

Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



**RESONATING SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION DEMAND
AMID UNENDING BRUTALITY**



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 13.04.2024



173
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.

AMIT SHAH'S STATEMENT IN MANIPUR SEEN AS A BID FOR MAJORITY COMMUNITY VOTES, IGNORING ALLIANCE CONCERNS

Amit Shah landed in Imphal today injecting a fresh momentum to the BJP's campaign, setting the stage for a fierce battle for power in Manipur.

His flight landed at Imphal airport at around 2 PM and Shah wasted no time in engaging with the public, swiftly making his way to the venue of the eagerly awaited rally at Hapta Kangjeibung at 2:50 PM.

In his address to the audience, Shah framed the upcoming election not as a mere contest between political parties but rather a decisive battle between "those striving to preserve Manipur's unity and those seeking to sow discord and division".

"There is no one who can break Manipur", declared Amit Shah.

Shah's ferocious statement can be viewed as an appeasement to the majority community of Manipur, trying to woo the bulk of Meitei voters for the BJP candidate Mr. Thounaojam Basanta Kumar, sidelining the sentiments of their NDA partner NPF in the Outer Manipur seat. Amit Shah in his speech assured the mammoth gathering at Hapta Kangjeibung that the state's integrity will be intact and no elements will be allowed to break it.

The BJP and NPF is alliance partner in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and also formed a coalition government in the state. NPF has two cabinet ministers in BJP led government of Manipur. As such, the BJP has decided to share a seat in the Outer Manipur Parliamentary Constituency, supporting NPF candidate Kachui Timothy Zimik in the 18th Lok Sabha elections.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement sent a strong message to all who demand a separate entity from Manipur. Manipur – inhabited by three major communities has



had its fair share of demands from time to time. The Naga tribal group has been supporting the Naga Framework Agreement. The NPF has been a regional party who always stood for the speeding up of Naga peace talks between the Centre and the NSCN-IM. The NSCN-IM's political demands on the otherhand include, carving out a separate Nagalim from the Naga dominated district of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, which literally means the bifurcation of Manipur.

Here comes the complexity of Union Home Minister's statement. On the one hand, he assured the people of Manipur that the state's integrity will be intact, on the other, he and his party support the official candidate of a political party whose ideology and aim is the breakaway of Naga dominated areas from Manipur. This standpoint thus posed confusion and dilemma for Meitei voters of Outer Manipur Parliamentary Constituency.

Addressing several contentious issues such as the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), Shah affirmed the BJP's efforts to reduce its implementation in Manipur, signaling a shift towards a more nuanced approach to security in the state.

CoTU SHUTS GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN PROTEST AGAINST PHAILENGMOL'S GRUESOME KILLING

With a mere three days left until the first phase of the 18th Lok Sabha polls, Kangpokpi District, set to vote in this phase, witnessed the indefinite closure of Government offices in the District Headquarters today, amplifying the resounding roar of the Kuki community in the aftermath of Phailengmol's brutal murder.

As the indefinite closure of Government offices in Kangpokpi District Headquarters unfolded, Union Home Minister Amit Shah was in the heart of Imphal, Manipur's capital; fervently gearing up for the looming Lok Sabha polls.

Led by the Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU), Sadar Hills Kangpokpi District, various Government offices including the Sadar Hills Autonomous District Council, Zonal Education Office (ZEO), Town Employment Exchange, etc. were indefinitely closed.

CoTU leaders also met the District Election Officer, Mahesh Chaudhari, who is also the District Deputy Commissioner and apprised him of the Phailengmol's gruesome killing placing some charter of demands to be taken seriously.

Moreover, CoTU leaders held crucial discussions with Mahesh Chaudhari, the District Election Officer and District Deputy Commissioner, to address the distressing incident in Phailengmol, presenting a compelling list of demands requiring immediate attention.

The demands entail a judicial investigation into the brutal killing of Phailengmol, as well as the delivery of the two volunteers' bodies by tonight.

