

Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



**THANGKHOCHON KHONGSAI
KUM 41**

AWAITING JUSTICE



THANGKHOCHON KHONGSAI (41 YEARS)

S/O (L) THONGPAO KHONGSAI

ADDRESS: LANGCHING, CHANDEL

DATE OF DEATH: 29TH MAY, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: LANGCHING, CHANDEL

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.

AFTER HMARS, THADOUS DENOUNCE MANIPUR CHIEF MINISTER'S CLAIMS AS BASELESS AND MISLEADING

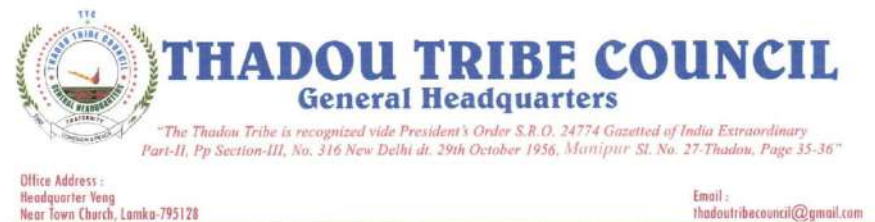
The Thadou Tribe Council, General Headquarters (TTC-GHQ), has issued a strong rebuttal to recent claims made by Manipur Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh. During his address to the Manipur State Assembly on August 12, 2024, Singh suggested that he was considering inviting a delegation of 20-30 Thadou representatives to Imphal, and mentioned additional proposals from Kuki-Zo cognate tribes. The TTC-GHQ has dismissed these statements as false and unfounded.

Notably, The Hmar Inpui, the apex body representing the Hmar tribe, has strongly refuted recent claims made by the Chief Minister of Manipur, N. Biren Singh, during his address to the Manipur State Assembly on August 12, 2024. In a press statement issued yesterday, Hmar Inpui categorically denied what it called an "outrageous and baseless" statement by the Chief Minister, who claimed that the Hmar community was in touch with him.

According to the TTC-GHQ, these claims are misleading and appear to be a tactic by Singh to curry favor with political leaders in Delhi. The Council, which represents the Thadou Tribe, stated that they were unaware of any such proposals or invitations and that any actions taken outside their purview are considered invalid.

In addition, the TTC-GHQ addressed concerns regarding a newly emerged group calling itself the Thadou Community International (TCI). The Council clarified that it had no knowledge of the TCI's formation and was not consulted about it. The TTC-GHQ emphasized that all legitimate Thadou-based organizations, including youth, women, and student groups, were established with their approval and proper procedures.

The TTC-GHQ accused the TCI of being a fabricated entity created by a few non-resident Thadou individuals



Ref. No. 09/PR/2024

Press Release

Date: 14/08/2024

The Thadou Tribe Council, General Headquarters (TTC-GHQ), is compelled to set the record straight regarding the baseless statement made by the Chief Minister of Manipur, Shri N. Biren Singh, during his address on the floor of the Manipur State Assembly on August 12, 2024. He claimed that he was considering inviting the Thadous, as per their proposal, to Imphal, with a team of 20-30 people expected to attend. He also stated that more proposals had come from Kuki-Zo cognate tribes. These claims are false and unfounded. The Thadou Tribe Council (TTC-GHQ), the apex body of the Thadou Tribe, has no knowledge of such developments, and anything outside the Council's purview is invalid.

N. Biren Singh's statement appears to be an attempt to mislead the people of Manipur and is a form of cheap propaganda to appease his political superiors in Delhi. The Thadous are a peace-loving and the largest tribe in present-day Manipur. Nonetheless, we remain determined to achieve justice and a sustainable political solution before peace can be secured.

The TTC-GHQ also feels it is necessary to clarify the issue surrounding the newly surfaced Thadou Community International (TCI). The Thadou Tribe Council TTC-GHQ has no knowledge of the formation of this so-called Thadou Community International (TCI) and was never consulted about its creation. Every Thadou-based organization, including youth, women, and student bodies, was established following proper procedures and, most importantly, with the blessing of the TTC-GHQ. Therefore, the so-called Thadou Community International (TCI) is a bogus entity formed by some non-resident Thadou individuals with vested interests, in collusion with Chief Minister N. Biren Singh.

