

Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



AWAITING JUSTICE



PAOHAO KHONGSAI (43 YEARS)

S/O LUNKHOTHANG KHONGSAI

ADDRESS: SAICHANG SADAR HILLS

DATE OF DEATH: 29TH MAY, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: THOUBAL AREA

CAUSE OF DEATH: SHOT DEAD BY MEITEI MILITANTS



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 22.07.2024



191
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.

HMAR APEX BODY REFUTES MANIPUR CM N. BIREN SINGH'S STATEMENT

Hmar Inpui, the apex body representing the Hmar tribe, has strongly rejected the recent claims made by Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. In a statement issued following Singh's address to the Manipur State Assembly on August 12, 2024, the Hmar Inpui labelled the Chief Minister's remarks as "outrageous and baseless."

The Chief Minister's assertion that the Hmars are in contact with him was described by the Hmar Inpui as a falsehood intended to create discord among the united tribes amidst the ongoing crisis. The Inpui emphasized that any individuals or so-called leaders claiming to represent the Hmar community while engaging with Singh do so for their own interests and do not have the support or endorsement of the Hmar Inpui.

"Let it be unequivocally stated and known to all concerned that if any so-called Hmar leaders or politicians are engaging with N. Biren Singh, they are doing so solely out of their own vested interests. These individuals, whoever they may be, do not represent the Hmar community, nor do their actions have the recognition or endorsement of the Hmar Inpui. To suggest otherwise by making such a baseless claim is not only ludicrous but also an insult to the collective integrity and unity of the Hmar people," said a statement issued by the Hmar apex body.

The Hmar Inpui reiterated its unwavering solidarity with allied tribes and firmly rejected any attempts to divide them. The body accused the state government of tacitly supporting the ongoing ethnic cleansing and vowed to resist these efforts with full resolve.

"Let it be known to all that the Hmars stand in complete and unwavering solidarity with our agnate tribes. We categorically refuse to betray the cause that binds us together. We are brethren, united not just by our shared history and culture but also by the common pain and suffering inflicted upon us by those who seek to divide and destroy us. The ongoing ethnic cleansing carried out with the tacit support of the state government is



a dark chapter in our history that we will continue to resist with all our might."

The statement urged the Hmar people and their allied tribes to remain vigilant against divisive tactics and manipulation. The Inpui reaffirmed its commitment to justice, peace, and the protection of their community, asserting that the Chief Minister's claims are a desperate attempt to undermine their unity.

"The Hmars have always stood for justice, peace, and the rights of all oppressed people. We remain committed to these principles and will continue to fight against the injustices perpetrated against our community and our brethren. The claim made by N. Biren Singh is nothing but a desperate move to drive a wedge between us, but he will fail, as nothing could be farther from the truth," it said.

The apex body further reiterated its commitment to stand firm in the face of adversity, to protect its people, and to ensure that justice prevails. "The Hmars will not be intimidated, and we will not betray our cause, no matter the cost," it added.

The Hmar Inpui also condemned the current political dispensation and radical elements within the Meitei community, accusing them of perpetuating apartheid-like policies and distorting their history. The Inpui declared its intent to continue the fight against injustices and maintain their collective integrity despite the challenges they face.

CENTRE INSTRUCTS MANIPUR, ARUNACHAL TO FAST-TRACK INDO-MYANMAR BORDER FENCING DESPITE OPPOSITION FROM KUKI CSOS AND GOVERNMENTS OF MIZORAM, NAGALAND

The Central Government has directed the state administrations of Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh to accelerate the process of fencing the India-Myanmar border. A letter from the Centre was sent to the chief secretaries of both states and the director general of Assam Rifles, emphasizing the urgent need to finalize Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the remaining border sections in these states.

Arunachal Pradesh has an unfenced 480-km stretch along the border, while 243 km of the India-Myanmar border in Manipur remains unprotected. The letter requests state governments to coordinate with Assam Rifles, the Border Roads Organisation, and other relevant agencies to finalize the fencing locations and alignments.

The Assam Rifles have been asked to provide necessary support for this initiative.

