

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## AWAITING JUSTICE



**GOUZAVUNG (58 YEARS)**

W/O LIENBOI GANGTE

ADDRESS: LAMPHEL CP QUARTER, IMPHAL WEST

DATE OF DEATH: 4TH MAY, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: LAMPHELPAT, IMPHAL

CAUSE OF DEATH: ATTACKED AND KILLED BY MEITEI MOBS & MILITANTS



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 01.05.2024



**185**  
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.

# ‘CHINA-MYANMAR MODULE’ OF NSCN-IM SUPPORTED MEITEI OUTFITS TO FAN ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN MANIPUR: NIA

The National Investigation Agency has said in a chargesheet that the “China-Myanmar module” of the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) supported the cadres of two banned Meitei outfits to infiltrate India in order to exploit the current ethnic unrest in Manipur with a larger goal to destabilise the State and wage a war against the Government of India.

The chargesheet filed in a Guwahati court on March 7 against five accused persons who were arrested in July last year in Manipur, said the accused “criminally conspired with intent to carry out violent terror attacks targeting the rival Kuki-Zo community with prohibited arms and ammunition”

The Union government signed a ceasefire pact in 1997 with NSCN-IM leadership in India and a framework agreement to find a political solution was signed with the group in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015. The group envisages a ‘Greater Nagaland’ to include all the Naga-dominated areas in Nagaland, Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh.

M. Anand Singh (44), the main accused, was arrested last July along with A. Kajit Singh, Keisham Johnson, L. Michael Mangangcha and K. Romojit Meitei by Manipur Police while travelling in a vehicle dressed in camouflage attire resembling uniforms worn by security personnel.

Three weapons and ammunition looted from police armouries were recovered from their possession. The NIA registered a fresh case on July 19 under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and other sections of law to probe the larger conspiracy.



## Local youth recruited

The NIA said Mr. Anand Singh mobilised local youth for armed training to escalate the ethnic strife and in July 2023 participated in a weapons training camp organised in Selloi Langamai Ecological Park near Keikhu by PLA cadres where around 80-90 young men received training in handling firearms. “Singh assisted in imparting training on battle drills and jungle warfare to the participating youth,” the NIA stated. The agency said the accused “criminally conspired with intent to carry out violent terror attacks targeting the rival Kuki-Zo community with prohibited arms and ammunition which were looted from various government sources.”

The agency said the criminal intent of targeting the rival community has been established and corroborated by the use of camouflage attire they were wearing “to evade detection by security personnel”. The NIA said the accused wilfully violated prohibitory orders issued by the district administration “to spread hatred and enmity among the communities, escalate the ongoing ethnic strife, disturb peace

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and tranquility and to pose threat to the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country.”

Ethnic violence between the tribal Kuki-Zo people and the majority Meitei community erupted in Manipur on May 3, 2023 which has claimed at least 221 lives so far and displaced over 50,000 people. More than 4,500 weapons were looted from police armouries and around 1,800 weapons have been recovered so far.

### **Infiltration bid**

The Central agency said the “China-Myanmar” module of NSCN-IM based in Myanmar decided to extend support to banned terrorist organisations Kanglei Yaol Kanba Lup (KYKL) and People’s Liberation Army of

Manipur (PLAM) to infiltrate their cadres into the Indian territory for carrying out terrorist attacks.

“For this purpose, NSCN-IM promised a safe passage along with arms, ammunition, explosives and other terrorist hardware to Manipur-based terrorist outfits and proscribed organisations. In addition, these outfits have also been tasked to identify, recruit and train impressionable youths and get them involved in the ongoing violence with the larger goal of destabilising the security situation in Manipur and to further wage a war against the Government of India,” the NIA added.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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## **SEVEN MEITEI INCLUDING FIVE MINORS, TWO OTHERS HELD FOR NIGHTTIME ASSAULT ON MAINLAND INDIANS**

Seven individuals, including five minors, were apprehended on Monday for their involvement in nighttime assaults on mainland Indians. The arrests came in response to reports of attacks in areas around Paona Bazar and Thangal Bazar, Manipur.

Upon investigation into these incidents, the Manipur police swiftly identified and detained the suspects from various locations across Imphal West and Imphal East districts.

Among those arrested were Khumukcham Brainny Singh, 19, of Kongba Makha Nandeibam, and RK Ronish Singh, 22, of Keishampat Thokchom Leikai, Imphal West. Five minors were taken into custody as individuals in conflict with the law (CCL).

The arrests followed the circulation of CCTV footage on social media capturing the assaults on mainland Indians during the night. Subsequently, a case was registered at the City police station for further investigation into the matter.



