

Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



AWAITING JUSTICE



DAVID THIEK HMAR (32 YEARS)

S/O LALKHUMLIEN THIEK

ADDRESS: CHINGLANGMEI (LANGZA), LAMKA

DATE OF DEATH: 29TH JUNE, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: CHINGLANGMEI (LANGZA), LAMKA

CAUSE OF DEATH: TORTURED & BEHEADED BY MEITEI MILITANTS



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 11.09.2024



199
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.

KUKI-ZO WOMEN'S FORUM DELHI & NCR DENOUNCES ALLEGATIONS FROM MEITEI HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Kuki-Zo Women's Forum Delhi & NCR has issued a robust rebuttal against recent allegations made by the Meitei Heritage Society, DeMAS, and NUPI, denouncing their claims as baseless and inflammatory. The forum accused these groups of spreading false narratives and escalating tensions in the ongoing conflict in Manipur.

In a statement released today, the Kuki-Zo Women's Forum rejected allegations of drone bombings and missile attacks attributed to "armed Kuki terrorists," labeling them as fabrications designed to malign the Kuki-Zo community. The forum argued that such disinformation is a tactic to divert attention from the real violence and ethnic cleansing perpetrated against Kuki-Zo communities. They emphasized that the Kuki-Zo people have been defending themselves in the face of severe violence and displacement.

The statement highlighted the views of Lt. Gen. (Retd.) P C Nair, a respected former Director General of the Assam Rifles, who has confirmed that there is no credible evidence supporting claims of drone bombings on Meitei civilians by Kuki-Zo individuals. The forum criticized the Meitei Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for attempting to undermine Gen. Nair's credibility, suggesting that their actions reveal a fear of the truth being exposed.

The forum also condemned the Meitei Heritage Society's portrayal of Kuki-Zo communities as aggressors. They pointed out that multiple credible sources, including human rights organizations and media outlets, have documented attacks by Meitei militants on Kuki-Zo settlements. The forum challenged the Meitei Heritage Society to provide verifiable evidence to support their accusations rather than perpetuating fabricated stories.

Additionally, the forum addressed the personal attacks on Mr. Pojakhup Guite, President of the Kuki Students' Organization (KSO) Delhi. They accused the accusers



of distorting his statements to malign the Kuki-Zo people and criticized the selective use of quotes as an example of intellectual dishonesty.

On the issue of casualties, the forum emphasized that the disproportionate violence faced by Kuki-Zo communities, including attacks on women and children, should not be minimized or trivialized. They asserted that while all sides have suffered, the scale and severity of violence against Kuki-Zo people must be recognized.

The Kuki-Zo Women's Forum also addressed claims that Kuki Inpi Manipur is avoiding reconciliation, stating that the Kuki-Zo community has consistently called for peace and justice. They stressed that meaningful reconciliation must be built on a foundation of truth and acknowledgment of the suffering inflicted upon them.

The forum concluded by urging the Government of India and the international community to discern truth from propaganda and ensure justice for all victims of the conflict. They reaffirmed their commitment to peace, truth, and justice, and vowed to oppose any attempts to distort the historical narrative of the conflict.

MEITEI ARMED FORCES RESUME INDISCRIMINATE ATTACK ON KUKI AREAS OF MONGBUNG-SEJANG IN JIRIBAM DISTRICT

Hours after the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, claimed that the government has prepared a roadmap to establish peace in the state of Manipur, the combined Meitei armed forces of UNLF, Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Police Commandos resumed their aggressive attacks on the Kuki-inhabited villages of Mongbung and Sejang under Jiribam district.

Fresh attack on the Kuki villages also occurred after the Central security forces destroyed bunkers used by the Kuki-Zo Village Volunteers to defend their ancestral lands from Meitei armed groups today.

At around 6:40 PM, while the Kuki Village guards were sanitising their area of jurisdiction, the Meitei militants, in cohort with the Meitei Police Commandos, began indiscriminate firing towards the Kukis, to which the Kuki-Zo volunteers retaliated. The Meiteis armed outfits also used powerful bombs towards the Kukis. The ensuing gunfight lasted for about three hours. Fortunately, there is no report of casualties on the part of the Kuki Village Volunteers.