Four northeastern states—Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, and Manipur—share the border with Myanmar. Earlier this year, the Mizoram Assembly passed a resolution against the Centre's border fencing plan and the elimination of the Free Movement Regime (FMR), which allows border residents to cross without a visa up to 16 km. Similarly, the Nagaland Assembly urged the Centre to reconsider its decision.

Notably, several Kuki organisations such as the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU), Indigenous Tribes Advocacy Committee (ITAC), Kuki Inpi Chandel (KIC) and Kuki Inpi Tenguoupal (KIT) have issued a joint statement opposing the Union government's decision to scrap the free movement regime (FMR) between India and Myanmar and fencing of the Indo-Myanmar border.

The organisations, opposing the fencing of the India-Myanmar border, have asked people "to refuse to participate in any FMR-related activity", the Telegraph reported.



FMR permits individuals residing on either side of the international border with Myanmar to enter each other's territories without a visa for distances up to 16 kms.

On February 8, Union home minister Amit Shah had announced the decision to abolish the FMR agreement with Myanmar to strengthen internal security and preserve the demographic structure of the northeastern states. This announcement came two days after he declared plans to fence the porous India-Myanmar border.

"We are opposed to any move to separate or disunite us. In this regard, we are resolute in our opposition to the removal of the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the Indo-Myanmar border, as this will result in the forced separation of blood brothers on both sides of the border," the joint statement, released days ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha session on June 24, said.

"The people of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Mizoram are also against border fencing and the removal of FMR. We urge everyone — officials, contractors, and others — to refuse to participate in any FMR-related activity," it said, adding that the Union government needs "to listen and act" to end the Manipur conflict that broke out on May 3 last year.

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Cautioning that the conflict in Manipur will not abate without a political solution that acknowledges minority communities' needs and aspirations, the organisations urged the government to expedite their demand for a Union Territory with a legislature under Article 239A

Accordingly, a mass rally was held on June 24 in Churachandpur, Pherzawl, Kangpokpi and Tengnoupal districts. Protest rallies were also held in Manipur's Tengnoupal district and in Mizoram on May 16, the report said.

Five districts in Manipur—Churachandpur, Chandel, Kamjong, Tengnoupal, and Ukhrul—share a 398 km border with Myanmar. Additionally, Arunachal Pradesh (520 km), Nagaland (215 km), and Mizoram (510 km) share borders with Myanmar. The Assam Rifles guard the international border with Myanmar.

The BJP-led Manipur government and civil society organisations in the Meitei-majority valley districts welcomed the decisions announced by Shah in

February, attributing the ongoing ethnic conflict in the state to the influx of narco-terrorists from across the border.

However, Kuki organizations in Manipur, as well as the governments of Mizoram and Nagaland, had opposed these decisions. The Mizoram and Nagaland Assemblies passed resolutions on February 28 and March 1, respectively, opposing the Union government's decisions on FMR and border fencing. The Nagaland Assembly's resolution specifically urged the Centre to reconsider its decisions.

In a representation to Amit Shah in February, Rajya Sabha MP K. Vanlalvena from Mizoram argued that the international border along Mizoram had been "arbitrarily demarcated" by the British "without proper ground survey and with no regard to ground reality." As a result, "our people were forcibly settled" in three countries—India, East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), and Burma (now Myanmar).

BIKE RALLY
Dale : 14 Aug. 2024 | GANGIPHAI (DAMDEI COLLEGE GROUND) TO KANGPOKPI

KUKI-ZO PEOPLE
SUPPORTS INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

WE ARE INDIAN
THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
SHOULD DECLARE SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION
FOR THE KUKI-ZO PEOPLE NOW

COMMITTEE ON TRIBAL UNITY (COTU)
TIME: 12 NOON

KSO OFFERS SUPPORT TO WAYANAD LANDSLIDE VICTIMS; DONATED RUPEES 1 LAKH TO CM'S DISTRESS RELIEF FUND



In response to the recent devastating landslide in Wayanad, the Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO) of Kerala has initiated a fundraising campaign to support those affected. The landslide has resulted in significant loss of life, property, and displacement of residents who are now residing in relief camps. Today, students from Kannur University, representing the Kuki Students' Organisation, handed over the funds collected through their campaign to the District Collector of Kannur.