Notably, the Manipur police had also apprehended two members of Arambai Tenggol on Sunday for their involvement in the abduction and assault of four police personnel.

The victims, who were abducted and assaulted at Koirengei in Imphal East while en-route to Kangpokpi police station, belonged to neither of the two conflicting communities.

# LOOTED WEAPONS FOUND IN MEITEI MILITANTS' CAMPS IN MYANMAR

A combined team of PDF, KNA(B) and KIA had a heavy gunfight with People Liberation Army (PLA) and United National Liberation Front (UNLF), a prominent Meitei extremist groups in Myanmar, in three location at Myothit Myanmar for three days i.e. on 7th, 8th and 9th May, 2024.

In the said gunfight, some of the PLA and UNLF cadres had killed and got injured, and many of them fled away from their camp.

During a subsequent search of the area, the PDF recovered many arms and ammunition, including a high-explosive bomb from the Manipur Police Department, as well as commando dress and other equipment from the PLA and UNLF camp in Myothit, Myanmar.

These outlaw organizations have taken shelter in this area for many years and have been attacking the Indian Army and other central forces of India.

The question is; "How do the home Department of Manipur government issue a high explosive bomb and materials used; and found at the outlawed banned organization of PLA and UNLF camp in Myothit, Myanmar.

It may be noted here that Indian Central Intelligence Agencies, in their report on May last year, fear that looted arms and ammunition have likely been supplied to Meitei militant groups operating in Myanmar.

The state administration anticipates at least 4,000 weapons were looted on different dates.

According to sources, looting occurred in warehouses, armories belonging to different forces, and reserve battalions.



According to a senior officer, the stolen weapons include sophisticated AK series rifles, M16 rifles, submachine guns, carbines, and most recent models of handguns.

"It is feared and likely that some of the stolen weapons have been given to extremist organisations located in Myanmar. It is impossible for any community to conceal or store 4,000 guns" a top police official said.

Since the Manipur border is porous, it is expected that some of the weapons have already been given to these groups.

The agencies have also learnt that some of the organisations stirring up violence in the state are in contact with Meitei militant organisations in Myanmar.

# LAWLESSNESS IN IMPHAL: MEITEI VILLAGERS DECRY RAMPANT EXTORTIONS FROM MEITEI MILITANTS, RADICALS

Lawlessness and disorders engulfed the capital city of Meiteis' Kangleipak under the incompetent leadership of N. Biren Singh and his political cohorts. Rampant extortions or incessant huge monetary demands with threats, gun culture, etc., all have become the 'new norms' of Imphal.

Decrying the incessant huge monetary demands made by various Meitei armed and unarmed groups, the villagers of Yaingangpokpi, a Meitei locality, had warned of intense agitations.

The villagers expressed that Yaingangpokpi is located in a sensitive security zone and such mindless actions could wedge unnecessary differences within the community. Speaking to the media at Manipur Press Club, Imphal, Yaingangpokpi village chairman Laimayum Abhiram stated that the event could potentially create unwanted issues and pit the community against each other.

"The unending conflict has taken a toll on all citizens of the state. Amid such distress, placing massive monetary demands on people, specifically in Yaingangpokpi was akin to driving off the people from the area," he said.

He appealed to all groups concerned to refrain from



such actions and assess the ground reality of people in Yaingangpokpi.

Meanwhile, cashier of Yaingangpokpi Apunba Nupi Lamjing Lup Nepram Somola highlighted that Yaingangpokpi was one of the last frontier Meitei villages in the north and that villagers in the area were still witnessing a spurt of violence.

"All livelihood activities in the area including agricultural activities have come to a grinding halt because of the conflict," she said.

She condemned the unfounded monetary demands placed on the Yaingangpokpi shopkeepers and urged all concerned to sympathise with the situation of people in the area.



**You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once.**

— Robert Heinlein

# DESPITE LOSING MONTHS TO VIOLENCE; ST. PAUL'S INSTITUTE, JNV CHURACHANDPUR SHINES IN CBSE EXAMS

When the going gets tough, the tough get going. Students of several schools in Manipur that were shut for months as ethnic violence rippled through the state since May last year, have excelled in the CBSE Class 12 exams, in some cases outperforming zones elsewhere in the North-East by a significant margin.

St Paul's School in Churachandpur, which was turned into a shelter for the displaced during riots and re-opened partially after August last year, is among top-performing institutes. It had sheltered over 100 people from Kakching district. In Class 12 board exams, the school's success rate of 95% far exceeds Guwahati zone's pass rate of 82%.

"This academic success has come in such challenging circumstances. With internet being shut in Manipur for months, even online classes weren't possible," principal D L Muon said. Churachandpur was among more volatile areas of Manipur at the peak of ethnic conflict. Besides loss of class hours, board examinees had to contend with a constant flow of distressing news.

