this BJP Minority Morcha President Asker Ali is. He is someone infamous with all notorious activities, including threatening his own party MLA. He speaks and acts just to please his political masters, without any essence of reason.

Uripok BJP MLA Khwairakpam Raghumani had once filed a complaint with the Manipur police against him for "threatening" him through a Facebook post, on April, 20, 2023. Raghumani said he interpreted a comment made by the Minority Morcha chief Asker Ali Mkm to be "a threat" to his life and urged "for action under cybercrime law and IPC section 506."

Asker Ali, who is known to have committed all sorts of crime in order to achieve higher political rankings, is just filing a complaint against the three Kuki Civil Bodies with zero knowledge about why emergency funds are being raised within the Kuki society.



DEMOCRATIC FORCES OVERRUN & CAPTURE JUNTA CAMP IN AUNG ZEYA, TAMU

Democratic forces have overrun and captured a Junta force camp in Aungzeya in Tamu township in Sagaing division near the Indian border.

It is said that soldiers of the Myanmar Army along with Manipur valley-based Meitei militant group UNLF (United National Liberation Front) and SNA (Shanni Nationalities Army) were staying at the said camp.

According to a post uploaded in PDF on their social media page, a combined team of pro-democratic forces - the KNA(B) and PDF battalion 1, 2 and Regional Office PDF Special Operation Battalion 2 (SR 2) had been attacking the said camp since December 7. The junta govt used fighter jets and helicopter gunships to thwart the advancing democratic forces. However it failed to deter the pro-democracy forces who managed to overrun the camp at around 8:30 a.m. of December 10.

During the 3-day gun battle, several junta forces were killed and others fled the camp for their safety. One freedom fighter from KNA-B and another from the PDF were also killed in the gunfight and 10 members of the Democratic Forces sustained injuries.



Relief Camp at Phaikoh Village in Kamjong

Aungzeya is located in upper Tamu township and under Myo Thit sub-township. It is located close to the India - Myanmar border between Border Post 92 to 104. Aungzeya in Myanmar is situated opposite Phaikoh and Skipe village in Manipur's Kamjong district.

According to our sources, over 1400 persons are seeking shelter at border villages which are being looked after by the district administration of Kamjong and several civil society organisations as well as NGOs.

The displaced persons are said to be from Mongjang, Aungzeya, Zedi, Mantou, Phailen, Tha-nan, Myothit and neighboring villages.

MEITEIS ATTACK KUKI VILLAGES OF ISLAND BLOCK IN KPI DIST; NO CASUALTIES REPORTED

In another fresh violent attack on the Kukis, the Meiteis, led by their armed, radicalized groups attacked the Kuki villages of Island Block in Kangpokpi district this morning at around 7:00 am. However, no casualties have been reported so far.

The armed, radicalized groups launched an attack at Maphou Kuki village, situated along the banks of Maphou Dam. The advancing armed groups were met with stiff resistance from the Kuki village volunteers.

On hearing the reported firing incident, the Gorkha Regiment posted nearby rushed to the site to douse the



gunfight between the two warring communities. Thereafter, the gunfight subsided and the armed radicals headed back to the Imphal valley.





KIDNAPPING CASE IN IMPHAL VALLEY: A RESULT OF IMMORAL ACTIVITY

Proscribed Kangleipak Communist Party, People's War Group (PWG) has clarified about the kidnapping case of a student from DM College of Science, New Boys' Hostel in Imphal on December 8 afternoon.

A press release from Lamyanba Khuman of the outfit on Sunday said, Laishram Chinglen Singh (22), son of L. Shyamchand Singh (44) of Ngaikhong Siphai, Bishnupur District was nabbed by them for blackmailing his girlfriend with obscene photos of her.

The outfit claimed that Chinglen also shared the photos on telegram group and other social media platforms and acting on a complaint from the girlfriend, the outfit took him into custody for interrogation during which he confessed the same.

However, Chinglen's family approached state forces citing that he was kidnapped for a ransom maligning the outfit's image. No wrong doers will be spared



and those concerned should clarify for spreading false accusations," KCP (PWG) added. The outfit also released a video showing a blindfolded man (supposedly the student) accepting his guilt and apologizing for his act.