As part of their solidarity efforts, a candlelight vigil was organized at the District Collector's office to commemorate the victims. In line with Kuki customs, a Saipikhup—traditional ceremonial wrap used during burials—was presented to the District Collector as a symbol of respect for the deceased and their families.

“With the outbreak of ethnic violence in Manipur on May 3, 2023 against the minority Kukis by the Meitei community, many families have been living in relief

camps, displaced from their homes and seeking safety. Numerous Kuki students sought refuge in Kerala, where they hoped to rebuild their futures. The state government has warmly welcomed these displaced individuals, acknowledging the immense hardship of losing homes and loved ones. In return, we believe it is essential to express our gratitude and solidarity.

KSO branches from across various cities have come together to provide support to the victims of the Wayanad landslide,” stated a KSO Kerala representative.

KSO Kerala also expresses its deep appreciation to the numerous KSO branches—including KSO General HQ, Delhi, Pune, Mumbai, Bangalore, Guwahati, Shillong, Chennai, Coimbatore, and Chandigarh—for their generous contributions and support.



It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.

– Audre Lorde

300 CHRISTIAN LEADERS DEMAND ACTION FROM US GOVT OVER PERSECUTION IN INDIA

More than 300 Christian leaders in the United States, including denominational leaders, are calling on the U.S. State Department to designate India as a “Country of Particular Concern” amid escalating violations of religious freedoms, especially against Christians.

A letter sent earlier this month responds to increasing violence and systemic persecution under the Hindu nationalist government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The signatories include a wide range of church leaders from various denominations, with 18 bishops, three archbishops and numerous clergy and leaders from theological schools and Christian organizations.

The leaders say the persecution of religious minorities in India has worsened considerably since Modi’s regime began in 2014. The letter marks the first concerted effort by U.S. Christian leaders to address religious persecution in India.

“This surge in violence is propelled by a Hindu ethno-nationalist or Hindutva supremacist political ideology, which conflates a militant Hindu ideology with Indian citizen identities,” reads the letter. “As a result, both the Hindu religion and India’s Constitutional secular democracy have been severely distorted, leading to alarming levels of state-sanctioned violence against Christians, lower-caste Dalits, and other religious minorities both on the streets and within state structures.”

The letter, organized by the Federation of Indian-American Christian Organizations in North America, refers to a January 2024 petition signed by more than 3,000 ecumenical Christian leaders in India, condemning the Indian government’s alleged state-sanctioned human rights abuses against religious minorities.

Citing a report by the United Christian Forum, the letter notes a drastic rise in attacks on Christians, from 127 incidents in 2014 to 720 in 2023.

The persecution has led to over 65,000 people being displaced in Manipur and more than 400 churches being destroyed or damaged as of May 2023, the letter points out. Another report from Chhattisgarh noted over 2,500 Christians were forcibly displaced between December 2022 and February 2023 due to their refusal to convert to Hinduism.

Showing the severity of the situation, the letter draws on international rankings such as the U.S.-based persecution watchdog International Christian Concern, which places India as the third-worst persecutor of Christians globally.

The letter’s signatories call on the State Department to take several actions, including the designation of India as a CPC under the International Religious Freedom Act. Countries designated as a CPC face the possibility of negative consequences, including potential crippling sanctions.

The Christian leaders urge the State Department to hold Indian government officials accountable for violations of religious freedoms, consider targeted sanctions and support independent religious and human rights organizations both in India and the U.S.

The letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken argues that the U.S. silence on these issues contrasts sharply with its geopolitical alliance with India and urges the State Department not to ignore these severe violations.

“The Indian government has cut off funding to hundreds of Christian schools and hospitals which have educated and cared for all people regardless of caste or religion,” the letter notes. “International support is severed by draconian application of India’s Foreign Contribution

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Regulation Act, impacting thousands of internationally respected organizations such as Amnesty International, Compassion International, World Vision and Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. This leaves Indian Christians isolated, fearful and precarious."

Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have criticized the Indian government for advocating violence against minorities with impunity. The letter also refers to the "anti-conversion" legislation enforced in at least 10 Indian states that criminalize religious conversion, resulting in the arrest of thousands of Christians.

In January, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, a bipartisan commission that advises the federal government and Congress on international religious freedom matters, criticized the State Department for its refusal to include India and Nigeria on the CPC list.

"We met with the State Department on many occasions to sound the alarm about these countries, but not all of our recommendations have been followed," then-

USCIRF Chair Abraham Cooper and Vice Chair Frederick A. Davie said in a January statement.

In its annual international religious freedom report, the State Department addressed concerns about religious freedom in India. During a press conference in June to launch this year's report, Blinken discussed the "concerning increase in anti-conversion laws, hate speech, and demolitions of homes and places of worship for members of minority faith communities" in India. The report stated that at least 10 of India's 28 states have passed policies that restrict "religious conversions for all faiths."

"Christian communities reported that local police aided mobs that disrupted worship services over accusations of conversion activities or stood by while mobs attacked them and then arrested the victims on conversion charges," U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom Rashad Hussain said at the press conference.

Source: [Christian Post](#)

ENSURE PEOPLE DISPLACED BY VIOLENCE CAN RETURN HOME: CONGRESS TO MANIPUR GOVERNMENT

Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh on Tuesday (August 13, 2024) urged the BJP government in Manipur to ensure that people displaced due to the ethnic violence can return home so that normalcy could be restored in the State.

Mr. Singh said the Opposition was ready to assist the government in the process.

"If there is a government (in the state), it should effectively control the law and order. Even the apex court of the country has said that law and order in Manipur have totally failed and constitutional machinery has collapsed. We only want law and order to be controlled, and people of the state to be allowed to live peacefully and normally," he said.

"We demand the displaced persons staying at relief camps be allowed to return to their homes. Only then peace will come. If the assistance of the opposition is required, we are ready to assist," he added.

Mr. Singh, the leader of the Congress legislature party, alleged that the State has failed in every sphere, including sports, economy and culture.

"The State has totally collapsed. The State has the highest cost for all commodities in the country. This government is surviving through loans. One loan is taken to repay the earlier loans," Mr. Singh added. (The Hindu)

ANALYSIS: N. BIREN SINGH MUST CONFESS HIS SINS TO BRING PEACE IN MANIPUR; SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION A MUST FOR KUKI PEOPLE

It is ridiculous that the Meiteis' Chief Minister and the chief architect of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom against the Kukis, N. Biren Singh, has sought reconciliation among the communities to bring peace in the erstwhile Manipur state.

For peace to come in the region, the narcissistic Meitei leader N. Biren Singh must confess his sin to the public, as in the case of the leaked audio recording wherein he admitted his orchestrated genocide against the Kukis using state machineries. As the two warring communities can no longer live together peacefully, a separate administration in the form of Union Territory with Legislature must be granted for the Kuki-Zo people.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the 133rd Meiteis' Patriots' Day, N. Biren Singh said the people of Manipur should live as one, which is unlikely to happen anymore.

"Today is Patriots' Day. Many Manipuris sacrificed their lives for the country. On this day, I want to convey the message to the people of the state that the time has come for reconciliation among the communities. I am requesting all the citizens of the state to assist in bringing peace," Biren said.

One should note that Manipur mayhem occurred as a result of N. Biren Singh's selective hatred towards the minority Kuki-Zo people. He is the chief instigator of the ongoing violence. Under his leadership, the Kukis face the brunt of atrocities beyond repair in the hands of his private militia groups of Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun and the proscribed Meitei terrorist organisations.

The core issue lies in the fact that as the Kukis are no more among the Manipuris, any activities from the Meiteis' government seldom find a place in the hill areas, particularly in the Kuki hill regions. While the Meiteis observed their Patriots' Day today, the people of the hill areas experienced normal life, without any observation or celebrations. This shows that the State is no more one but two States.



The Meiteis' Kangleipak observed their Patriots' Day on Tuesday in honour of their heroes of the Anglo-Manipuri War of 1891, with Manipur Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya and Chief Minister N. Biren Singh leading other dignitaries, including the Meitei Ministers, MLAs, and high-ranking officials, in paying floral tribute to their heroes.