When a semblance of normalcy briefly returned after months of violence, schools held batch-wise classes under state-provided security to ensure safety of students and avoid disturbing displaced families living on campus.

"Nobody was in study mode when the school reopened," Muon recalled. "The trauma was heightened by their interactions with children from displaced families, who had first-hand experience of the conflict. To support the community, the school provided free classes to these children," Khupgoulia Hangzo, who cleared the Class 12 exams, recalled being shaken by what he heard. "Meeting three children in my school who had lost their



fathers in the violence was traumatic." His classmate Hatlaldik said, "I had some books but needed internet to access reference material. Since that wasn't possible, I depended entirely on my teachers."

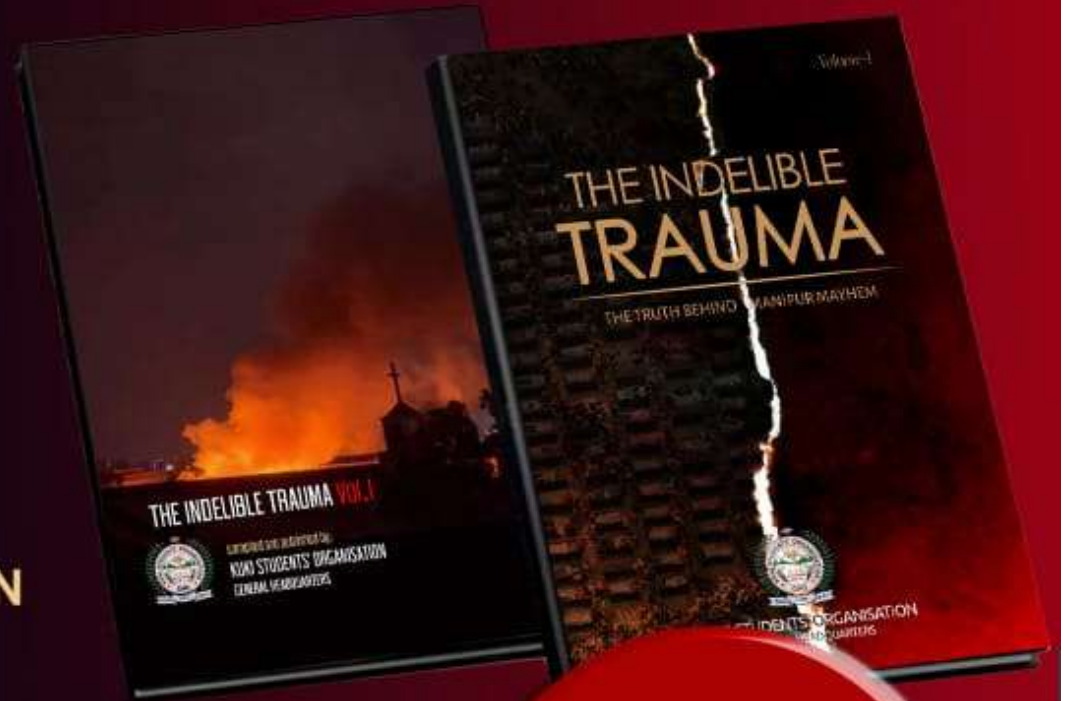
Staff at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Churachandpur fled the district soon after violence broke out. In October, the school reopened mostly with contractual staff. Despite these hiccups, the school had a 98.5% success rate in Class 12 exams. About 200 displaced people had taken refuge in the school, which has among the best education infrastructure in the district.

"We managed to complete the syllabus somehow just a few days before the board exams started. The long shutdown had an impact on quality but that's acceptable. None of the students of our school scored more than 90%," said principal Vikram Singh.

# THE INDELIBLE TRAUMA

THE TRUTH BEHIND MANIPUR MAYHEM **VOL. I**

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY  
**KUKI STUDENTS' ORGANISATION**  
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS



## ABOUT THE BOOK

PAPERBACK COVER &  
HARD COVER PRINT

**AVAILABLE  
NOW**

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**





# THE TOP QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ON MANIPUR CRISIS



**Question No.1. When ATSUM was organizing a peaceful rally against the Manipur High Court's order for inclusion of Meitei/Meetei into ST list, why did Meiteis imposed counter rally prior to the proposed rally on 3rd May 2023?**

**Answer:** In democracy one has the right to demand and protest, that's why Meiteis too demanded ST and got High Court's blessing. But to counter a proposed peaceful rally was to show that the majority power is the authority in the state.