According to the Committee, failure to deliver the deceased bodies of the Kuki Village Volunteers by tonight will force the closure of the DC/



DEO Kangpokpi tomorrow, April 16, 2024.

Speaking to the media on the sideline of the closure of Government offices, CoTU's Media Cell Coordinator, Ng. Lun Kipgen said that in continuation of the public protest, they are compelled to close all Government offices in the district headquarters today, and that they will be liable to close even the DC/DEO office tomorrow if their two Kuki volunteers' dead bodies are not delivered tonight.

He also fervently appealed to the Chief Election Commissioner of India to take cognisance of the plights of the Kuki people for the past eleven months at the hands of a fascist leader in Imphal.

According to the committee, it will maintain the closure of government offices in every Sub-Division of the district until their demands are met without compromise.

VICTIMS OF “WALL OF REMEMBRANCE MASSACRE” LAID TO REST AFTER 2 MONTHS

The two innocent victims of February incident were finally laid to rest today at Martyrs' Cemetery at Sehken Village in Churachandpur district. They are Letlalkhuol Gangte (29), son of Kamkhomang Gangte of Nalon Village and Thanggunlen Haokip (15), son of Seilal Haokip of S. Canaan Veng.

On February 15, a group of civilians protested in front of the Mini Secretariat Complex at Tuibong after a head constable of the district police was suspended. Security forces fired several rounds of tear gas shells and lived rounds to disperse the agitators, during which two individuals were killed and as many as 30 people sustained injuries in the clash.

This incident has been described as “Wall of Remembrance Massacre” by the locals, drawing comparison with the Jallianwalla Bagh Massacre.

After two months of the infamous deadly incident, the mortal remains of the two innocent individuals were



laid to rest with full honours today at the ‘Martyrs Cemetery’ by the Joint Philanthropic Organizations (JPO).

Several buses and trucks used by security forces were burnt by the protesters as security forces fired live rounds at the gathering.



I began revolution with 82 men. If I had to do it again, I do it with 10 or 15 and absolute faith. It does not matter how small you are if you have faith and plan of action.

— Fidel Castro

MANIPUR POLICE REGISTER 'ZERO FIRS' OVER KILLINGS OF TWO KUKI-ZO MEN

The Manipur police have now registered two First Information Reports (FIRs) over the killings of two Kuki-Zo village volunteers on Saturday, following which their bodies were allegedly mutilated, as per videos circulating on social media. A police source said Zero FIRs were registered at the Kangpokpi police station on Sunday.

The cases were registered based on complaints from family members of the two deceased, who were identified as Kamminlal Lupheng (23) of K. Sajag village in Kangpokpi district and Kamlensat Lunkim (25) of Bongjang village in the same district.

According to the complaints filed by the older brothers of the deceased, the mortal remains of their younger brothers were yet to be returned to them. A police source confirmed that the bodies of the men were yet to be returned to the families and that the Imphal East police were working on it.

The complaints over the incident accused members of Arambai Tenggol for the attacks on the "village volunteers" and cases have been registered under Section 16 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Section 3 of the SC & ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, and relevant Sections of the Indian Penal Code for murder, criminal conspiracy, rioting, criminal intimidation, and connected offences. The police have also invoked Sections of the Arms Act in the FIRs.

Forum's plea

The Manipur Tribals Forum, Delhi (MTFD) on Sunday also wrote to Datta Padsalgikar, DGP (retired), the officer appointed by the Supreme Court to chair the committee for investigation and prosecution of offences related to the ethnic conflict in the State that began on May 3 last year.

In their letter, the MTFD said that after killing Mr. Lupheng and Mr. Lunkim "their feet were tied with ropes and they were dragged down the hillside. Then the videos show that their arms and limbs were hacked



into pieces with a machete and paraded" all of which could be seen in videos that had gone viral on social media.

The MTFD letters added, "From May last year we have been pleading with the police and the judiciary to save our community but it is clear that nobody will take any steps to save our lives. The elections are supposed to start in four days' time. These killings are a warning to our community that should we participate in elections our lives will be in danger.