The so-called Thadou Community International (TCI) led by two/three individuals is believed to have been in constant contact with the Chief Minister of Manipur. This is evident as N. Biren Singh's statement in the Assembly was a response to an open letter from Thadou Community International requesting not to be referred to as Kuki or by any other name. It is possible that the TCI leaders of 20-30 persons are whom the Chief Minister of Manipur expects to come to Imphal for peace negotiations. This insanity must stop outright.

Issued by Information & Publicity,
Thadou Tribe Council (TTC-GHQ)



with ulterior motives, allegedly in coordination with Chief Minister Singh. They further alleged that the TCI's leaders, who are purportedly in communication with Singh, may be the same individuals the Chief Minister expects to invite to Imphal for peace talks.

The TTC-GHQ condemned Singh's actions as an attempt to undermine genuine Thadou representation and called for an end to what they termed as misleading practices. They reaffirmed their commitment to achieving justice and a sustainable political solution for their community.

KUKI-ZO COMMUNITY IN SADAR HILLS EMBRACES 'HAR GHAR TIRANGA' CAMPAIGN, SHOWCASES GENUINE PATRIOTISM

Responding to the patriotism and India's unity call, the Kuki-Zo community in Sadar Hills joined the nation in a powerful display of patriotism during the third edition of the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign.

On Wednesday, a massive 20 km long bike rally was organized, showcasing the community's dedication to upholding national pride and contributing to the vision of a Viksit Bharat (Developed India). The campaign was officially launched on August 12.

The event was graced by the participation of various civil society organizations from Sadar Hills, reflecting the community's enthusiastic engagement with this national initiative.

In an overwhelming display of unity and patriotism, thousands of Kuki-Zo people today participated in a 20 km long bike rally from Gamgiphai to Kangpokpi. The rally, which saw participants waving the tricolour, marked a significant contribution to the national campaign in the lead-up to India's Independence Day.

The event underscored the Kuki-Zo people's strong sense of national belonging and demonstrated their collective resolve to contribute to India's progress. With thousands of participants rallying under the national flag, the bike procession symbolized the community's steadfast patriotism, their commitment to national unity, and their dedication to the country's development.

This rally further elevated the spirit of the Har Ghar Tiranga movement, reinforcing its significance as a national festival that continues to unite communities in celebration of India's freedom.

According to the organizer, the bike rally not only symbolized the Kuki-Zo people's commitment to the



nation but also reinforced their unity and resolve to contribute to India's growth and development.

The Kuki-Zo people along National Highway 2 gave a heartfelt reception to bike rallyists as they passed through various bazar areas. In an inspiring show of patriotism, men, women, children, and students gathered to greet the rally with enthusiasm, while proudly waving the Indian national flag.

In Motbung, Saparmeina, and Keithelmanbi, large Tiranga flags were displayed as the bike rally arrived, symbolizing unity and national pride.

At the Kangpokpi District Headquarters, a public procession holding the giant Tiranga was organized, starting from Downtown Kangpokpi and concluding at Brigadier M. Thomas Ground. The event culminated with a collective prayer, bringing the rally to a heartfelt close.

In addition to the rally, every Kuki-Zo household in Sadar Hills hoisted the tricolour, adding to the wave of national pride sweeping through the region. The widespread participation of the Kuki-Zo people highlights their commitment to unity and their deep connection with the nation.

NSCN-IM LEADER TH. MUIVAH HIGHLIGHTS FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT AS CRUCIAL FOR NAGA SURVIVAL

Th. Muivah, General Secretary of the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN-IM), underscored the critical importance of the Framework Agreement signed on August 3, 2015, during his speech at the 78th Naga Independence Day celebration. Speaking at Camp Hebron, Muivah described the agreement as a “matter of life and death” for the Naga people.

Muivah reflected on the significance of August 14, 1947, when Naga Independence Day was declared, marking a historic moment for the Nagas as they asserted their rights as a sovereign nation. He explained that the declaration was communicated to the United Nations and the Government of India, affirming the Naga people’s quest for self-determination in line with the UN Charter on human rights.