**Question No.2. When ATSUM's rally was held in all the tribal districts of Manipur, why most Meitei media rushed to Churachandpur?**

**Answer:** Looking back into the circumstances it is clear that the Meitei media were already aware that something is going to happen in Churachandpur. So, they ensured their presence there on that fateful day of 3rd May 2023.

**Q. No.3. Why Arambai Tenggol cadres including their top Commanders were seen loitering at Torbung village on the rally day? Why did they attack the rallyists at the end of the peaceful rally?**

**Answer:** The rally ended peacefully. People attending

the rally headed back to their respective homes. It was at this point that participants from Kangvai and surrounding areas were attacked by Meiteis at Torbung. It was totally a false allegation that Kuki Zos were coming from Churachandpur to attack Torbung villagers.

**Question No.4. The Torbung incident is in Churachandpur district; it should have been confined to the district itself and to be dealt by the district administration. Why the violence spread to Imphal in the same night itself?**

**Answer:** This has proven that, it was a pre-plan, premeditated plan to initiate attack of Churachandpur and to attack Kuki Zos in Imphal on the same day. Otherwise, such a massive mob could not be mobilized in just a few hours' time to attack Kuki Zos in Imphal and all the foot hill Kuki Zo villages on the same night of 3rd May 2023.

**Question No.5. During the Meitei-Pangal conflict in 1990s a false rumors of Meitei lady being raped and killed by Muslim men was the tool to incite the Meitei mob to attack and kill over 100 Muslims. The same tactics, in the form of**

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**fabricated viral video of Meitei medical students being raped and killed at Churachandpur, was used to incite Meitei mob at Imphal. In spite of having such false rumors experience before why the Meitei mob blindly attack the Kukis before confirming the rumor news?**

**Answer:** The mob carried out untethering violence even after Dr Achouba clarified that his daughter was never been raped and that she and her friends were safe and unharmed at Churachandpur. Inciting the mob by fabricated viral video, as was used to initiate the massacre of the Meitei Muslim crisis in 1990s, was reused meticulously as a pre-plan strategy to initiate deadly violence against the Kuki Zos.

**Question No.6. Arambai Tenggol is said to be a social and cultural organization. If so, why the members are were trained in arms and combat activities?**

**Answer:** Arms training were conducted under the disguise of social and cultural activities by Arambai Tenggol. The real motive and desired action are clearly shown in the present crisis. Kuki Zos did not set up such organization nor engage in training in arms or combat to wage war against Meiteis.

**Question No.7. Meiteis blamed Kukis for waging war against them and they are simply defending themselves. Is this a correct narrative?**

**Answer:** COCOMI on 7th June 2023 and Meitei Leepun leader in his interview with Karan Thapar announced their declaration of war against the Kukis. The Kuki Zos never declare war against anybody. They have been defending themselves against the Meiteis who declared war upon them. The Kuki Zos act was only in self-defense on till today. Sadly, the perpetrators are now playing the victim card in this war. Kuki Zo people have no access to media there is no one even to clarify wrong allegations framed against them.

**Question No.8. Why a Haomee Federation was formed without a Kukis member and started hate**

**campaign against the Kukis during the past 4/5 years prior to the happening of the present crisis?**

**Answer:** Some Naga and some Meitei leaders have a common objective to project Kukis as illegal immigrants, poppy planters and forest encroachers etc. They spread hate speeches and poisoned the common men's mind against the Kuki Zo people. They were hell-bent to drive away Kuki Zos from their land and envisioned to share the rewards between themselves. They played a dangerous game of indigenous card to achieve their goal even though India is a country which proscribed indigenous/non- indigenous theory.

**Question No. 9. Why AFSPA was removed from the valley areas of Manipur and continued in the hills; when the hills are comparatively more peaceful than the valley?**

**Answer:** It is crystal clear that the removal of AFSPA from the valley is well crafted plan to give free hand to Meitei radical groups to organize themselves and attack the Kuki Zos. The outcome was seen in looting of the state armories and snatching away thousands of arms and ammunitions. Had AFSPA not been removed in the valley these incidences could have been prevented.

**Question No.10. Why was survey conducted in the Tribal areas of Imphal under Smart City plan and marked all the Kuki Zo houses with differently symbols? Is there any hidden agenda for this?**

**Answer:** This mission was to identify all the Kuki Zo houses so that they can be attacked later. This sinister and murderous plan was executed with massive success; no marked Kuki Zo houses are standing or remain unharmed till date.

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**Question No.11. Why licensed guns were collected by the District Administration offices in all Kuki Zo dominated districts of Manipur, but not in other districts of the state prior to the crisis?**

**Answer:** A very sinister and devilish tactic conducted to disarm Kuki Zos before the execution of the pre plan war to annihilate the Kuki Zos.

