



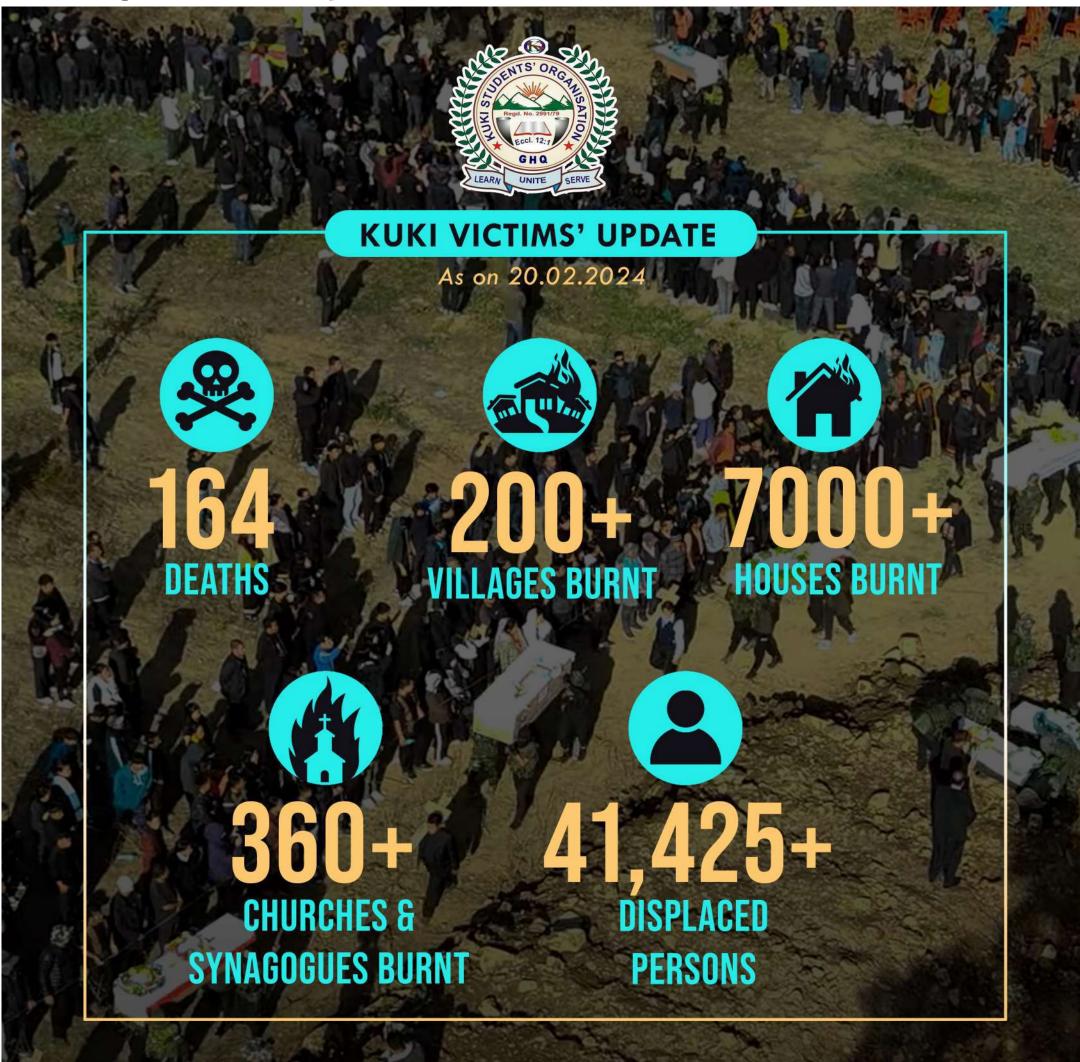
Khoripok RELIEF CENTRE

Khoripok Community Hall, Sadar Hills

Managed by
District Administration &
Kuki CSOs, Sadar Hills

Total Inmates Registered: 389





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.



DISPLACED NEW LAMBULANE KUKI RESIDENTS EXPRESSES CONCERNS OVER ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF THEIR HOMES IN IMPHAL

Displaced people of New Lambulane have expressed concern over the illegal occupation of their houses in Imphal by the Arambai Tenggol and United Nations Liberation Front.

