

Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



Greenwood Academy RELIEF CENTRE

B. Vengnom, Lamka

Managed by
Kuki Khanglai Lawmpi
General Headquarters (KKL GHQ)

Total Inmates Registered: 268*

■ Male: 131

■ Female: 138

*As on 17th July, 2023



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 16.12.2023



158
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.

PEACE PREVAILS IN LAMKA; BIREN'S CHEAP PROPAGANDA EXPOSED AGAIN



Days after making misleading statement about being constantly in touch with the leaders of Kuki Students' Organization which the KSO-GHQ yesterday clarified, the pathological liar and propagandist N. Biren Singh has once again resorted to his usual habit – making false and misleading statement on public platforms.

As per a report in Times Now, “3 killed amid fresh violence in Manipur’s Churachandpur, illegal immigrants responsible” CM N. Biren was quoted as saying. However, the report was far from reality. No death has been reported in sporadic violence in Lamka (Churachandpur) last night though a few individuals have sustained minor injuries. The reported violence was later on diffused at around midnight.

The incident was a spontaneous reaction of a gang fight between school going kids. The violence was, in no case, related to illegal immigrants’ issues which the chief minister boastfully bragged about.

The incident was a minor case of misunderstanding between certain groups and not the whole of Churachandpur was affected. The Times Now report itself is contradictory, which only indicates the hollow understanding of mainland media houses about the current crisis in Manipur, which the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh capitalizes it to use for spreading his personal agenda.

Peace prevails:

Under the able leadership of the civil society organisations functioning within the district, the matter has been

settled and resolved amicably with love and affection. To prevent some miscreants from escalating the sporadic tension, the District administration has also imposed curfew within the jurisdiction of Lamka.

All efforts have been made by law enforcing agencies to maintain peace and tranquility in the local areas, and has taken preventive measures to maintain peace and tranquility.

In pursuance to the orders of even number dated the 5th of September, 2023, the District Magistrate, Dharun Kumar S, IAS, in exercise of the power conferred under section 144(2) of Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, has extended and declared prohibitory order for another 2 (two) months (w.e.f. 18th December 2023, till 18th February, 2024) and shall remain in force till 18th February, 2024 or until further orders, scheduled for the whole areas under the revenue jurisdiction of Churachandpur district, more particularly Thingkangphai Village and its adjoining areas.

Meanwhile, the womenfolk in every village have began round the clock duty within their villages’ jurisdiction to prevent young students from venturing out of their houses so as to create peaceful atmosphere amongst the denizens of Lamka.

ALL DECKS CLEAR FOR MARTYRS' BURIAL CEREMONY IN LAMKA



All decks have been cleared for the proposed burial of Kuki-Zo martyrs scheduled to be held tomorrow at Sehken Village in Lamka district.

The preparation for a dignified burial of 87 Kuki-Zo martyrs has been going on in full swing under the aegis of the Joint Philanthropic Organization (JPO), Lamka.

The Condolence program will begin at 11:00 AM at Wall of Remembrance, Peace Ground, Tuibuong, after which the gathering will proceed to Sehken Burial site, near Tribal Martyrs' Park, Mata at 2:00 PM for the last rites of the martyrs.

The bodies of 60 people killed in the ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur were on December 14 airlifted from morgues in Imphal hospitals and delivered to two hill districts, marking an end to over seven months of lying in morgues unattended and possibly the beginning of a closure of deep pain and agony for the victims' families.

The bodies, which were lying at the Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS) and Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), both

located in Imphal, were shifted by helicopters to Kangpokpi and Churachandpur, both districts dominated by the Kuki community.

The dead body of the victims of the violent conflict were lying in the morgues since the beginning of the conflict. Last month, the Supreme Court directed the State Government to make arrangements for a dignified burial of the bodies lying in morgues.

Leaders of the Central Young Mizo Association (CYMA), an apex non-governmental organisation in Mizoram, have also departed Aizawl to participate in the ceremonial burial programme.

As per the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) published data, 158 Kuki-Zo people have been killed during the ongoing ethnic cleansing pogrom by the majority Meitei community, and 17 individuals are still missing or their dead bodies untraceable.