13 KILLED IN MANIPUR WERE NEW RECRUITS: MEITEI MILITANT GROUP

The Revolutionary People's Front – the political wing of proscribed Meitei insurgent group People's Liberation Army (PLA) – has claimed that the 13 men, who were found dead after a gunfight in Tengnoupal district earlier this week, were new recruits of the PLA who joined it after the outbreak of the conflict, "discontented" with a "communal policy" towards the conflict.

Security forces had found the bullet-riddled bodies of 13 men in Leithu of Tengnoupal district – a forested area not far from the Myanmar border – on December 4 after receiving inputs of a gunfight in the area around 10.30 am. The area in which the bodies were found is one in which Kuki-Zomi people are in majority but all deceased were from the Meitei community, aged between 17 and 47 years.

that they had joined the organisation after the outbreak of the conflict.

"The Revolutionary People's Front (RPF), the political wing of PLA, extends its revolutionary salute to the brave souls who laid down their lives for their motherland. The 13 brave souls initially were village volunteers defending their homes after the communal violence, manufactured by the Government of India, erupted. However, the comrades chose to join the PLA discontented by the communal policy and realising that there could not be peace unless Manipur's lost sovereignty is regained. The 13 unarmed comrades were killed mercilessly by a team of Indian security forces and Kuki mercenaries after being tortured," it stated.

A statement on the PLA's official website claims







THE CRY FOR JUSTICE: UNVEILING THE HORRORS OF THE KUKI-MEITEI CONFLICT ON HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948. This landmark document was a response to the horrors of the Second World War and aimed at establishing a common standard of human rights for all people and nations. The day was officially proclaimed as Human Rights Day by the United Nations in 1950. It serves as an annual occasion to reaffirm the commitment to the principles outlined in the declaration and to raise awareness about human rights issues globally.

Human rights refer to the fundamental rights and freedoms that every individual is inherently entitled to. They are inalienable, and indivisible, forming the foundation for human dignity, equality, and justice.

Since the start of the conflict and even before, we the Kukis have had our dignity stolen when Kuki women were paraded naked, raped, molested and abused. We the Kukis were treated like prey and hunted down like wild animals: some butchered; some burnt; some beaten to a point where you cannot even recognise their body; some dragged on the road, spat on, trampled on and paraded like wild animals before turning into a sacrificial lamb to quench the thirst for Kuki blood by Meiteis. Even children were not spared. An ambulance carrying an injured child torched just because his father happens to be a Kuki, innocent daily wage Kuki labourers dragged and killed, three innocent boys working at a gas station tortured and killed just because he and his friends were Kuki. By the grace of God, one among them survived and lived to tell the tale of horror. Haokip Veng turned to ashes, Khongsai Veng in rubble, Cannan veng deserted, Langgol area forcefully reclaimed by the Meiteis. What did the Kukis ever do to deserve such inhumane treatment? More than 150 Kuki victims await justice. And what did the National Human Rights



Commission do to mitigate this? Not enough! More than 7 months have gone. The dead still await justice.

On this auspicious day, the Meitei Terrorist group CORCOM blatantly blamed the ongoing Kuki-Meitei conflict on the Indian state. Their argument here is that India is waging a proxy war against the Meiteis in Kangleipak with the help of the Kukis. If that's the case, then Meiteis are not Indians and 700 sq.mile Manipur is not part of India. Nothing can be further from the truth. 700 sq.mile Manipur is part of India and the surrounding hills, the Kuki ancestral lands, also belong to India. CorCom seems to be under the impression that the ethnic cleansing is done by the Kukis towards the Meiteis. This is a prime illustration of ideocracy and dillusional narrative creation. Meitei Terrorist Group CORCOM must come to its senses. The truth is that this conflict is state-sponsored with Biren Singh as the Chief Agent of Violence.

On this Human Rights day, we use this day as a clarion call to all tribals and humans of the world especially to the Zo kindred Kuki ethnic tribes that 'The death cannot cry out for justice, it is us the living who have to fight on their behalf'.







On the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights #HumanRights75, we call on @UNHumanRights to investigate the #MeiteiViolatesHumanRights against #KukiZo in Manipur, demanding justice.

They've set ablaze #KukiZo homes and churches, Meitei tortured us, murd£r and b€headings, driving us from our villages into the forest. If this doesn't qualify as a human rights violation, what does? @UN_HRC @India_NHRC

#KukiZoLivesMatter #MeiteiWarCrimes







To learn who rules over you, simply find out who you are not allowed to criticize.