He detailed the NSCN-IM’s approach to the Framework Agreement, highlighting that it was crafted with careful consideration for the future security of the Naga people. Muivah warned against failing to grasp the agreement’s political significance, stressing that such an oversight could lead to ridicule and regret from future generations. He emphasized that the Framework Agreement’s provisions for the peaceful coexistence of India and Nagalim could span decades, depending on mutual understanding.

Muivah also criticized the slow pace of implementation, questioning why Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who played a key role in the agreement’s signing, has not expedited its progress. He called for a stronger



commitment to the agreement, highlighting the need for international support and the Naga community’s perseverance.

Addressing the economic potential of Nagalim, Muivah noted its rich mineral resources and asserted the Naga people’s absolute right to these resources. He warned against external exploitation and reiterated the Naga commitment to protecting their land and sovereignty.

Reflecting on the sacrifices made by past freedom fighters, Muivah urged the current generation to uphold their legacy by remaining true to the vision of an independent Naga nation. He concluded with a call for divine guidance and unwavering dedication to the Naga cause, emphasizing that with faith and commitment, no challenge is insurmountable.



**You can cut all the flowers but you cannot
keep spring from coming .**

- Pablo Neruda

ROCK-AND-ROLL CONCERT MARKS MEITEIS' PATRIOTS DAY; ORGANISERS, PARTICIPANTS FACE BRUNT OF MEITEI MILITIAS' HIGH-HANDEDNESS, FIR LODGED

For the first time in the Meiteis' history, Modern Rock and Roll musical concert has marked their much idolatry "Patriots' Day 2024" ceremony. It was no more a day of observance but over-the-top extravaganzas of dance and pop music.

Organised by All Manipur Football Association, the event witnessed young boys and girls of the Meitei populace, influenced by alcoholic drinks, dancing and partying in an open ground, enjoying the musical event with fanfare. However, their happy moment went short live as the event was met with backlashes from the radicalised armed Meitei groups who have been caging the Meitei civilians from their personal liberty of thoughts and expressions.

For the past one year since the beginning of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom against the Kukis, the Meitei radicalised armed groups under the guidance of their narcissistic chief minister N. Biren Singh have been monitoring the personal affairs of every Meitei individual and any ones not towing to their tune of their dictates often face the brunt of their atrocities. Soon after the concert concludes, the proscribed Meitei militants along with the radicalised Arambai Tenggol cadres started manhunt for the organisers and participants of the musical concert, and were forced to clarify upon their behaviours during the event.

Under the present fascist regime, the state-sponsored militia groups have taken over the state's machineries, ruling over the public as per their whims and fancies. The civilians' fundamental rights of freedom and personal liberty has been shattered and their daily affairs in public life have been monitored strictly. There has been completed breakdown of law and order and the Meitei civilians live a life of constant fears amid the talibanized atmosphere.



Facing backlashes from the militia groups, the All Manipur Football Association (AMFA) has tendered an apology for the incidents that had occurred during the event organized by the association at Khuman Lampak Astro Turf to commemorate the sacrifices of the heroes of the Anglo-Manipuri War, under the theme "Leibak Ningba Eshei" (Song for the Nation).

According to AMFA General Secretary Laiphangbam Jyotirmoy Roy, the concert was intended to promote Manipur's rich cultural heritage through music and to strengthen the association's ties with the community. Supported by Mami TV, the event was meant to be a celebration of the state's spirit and unity, with songs reflecting the valor and pride of Manipur, he said.

Meanwhile, the Directorate of Youth Affairs and Sports has lodged an FIR against the All Manipur Football Association (AMFA) and other people for organising 'Rock Concert' on August 13 when the state observed the 'Patriots' Day' to pay tribute to

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the freedom fighters who laid down their lives fighting against the British in the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891.

Director T. Phulen Meitei, in his complaint, said that the AMFA had organised a 'Rock Concert' at Khuman Lampak Turf ground in Imphal without taking any prior permission or approval from the competent authorities including the concerned Deputy Commissioner and Youth Affairs and Sports department.

"By organising the 'Rock Concert', the AMFA violated peace and tranquillity, as well as other relevant law of the land. Moreover, the AMFA is also held responsible for causing noise pollution without prior permission from Manipur Pollution Control Board," the complaint said.

Meitei said that in the "unceremonious event" on Tuesday, many youth of Manipur had gathered, with many under the influence of alcohol, and created a ruckus. "This is an insult to our fallen heroes of Manipur who sacrificed their lives against the mighty Englishmen," he said.