Out of the 158 deaths, last rite for 19 had been held at Kanggui on December 14, 2023. A total of Forty-one dead bodies had already been buried before December 14.

KSO-GHQ, ZSF-GHQ SETTLE DEC. 18 INCIDENT



Apropos the unwarranted violent incident that occurred in the Churachandpur town on December 18 night was settled mutually with a pledge to peace in future by the Kuki Students' Organization-General Headquarters (KSO-GHQ) and the Zomi Students' Federation-General Headquarters (ZSF-GHQ) this evening at ZCSC office in New Lamka. This gesture marks a crucial step in easing tensions and fostering a renewed commitment to peace between the two student organizations.

The meeting also issued a joint declaration which includes apology, commitment to amicable relations and mutual pledge for peace. Both student organizations have jointly pledged to uphold peaceful co-existence and mutual respect. The commitment extends to ensuring that no individual or group affiliated with either organization will propagate or incite hatred among the communities.

MANIPUR ASSEMBLY SPEAKER TO TAKE UP CASE AGAINST 10 KUKI-ZO MLAs BY DECEMBER 22

The protesting Meira Paibis reportedly said that the Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly, Th. Satyabrata, has assured them to take up action against the 10 Kuki MLAs by December 22, 2023.

Urging the State Government to take action against the 10 Kuki MLAs who have been demanding a separate administration, volunteers of Imagi Meira (womenfolk) on Monday marched to the Manipur Legislative Assembly complex.

The protesters marched up to the main gate of Manipur Legislative Assembly and urged the Speaker to take up action against the 10 Kuki MLAs who have been allegedly conspiring to disintegrate Manipur.

As per reports, some representatives of Imagi Meira stormed inside the Assembly complex and spoke with the Speaker - Th. Satyabrata. The Speaker reportedly told them that the State Assembly's Privilege and Ethics Committee would take up the Kuki MLAs' matter by December 22.

Coming out from the Assembly complex, one of the representatives told media persons that they would launch different modes of agitation if the Speaker fails to abide by his words.

Later, the Imagi Meira members held a meeting with Privilege and Ethics Committee Chairman and MLA Nishikant Sapam and pressed the same demand.

TLM view:

The demand of the Kuki MLAs for a Separate Administration is legitimate and statutory as per the Constitution of India.

The MLAs/MPs took oath in allegiance to the national integrity and not the territorial integrity of a particular State. The Constitution of India provides parliamentary powers to alter the State boundary under Article 3.

CBI DIRECTOR IN MANIPUR, REVIEWS PROBE INTO CASES OF VIOLENCE

The Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Praveen Sood, reached Imphal on Monday and held meetings with senior officials over the ongoing probe conducted by the central agency into several cases of ethnic violence.

Officials said that Sood reached Guwahati on Monday morning and in the afternoon, he went to Imphal, where he was received by Manipur DGP Rajiv Singh and other senior officials.

Sources said that the CBI chief reviewed the developments made by the Special Investigation Teams (SITs) in the investigation into six cases of violence in Manipur.

The cases include the horrific video of two young women being paraded naked on a road by a mob in Manipur on May 4, the video of which had been widely circulated on social media, drawing widespread condemnation and demand for stringent actions.

The state government has handed over several other cases to the CBI relating to various crimes that took



place during the ethnic violence that broke out in Manipur on May 3.

On December 9, the CBI had filed a charge sheet against nine accused before the special judge of the CBI court in Guwahati in an ongoing investigation into a case.

The officials of the CBI and SIT are facing protests by the local organisations as the protesters have alleged that the probe is not being conducted in a balanced manner.

ZELIANGRONG STUDENTS' UNION RESOLVES TO EXTEND FULLEST COOPERATION TO THE ONGOING POLITICAL NEGOTIATION BETWEEN ZUF AND THE CENTRE

The All Zeliangrong Students' Union, Assam, Manipur and Nagaland (AZSU-AMN) has declared that it has resolved to extend its fullest cooperation to the ongoing political negotiation between the Zeliangrong United Front (a militant group) and the Government of India.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, the students' union stated that the 2nd Union Assembly for the tenure 2022-2025 on December 16 was held at the Women Welfare Conference Hall, Jalukie Town, Peren District, Nagaland. It said that ZUF and Government of India had signed the Cessation of Operation on December 27, 2022 to begin the official dialogue to fulfill the demand for Zeliangrong homeland.