These continued attacks from the majority Meiteis against the minority Kuki are of serious concerns. A question thus arises: How many more Kuki villages need to be attacked before the Government of India under the leadership of Narendra Modi acknowledges the plight of the Kuki-Zo Community?

Even after 16 months of the state-sponsored ethnic persecution against the Kuki-Zo community, the Government of India still turns a blind eye to the plight of the minority tribals and the perpetrators of crimes such as N. Biren Singh and his armed militia groups still walk free. It is high time that the Government of India immediately grants Separate Administration in the form of Union Territory with Legislative powers for the Kuki-Zo people.

Peace and normalcy will still be a far cry unless the already separated ethnic communities are formally separated politically and administratively.

KUKI NATIONAL ARMY-B DENOUNCES FALSE CLAIMS OF ASSOCIATION WITH ALLEGED THADOU DEFENCE ARMY MEMBER

The Kuki National Army-B (KNA-B) has issued a rebuttal to recent allegations linking them with an individual identified as Thangliankap, who purportedly belongs to the Thadou Defence Army's Battalion 6 (TDA-B6). According to statements from the Assam Rifles and various Indian media outlets, including Republic TV, the KNA-B has been incorrectly associated with this person.

In a statement released today, KNA-B categorically denied any connection to Thangliankap. "The claims linking this individual to our organization are entirely false and baseless," the statement read. The KNA-B expressed concern over reports and comments made by both media and political

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figures, including Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, which they argue have propagated misleading information.

“We strongly condemn these malicious allegations,” the KNA-B emphasized. “We urge responsible authorities and media outlets to fact-check and avoid spreading disinformation.”

The KNA-B reassured the public that it remains committed to its mission and responsibilities and does not engage in or condones the dissemination of false information. The organization called on media and political leaders to act with integrity and cease further misrepresentation of their group.

The KNA-B’s statement seeks to clarify their stance amidst the growing scrutiny and controversy surrounding the alleged associations.



OFFICE OF THE
KUKI NATIONAL ORGANISATION
GOVERNMENT OF KUKI STATE

ကုကိုးအမျိုးသားအစည်းအရုံး / ကုကိုးအမျိုးသားတပ်မတော် (မြန်မာပြည်)

GENERAL HEADQUATER

Ref No:KS/GHQ 005/24

E-mail : knaburma@gmail.com

DATE: 17 SEP 2024

Clarification Statement from Kuki National Army-B (KNA-B)

This is to categorically clarify that Kuki National Army-B (KNA-B) has no relationship or any knowledge of the individual named Thangliankap who identified himself as a Thadou Defence Army from Battalion 6(TDA-B6) according to the Assam Rifles statement. Claims linking this individual to our organization are entirely false and baseless.

It has come to our attention that Indian media outlets like Republic have reported that this man belongs to KNA-B, a claim which is nothing more than disinformation. Additionally, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has made similar statements, falsely associating this individual with KNA-B. We strongly condemn these malicious allegations and urge responsible authorities and media outlets to fact-check before making such misleading statements.

The Kuki National Army-B remains focused on its mission and responsibilities and does not condone or engage in spreading lies or disinformation. We request the media and political leaders to act with integrity and refrain from further misrepresenting our organization.

(Francis Kuki)
Info. Publicity
KNO/KNA(Burma)



THE BUZZ SOCIAL MEDIA

Sushma Sharma @SushmaSh22

#Manipur While Valley-based Meitei Terrorists roam freely with weapons looted from state armoury, it's beyond comprehension why @NIA_India is behind Village Volunteers in Kangpokpi areas, questioning/torturing them. Why is law applied differently in India?
#BBNaija #LCDLFMX2 #MHJOUT #HappyBdayModiji