A representative of the displaced persons issued a press release on Thursday and stated that the illegal occupation of the houses is happening right under the nose of the Imphal East district administration and Central Security Forces the CRPF, the SSB, the RAF and the Assam Rifles.

The people of New Lambulane, especially those who were forcibly evacuated by the Central and State Security Forces on the midnight of Sept 1, 2023 have come to learn that armed Meitei militias led by the Arambai Tenggol and UNLF have started taking over the empty houses in New Lambulane, and settled it illegally with their own people, it added.

"The Arambai and the UNLF who had opened their offices there in New Lambulane have marked the houses in the locality with 'U' or 'AT' as a sign of their illegal occupation." stated the release.

The representative of the displaced people stated that when the Kuki-Zo families were forcibly evacuated on September 1 last year, they were assured that it was for their physical safety and that the houses and property would be well protected by security forces who will be on duty 24X7.

On top of that, the Supreme Court of India had ordered the Manipur State Government on Sept 25, 2023 to protect the property of people displaced by the violence which started on May 3, it added.

The release stated that the displaced families are dumbfounded and shocked at the indifference and unwillingness of Central Security Forces and the State Government to perform their statutory duty, nor uphold the directive of the Supreme Court of India.

Press Release

22-02-2024

We the people of New Lambulane, especially those who were forcibly evacuated by the Central and State Security Forces on the mid-night of Sept 1, 2023 have come to learn that armed Meitei militias led by the Arambai Tenggol and UNLF have started taking over the empty houses in New Lambulane, and settled it illegally with their own people. And that this illegal occupation of the houses is happening right under the nose of the Imphal East District Administration and Central Security Forces – the CRPF, the SSB, the RAF and the Assam Rifles.

When we were forcibly evacuated on Sept 1 last year, we were assured that it was for our physical safety and that the houses and property will be well protected by security forces who will be on duty 24X7. On top of that, the Supreme Court of India had ordered the Manipur State Government on Sept 25, 2023 to protect the property of people displaced by the violence which started on May 3, 2023.

We are dumbfounded and shocked at the indifference and unwillingness of Central Security Forces and the State Government to perform their statutory duty, nor uphold the directive of the Supreme Court of India. Instead of protecting any of the property, all the household items were allowed to be stolen in broad daylight, and now the houses are being illegally settled in by outsiders! The Arambai and the UNLF who had opened their offices there in New Lambulane have marked the houses in the locality with 'U' or 'AT' as sign of their illegal occupation.

We urgently appeal to both the Government of India and Government of Manipur to perform their duty under the Constitution. We pray that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India will also take cognisance of this blatant disregard of its directives. In this instance, the sanctity of the property of the people of New Lambulane, Indian citizens who have been unfortunately internally displaced to different parts of the country.

On behalf of the forcibly displaced people of New Lambulane, we are

1. Rev. S Prim Vaiphei²
¹
¹
Formerly, 2nd Street, New Lambulane

2. Hejang Kipgen 22, 2,24 Formerly, 3rd Street, New Lambulane

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The displaced people also prayed to the Supreme Court of India to take cognisance of the 'blatant disregard of its directives'.



CHIEF JUSTICE OF MANIPUR HC VISITS RELIEF CAMPS IN KANGPOKPI DISTRICT

The Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur, Siddharth Mridul visited three relief camps in Kangpokpi District and interacted with displaced people today.

The Chief Justice visited L. Lhangnomphai Relief Camp, Motbung High School Relief Camp, and Damdei Taloulong Relief Camp.

The Chief Justice team also provided relief materials including sports materials to the inmates of the relief camps while the Chief Justice was also seen distributing sweets to the displaced children.

Chief Justice Siddharth Mridul was accompanied by Justice Golmei Gaiphulshillu, Member Secretary, Alek Muivah, Manipur State Legal Services Authority, Subham Vashist, Joint Registrar, Hillson Angam, Deputy Registrar, Letkho Kipgen, District & Sessions Judge, Senapati, Robert Lhungdim, Judicial Magistrate First Class Kangpokpi, Kimneingah Kipgen, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Senapati, Bar members of All Tribal Lawyers Association (ATLAM), and Bar members from Senapati and Kangpokpi.