The observance started with floral tributes at Hicham Yaicham Pat, Moirangkhom, and Thangal Temple, Palace Compound in the morning. Later in the afternoon, the Governor and the Chief Minister, along with other dignitaries, attended the wreath-laying ceremony at Kangla Utra, Imphal.

The programme continued with floral tributes at Shaheed Minar, where the Governor and Chief Minister, accompanied by Ministers, MLAs, and senior government officials, honored the brave souls who laid down their lives in defense of the state's sovereignty. A Guard of Honor was presented by contingents of Manipur Rifles. A floral tribute was also offered at the Memorial Stone of the exiled martyrs of the 1891 war.

Addressing the gathering, Manipur Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya underscored the importance of Patriots' Day as a catalyst for unity and pride among the people of Manipur. He stressed the importance of education and awareness in upholding the values of patriotism and resilience passed down by the forefathers.



FEATURED ARTICLE

Unregulated Vigilante Armies Push Indian State of Manipur to Brink of Civil War

Aakash Hassan & Hannah Ellis-Petersen

As the sun began to slip behind the verdant Manipur hills, Kolom Rabi prepared for a long night ahead. Hurriedly he slung a cartridge belt over his shoulder, strapped on a walkie-talkie and grabbed his shotgun. In the surrounding houses, dozens of his neighbours – farmers, students, teachers and office workers by day – donned their green army fatigues and picked up their rifles, before gathering in a sandbag-lined bunker on the village outskirts to await instructions. Tonight, it was Rabi’s turn to be the commander of this makeshift civilian militia.

“The Indian state has failed to provide us security so we have been protecting ourselves with our own guns for over a year now,” said Rabi. “I don’t know when this will all come to an end.”

Rabi, a member of the majority Meitei community in India’s northeastern state of Manipur, had never wanted to take up arms. A 49-year-old with a doctorate in plant genetics, his life and work had always been agriculture; that was until a bloody ethnic war came to his doorstep.

“If the government can assure us security and negotiate with us, we will leave the guns,” said Rabi. “Otherwise, for the protection of our brothers and sisters, we are ready to die and kill.”

The violence in Manipur began last May with clashes between the majority Meitei and the minority Kukis-Zo tribes over the removal of special minority privileges for the Kuki community. Since then, it has escalated into an ongoing ethnic conflict which has killed over 220 people and displaced over 60,000 as whole villages were burned to the ground, while women reported sexual assault and rape.

An unofficial border dividing the state down ethnic lines – Kuki-Zo on one side and Meitei on the other – has become a hardened frontline, created and fiercely guarded by civilian militia groups from both communities. Thousands of guns, many sophisticated rifles stolen from state armouries, are now in the hands of these unregulated vigilante civilian armies who freely mobilise every night to protect their own turf. The police and the state stand accused of being both complicit and unwilling to intervene.

‘I picked up the gun to save my community’

Haopu Haokip, a 26-year-old from the town of Churachandpur in the Kuki-Zo territory, spends

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most nights clutching a shotgun, ready to shoot any “Meitei intruders”. His village was burned to the ground in the violence, killing two of his friends, and his whole family now live in a displaced persons camp.

“I picked up the gun to save my community, to defend,” said Haokip. “I do not condone violence. But after seeing my house burned down and friends killed, only this gun gives me some sort of relief.”

The Kuki-Zo side say they are now fighting for their own separate state. However the Meiteis – who dominate the government and police – have called that demand unacceptable and all talks have only led to a stalemate. Experts and civilians on the ground have warned that, as divisions between the communities become more deeply entrenched and increasingly weaponised by militants, Manipur stands on the brink of descending into all-out lawlessness.

For prime minister Narendra Modi, whose Bharatiya Janata party (BJP) also rules the state, Manipur has become a significant achilles heel for his government. He stands accused of failing to bring the conflict under control and has attracted widespread criticism from civil society groups for not visiting since violence broke out.