"The act of the AMFA is a slap to our fallen heroes and hurt the sentiment of the people of Manipur," the Youth Affairs and Sport Director added.

The official requested the police to take necessary action against all the executive members of AMFA and others who are involved in organising such an event at the earliest.



Ravinder Kapur. @RavinderKapur2



Look at the Irony of India and the hypocrisy of Narendra Modi and the BJP .

They ruling BJP is not bothered for the people are being paraded naked and murdered in Manipur for the past 18 months , but they are more concerned of spreading false propaganda through their Godi Media channels of Hindu's living in Bangladesh .



11:37 · 13 Aug 24 · 2,389 Views



Sushma Sharma @SushmaSh22

The #Meitei are not only boycotting India's Independence Day but some radical groups are also marking the 78th "#Manipur Independence Day" today.

While those are labeled as anti national, Kuki, the demand for #SeparateAdministration4KukiZo operates within the bounds of the Indian Constitution but whatever they are doing is totally not.

On October 30, 2019, #Meitei separatists Yambem Biren and Narengbam Samarjit declared Manipur's independence from India and established a "de jure" Manipur Government in London.

The point is how much longer will the central government remain passive in the face of these #Secessionist and #Separatist movements? #Kanguva #LCDLFX2 #KanguvaTrailer



13:31 · 14 Aug 24 · 32 Views



KABUI UNION MANIPUR DENOUNCES NAGA IDENTITY

The Kabui Union Manipur, based in Mahabali Kabui Village, Imphal East, has released a statement addressing concerns about the community's ethnic identity. K. Rajen Kabui, Vice President of the Union, emphasized that the Kabui people are distinct from the Naga ethnic group, refuting both historical and recent claims suggesting otherwise.

The press release underscores that prominent figures such as Kabui Tomba and Kabui Salang Maiba, who were instrumental in the Moirang Kangleirol, were not affiliated with the Naga identity. The Kabui community, officially recognized as a Scheduled Tribe in India since 1950, has preserved its unique cultural and religious traditions. However, the Union has raised concerns over various groups and external forces attempting to classify Kabui as Naga, American, German, or Kuki.

In 2012, the Ministry of Law & Justice officially recognized Kabui, Inpui, and Rongmei as distinct communities. The

Rongmei People's Charter Declaration of January 9, 2018, reinforced this by affirming the identity of the community as "Rongmei," and rejecting any alternative labels.

The Kabui Union has criticized certain individuals, particularly Achung Phaomei and Yazing Vicsy, for promoting the notion that Kabui and Rongmei are identical. The Union warns that further attempts to undermine the community's constitutional rights will not be tolerated.

Moreover, the Union expressed frustration over the confusion regarding their identity, noting that All India Radio, Imphal, mistakenly labeled a Kabui program as a Rongmei program. They have called on Civil Society Organizations to support their efforts in preserving the Kabui identity and protecting the community from marginalization.

2 BSF MEN KILLED IN MANIPUR ETHNIC CLASHES AWARDED GALLANTRY MEDALS

Two BSF personnel who were killed in the line of duty and one who received injuries in violent ethnic clashes in Manipur were awarded the police medal for gallantry (GM) on the eve of Independence Day on Wednesday.

According to a statement issued by the Union home ministry, the awardees include late constables Narender Kumar and Ranjit Yadav and Assistant Commandant Ashok Kumar, apart from three other personnel of the border force.

Narender Kumar (posthumously) and his senior, Ashok Kumar, have been decorated with the medal for "displaying indomitable courage with utter disregard to personal safety and devotion beyond call of duty"

during violent clashes with protestors on May 28, 2023 in Moreh town of Tengnoupal district.

"The jawan displayed gallant and indomitable courage with utter disregard to personal safety and saved the life of fellow soldiers beyond call of duty and laid down his life for the cause of the nation," the citation said.

The BSF, with about 2.65 lakh personnel in its ranks, is primarily tasked with guarding the sensitive Indian borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh, apart from rendering a variety of duties in the country's internal security domain.