**Question No.12. Why a government Food Go-down in Churachandpur was emptied before the starting of the present crisis?**

**Answer:** It was nothing but a strategy of war against the district citizens. It must have been adopted strategy from the book "The Art of War" by Sun Tzu.

**Question No.13. Why all well-to-do Kuki Zo including Officers, MLAs, Ministers and Chiefs built their houses in Imphal and greater Imphal, if they were planning war with Meiteis?**

**Answer:** They did this as they were under the impression that they are in peaceful co-existence with the Meiteis. This is a solid proof that they never plan to wage a war against the Meiteis although Shri N.Biren Singh has claimed otherwise.

**Question No.14. Why Kuki Zo churches and societies were encouraged to set up Kuki Zo colonies and churches in Imphal area during the past 10 to 20 years?**

**Answer:** The Kuki Zo people are simple living people and never thought one day Meiteis will try to annihilate them and drive them away from the valley. To avail better education and job facilities and for the future of their children they built houses, establish colonies and houses in Imphal, after all it is the state capital. In this respect the Nagas were wiser and safer now.

**Question No.15. Meiteis have been allowed to settle peacefully in most of the Kuki dominated areas of**

**Kangpokpi, Churachandpur, Tengnoupal and Saikul, this kind of good gesture is not seen in Naga dominated areas?**

**Answer:** Kuki Zos believe in peaceful co-existence and sharing resources with other communities. This is supported by the fact that Meiteis are settled in many Kuki Zo dominated areas of Manipur. However, Meiteis failed to acknowledge this, but immerse in their greed and trying to fulfill their dream of expanding their territory into the Kuki Zo hills.

**Question No.16. Some Meitei leaders including Nishikant Sapam, Thongnaojam Maheshwor falsely claimed that Meiteis are not allowed to settle or purchase land in the Hills of Manipur. They are not allowed to buy back the land they once sold to the Tribals. How far it is true?**

**Answer:** This is twisted allegation. In scheduled areas general caste required prior permission for purchase of land in the Tribal area. Since Meiteis have opted to be of general caste, they automatically required such permission. In fact, many Meitei have purchased land from Kuki Zo after obtaining such permissions in Kangpokpi, Moreh and Churachandpur. This scenario is not seen in any Naga area even though Meitei and Naga claimed to be blood brothers.

**Question No.17. Many of the top Kuki women were allowed to be married to Meitei community. To name some of them- Mrs. Limneikim Singson, IAS, Mrs. Kimjalhai Kipgen, IAS, Mrs. Achin Haoki, IPS, Dr. Vumkhoching, Dr. Lhingjahat Thangeo, Dr Lhingkhohat Haokip, Mrs. Rose, PPS, Mrs. Neilam Kipgen, Nursing Supt. etc. Why such inter community marriage allowed if Kuki Zo were planning war against the Meiteis?**

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**Answer:** This is demonstrated that the Kuki Zo people do not hate Meiteis nor plan war against them. The fact is that Kukis are still recuperating from their heavy losses in the infamous Naga-Kuki clash of 1990s. They have no money and resources to wage another war during this phase of recovery. Any sensible person will dismissed this as a blatant lie and never endorse this concocted allegation.

**Question No.18. The KNO/UPF had agreed and signed to maintain the integrity of Manipur in their SoO agreement. How can they do this if they were planning to break Manipur for a Separate Administration or UT?**

**Answer:** The demand for Separate Administration (SA) is an inevitable response of the Kuki Zos after they were killed, houses and settlements torched and burnt down, and driven out of Imphal valley. This demand was placed on 12th May 2023, 10 days after the execution of ethnic cleansing drive against the Kuki Zos. The accusation that Kuki Zos were planning to divide Manipur is totally absurd and deplorable. The Meiteis hated Kuki Zos so much so that they have dozens of derogatory terms against them. Since such is the case, shouldn't they not be elated and rather joyous and happy to be separated from the Kuki Zos.

**Question No.19. Meiteis claimed that all the fighting took place because of the attacks by the Kukis and they are simply defending themselves. They also accused Kukis for rape and killing civilians. How far you agree to it?**

**Answer:** All the fighting took place in the hills is a clear-cut indication that the Meiteis went to the hills and attacked the Kuki's. Even a small child will be able to decipher this and understand this logic. As far as record goes no Meitei woman is raped, most of warring Meitei killed were active fighters who has led murderous offensive against the Kuki Zos in the Hills. The record of most Kuki's killed were women, children

and aged civilians. The lists of death on both the communities are available for verification.