Manipur is set to vote in two phases on April 19 and April 26. Inner Manipur and parts of Outer Manipur that comprise hill districts such as Kangpokpi and Churachandpur are scheduled to vote in the first phases while the rest of Outer Manipur is set to vote in the second phase.

This latest spate of violence comes after a lull of over a month in the ongoing conflict, which has so far killed over 220 people, injured thousands of others, and internally displaced tens of thousands.

The killings have led to widespread protests across Churachandpur, Kangpokpi and in New Delhi as well. Several tribal bodies have issued statements, some calling for a shutdown in Kangpokpi, others calling for a candle-light vigil in Churachandpur.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

MANIPUR CONGRESS RESPONDS TO AMIT SHAH'S STATEMENT, FALSE PROMISES IN IMPHAL

Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee has strongly opposed and condemned some of the statements given by Union Home Minister Amit Shah while addressing a public gathering in Imphal on Monday.

The Working President of Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee, Kh. Devabratta, briefed the media at Congress Bhavan, Imphal, on Monday and made clarification in connection with the false promises of the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, such as; border fencing issues and the ongoing ethnic-violence in the state.

Recalling the statement given by Amit Shah on June 2, 2023, wherein he had promised the people of Manipur of visiting the State again within 15 days and that he would solve the Manipur crisis, Devabratta said the home minister never uttered a word, neither came back nor tried to contact the public and leaders. But, Amit Shah commanded the state government for the change of the DGP, forming a unified command among other things, he alleged.

Regarding the border fencing issue, the Home Minister has claimed that it has been the Prime Minister Narendra Modi who has taken the initiative to fence the border between Myanmar and India to prevent the crisis. However, Devabratta said, "Amit Shah's statement is 100 percent false. If we go to the MHA's annual report of 2012 and 13 in page 34 under column 'Border management along India and Myanmar border', it is found that the border fencing was started in that period with a sanction amount of about 30.9 crore".

On labelling INC candidate for Inner Lok Sabha seat, Bimol Akoijam as part of the 'tukre tukre gangs', Devabratta responded that Amit Shah has expressed the position taken by BJP all over the country that whosoever spoke against the BJP and its establishment



are all termed as 'Tukre tukre gangs'. He also stated that "Bimol Akoijam has been vocal in criticising the establishment of BJP for the past decade, which aimed for the destruction of institutions under the Constitution. As such Bimol has been put under the Tukre tukre gang, who in fact is a lover of the nation and also a patriot".

On Amit Shah's claim of many crimes and conflict in the State during the Congress government, Devabratta responded that the conflicts during the Congress government were immediately put under control. Under the Congress government, pluralism, democracy and secularism prevailed. However, the BJP tries to disrupt whenever they rule the state of Manipur, he said.

After the infamous June 18 incident in Manipur, the Centre was forced/made to retract its decision on certain issues with the NSCN IM, he added.

Many people have claimed that the present crisis in the State is generated by the present government under the BJP government, Devabratta alleged.



NEWS ANALYSIS

Contrary to Amit Shah's Assertion, Manipur Already Divided into Two States

Home Minister Amit Shah's statement on protecting "Manipur territorial integrity" is just an eyewash to please the Meitei electorates, as the same is not reflected in the BJP Official Document - Sankalp Patra (Manifesto).

"Integrity of Manipur" is a bogus phrase, devoid of any substance. The fact of the matter is, the State is already "broken" into pieces. The partition of Manipur was completed on May 3, 2023, more or less similar to the case of India and Pakistan in 1947.

Albeit the territorial integrity, emotional integration too has been absolutely absent in the minds of the people. Any political leader can shout at the top of his or her voice on a stage, particularly during election campaigns, make promises that are ludicrous meant only for scoring political points, but their genuine interests are categorically reflected in their official written document. Here, the BJP's manifesto neither made any promises on the so-called "integration" nor made any mention of a "separate administration."