The AZSU-AMN further appealed the Government of India to expedite the talk and solve the issue within

a pragmatic time frame. The Assembly also reiterated the need to expedite the ongoing political talk between the Government of India and the Naga Political Groups (NPGs) which entered the political negotiations more than two decades ago.

The Union resolved to extend its continuous support for peaceful settlement and appealed to the Government of India and collective leadership of Nagas to solve the longest protracted Naga political issue at the earliest time possible.

All the federating units of AZSU and several senior leaders attended the meeting, the statement added.

SENIOR JOURNALIST LABA YAMBEM DENIES RESPONSIBILITY IN CONTROVERSIAL LEAKED AUDIO CLIP OF FORMER COP BRINDA

Laba Yambem has broken his silence on the recent controversy surrounding the leaked audio clip of a telephonic conversation with former Manipur police officer Thounaojam Brinda on October 3, 2023. Yambem vehemently denied any involvement in recording or leaking the controversial audio and raised questions about the tapping of either his or Brinda's phone due to their shared criticism of the state.

In a facebook video, Yambem asserted, "It was definitely not me who had recorded and leaked the audio clip. I do not know as to whether it was my phone or hers which was tapped as both of us have been critical of the State. But we are not going to remain silent and will unearth the truth and the guilty person exposed."

Earlier on December 18, Thounaojam Brinda held a press conference at her residence to address the public concern surrounding viral audio files. Brinda clarified that an incomplete audio recording of her speech from a personal meeting had sparked outrage, leading her to issue apologies as allegedly instructed by individuals named Arambai Tengol and Meitei Leepun.

Adding to the complexity, Brinda revealed the emergence of another audio file on the night of December 13 and December 14. This audio featured a



personal conversation with her uncle on October 3, the same day as the conversation with Laba Yambem. Brinda expressed her willingness to retract her statements, stating, "Like before, I would like to withdraw my words expressed in the recent viral audio."

MANIPUR POLICE PERSONNEL SHOT DEAD A MEITEI YOUTH IN JIRIBAM DISTRICT

A 32-year-old man was shot dead by a rifleman on sentry duty in Jiribam district of Manipur on Monday night. The incident took place at Leingangpokpi police station in the district.

The deceased has been identified as 32-year-old Oinam Gandhi, who slipped away from the last vehicles of the security convoy on NH-37 to Imphal from Jiribam and tried to enter the said police outpost to seek shelter for a night. However, an altercation broke out with a sentry on duty rifleman Loitam Arunta Singh, 38.

In the ensuing altercation, O Gandhi was shot dead at

around 8:30 pm on Monday. O Gandhi was a resident of Charangpat Denggi village, Manipur's Thoubal district.

Police said that Loitam Arunta a rifleman of the Manipur Rifles, who was attached to the Thoubal Police Commandos was immediately detained. His service weapon, an AK-47 rifle along with a few cartridges were also taken into police custody for further investigation.

The exact reason behind the altercation is not yet known.

MYANMAR ARMY FAILS TO REGAIN CONTROL OF TOWN CLOSE TO MANIPUR FROM PRO-DEMOCRACY FORCES

The Myanmar army has failed to regain control of the strategic town of Khampat in the Sagaing region after a week-long conflict with pro-democracy forces.

Khampat, situated in the Kabaw Valley close to the Indian state of Manipur, historically belonged to both the Burmese kings and the Manipur principality. During the territorial division between British-ruled Manipur and Burma, the Kabaw Valley was assigned to Myanmar.

In November, anti-Junta groups seized control of Khampat. In a statement from Myanmar's government in exile, the National Unity Government (NUG) reported that the NUG-led People's Defence Forces (PDFs) and the Kachin Independence Army jointly took control of the town after a four-day fight with Junta troops.