NEWS ANALYSIS

Manipur Bar Association Protest Against Colin Gonsalves's Remarks Exposes Concerns Over Free Speech and Justice

On August 13, 2024, Moirangthem Chuba Devi, Secretary in Charge of the All Manipur Bar Association (AMBA), issued a notice calling all members of the Manipur Bar Association to participate in a sit-in protest. The demonstration was held in front of the Cheirap Court Complex in Uripok, Imphal West today. This protest is in response to an alleged inflammatory speech given by Sr. Advocate Colin Gonsalves five months earlier on International Women's Day, 2024, at the Constitution Club of India in New Delhi, where he called for justice.

The speech, delivered at a press conference organized by the Kuki-Zo Women's Forum and Kuki Students' Organization in Delhi & NCR, was criticized for supposedly undermining the High Court of Manipur. In his remarks, Gonsalves questioned the effectiveness of the High Court in protecting constitutional rights and highlighted its perceived inaction amidst ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur. He criticized the court for failing to address incidents of violence near Imphal and for lacking compassion in response to the atrocities.

Gonsalves's statements, made in the context of escalating violence and the presence of armed militants in Manipur, were seen by some as a critique of the High Court's role and effectiveness. The speech came after disturbing videos in January 2024 showed militants with heavy weaponry, adding to concerns about escalating conflict and the impact on upcoming elections.

Excerpt from the speech of Mr. Gonsalves reads: "...The High Court in Imphal sometimes I think it is better it is closed down only. What is the use? As a High Court you are supposed to protect the Constitution, protecting the Constitution means protecting Article 21, protecting Article 21 means protecting the Right to Life. You can't protect the Right to Life of people whose houses were burnt 1 kilometre from the Court at Imphal 2 kilometres. What is the point of keeping a High Court, just for show? Just to show that you have a justice delivery system in our country? Oh! how great democracy is, look at the number of High Courts that we have. What is the point? Did anyone show compassion? Did any Judge show compassion? Did any Judge take up a case and say I am seeing people killed, this is the newspaper with their photographs. I want an answer from the DGP. Tell me why were they killed? How were they killed? What have you done? No answer..."

The AMBA's call for protest against Gonsalves's speech raises concerns about the suppression of free speech. In a democratic society, free speech is vital for the exchange of ideas and criticism of authority. By protesting against Gonsalves's

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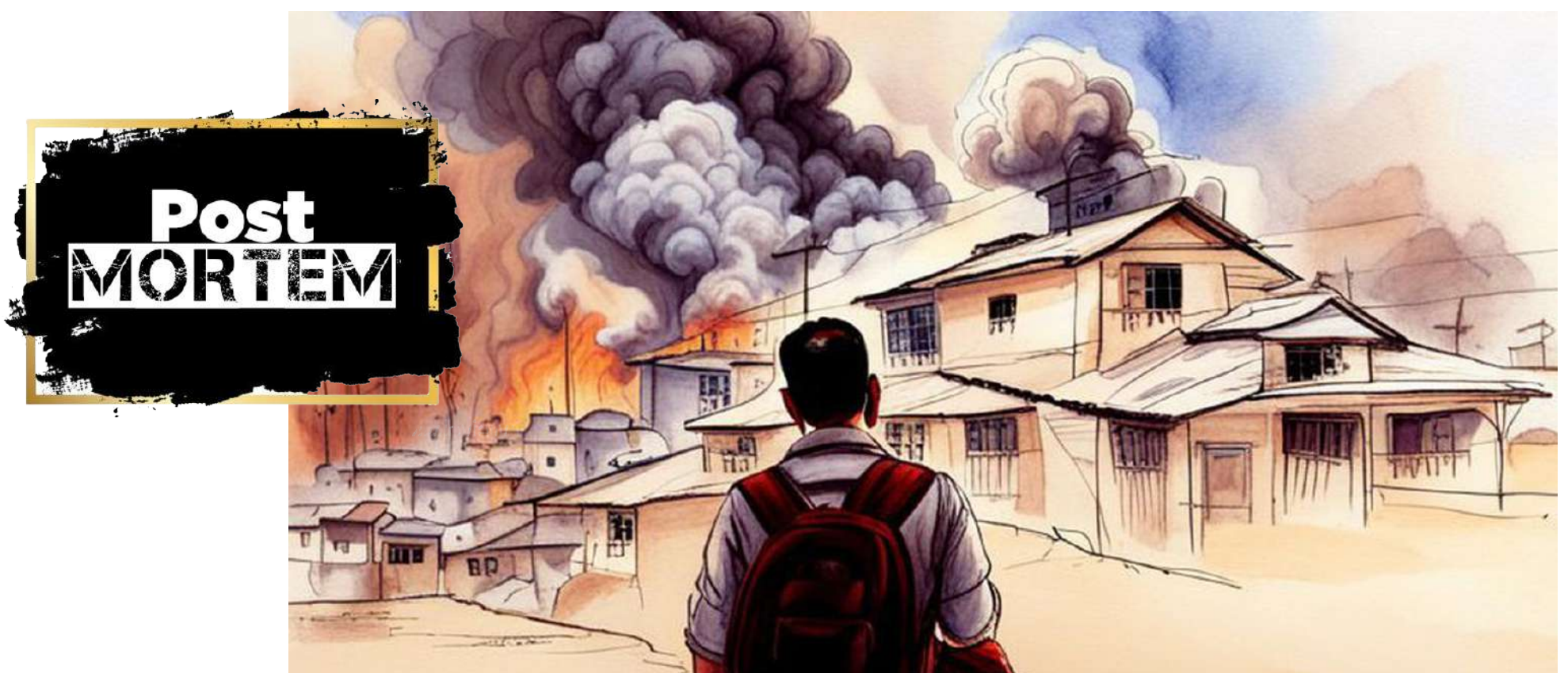
remarks, AMBA may set a concerning precedent for stifling dissenting voices, potentially intimidating other activists, lawyers, and citizens who speak out against injustice.