Speaking to the media, Chief Justice Siddharth Mridul said that to familiarise themselves with the problems that are being faced by the displaced people in the relief camps in Manipur and to supplement the efforts being made by the Government in providing them with relief, their needs and requirements, were their main purposes for visiting the relief camps.

"Principally we understand every displaced person wants to go home, and in the meantime they want livelihoods, there are also financial problems in paying their children's tuition fees in private schools, while there also some issues related to the needs of young children and elderly persons in the relief camps," highlighted the Chief Justice.

He continued that whatever they could do from their own sources they are looking into it with the help of the



Bar and voluntary contribution by members of the bar, not only from Manipur but also outside as well.

He further said that so far they had not been able to visit all the relief camps which they would like to do but that they are trying to reach as many displaced people as they can.

The Chief Justice was seen patiently interacting and having time together with displaced persons at L. Lhangnomphai Relief Camp amid a heavy shower which was immensely lauded by the inmates.

SP Kangpokpi Manoj Prabhakar, IPS presented a Thadou-Kuki traditional shawl to the Chief Justice while welcoming him at L. Lhangnomphai Relief Camps while ADC Kangpokpi, SDOs, and concerned Nodal Officers were also present during the Chief Justice visit of the three relief camps.



CHURACHANDPUR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SUSPENDS RATION SUPPLY FOR IDPS WITHOUT EXPLANATION

The Churachandpur District Administration has abruptly halted the distribution of ration supplies for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the district, sparking concerns among affected communities. Despite the critical need for essential provisions, no official explanation has been provided for the sudden suspension of aid.

As such, aghast with the sudden suspension of Ration supply, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) sheltered in various relief camps across Churachandpur district, Manipur, took to the streets on Wednesday to protest the failure of the district administration to release the weekly ration supply.

With nearly 20,000 displaced persons spread across 115 relief camps in the district since the outbreak of ethnic conflict in May last year, the ration supply forms a lifeline for many. In addition to the ration supply, these IDPs are being looked after by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) within the district.

The protestors demanded the immediate release of the ration supply for the month of February, asserting that there is no valid reason for the district administration to halt their weekly ration distribution.

According to the IDPs, their sustenance has been facilitated by the Centre, and they argued that the district administration has no authority to deny them their entitled provisions. They voiced concerns over the prospect of starvation if the situation persists.

During the protest, inmates of the relief camps symbolically displayed their empty pots and utensils, highlighting the dire challenges they face without access to basic necessities.

Protestors, including children, held placards bearing slogans such as 'we refuse to be ignored', 'denying food is the worst form of violence', 'Home burnt, life threatened, food denied', 'we need food to survive', 'Gol, can't you provide us basic needs', among others.



Displaced persons revealed that the inmates in 115 centers are being assisted by 15 civil society organizations based in Churachandpur. They receive a weekly distribution of 44+7 food and non-food items, including 1001 bags of rice, 245.5 bags of Dal, and 209 bags of potatoes, which are typically distributed every Monday by the district administration.

Meanwhile, sources report a lack of clarity regarding the whereabouts of the district deputy commissioner following an incident where miscreants torched the DC office last week.

Additionally, the district administration has provided no explanation for the abrupt halt in ration distribution, despite ample food stocks available at the district's godown.

The decision to suspend ration supply comes at a time when many IDPs are already grappling with precarious living conditions and inadequate access to basic necessities. Without clarity on the reasons behind the halt, IDPs fear further exacerbation of their plight and heightened vulnerability.

Local authorities have been urged to promptly address the situation and resume the distribution of essential supplies to ensure the well-being of IDPs in Churachandpur district.



MEITEI OLDEST INSURGENT GROUP FORMED TO ESTABLISH INDEPENDENT MANIPUR NOW ENGAGING IN COLLECTING TAXES FROM PASSENGER VEHICLES

Amidst the news that the Arambai Tenggol and Meira Paibis have been collecting forceful donations to the public in the ongoing crisis, United National Liberation Front (UNLF) has also came to the limelight as there are reports of one of the oldest insurgent groups in Manipur charging taxes from wingers plying from Imphal to Ukhrul roads.