However, the reality is that total separation has been in existence since the 3rd of May 2023 under the BJP's double-engine governments. Demographic exchange has been done and the Meitei people cannot cross over to any of the Kukis' territory and vice versa. The Buffer zones or Lines of Control has been drawn, maintained

and guarded by the respective village volunteers along with the central security forces.

In addition, the Bharatiya Janata Party has nothing for show on the table before the people, as do they not bear the guts to mention the protection of Manipur territorial integrity in their Manifesto. The noticeable absence of their planned solution to the Manipur mayhem in their manifesto is a clear indication that Modi government at the centre has implicitly acknowledged the breakdown of Manipur into two States.

Amit Shah also said that a conspiracy has been hatched to change the demography of the small State through illegal migration; and to that he said, the BJP government has decided to end the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the Indo-Myanmar border which enabled drug-trade. Here, the Union Home Minister was misrepresented by the fascist Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh and his political cohorts. Analysing the official document of the Election Commission of India (Electoral Rolls) clearly points to no demographic changes with respect to the Kuki population in Manipur. The official Census 2011 also demonstrated the

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normal growth of the Kuki population. As per data collected by N. Biren Singh government, the number of illegal immigrants from Myanmar, as a result of the humanitarian crisis in the country, is just about 2000-5000 people. Most of whom have now been deported.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday also said that the BJP-led central government's priority is to establish peace and harmony in the ethnic-strife that affected Manipur and ruled out any division of the northeastern state.

This Lok Sabha elections is between forces trying to break Manipur and those keeping it united, Shah said at a public meeting in Imphal. "No matter how hard anyone tries, we will not let anyone divide Manipur", he said.

However, it should be noted that it is rather the BJP government that divided the people of Manipur. It has been broken to such a large extent and will never be the same again, as it is now beyond repair. The BJP leader must realise that fixing the Manipur crisis by formalising a 'Separate Administration' for the Kukis is far more important than scoring political points.

The besieged, sandwiched and beleaguered Kuki people's demand is not to break the integrity of the 650-700 square miles "Meiteis' Manipur"; but rather the "restoration of their lost freedom" enjoyed by their forefathers/ancestors, who bravely fought the mighty British Empire in defence of their ancestral land and freedom.



LAUNCHING SOON

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.

**OPINION****Are Meiteis Back to the Age of Canibalism? Various Incidents Suggest the Presence of Individuals Who Might Still Consume Human Flesh**

There has been a series of extremely disturbing images and video footage since two Kuki village volunteers were killed in Phailengmol Area of Saikul Sub-division (now Island), Kangpokpi district, on Saturday. The Meitei terrorists had proudly circulated videos and images in which they are seen hacking the bodies of the two innocent victims as never seen before in India. They also dragged the bodies, chopped off the limbs, and even the heads, and put up the hand on a tree, probably as a sign of victory.

In one such latest image which went viral on social media today, the lifeless body of one of the victims was shown lying on a dust filled ground without hands, legs, head, and even a shirt, and a Meitei woman, possibly a member of the Meira Paibi, standing nearby supposedly pulling away a cloth from the body.

Even after making fun of and treating in the most barbaric manner the dead bodies of the two Kuki village guards who had made the supreme sacrifice in defence of their village, the families and the Kuki community were denied even basic human rights in mourning their deaths as the Meitei terrorists refused to return even the bodies.

For the tribals, most particularly the Kukis, it is extremely important to show utmost respect to the dead even if it belongs to the enemies. However, for the Meitei/Meetei community who claims to have 2000 years of

written history with their own scripts and highly modernised culture, the way in which such cruelty were committed did not end with the desecration of the dead bodies, but goes much beyond. In the last two days, many of the Meiteis made distressing videos celebrating the death and desecration of the two bodies of the Kuki martyrs.

In one such video, a Meitei man was seen showing a big piece of meat from a pot which he claimed was the neck of one of the victims. After seeing this video, many wonder whether a section of the Meiteis really practice cannibalism!