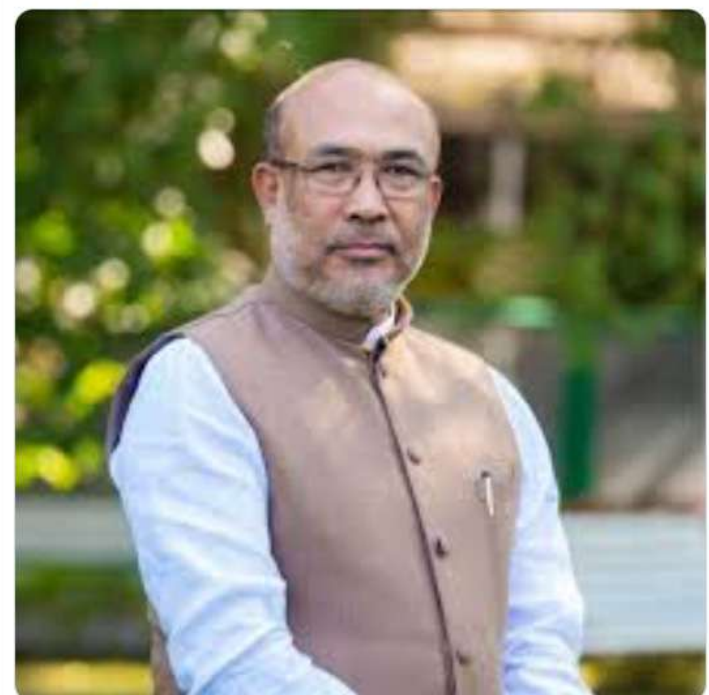
4:02 PM · Sep 17, 2024 · 1,151 Views

Ravinder Kapur @RavinderKapur2

The unrest in Manipur is not caused by Myanmar, it is the result of actions by the Manipur BJP government.

As long as the state is governed by Biren Singh, the killings of Kukis will persist. Biren Singh's deep-seated hatred with support from the centre will drive him to use all available state resources to target the minority Kukis.

#ManipurTapes has made it absolutely clear



4:00 PM · Sep 17, 2024 · 3,167 Views

Click to Follow



NAGA BUSINESSMEN IN IMPHAL TO PROTEST AGAINST EXCESSIVE MONETARY DEMANDS OF ARAMBAI TENGGOL, ARMED GROUPS WITH BUSINESS SHUTDOWN

The Imphal Naga Business Association (INBA) has called for a complete shutdown of business activities in Imphal on September 18, 2024, in protest against what they describe as excessive monetary demands from the Arambai Tenggol (AT) and other armed groups.

Naga business owners and street vendors in Imphal have been facing increasingly burdensome demands from these armed factions. Despite their previous contributions intended to aid in the crisis, the demands have reportedly intensified, leading the INBA to take a stand against what they see as an unjust and aggressive campaign to drive Naga businesses out of the Imphal valley.

The INBA has scheduled a meeting for the same day at 12:00 noon at the Tarung Community Hall, Imphal. The meeting aims to rally all Naga business owners and street vendors to discuss the situation and strategize further actions. The association urges all members to attend the meeting to show solidarity and discuss the impact of the ongoing demands.

In their statement, the INBA condemned the continuous exploitation by the armed groups and expressed concerns that these demands are part of a broader strategy to marginalize the Naga community from the region. They stressed that the shutdown is not only a protest but a means to draw attention to the systemic issues facing Naga businesses.



AN APPEAL TO ALL NAGA BUSSINESS MEN & WOMEN OF IMPHAL

All Naga business men & women and street vendors of Imphal are appealed to close down all business activities in Imphal on the 18th of September 2024 (Wednesday) in protest against the incessant exorbitant monitory demand by the Arambai Tenggol (AT) and other armed groups in Imphal. Since the start of the ongoing conflict between the kukis and meiteis from the 3rd of May 2023, there has been unbearable monitory demands from these groups. Naga business establishments in Imphal did not fail to donate in the name of the crisis through these groups till now. But as the Naga business establishments keep going for the good will cause, exorbitant rate of demands keep on going from the armed groups. This attitude of armed miscreants clearly shows that, slowly and gradually the meiteis are trying to chase out the Nagas from the Imphal valley.

In this regard the Imphal Naga Business Association (INBA) is organising a Meeting on the 18th September, 2024 at Tarung Community Hall, Imphal at 12:00 noon. All business owners and street Vendors are appealed to attend the meeting without fail.

Therefore, all Naga business establishments are once again appealed to close down all business activities on this day. The Imphal Naga Business Association will minutely monitor the illegal activities of the valley armed groups for further course of action in the future .