After the BJP lost its two Manipur parliamentary seats in the recent national election – blamed on widespread anger in both communities at how Modi’s government has appeared to ignore the conflict – the opposition Congress party have increasingly focused on Manipur as a way to attack the prime minister, accusing him of “breaking and burning” the state. Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi pointedly made his third visit last month, where he called on Modi to “listen to the people of Manipur”.

While Modi recently told parliament that a state of “normalcy” was returning to Manipur, those on the ground gave a very different story. Of particular concern to police and intelligence officials has been the return

of an estimated 2,500 people from banned groups that had previously been associated with militancy and separatist insurgencies in Manipur and India’s northeast region.

These militant figures have spent years outlawed and exiled over the border in neighbouring Myanmar and Bangladesh. But according to locals and police, these groups have used the recent unrest as cover to return to Manipur and have begun re-exerting control over swathes of the state’s population using violence, extortion and moral policing. The Meitei militant groups are also accused of bringing weapons over from Myanmar, including grenades, rifles and communication equipment, and of helping to train and arm the vigilante militias to further their own agendas.

Praveen Donthi, senior analyst for India at the International Crisis Group, said interplay of ethnic rivalries combined with the return of militant groups meant that the situation Manipur had become a “tinderbox” that was “fast becoming a regional conflict”.

“The Meitei insurgent groups based in Myanmar, who were at their weakest before May last year, have seen a resurgence, probably beyond their wildest expectations, due to the current conflict in Manipur,” said Donthi. “The insurgent groups and separatist tendencies are strengthening every day.”

Kennerich, a Meitei civil society leader who uses a single name, warned of “catastrophic violence and escalation in civil war” if the increasingly destabilising presence of these militant groups in Manipur was not brought under control by the state. In Bishnupur, along the highway that connects Manipur with the rest of India, militants have set up checkpoints where they are accused of extorting money from drivers in the name of providing security.

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Those on both the Kuki-zo and Meitei and sides, including the state's small Muslim Meitei minority, also accused militants of visiting homes and extorting billions of rupees from locals at gunpoint. Those who refused to pay the ransom have allegedly been tortured with methods such as hot coals being placed on their skin, with video footage of one incident shown to the Guardian. Several Meitei women also accused the militants of moral policing, with women harassed and beaten up for reasons like "not wearing proper clothes" and "having a boyfriend."

Commanders of two outlawed militant outfits, both aligned with the Meitei community, confirmed they had returned from Myanmar soon after the violence last May. "We came back at the request of our people. They have no trust in the government, and that is why they want us to protect them," said one commander, speaking to the Guardian from a discreet location in Manipur under the condition of anonymity. They denied all charges of extortion, claiming they were taking "donations being given wilfully by supporters".

In an interview with the Guardian, BJP chief minister of Manipur, Nongthombam Biren Singh, confirmed that the presence of organised militant groups was a major concern for the state's security situation, but denied that any new militants had crossed back over the border since the violence began.

Singh, who recently met with Modi for the first time in over a year to discuss the situation in Manipur, admitted he was "struggling" with the restoration of peace amid an ongoing stalemate and endless failed negotiations. Singh and his BJP government are seen to be aligned with the dominant Meitei community and have been accused by human rights groups of protecting and giving a free hand to several Meitei militant groups associated with atrocities committed against the Kuki-Zo community.

Singh also defended allowing armed civilian militias to flourish and become the de facto law and order

authority of the state, stating they had become a necessity as "we do not have adequate numbers of police and paramilitary personnel who can help prevent and protect from the attacks of the militants."

For the tens of thousands living in displacement camps, from both the Meitei and the Kuki-Zo communities, the continued stalemate and enduring violence has left them in a state of purgatory and the feeling of being abandoned by the Modi government was rife. Frustrations began to boil over this month when almost a hundred displaced people living in Akampat relief camp held a protest at their conditions, with police firing tear gas at them in response.

Ngaithenhoi Haokip, 27, from the Kuki-Zo community, said her family was barely able to survive in the camps after their village was scorched by a Meitei mob in May last year, leaving them with nothing. "There is no way to earn any money," she said. "There is no food for my children, and they often get sick but I can't afford to take them to a doctor."