- Voltaire





Dr. RK Nimai, IAS (Retd) has written an interesting piece on the theme of "Manipur Crisis: Why the ST status is the way forward for the Meiteis". It was published by Zeenews.india.com on 5th December 2023 and pinned by STDCM on X, on 6th December 2023. He has mentioned problems faced mainly by the Meitei community and that they perceive they possess all the criteria laid down by the Lokur Committee. Besides this he has stated some historical/mythical facts that the present "Manipur" is not the land mentioned in the Mahabharata as it is not situated by the sea shore and that the name "Manipur" was acquired only in the 17th century. He has stated that the Meiteis feel boxed in the tiny valley from all sides as they cannot possess lands in the hill areas. He also stated that the fear of the present ST of being crowded out by Meitei in reservation for posts/seats if they become ST can be protected by adopting a sub-quota formula. He further stated that the Meiteis are largely valley dwelling people and will only occupy small plots of hill land and that the Valley Forest Reserved, declared by the State Darbar in 1932 should be freely allowed to be used by the Meitei community. He concluded by stating that Meitei ST demand movement is non-violent now but fear that it could turn violent if the state government does not examine their demand and recommend the same to the government of India.

I have written extensively on this matter covering all

aspects mainly to educate readers and I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate them for the benefit of interested persons/groups as under:-

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India wrote a letter dated 29.5.2013 to the Government of Manipur responding to a representation of Meitei community for inclusion in the list of ST wherein it requested for specific recommendation along with the latest socio-economic survey and ethnographic report. The Government of Manipur failed to carry out the new survey and study and submit specific recommendation on the lines as advised by Government of India to date. The letter dated 29.5.2013 is the most important document as it stated clearly to send specific recommendation along with the latest socio-economic survey and ethnographic report. These two ground works have to be carried out by the state government. The former will show if the Meiteis are backward and the latter will show if the Meiteis were a tribe once and are still a tribe today at present time and analysing both together will provide justification if the Meitei community of today can indeed be classified as ST under the Constitution. The Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur must pressurise the government to carry out transparent and credible socioeconomic survey and ethnographic study. The sooner the socio-economic survey and the ethnographic study are carried out, the uncertainty prevailing in the state about its future will be answered. These two initiatives

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will provide data and information to answer relevant questions to address the ST demand through a scientific approach.

The Lokur Committee criteria includes – indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large, and backwardness. A cursory glance at the criteria will show that, except for one criterion of a distinctive culture, the Meitei community may not fulfil the other four criteria. The Meiteis may have been a tribe at one point in time (to be established by a recent ethnographic study) but a cursory look at the progress in education and other fields made by the Meitei community to date, it would appear that they are an advanced and progressive community now.

The educational attainments and achievements of the Meitei community is there for all to see. They are now able to secure jobs through competitive examinations in the IAS, IPS and other all India services under the general category and OBC quota. While the STs of Manipur have failed to secure the coveted posts in past recent years. The Meiteis have a large number of professionals like super specialists doctors, general doctors, engineers, academicians, lawyers, MNC managers, military officers etc. exceeding all other communities put together in Manipur. They are prosperous and wealthy and wield political and administrative power. Their population constitute more than 50% of the state's total population and they are present in all organs of the government, and the government is under their control. They definitely do not need ST reservation for government jobs, including all India jobs, and seats in educational institutes as they seem to be doing quite well under the SC and OBC reservation quotas. It should not be forgotten that some Meiteis are SC and a huge majority of Meiteis fall under the OBC category. This raises the question why they want to be ST also, but this is a different debate not to be discussed now. As indicated by many Meitei writers and elected representative leaders, the primary motive is to acquire the lands in the "hill areas" which they covet.

While the Meitei community may have their dream

and aim to be ST, the tribals of Manipur too have stories to share of their pain, deprivation and betrayal of being treated as second class citizens since independence, besides sense of frustrations and neglect, and some of them are stated below:-

Article 371-C provides for a "Special provision with respect to the State of Manipur" under which a Hill Areas Committee (HAC) was constituted (to be read with Presidential Order dated 20th June 1972) for the tribals living in the "hill areas" of Manipur. This committee comprising of elected representatives from the "hill areas" to the state Assembly has not been allowed to function to its full potential. The Speaker of Assembly, Chief Minister and Governor have different roles to play and to facilitate its proper and smooth functioning, but it has not happened so far. Instead, obstructions and hurdles are created frustrating the efforts thereby conveying a message to the hill people that they are under the mercy of the State government controlled by the Meitei community.