Months after the conflict began in Manipur, the Centre and the Manipur government sign a peace agreement with United National Liberation Front (UNLF), a second oldest rebel group in the Northeast, marking the end of a six-decade-long armed movement.

Arambam Samarendra, a masters in English Literature from Pune formed UNLF on November 24, 1964 with a vision to establish an independent socialist Manipur, formed the first council of UNLF with a Kabui Naga, Ahal Ibungo Kalalang Kamei as the chairman, a Kuki Thangkhopao Singsit as the vice-chairman and Somarendra a Meetei himself as the general secretary.

With violence escalating in Myanmar at presnt and the PDF taking control of many areas, there are reports that the UNLF who were based inside Myanmar were forced to flee their base camps in Myanmar and were forced to sign the peace agreement with the government.

There are also reports that the UNLF were forced to sign the peace deal so that they could openly joined hands with the Meitei radical groups like Arambai Tenggol in attacking Kuki villages.

Even though the UNLF was formed by individuals from different communities in Manipur, the group have now become a Meitei centric group thereby joining in attacking Kuki areas.



The UNLF which have been fighting to establish an independent Manipur have now stooped low with engaging in tax collections along the road from passenger vehicles. The Meiteis and Nagas have been making several charges that the SoO groups collected taxes in the highways and that it has become a nuisance to the commercial vehicles plying in the roads.

Now that the Meitei insurgent group has come to limelight with their illegal tax collection, the public have to see how the Nagas and Meiteis reacted to it. There are also various reports that the Meiteis have impose forceful donations from the vehicles plying along the Highway.

The donations were meant to support in procuring arms and ammunition for the armed Arambai Tenggol and other valley based insurgent groups involved in attacking Kuki villages.



FROM SELF-STYLE CLIMATE ACTIVIST TO TERROR FUNDING: 12-YEAR OLD LICYPRIYA KANGUJAM UNETHICAL ACTIVITIES

Licypriya Kangujam, the 12-year-old climate activist from Manipur, has gained significant attention in recent years for her activism on climate issues. However, questions arise about the authenticity of her intentions as a climate activist, particularly considering the involvement of her father, Dr. Kangujam Karnajit Singh, who has been arrested and jailed for fraudulent activities.

Since the onset of ethnic cleansing against the Kukis in early May last year, Licypriya has been striving to restore her tarnished image following her father's exposure by various media outlets. Unfortunately, her credibility has waned as she appears to be a pawn in her father's hands, serving his personal interests while alienating herself from her own community.

Amidst the conflict, Licypriya has seized the opportunity to rebuild her reputation by resorting to dramatic tactics and spreading hatred against the Kukis to appease the Meitei populace and regain their trust. She has been observed posting inflammatory messages against the Kukis on her social media platforms and raising funds for terrorism through her accounts.

Recently, on Februray 21, she posted a Reel on her official Facebook handle brandishing a combat helmet testing, a new acquisition for armed group Arambai Tenggol.

She wrote in Manipuri (Translation) "Here is the video for helmet testing. Not saying it's 100% safe but it is safer to wear than not to wear it at all. The one that you get in Imphal is said to be easily breakable. This one weighs 1.2kg. Its affordable rate seems to have undermined its quality. I know about the high priced top quality one as well. The bullet proof one costs minimum Rs. 15,000/- which is not economical and affordable so opted for the affordable yet safe one. Battlefield is unpredictable, one can succumb to bullet injuries in the neck. There is no such thing as safe in war. Those who are holding hate discussion may donate the expensive ones. As for the poor, making an effort for this (affordable version) hoping for some safety."



Licypriya's involvement in terror funding has grave consequences both for her and for the broader environmental movement. She could face serious legal repercussions, including potential criminal charges related to terrorism financing, leading to imprisonment and substantial fines. Furthermore, her reputation as a climate activist is severely damaged, jeopardizing her support base and undermining her credibility on a global scale.

The revelation of Licypriya's involvement in terror funding also tarnishes the reputation of the environmental movement, inviting increased scrutiny of activists and organizations advocating for climate action. Environmental organizations and funders are urged to distance themselves from individuals like Licypriya who misuse their activist status, avoiding any association with terrorism-linked individuals.