Here, it may be worth recalling that back in 2015, three Meitei men were arrested by the police allegedly for cooking and eating the flesh of a fellow Meitei man. According to a police officer investigating the case, as reported by the local and national media, one W. Ramananda @Rouso (39) of Kontha Ahallup, Imphal, was arrested along with one Gopen and Naren, for allegedly murdering and cooking of the flesh of one person identified as Tomba of Kwakeithel Moirangpurel, for consumption.

Whereas W. Ramananda belongs to the banned Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP-Lallumba)

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outfit, Tomba allegedly belonged to the KCP (Nando) faction.

The news report which shocked the whole Manipur back then added that one Boimacha, who was instructed by W. Ramananda to kill Tomba, got ill after consuming the cooked meat of the victim and later succumbed to his illness.

Also, it is reported that, as per the confession made by the main culprit, W. Ramananda, all the 30 cadres of KCP(Lallumba) were given prior information before they all consumed the cooked human meat.

This horrible story, as per a report prepared by India Today, is one of the three rare cases of cannibalism in Northeast India in the recent past. Yet, we can only imagine whether cannibalism still exists among the Meitei society based on this extremely disturbing story. And if cannibalism really exists among the Meiteis, it may be noted that it is not only a serious crime against humanity but one of the most horrible things to do in this civilised world.

Meanwhile, as the dead bodies were cut into pieces by the Meitei terrorists, and refused to be returned to the Kuki community for the last rite, it can only be guessed what might have been done to them. For the Kukis, it is always a tradition to allow the victim party to claim the bodies of an enemy killed in the battlefield.

Since the outbreak of the current ethnic violence, there have been many instances of atrocities committed by the Meiteis against the minority Kuki-Zo community. The manner in which David Theik was killed in the most gruesome manner before his head was chopped off and hung on a pole; the way the 7-year old Tonsing was burnt alive in an ambulance along with his mother and aunt (both Meitei); how two Kuki women were paraded naked and later gangraped; how the Meitei Women (Meira Paibis) handed over a Kuki woman to the Meitei boys to rape, and how their professors and intellectuals, including Dr. Bhagat Oinam and Dr. A. Bimol Akoijam of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, openly defended such inhumane treatment on national television channels, all compels us to

ask ourselves: are the Meiteis even worth calling human beings?

While the Kuki-Zo community is facing a serious threat to their existence fighting the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing campaign, the Government of India seems to have turned its back. Similarly, their fellow Christian tribals in Manipur, particularly the Nagas, too, unfortunately choose to remain neutral. And even after more than 11 months, none of the Naga frontal organisations or respectable personalities, including the four candidates for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, have uttered a single word on the extreme cruelties faced by the Kukis at the hands of the dominant Meitei community and its government whom they had once called “communal government”.

In fact, for the community leaders and social elites within the Naga tribes, development funds and the two lakhs-odd Meitei votes for II-Outer Manipur constituency seems more important than the extreme hardship faced by their fellow Christian tribals in the hands of the dominant Hindu/Sanamahi community. Despite all these, the Kuki-Zo community wouldn't forget the generous help extended by many Nagas, including the Churches, in some cases even to the extent of risking their own lives. The same goes to the Muslims and few good souls among the Meiteis in the initial days of the violence.

Since the beginning of the violence, the only little hope the Kuki-Zo community had was on the neutral role played by the Indian Army. However, the alleged killing of the two Kuki village guards by the Bihar Regiment has seriously affected the trust put on them by the community. Now, for the Kukis, there is no alternative but to continue the fight against the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing campaign to defend their ancestral land and freedom, or to die for it. Whether the government of India and the international community comes forward to help them or not, the Kukis will keep fighting till the end.

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ



Sushant Singh
@SushantSin

Manipur is a political failure. The security problem is a manifestation of that. That the state government continues to remain in power after all this is unpardonable.

Zero FIRs registered over killing of two Kuki-Zo men; bodies yet to be returned

Abhinav Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Manipur police on Sunday registered two Zero FIRs over the killing of two Kuki-Zo village volunteers in firing near Kangpokpi district on Saturday.