While the Panchayati Raj system of local self government prevailing in valley enjoys extensive empowerment devolved from the constitutional provisions (Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act was passed in 1992), its counterpart in the "hill areas" called the Autonomous District Councils (ADC) have limited powers and function given under the Manipur (Hill Areas) District Councils Act, 1971 whose powers and functions haven't been enhanced or improved upon and are faced with difficulties and problems with an uncooperative state government. The ADCs have no constitutional protection and guarantees and the Act is basically a state legislation totally under the whim and fancy of the state government. The demand of the tribals for inclusion of the "hill areas" in the Sixth Schedule under Article 244 has been dealt by the Manipur government with deceit and contempt making the tribals to realise that they may not get anything under a government dominated by the Meiteis.

While the Panchayati Raj gram sabha functionaries in the valley are paid for performing their duties, their counterpart in the "hill areas" being the village

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authority functionaries under the Manipur (Village Authorities in Hill Areas) Act, 1956 do not receive any remuneration from the state government inspite of a favourable order obtained from the Manipur High Court to pay them salary. This is perceived as an injustice meted out to the tribals.

Concentration of all state level and central government institutes and institutions besides major infrastructure assets, like stadiums etc. in the Imphal valley, has created additional pressure on land in the valley. All assets and major infrastructure cannot be concentrated in the valley. The government has to commit firmly to decentralisation to locate new assets in the district headquarters in the "hill areas" as one of the actions for "way forward" in respect to resolving the crisis in Manipur state.

- 1. Address the issue of giving Article 244-A to the "Hill Areas" of Manipur (Bodoland type of territorial council) by supporting and recommending for including "hill areas of Manipur" under the Sixth Schedule.
- 2. Facilitate the proper functioning of the Hill Areas Committee (HAC) in the State Assembly and government under the provisions of Article 371-C and Presidential Order dated 20th June, 1972.
- 3. Address the issue for decentralisation and location of central and state Government institutes and institutions besides major infrastructures at the district headquarters in hill areas.
- 4. Fill up all reserved posts including vacancies to the ST posts properly and allow and aid the HAC to oversee and monitor its implementation through its secretariat in the department of Tribal Affairs & Hills (D/o TA&H).
- 5. Allow absolute transparency in the allocation of budget and development planning of finance department and planning department respectively by the HAC through its secretariat in the D/o TA&H.
- 6. Allow the formulation of a separate land law and rules for the hill areas of Manipur. This can be drafted

by the HAC and the laws implemented by the D/o TA&H. This may be the area where the issue of possession of land in the "hill areas" for the Meiteis may come into consideration for discussion.

- 7. Allow the tribal people to pursue and fully develop their vernacular languages/dialects with adequate financial support from the state government and not to impose Manipuri or Meitei mayek script on tribal people.
- 8. Facilitate payment of remuneration to the village authority functionaries in the hill areas like its counterpart in the gram sabha in the valley.
- 9. Allocate ministerial posts in the state cabinet in an equitable manner between the valley and "hill areas" in the ratio of 60:40 proportionate to the population of each group which is roughly 59:41 between Meitei community plus and tribals. This should work out to 7:5 for valley and hills.
- 10. Initiate a dialogue with the tribal leaders to enable sharing the problems and challenges faced by both groups so that the issues being prioritised by different groups in the current "Manipur Crisis" could be expressed fully, discussed and understood in its proper perspective to find a middle ground for amicable resolution of the issues.

There are no two approaches to the ST status demand by the Meitei community, but to deal with it in a scientific manner. It cannot be carried out by brute force (violence/threats), majoritarian (missed calls/dharnas/road blocks), by "hook or by crook" (subterfuge, deceit and manipulation) etc as such tactics is likely to push the people from the "hill areas" to demand for a separate State or UT since this option may be perceived by them as the "only way forward" to insulate themselves (tribals" and "hill areas") from Meitei hegemonic tendencies as long as they remain part of Manipur state.