The incident at B. Phainom on May 4, 2023, gained widespread media attention on July 19, 2023. The Supreme Court then took *Suo Motu Cognizance* of the case on July 20, 2023. Prior to the video's viral spread, witness accounts had already been circulated and reported by various outlets in May 2023. The Manipur High Court had ample time to address the issue before the Supreme Court intervened, leading to public confusion over the High Court's and AMBA's roles in delivering justice beyond ethnic divides.

On July 3, 2024, the Supreme Court criticized the lack of medical care for an undertrial inmate in Manipur Jail just because he belongs to the Kuki community. If the Manipur High Court, supported by AMBA, had been more proactive in addressing jail conditions, the Supreme Court might not have needed to step in.

The ongoing silence of the Manipur High Court and AMBA regarding the crime and injustice in Manipur Valley raises concerns. Issues like illegal extortion, the display of assault rifles by militants, and the intimidation of civilians fall under the High Court's jurisdiction but are not seen as acts of violence or undermining the rule of law by AMBA. Ironically, a speech calling for justice is being labeled as inciting violence and undermining the High Court, despite the evident legal and social issues at hand.

The Supreme Court's intervention and observations about law and order in Manipur underscore concerns about the local judiciary's effectiveness. The AMBA's reaction to Gonsalves's speech may be seen as an attempt to distract from these broader issues, potentially inflaming tensions within the Meitei community and undermining the reputation of Gonsalves, who is involved in significant legal cases, including representing tribal unions and victims in high-profile matters.



THE MANIPUR HORROR REMEMBRANCE DAY



BURN YOUR MIDNIGHT LAMP

Burn your midnight lamp,
Brave Kuki kinsmen, don't cease,
Until the battle's won, and victory's release.
How long shall injustice dictate, with iron hand?
Their doom is near, truth triumphs, across this land.

Burn your midnight lamp,
Dear hearts ablaze,
For in perseverance, the most valuable price is paid.
Resilience yields the rarest treasure, don't you know?
Never say die, until destiny's conquest is shown.

Burn your midnight lamp,
A higher place awaits, beyond imagination's might,
We made a tryst with destiny, a promise to hold tight.
For ourselves, our children, and their children yet to be,
A better future beckons, where heads are held high with glee.

Burn your midnight lamp,
Let the gong we beat resound far and wide,
Let the charred wood tied with chillies be our guide.
And when the news of Zalengam spreads like wildfire's might
May it wipe away the tears, of the widowed, the young, and the old in sight
May it bring solace to the martyrs, and comfort to the brave
And may our struggle's legacy, forever be engraved.

- Moses H. Khongsai