(KR. ANNISH)
President
Imphal Naga Business Association
Imphal Naga Business Association


(BT. BAZELEEL)
Secretary
Imphal Naga Business Association
Imphal Naga Business Association

The association also stated that it will closely monitor the activities of these armed groups to assess the situation and determine the next steps. They emphasized that this protest is a critical step in addressing the growing threat to their community and their livelihoods.



It is dangerous to be right in matters on which the established authorities are wrong.

- Voltaire

KUKI MEDICAL STUDENTS TAKE PLEDGE AT 'GROOMING FUTURE DOCTORS' EVENT AMIDST DISPLACEMENT

In a poignant show of resilience and determination, Kuki medical students displaced by state sponsored violence have taken a pledge at a special event organized by their parents. The 'Grooming Future Doctors' event, held yesterday at the conference hall of Churachandpur Medical College (CMC), aimed to inspire and support these students whose studies have been relocated to the newly established institution.

Dr. Vumkhoneh Haokip, General Secretary of the Parents of Displaced Kuki-Zo Medical Students (PAMS), administered the pledge. It read, "As I fully endorse the saying that SUCCESS is the best REVENGE; I shall strive hard to achieve success with all my dedication, sacrifice, and hard work and to bring about many positive changes to our land and our people. May our God bless us. Lalpa-Toupa-Pathien."

In his address, Dr. Haokip acknowledged the hardships faced by the students, including violence, displacement, and disruption of their education. He emphasized that while they cannot physically fight their oppressors, they can wage a different kind of war—against laziness, procrastination, and complacency. "Let us study hard and vigorously so that we become massively successful in our respective fields," he urged. He envisioned a future where advanced medical treatments are available locally, reducing the need for patients to seek care outside Lamka.

Dr. Haokip drew a parallel to Japan's post-World War II recovery, praising the country's rise from devastation to global prominence as a model for the students. "Our boys and girls should emulate Japan's hard work, sincerity, and self-discipline to bring progress and development



to our land," he said. He called upon the students to use their success as a means of "revenge" against those who have tried to undermine them.

The event also highlighted the ongoing struggles faced by Kuki medical students from RIMS and JNIMS in Imphal. Despite their transition to Churachandpur Medical College, which is still in its developmental phase with limited facilities, the students have shown remarkable resilience. PAMS, formed in October 2023, has been actively advocating for their needs, though tangible responses from authorities remain pending.

The 'Grooming Future Doctors' event served as both a motivational rallying point and a reminder of the strength and potential of the displaced students, aiming to transform their adversities into a powerful testament to their resolve and ambition.



Violence between various ethnic groups in Manipur has persisted for months, leading to significant loss of life in the northeastern state. Recently, there have been reports of rocket attacks by suspected militants in the region. Amidst this backdrop, a video showing the firing of explosives, such as rockets and mortars, has been widely shared on social media, with claims that it depicts a recent incident in Manipur. The video shows explosives like mortars being launched in a hilly area.

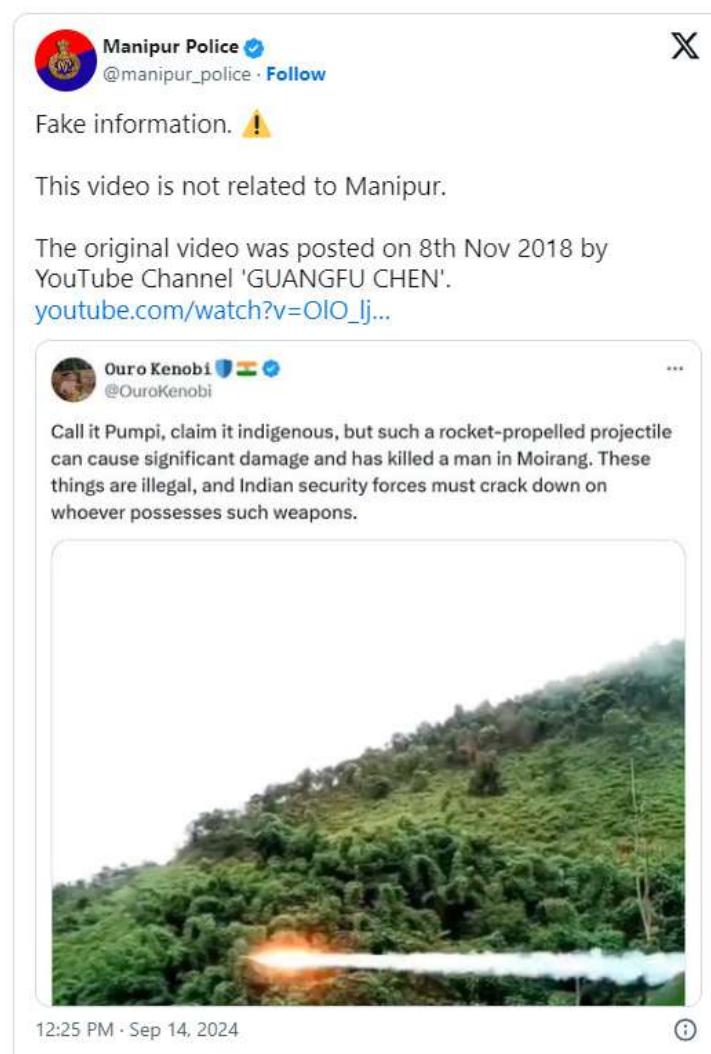
Manipur journalist Abiema Lisham shared the video on Twitter, presenting it as a recent event. Lisham described the footage as showing a homemade RPG or a foreign-funded weapon, stating that such rocket-propelled projectiles are extremely dangerous and have led to a fatality in Moirang, Manipur.