**Question No.20. Both Meitei and Kukis claimed loss of properties what do you have to say on this account?**

**Answer:** Yes, property loss occurred on both sides. However, one stands to understand that the Kuki Zos in Imphal are mostly high middle income and higher strata of the society and well to do families. Total vehicles of Kuki Zos burnt to ashes in Imphal crossed above 1000 (One thousand). One particular family lost 4 vehicles. A multi storied Kuki building in New Checkon is estimated to be around 15 crores. On the other hand, Meiteis in Churachandpur, Moreh and other Kuki dominated areas are mostly daily wage earners, small scale business owners and some skilled laborers. One can imagine which side the quantum of loss will be more. This is not comparable.

**Question No.21. Many new Kuki Zo villages were said to be established during the last 10 to 20 years period; these villages are alleged to be mostly immigrants from neighboring countries. What do you have to say about this?**

**Answer:** The establishment of some new villages in the Kuki Zo dominated areas during the past years is mainly due to the following reasons:

i) It is customary for a Kuki Zo chief to donate land to his younger siblings or sons for setting up a new village and become its chief, as chieftainship is considered an honorable status among the Kuki Zo community.

ii) During the Kuki-Naga conflict in 1990s more than 350 Kuki villages were uprooted in the Naga dominated areas of Manipur. Some of these villages

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were re-established in Kuki Zo dominated areas of Churachandpur, Kangpokpi and Tengnoupal as it is easier to re-established already recognized village than to apply for recognition of a new village.

iii) The introduction of MGNREGA/JOB CARD scheme was a big temptation for the Kuki Zos to set up or establish new village as the funds are released through the village Chiefs who has control over the labor force.

iv) The Kuki Zos of Manipur are the most neglected and marginalized people. Their source of livelihood is mostly on petty agriculture produce from their jhum cultivation. Shifting cultivation sometimes necessitates establishment of a new village so as to get fertile land in the periphery of the villages.

**Question No.22. What differences is observed between Kuki Zo slogans and Meitei slogans in the present crisis of Manipur?**

**Answer:** Kuki Zo's slogans in their protests and rallies were 'We want justice', 'We want separate Administration', 'Separation the only solution' etc. While Meitei's slogans were 'Kill all the Kukis', 'Drive away immigrants', 'Kill Kuki's narco-terrorist', 'No extension of SoO with Kukis UGs', etc. By analysing the slogans one can easily make out who is the offender and who are the victims of the atrocities.

**Question No.23.Both the Kuki Zo and Meiteis are killing each other what do you see in their ways of killings?**

**Answer:** Yes, killings do take place between the two communities. The Kuki Zos while defencing their settlements do take life of the attackers while Meitei's way of killing is barbaric and inhumane. They burnt Kuki's alive, beheading, chopping off limbs, desecration of the dead bodies, and dragging the dead body of the victims they murdered, cooking of dead bodies. This is a total violation of National Human Rights Commission

(NHRC) mandated by the Protection of Human Rights Act 1993.

**Question No.24. What difference is seen in payment of relief and ex-gratia during the Manipur crisis?**

**Answer:** Relief materials including provision of fabricated houses, maintenance money, and food and essential items are meagre and almost nil for the displaced Kuki Zos. The ex-gratia payment for one Kuki policeman was Rs 10 lakhs while a Meitei policeman and a Naga Woman killed were paid Rs 60 lakhs and Rs 20 lakhs respectively, even in death the Kuki's are discriminated and treated lower than other beings.

**Question No.25. Any difference in Kuki Zo and Meitei when it comes to getting the essential supply to their respective area?**

**Answer:** Kuki Zo opened highways in Kangpokpi and Jiribam roads, because of which food and essential supply to Manipur valley remain uninterrupted. On the other hand, food and essential supply including medicines to Churachandpur, Moreh and Kangpokpi have been cut-off since the beginning of the ethnic cleansing pogrom. It is a miracle how Kuki Zo people with their resilience manage to survive under such harsh conditions for over a year now.

**Question No.26. Meiteis blamed Kuki Zos for climate change, heavy hailstones and deforestation. What is your observation on this?**

**Answer:** Meiteis should know that there is something called 'Global warming' because of which even 2,800 km long Euphrates River is also drying up. I am afraid one day they will blame Kuki Zos for their failed performance in bed also.

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**Question No.27. Why Meiteis accused the Kukis of certain wrongful activities and hated them so much? Are they competent authority to take matters into their hands?**

**Answer:** The Kuki Zos believed there is some degree of jealousy and envy upon the Kuki Zo people. This is visible when a Meitei gentleman openly said 'IAS, IPS, all Central Government offices all occupied by Kukis etc. As if Kukis had taken away their shares in employment. This kind of negative attitude has been spread for quite some time now among the Meiteis. This is also one reason why kukis have been hated so much by the majority Meitei. Shri N.Biren Singh also mentioned that there are more than 1015 Kuki settlements in Langgol alone. He should remember that Meiteis sale their lands and Kukis purchased it by legal norms. Such idea of blaming the purchaser over the seller is the most crooked mind-set one can imagine.