A member of the PDF informed Myanmar Now that the resistance forces had "taken control of the entire town, including army camps, police stations, and Junta administrative buildings."

On December 18, The Irrawaddy reported that the Junta troops retreated from Khampat on December 16 after suffering heavy casualties, as stated by the NUG and the Chin National Organization. "The [Junta] soldiers retreated in small groups. Their morale was low," said Salai Lian Pi, a spokesperson for the Chin National Organization of the Upper Chindwin Region. "We are following them and asking residents in the area to stay away from Junta troops," he added.

The news report mentioned that the army faced "an allied resistance by PDFs of the Sagaing



Pic: Representational image

region, the Chin National Defence Force, PDF-Zoland, and Chin Defence Force-Tonzang."

With the conflict between the military and pro-democracy forces escalating since October 27, a large number of people have been displaced across the country. According to a United Nations report as of December 15, more than 660,000 individuals have been displaced by the offensive named Operation 1027.

The Irrawaddy, citing the UN report, highlighted that the increase in internally displaced people adds to the already staggering count of at least 2.6 million individuals displaced across Myanmar since the military coup in February 2021.

Source: [The Wire](#)



**FEATURED ARTICLE****The ST Demand Movement for Meitei Community Should Justify Their Demand Based on New Ethnographic Study and ST Status on New Socio-Economic Survey****Ngaranmi Shimray**

FROM THE feedbacks received an impression appears to be created that Ngaranmi Shimray is opposing the Scheduled Tribe (ST) demand for the Meitei community. This is incorrect. No one is opposing the demand of the Meitei community to become a tribe and also to be given the status of Scheduled Tribe. The only thing that is being pointed out are the 'context of time' and 'need to follow transparent processes' to justify the demand.

What has been stated in the articles, including those in response to Secretary, STDCM and three independent researchers, is that the Meiteis may have been a tribe 300 years back, but now with the passage of three centuries the Meiteis may have shed all or some of its tribal traits and may not be possessing the requisite tribal traits to be called a tribe anymore, and hence a new ethnographic study is required to support their claim. Further, the ST demand is to be based on the strength of a recent (new) socio-economic survey to find out the extend of backwardness of the Meiteis. The need to carry out both the study and survey have already been pointed out by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India in their letter dated 29.5.2013.

Further, what is being emphasised through various articles is that the Meitei masses seem to be given half-truth by the leaders and ST demand committee. They need to be told the entire story that the Meiteis may have been tribes 3 centuries back and as 300 years have gone by much development, social & educational attainments have taken place in the Meitei society and there may be a need now to establish whether the Meiteis can be

still termed as a tribe today, and hence a recent ethnographic study is required. Also the claim for ST status by Meiteis has to be backed by answering the backwardness criteria laid down by the Lokur Committee and this can only be done by a new socio-economic survey. Only after credible and transparent new study and new survey reports are available and are deliberated upon by all stakeholders, including the current ST of Manipur, a conclusion can be made by the state government, after consideration by the Hill Areas Committee, to consider the next step.

No one is opposing the demand but are only raising doubts on the approach of the ST demand based on past historical records and current pressure tactics of the Meitei ST demand committee. Any sheer majority force tactic for the ST demand would only antagonise the tribes and widen the schism between the tribals and non-tribals and has the potential to suck in the Naga tribes and transform the conflict into non-tribal vs tribal conflict. The main thrust of the articles were to impress upon the Meitei ST demand leaders to ask the state government to carry out credible and transparent processes and not use pressure tactics through the courts, subterfuge, corrupt methods on the state government to recommend the demand to be ST through sheer majority force. The ST demand leaders should know that no one will oppose an ethnographic study and socio-economic survey if it

Contd.

Contd.

is carried out in a credible and transparent manner after due consultation.