The bodies were allegedly mutilated and the police are working on returning them to the family members. The FIRs accused the Arambai Tengol for the attacks.

The cases were registered based on complaints by family members of the victims – identified as Kamminlai Lupheng, 23, and Kamlensat Lunkin, 25. The kin alleged that a vehicle carrying the bodies was attacked by a mob.

The Manipur Tribals Forum, Delhi, wrote to Datta Padsalgikar, DGP (retired), the officer appointed by the Supreme Court to chair the Committee for investi-



Tight security arrangement made on the highway between violence-hit Churachandpur and Bishnupur. RITU RAJ KONWAR

gation and Prosecution of offences related to the ethnic conflict in the State that began on May 3 last year.

"From May last year, we have been pleading with the police and the judiciary to save our community, but it is clear that nobody will take any steps to save our lives. The elections are supposed to start in four days' time. These killings are a warning to our community that should we participate in elections, our lives will be in danger," the letter said.

Several tribal bodies have issued statements, some calling for a shutdown in Kangpokpi, and others for a candlelight vigil in Churachandpur.

A Kuki students' body in Delhi-NCR has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, stating that Mr. Shah's visit to Manipur is "a must" now and he must promise the Kuki-Zo people in writing to settle the conflict once and for all. Mr. Shah is likely to visit Imphal for campaigning.

A group of Kuki-Zo women and leaders of Kuki-Zomi-Hmar women's forums in Delhi, have written to the Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar, informing him of their decision to boycott the poll.

In Delhi's Jantar Mantar, the KSO's Delhi-NCR unit and the Kuki-Zo Women's Forum, Delhi, organised a protest on Sunday.

The violence came after a lull of over a month. Throughout the past week, as political parties in the State found covert ways to campaign in light of the conflict, voters in both constituencies expressed no enthusiasm towards the election on April 19 and 26.

Protests erupt
The latest killings also led to protests by members of the Kuki-Zo community across Churachandpur and Kangpokpi districts of Manipur, and in New Delhi.

9:04 am · 15 Apr 24 · 6,473 Views



RAHUL
@RahulSeeker

Follow

No channel is covering it, getting used to it, even us, Israel-Iran is a Hot topic now but what about your countrymen who lost their families? They are also Indians. Why did our PM fail to solve the issue? He is FAILED miserably

After the murder & mutilation of 'Village Volunteers' a group of Kuki-Zomi-Hmar women has written to CEC @ECISVEEP informing the decision of the community's women to boycott the LS Election.

Demanding Amit Shah's visit now. Today Protest Delhi. However, DCP (New Delhi) Devesh Kumar claimed that only 10-15 protesters from Manipur gathered. Is it looking like 10-15 people?



10:09 pm · 14 Apr 24 · 96.8K Views



THE AMIT SHAH'S CAMPAIGN IN MANIPUR





Death is our Truest Friend!

How dare you set foot on our land?!
And dictate to us with your own terms and conditions.
Our land and resources are not for sale to exploit!
Nor for you to put up at the table for bidding & tender!
We are not your slaves to be traded at your will,
Rather noble citizens to be honored!
Nor our rights be abused by your kleptocracy.

Lo! We'll ne'er surrender to fall on your knees easily!
Unless you slay us all with the blades of your cruel swords!
Nor will our existence & identity be at your mercy!
For if you choose to co-exist peacefully with us,
You will not see better friends than us!
If you rather choose violence to rule over us,
You will not see foes fiercer than us!

Lo! Be aware! We are not even scared of death!
For death is our truest friend who never fails us daily!
If you rule over us by brute force; in brute force, we will resist!
If you rule over us with love; with love, we will serve!
If you rule over us in peace; in peace, we will live!
So, choose your weapons well in dealing with us!
For we will never give away even an inch of our Fatherland!

*[This poem is written against the tyrannical government of
India over the Kukis]*

- Hillsman J. Tearsworth