**Question No.28. Meiteis blamed Kukis for trying to break up Manipur. Do you agree with this view?**

**Answer:** Meitei and tribals have been living separately since time immemorial. Manipur hills were never under the Meitei Kings. This can be confirmed with the fellow Nagas too. There is therefore, no question of breaking Manipur. The Manipur hills were never included at the time of Manipur merger agreement in 1949. Therefore, Manipur Tribals have their rights to 'Independent living'.

**Question No.29. Meiteis blamed Indian Armies/Assam Rifles for siding the Kuki Zo, do you agree with this allegation?**

**Answer:** Two Kuki Zo women were killed by the Security Force on the 5th May 2023 in Lamka, Churachandpur; at least six Kuki Zo men were also reportedly killed in different occasions by Security Forces. There is no record till date of any Meitei being killed by the Army bullet during this one year plus long deadly conflict in Manipur.

**Question No.30. Shri N.Biren Singh always linked the current Manipur crisis with illegal immigration across the border. Do you agree with such the accusation?**

**Answer:** Does anyone conducted or make a survey and release an official data/figure/record of the illegal immigrants coming into Manipur. This is not the time to be carried away by fake news, faked rumours, false propaganda and wild assumptions. Due to the ongoing conflict and unrest in Myanmar some refugees might have come into Manipur or Mizoram, they will definitely go back once peace returns in their country. Even if there are such refugees, why should the Kuki Zo be blamed or fatal accusation be given to them. There were millions of refugees in Europe from Syria and other countries and humanitarian aid were given, asylum given and processed, should the local government of the union government take such action as according to the International norms, rules and regulations.

**Question No. 31. Meiteis remarked Kukis as fighting with many tribes and war monger community. What do you have to say about this remark?**

**Answer:** Even animals react and may even bites when provoked or stepped upon. The Kuki's had fought many defensive wars mostly due to being intolerably provoked or stepped upon and when their existence is threatened. Meiteis had killed many mainland businessmen, Indian armies and Muslims even without being provoke. Will you still call Meiteis good people and Kuki Zo bad people?

*Compiled by - The Kuki Zo Think Tank Group*



It is ridiculous that the Meiteis' Chief Minister N. Biren Singh always put the blame on "illegal immigrants" for stoking the ongoing violence and unrest between the majority Meitei and the Kuki communities, and promised to "identify and repatriate them", despite the lack of substantive evidences of their involvement in the ongoing violence in Manipur.

In his pursuit of searching for an escape route for his deep role in the ongoing pre-planned state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom, the fascist regime under the narcissist N. Biren Singh has been scapegoating the term "illegal immigrants" for the whole Kuki populace, which is discriminatory, derogatory and unconstitutional.

N. Biren Singh must note that some 5000 Myanmarese who had crossed the international border and are temporarily staying in Kamjong, Ukhrul districts are not "illegal immigrants" but "refugees." Due to the ongoing conflict and unrest in Myanmar some refugees might have come into Manipur or Mizoram, but they will definitely go back once peace returns to their country.

Even if there are such refugees, why should the Kuki community be blamed or fatal accusations be given

to them? How many of these "illegal immigrants" actually belong to Kuki tribes? And, how many of them are Naga, Meitei, Shans or Bamar? Biren's propaganda would be exposed if he shows the actual break-up of his purported "illegal immigrants' data."

The fact of the matter is that the present ethnic violence in Manipur is a pre-planned state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom against the Kukis. The devastation is caused solely by the communal chief minister N. Biren Singh and his political cohorts such as the Meiteis' titular king and Rajya Sabha MP, Leisemba Sanajaoba. The refugees have nothing to do with the nurtured heinous crimes against the Kukis.

### Who are illegal immigrants?

Among the Meiteis, a large number of them are illegal immigrants who had immigrated to the valley of Manipur, India, from Kabaw valley of Burma/ Myanmar during the 'Seven years devastation, 1819-1926. There are still unaccounted numbers of Meiteis illegally immigrated to the Indian state of

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Manipur from Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Last year in April, the valley-based media had reported that the Bangladeshi Meiteis were in a dire situation. The Meitei residents in Bangladesh's Sylhet town and Bishgao village strongly felt that the existence of the community in those areas would become a history in the near future as their population decreases rapidly due to migration to other parts of the country, particularly the Indian state of Manipur.