Another social media user, Ouro Kenobi, made a similar claim while sharing the video, warning about the destructive power of these rocket-propelled projectiles and mentioning the reported death in Moirang.



Fact Check

A reverse image search of various frames from the viral video on Google led to its original upload on a YouTube channel named GUANGFU CHEN, dated November 8, 2018. This discovery confirms that the video predates the current events in Manipur and is unrelated to the ongoing conflict.



Additionally, the Manipur Police issued a clarification regarding the video, confirming that it was an old incident and had no connection with the current situation in Manipur.

To sum it up, several social media users falsely circulated an old and unrelated video showing the firing of explosives like mortars, incorrectly linking it to the recent insurgency in Manipur.

Source: [Alt News](#)



FEATURED ARTICLE

North East India's Counter Insurgency Efforts and the Manipur Dilemma

Leivon Victor Lamkang

The North East region is the easternmost part of India, with eight states. It is home to over 140 insurgent organizations with various demands, including total independence from India and a few for political and ethnic rights. Different counterinsurgency measures have been used in the Northeast over the years, and the last two to three years have shown signs of effectiveness. The Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA), which was enacted in North East states to combat insurgencies, has been completely repealed in Assam and Tripura. In Manipur, the act has been removed from 19 police stations covering 7 districts. However, the recent conflict in Manipur witnessed a notable increase in the insurgency in the region, especially the Manipur rebel groups. For Instance from the reports of The Print', Arambam Tengol, a radical Meitei group who had only 7,000 people till March 2023, has a strength of 50,000 now; United National Liberation Front (UNLF) saw a growth of 200 plus; People's Liberation Army (PLA) saw a growth of 200 plus; Kangleipak Yawol Kanna Lup (KYKL) saw a growth of 100 plus; Kagleipak Communist Party (KCP) saw a growth of 50 plus; and other hill based groups has also seen its significant growth.

Understanding Counter Insurgency Measures in North East

The Government of India has been making efforts to counter insurgency in North East India. Some of the efforts are: The deployment of paramilitary forces like the Assam Rifles and coordination with Local police forces with employment of the Armed Force Special Power Act (AFSPA), where the act gives special power to the forces "to search and arrest without a warrant to maintain law and order" acts as one measure to counter-insurgency. However, the act has been highly debated due to the infringement of fundamental rights like Articles 14, 20, 21, and 22.

The other counter-insurgency measure deployed is the initiation of dialogues, also called peace talks between New Delhi and Various rebel groups. For Instance, there was a tripartite talk agreement between New Delhi, the Assam government, and Eight Adivasi insurgent groups where as many as 1,182 outfits surrendered. Other such examples of peace talks to counter Insurgencies are the

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ongoing peace process with the Naga Socialist Council of Nagaland- Isak Muivah Faction and the Government of India.

Further, Policies like the Act-East Policy (AEP) deployed as one method to counter Insurgency, with the provisions of coordination for information and military operations between India and Myanmar.