There is another aspect why the demand of the Meitei community to be ST is viewed with suspicion by the current STs of Manipur. It is because some Meitei MLAs and other social workers have stated without ambiguity that, apart from the desire to secure more all India jobs through the ST status, the primary driving force behind the ST demand is to possess tribal lands in the “Hill Areas” of Manipur by becoming one of them. This objective of the Meitei leaders is disturbing and unsettling. No tribe will sit back and watch their land being alienated. The purpose of the articles were also to educate the valley people of Manipur that the tribals are aware of the hidden agenda and at the same time urge the tribals to be vigilant and to be aware of trickery. Considering the repeated refusal of the Manipur government to concede to the reasonable demand for an empowered district council for the “Hill Areas” by amendment of existing Act/Bill or for inclusion in the Sixth Scheduled plus the attempt of a political leader of Manipur (Union Minister of state) proposing to modify Article 371-C which provides safeguards for the “Hill Areas” of Manipur but may not protect the “Hill Areas” from land alienation in case the Meiteis become ST, the only option that may be left to the hill people of Manipur would be to ask for a separate State or UT to escape from the possibility of losing their lands to the dominant Meitei community.

The Meitei community needs to realise that the current approach of sheer majority force to meet the ST demand proposal is only pushing the tribes of Manipur away to

a “point of no return” and may sow the seeds of dis-integration of Manipur. This was highlighted in some of the articles as this option for demand on a new political entity for the “Hill Areas” would be one of the strategic move available for the tribals in the “Hill Areas” of Manipur to permanently remove themselves from Meitei hegemonic attempts. In other words, if the “Hill Areas” of Manipur are not part of the state, there will be no effects of laws, rules and regulations on land, Manipuri language/ Meitei mayek, cultural hegemony, Meitei ST status (if given) on tribal lands and jobs/seats of Manipur on the tribals. Under a new state/UT the tribes will be insulated from all the domineering attitudes of the dominant community.

This is to urge all sensible Meitei leaders who endorse the slogan of “Manipur integrity cannot be disturbed” to think on the lines of having a new ethnographic study and a new socio-economic survey conducted to establish their claim of being a tribe and also to justify their claim for inclusion in the list of ST by following a credible and transparent process. Not doing so will only reinforce the suspicion amongst the tribes of Manipur that the Meitei ST demand leaders are bent on getting the ST tag “by hook or by crook” and compel the tribes to think of alternatives to safeguard themselves.

First published by [Ukhrul Times](#)

Ngaranmi Shimray is an activist and political observer based in New Delhi.



One’s dignity may be assaulted, vandalized and cruelly mocked, but it can never be taken away unless it is surrendered.

– Michael J. Fox

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ

Vishwajeet Singh
@VishuAdv

Talking of minions, Meiteis control Manipur media who supply inputs to godi media, both relentlessly run Meitei govt narrative. Meiteis get massive support from BJP IT cell on social media. So we automatically know who are lying and who are victims. #KukiZo are victims @LogIQ_al

Logical Manipuri @LogIQ_al · Dec 18

This Islamist Shaikh Abid Hasan is advising and inciting #KukiZo on X space to how to “deconstruct meitei society” and “demonize them in such a way that in 100 years nobody can see them as good people.”
Be on the lookout for sensational news and propaganda from their media...
twitter.com/lin_luwang/sta...
[Show more](#)

8:29 AM · Dec 19, 2023 · 5,528 Views

Paul Meitei
@PMeitei66

This kind of hate speech is very dangerous for all of us. If we are seen as against these radicalized leaders, we - Meiteis could be killed too. A VERY DANGEROUS SPEECH!

CHIKIM te AWGIN @chikimteawgin19 · Oct 14

According to Th. Mahesh, after cleaning all kukis from Imphal Manipur, our next step is to clear all non-meitei from Imphal Valley.