A team of Thoubal District Working Journalists' Union, which was touring the Meitei and Meitei Pangal inhabited areas in Bangladesh had come across possible signs of extinction of Manipuri language (Meeteilon) from use in the next generation. The team found that there were many Meitei houses in the heart of Sylhet town until recently but many of them have now shifted to other areas of the country or moved to India after selling off their homestead lands to Bangladeshis.

Recently, on May 10, 2024, a delegation from the United Committee Manipur (UCM) led by President Joychandra Konthoujam had embarked on a journey to Bangladesh and Tripura with the aim of engaging with the Meitei community residing in the region. The team's mission was to document and share the stories surrounding the ongoing conflict in Manipur and to find their ways for immigration towards Manipur.

### **Indigeneity of the Kukis in Manipur:**

As opposed to the Meiteis labelling of the Kukis as 'illegal immigrants', the Kukis are rather the indigenous community of Manipur, the indigeneity of which is well documented by the colonial writers. The false narrative of "massive illegal immigration from Myanmar" has been created with the sole intention of supporting the narrative that Kukis are 'foreigners' and illegal migrants, that they don't belong to Manipur, but the truth is that the Kukis have inhabited Manipur for ages, and the free

movement regime has been working well not only for the Kukis and Nagas but for all communities, including the Meiteis, who have benefited from it commercially more than any other communities.

For instance, the census of 1901 records the population of Manipur at 2,84,488. Of it, the Kuki population accounted for 41,262, which meant the tribe constituted 14.5% of the state's total population in 1901. According to the 2011 census, the population of the Kukis stands at 4,48,214 persons as against the state's total population of 28,55,794. In 110 years, the growth rate of the Kuki population is less than 2%.

Also, the Kuki settlements in India, Myanmar and Bangladesh predate the British rule. Identified as Chin or Zo, the Kuki settlements cover an approximate area of 50,000 square miles. However, without their consent, the British colonisers made the Kukis and their territories a part of British India (Manipur) and British Burma (Chin state) in 1894. In 1947, East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) was carved out of British India. A set of arbitrary man-made boundaries were created. However, the hill area of Manipur has remained a part and parcel of Kuki ancestral land. Therefore, it is not the Kukis who crossed into Manipur territory. Kuki indigeneity in the region predates the Manipur state itself.

Labelling of the Kuki tribes as foreigners or Myanmarese is also unconstitutional as these tribes had been recognised and included in the schedule list of the tribals in the Constitution of India.

Notably, in the backdrop of N. Biren Singh's proposed plan for deportation of the refugees, the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) had urged the Indian authorities to

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immediately halt all further forcible returns of Myanmar refugees from Manipur and should instead offer protection and support to those seeking safety from serious harm, in line with the non-refoulement principle and India's other obligations under international human rights law.

The forced return of Myanmar refugees breach the principle of non-refoulement, which prohibits the forcible removal of anyone to territories where they may face real risks of irreparable harm, such as torture or other ill-treatment or other serious human rights violations.

The non-refoulement principle is the cornerstone of international protection under international law, including under customary international law and is therefore binding on all States.

Earlier, a Myanmar-based organisation had asked the Manipur government not to deport Myanmar refugees back to the war-torn country unless they choose to return. They say people returning are likely to face conscription. In a statement, the Burma Refugees Committee – Kabaw Valley said they feared that they would be handed over to the military junta.

The organisation said that Myanmar imposed the People's Military Service Law — referred to as "conscription law" — on February 10. "We are extremely worried that handing the Myanmar nationals over to the junta would prompt the military regime to use them as human shields on the battlefields," it said.



## THE DESTROYER OF FOREST: THEN & NOW





# Never Forget-

## Warriors, But Never Forgive- Bribery Leaders

Amidst the ethnic strife, the brave warriors shine,  
In the heart of battles, they across the lines.  
Their sacrifice, a beacon bright,  
Guiding them through the darkest night.  
Through battles fierce, they fought with their might,  
Guarding their ancestral land, in day and night.

Yet amidst the darkness, shadows creep,  
Where bribery leaders and corrupt rulers, sow deceit.  
Their pockets lined with ill-gained gold,  
Their legacy tarnished, truth untold.  
Leaders who traded ancestral pride,  
For greed's embrace, they shamefully hide.

Through trials and tribulations, warriors' persevere,  
Their spirit unbroken, their purpose clear,  
Never forget, their solemn vow, a solemn decree.  
But amidst their valour, a darker shade,  
A leaders who betray, truth they deny, tempted by gold,  
Never forgive, the lies they've told.

So let us remember, warriors true,  
And let us stand against corruption's wave.  
Never forget the warriors' might,  
Never forgive bribery's blight,  
For in our words, their spirits thrive,  
Never forget, never forgive.

~Thongminthang Lhungdim