Increasing Cross-Border Arm and drug trafficking

North East India shares International boundaries with four countries. Myanmar in the East, Bangladesh in the South-West, Nepal in the West, and Bhutan in the North-West. These border areas, especially the Indo-Myanmar border, have been linked to illegal business, including the trafficking of arms. The ongoing conflict in Manipur has been one of the major factors in increasing arms trafficking with the use of highly sophisticated weapons like Missiles, Rocket-Propelled grenades (RPG), and Drone bombings. Recent reports suggest that the guns are shipped to Manipur from the illicit markets located close to the border between China and Myanmar. The growing usage of these weapons fuels insurgent groups, helping them grow.

The Major increase in drug flow from Myanmar to India, Moreh, a small town in Manipur, serves as one of the main hubs where this illicit flow of drugs happens. The interlinkage of this illicit drug trafficking with the insurgent groups is a major threat to national security. This provides revenue for the insurgent groups to fund their activities. These further complicate the counter-insurgency measures in the region.

Myanmar turmoil and Chinese involvement

Myanmar, since the 1990s, apart from its cooperation in the 'Act East Policy' (AEP), has engaged with India in various military cooperation and joint endeavors for peace and development in border areas. This cooperation also complies with the issue of exchanging

information to counter insurgency in the Indo-Myanmar border. However, with the turmoil and the rebel against the military Junta in Myanmar by the different insurgent groups particularly the three brotherhood alliances (The Arakan Army, The Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army), also known as Operation 1027, the Indian government's decision to fence the 1624Km long Indo-Myanmar border and the removal of the Free Movement Regime (FMR) keeps the cooperation on countering insurgency at the fray.

On the other hand, the Chinese and North East India Insurgent groups are conceived by different scholars to have historical links. The instance of the establishment of the Naga Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) with the aim to establish a 'Greater Nagaland' based on Mao Tse Tung's ideology. This historical link with the increased Chinese presence in Myanmar and the supply of major arms consignments from the Kunming province of China via Myanmar using the Kachin rebels of Myanmar. Thus, New Delhi's failure to curtail this supply of arms from China, not only to the NSCN-IM group but also to other rebel groups like the People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) and People's Liberation Army (PLA) highlights the failure of India's Counter Insurgency intelligence.

Social Insecurity in Manipur

The ongoing Ethnic conflicts have been plaguing the state of Manipur in Northeastern India since May 2024. Resulting in 60,000 displaced people and more than 226 deaths. As a result, people are experiencing social insecurity due to growing economic hardship, rising unemployment, and

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challenges finding a means of subsistence. Ethnic conflict has also aided in the insurgent organizations' recruitment efforts by taking advantage of instability and nationalist sentiment. As a result, the youth are subjected to a variety of hardships and frequently have to use weapons to defend their own community. Has resorted to joining the insurgency to provide their family and community with security and a chance to survive. And frequently backed by the public at large, as well as family members. The intricacy of this chaotic warfare context makes counterinsurgency measures difficult, and situational awareness is crucial to the success of any counterinsurgency campaign.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, counterinsurgency efforts in North East India have seen pocket success, especially in states like Tripura and Assam. The ongoing conflict in Manipur has unraveled the growth of Insurgency again. The

repealing of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in some areas reflects optimism; however, the growth of Insurgent groups in Manipur due to conflict exposed the fragility of Counter Insurgency Measures. This is contributed by cross-border arms trafficking, Social Insecurity, and historical links with China.