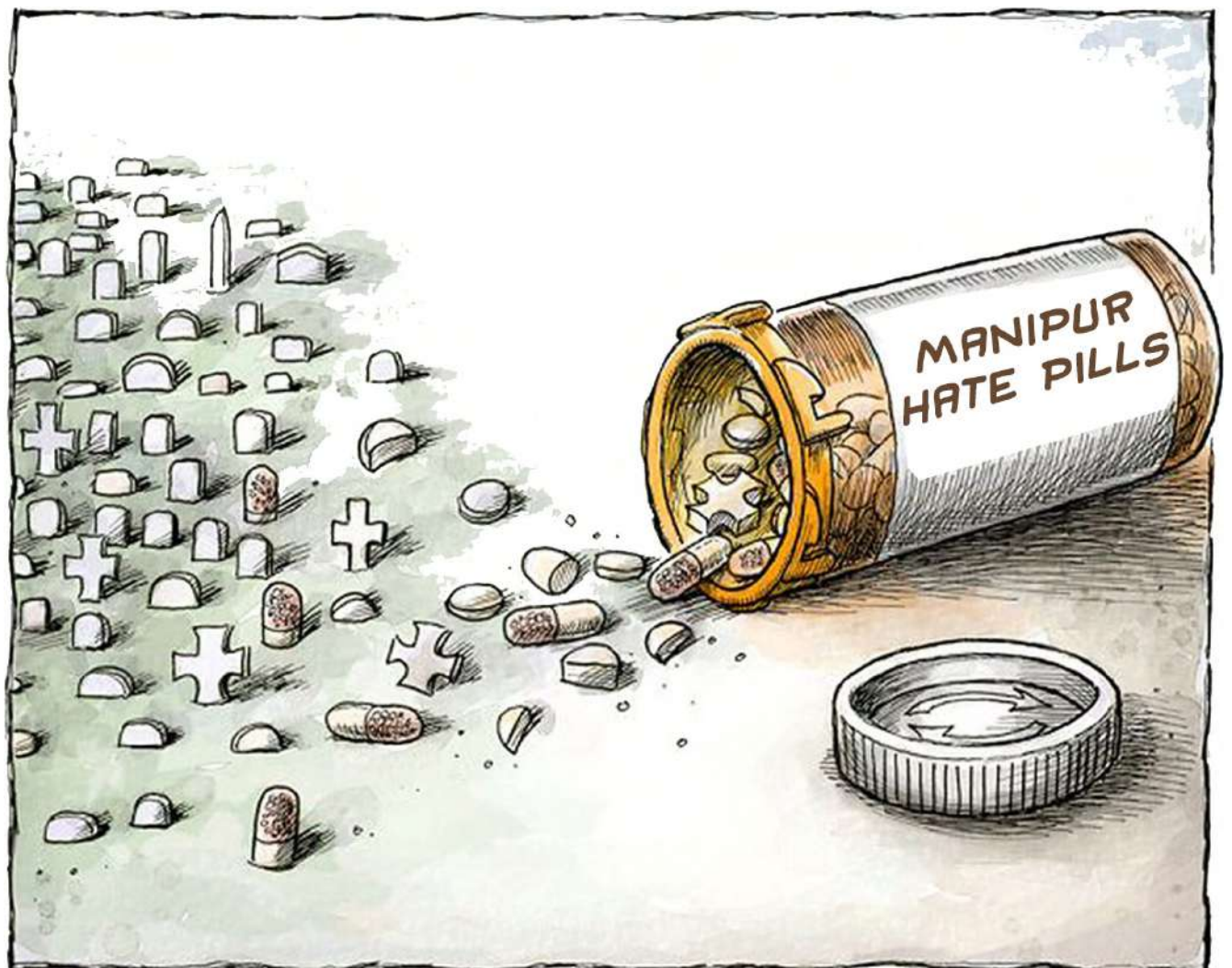
Please
#SaveNonMeiteiFromMeitei...
[Show more](#)



5:55 AM · Dec 19, 2023 · 818 Views



THE HATE PILLS





Sorry and Farewell

Now I wonder if you see solacement here
Warmth you look for in confinement there
Shameful wildly for this noisy atmosphere
Forgive for with this we're going nowhere.

Be thrilled angels may as you ascended
Welcome songs Heavens will be loaded
With psalms of martyrdom overflowed
Full of jubilation as fresh angels added.

One final favour I ask as you go ahead
Shield and cover every front liner's head
Continually deliver them heavenly bread
Protect 'em as their life hangs in a thread.

Fare thee well loved strong souls you all
Laid to rest yet thy sacrifices such as tall
Earlier you're departing to welcome us all
Taken off answering to the heavens' call.

-Letginmang Singsit