For 26-year-old Meitei Loitongban Nainao, also displaced to a camp after his home was burned down, said the situation was so bleak he recently attempted to take his own life. "This life is meaningless and frustrating," he said. "I do not know when we can return to our village. It is like living in jail."

Published by [The Guardian](#)

THE BUZZ SOCIAL MEDIA



Having completely destroyed the state of Manipur, the BJP govt headed by this man now wants to spread fire to other states in the northeast as well. What else can be the motive for this kind of malicious action?

Manipur CM calls for survey to reorganise districts

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Monday called for a State-wide survey to reorganise district boundaries.

Criticising the way some of the districts in the State were created, he accused past governments of drawing boundaries that served their "political interests" and not administrative convenience.

'Political aspirations'
This comes even as the ethnic conflict between the valley-based Meitei people and the hills-based Scheduled Tribe Kuki-Zo-Hmar people has continued for over a year now, killing over 220 people, injuring thousands, and internally



Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said Naga residents of Churachandpur claimed they were not receiving essential services. (PTI)

displacing tens of thousands. The Chief Minister was speaking in the Assembly on Monday, addressing concerns raised by Naga People's Front legislator Leishiyu Keishing, who pointed out that the formation of the Kangpokpi district in 2016 had affected the political aspirations and other opportunities of many Tangkhul and Rongmei Nagas. Later in the day, Sagolband MLA Rajkumar Imo Singh said the government was "contemplating fresh demarcation" of districts for "actual and better administrative reasons". The Chief Minister

claimed that all of these issues had come up because the new districts never took care of the needs of local communities. Mr. Singh also criticised certain communities, saying it was "most unfortunate and detrimental to peace and harmony" that these communities viewed district boundaries through an ethnic lens. In 2016, the erstwhile Congress government led by Biren Singh had created seven new districts. While the districts of Kangpokpi and Tengnoupal were carved out of Senapati and Chandel districts, respectively, Phekzawl and Jiribam were carved out of Churachandpur and Imphal East districts, respectively. (With PTI inputs)

9:59 · 13 Aug 24 · 4,909 Views



Just to highlight the gravity of the situation, the letter references international rankings, including those from the U.S.-based watchdog International #Christian Concern, which ranks #India as the third-worst persecutor of Christians worldwide. #deprem



christianpost.com
300 Christian leaders demand action from US gov't over persecution in India

13:49 · 13 Aug 24 · 490 Views



LIES AND ROCK CONCERT IN HONOUR OF MEITEI 'ATHOUBAS'





LET'S END THE ENDING IN GOOD TERMS!

- Hillsman J. Tearsworth

Neither by composing a thousand sad songs,
Nor by writing a hundred patriotic poems,
Nor by organizing tens of peaceful protests,
Nor by marching miles with shouts of slogans,
Nor by submitting a hundred memorandums to Delhi,
Nor by observing 100 days of sit-in-protest,
None of these means would help our ends!

Freedom is not to be asked; but it's to be taken.
If it needs to be taken by the barrel of a gun,
So be it, pick up your gun - load, aim, and shoot!
Shoot any man who's between us and our freedom!
Who should we scare of?
This is our land!

This is the land where our fathers used to hunt,
And their fathers and their fathers' fathers'
hunting ground.
If our grandfathers could fight the mightiest empire,
With just '**THIHNANG**' and '**SONG-THAANG**'
for three long winters,
Why should we give up within two winter falls?
Why should we keep begging to them
for not harming us?
They should rather learn how to respect us,
our land, women, and resources!

Let's not compromise!
Let's not be deceived again and again.
Where's our knowledge?
Where are our degrees?
Aren't some of us recipients of high degrees
from foreign universities?
Utilize your knowledge and resources
to protect your land!
Now or never!
Tomorrow never comes!

The sea waves are picking up!
The tide is high for the full silver moon is near!
Never sing those sad songs of 'Chollhanu' like before,
Nor lie down on the meadows to enjoy her beauty!
Now is not the time to be sad or grieve or mourn!

It's time to fight!
Be strong!
Look them straight in their eyes!
Do not show them your tears nor your weakness!
Time calls you!
Time calls us!
Let's end the ending in good terms
before the storm comes!