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On Dec. 10, 1948, the world brought into existence the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which established the modern system of human and civil rights as we know it today. It is because of the UDHR that no one, according to international law, can be killed by a state on a whim nor put behind bars because a government official feels like it.

But as the UDHR turns 75, it is gravely concerning that states which played an integral part in shaping this foundational text have a poor human rights record today. One such state is India, which played a key role in enshrining an expansive rights framework in the UDHR that applied to all people, everywhere, unconditionally.

During the framing of the UDHR in the wake of the Second World War, Hansa Mehta, the leading Indian diplomat, was the reason why the UDHR affirms the rights of all "human beings" rather than all "men." This perspective was core to India's position at the time: During the U.N.'s first ever General Assembly, Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, another female diplomat leading the Indian delegation, advanced the view that "a life free from all forms of discrimination was a prerequisite to a life to be lived with dignity." India also fought for an "indivisibility" perspective on human rights where economic, social, and cultural rights would be treated with the same level of importance as civil and political rights.

The current Indian government under the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party is a world apart. India today ranks 127 out of 146 in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap report; it is among the states with the highest number of attacks against human rights defenders; and it is ranked 161 of 180 on the Press Freedom Index, with blanket internet shutdowns, crackdowns on journalists, and censorship of the press commonplace. The U.N. has repeatedly expressed alarm that the Indian government's actions restrict human rights and freedoms, calling it to uphold not just the international commitments of the UDHR but also its own Constitutional law, which embeds universal rights. The U.N. Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, Fernand de Varennes, has noted a "steady" and "alarming" erosion of human rights, particularly of religious and other minorities, in India.

When asked in 2019 of the government's obligation to protect human rights, India's Home Minister Amit Shah said that while "the protection and promotion of human rights have always been an indelible part of our culture," Western standards of human rights could not be blindly applied to India. The argument that human rights are a "Western concept" runs counter to the role of Indian diplomats like Mehta and Pandit and the non-discrimination that India had strongly

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advocated for on the international stage for decades. Unfortunately, such talk is becoming all too common in India and has subverted the understanding of human rights as universal guarantees.

Shah's position is hardly unique among senior Indian government officials, who now place an emphasis on "duties." That includes Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who in 2020 proclaimed that duties form the basis of rights, and in 2021 noted that "while the world is focusing on human rights, keeping our Indian traditions in mind, we must emphasize on duties as well." This approach degrades human rights by tying it to a certain obligation—toward a country, society, religion, government, or another human being. This forced marriage of human rights to duties puts at risk not just the idea of human dignity and respect for a person's humanity, but could create a scenario where a subjective measure of "duty" may determine the worth of a human being—rather than a universal understanding.

As the UDHR turns 75 on Sunday, the international community must stand strong and demand that India, like all nations, should respect its international human rights obligations and the values of the UDHR. It must do so even when the Indian government does not receive such comments with open arms. Following a recent European Parliament resolution on human rights violations in Manipur state, India's Ministry of External Affairs condemned the resolution as "interference" in India's domestic affairs. This not only neglects India's rich human rights history, but also disregards the shared agreement that places respect for human rights as the basis of the E.U.-India relationship.

To live in a world where governments shy away from these conversations is to endanger the values of human dignity—a vision many peoples, including Indians, imagined in 1948 as they dreamt of a new order as centuries of imperialism and colonialism were unraveling. (Source: TIME)













ME IN BUNKER

For weeks I have had blistering heat And humid weather seemed a treat The mosquitoes fed with their kisses So loud and noisy the enemies' hisses.

Different today as the winter comes Cold nights and dawns it welcomes Down it descends the rain at times The freezing winds visit oftentimes.

Have had numerous sleepless nights Nonetheless always wary the eyesights I stand still with my firearms valiantly Unafraid of the gunshots coming daily.

Taking eats and drinks freezing and mild Missing mom's cooked meal like a child That I may not be able to ingest it again For any time I could be heaven's gain.

I do long for my home like everybody But I stand here for no future tragedy Was disgraced by all as the unlawful Now maybe deemed fine and useful

In the interval between death and life I am strong even before the foes' knife Sacrificing my today for our tomorrow The Tomorrow where there's no sorrow.

- Letginmang Singsit