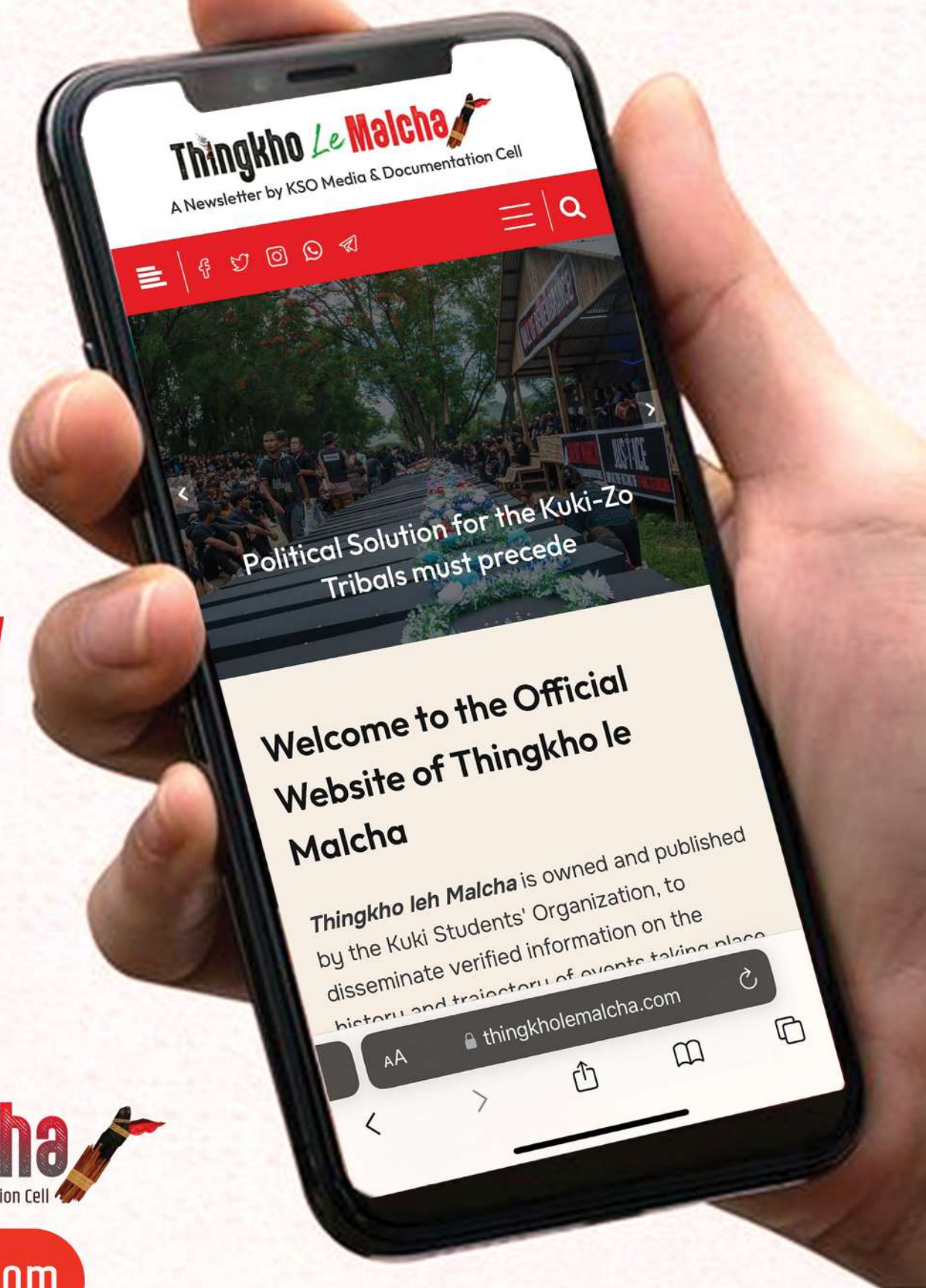
Addressing the underlying causes of ethnic conflict, enhancing governance, and encouraging collaboration between the populace and those carrying out counterinsurgency operations are essential for achieving long-term peace in the area. The Manipur conflict highlights the necessity of adopting methods that surpass military measures and prioritize political inclusivity to guarantee enduring stability in the North Eastern region.

Source: [Modern Diplomacy](#)



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IN THE PUBLIC
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POETRY



The skies were dark, a shadow draped in woe.
A grief so deep, it chased the light away,
As hearts bowed low beneath its heavy blow.

The winds seemed hushed, the earth itself stood still,
And every breath was weighted with the past.
The echoes of a loss no time could fill,
A sorrow deep, too powerful to cast.

Yet in the blackest night, a spark remains,
A flame that flickers, fragile, yet it's there.
Through tears and pain, through all the silent strains,
The strength to rise endures within the air.

We honor now the fallen in the strife,
Their memory lives on, their hope, their life.



THE SILENT STRAINS OF **SORROW**

A poem by Muon IS Kuki