The unethical behavior of activists like Licypriya may prompt heightened surveillance of environmental activists and organizations, potentially stifling advocacy efforts and impeding progress in addressing climate change. Such instances highlight the need for vigilance and accountability within the environmental advocacy sphere to maintain trust and momentum in combating environmental challenges.







19-year-old Seikhochon Haokip, of Gunphai village in the Kangpokpi district of Manipur, is preparing for his 12th-grade exams in a makeshift bunker.

He hopes to play football and represent India internationally.

He stands in front of his duty post in Phaileng Mol post. Seikhochon, who is also preparing for his board exams, keeps a single-barrel gun beside his books as a constant reminder of his primary duty.

Amidst the challenges, he remains hopeful for an end to the violence affecting Manipur, as he told India TodayNE.

Seikhochon is not fighting this battle alone. Seikhochon stated that in addition to fighting on the front lines, about sixty other students are getting ready for the board exams. Quite upbeat about his goals, Seikhochon continues further that his aspirations and goals can never come before his duty to protect his people in the ongoing violence while stationed inside a bunker, protecting his land from the frontline.

Despite the situation not being overly tense, Seikhochon emphasises the importance of their duty to protect their people. Simultaneously, he and several other students are preparing for their exams from bunkers. A 19-year-old football enthusiast, fondly recalls his childhood days with his friends from the Meitei community. The young lad lost contact with his friends following the violent events that transpired on May 3, 2023. Despite the circumstances, he remains hopeful of reuniting with his old companions. He reminisced about his high school days, 'I had five friends from the Meitei community. We studied together from class 3 to class 10. Robert and Elvis were some of my friends whose names I remember.' He expressed that he missed them and had kept in touch through Facebook. However, following the violent incidents, they lost contact. Seichon shared these sentiments in a subdued tone while speaking to IndiatodayNE.

Seikhochon, a young Indian, has publicly shared his wish for an end to violence, stating that it hinders his ability to focus on his dreams. He expressed his ambition to become a footballer and make his parents proud. Amidst ongoing unrest, he voiced concerns about potentially losing his land if he were to leave. He stressed the importance of having a place to return to once the violence ceases. Despite the turmoil, Seikhochon remains hopeful of achieving his dreams, returning home, and contributing to India's pride as a footballer. Seikhochon's home is located 3-4 kms away from

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his bunker and he reports being able to hear gunfire during incidents of violence.

The ongoing conflict in Manipur continues to cause distress among students preparing for their Class 10 and 12 board exams, which started on February 21. The situation is particularly challenging for those displaced by the ethnic clash between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities.

Living in relief camps under the constant threat of violence, with limited resources, has heightened the anxiety of these students. The conflict, which broke out in May 2023, dealt a significant blow to the state's education system, with schools remaining closed for prolonged periods. Consequently, students lost a significant portion of their academic year and had to self-study.

The government's recent statistics reveal the devastating effects of violence on young lives. This year, 38,127 students are set to appear for the Class 10 board exams. This number is composed of 28,477 students from private schools, 8,130 from government schools, and 1,520 from aided schools. The Board of Secondary Education, Manipur (BSEM), reported a decrease of 1,637 students compared to the 2022-23 Class 10 board exams. For the Class 12 board exams, a total of 28,000 students will take the tests, marking the end of their school education.

The unending violence has not just affected the displaced students, it weighs heavily on all those belonging to the Kuki-Zo communities, spread across the hill areas. The disturbance of civil life has made it hard for students to focus on preparing for the upcoming examinations.

On May 3, 2023, ethnic violence led to a mass displacement of students from the afflicted regions to safer areas. Unfortunately, many students lost their crucial documents amid the chaos, further exacerbating their difficulties. This issue is particularly significant for those students who are scheduled to take their board exams in 2024, as they now face challenges in seeking admission in schools and colleges.

Story first published by **India Today NE**



We are not victims of our situation.
We are the architects of it.

– Simon Sinek





The word "Khankho" is a Kuki indigenous term that means wholeness, well-being, way of living and orderliness in a community, as quoted by Dr. Jangkholam Haokip. Khankho is the people's cultural value that upholds the community. Likewise, many definitions can be given. If a person is forgiving, humane, humble, generous, kind, and whatnot, that person is known to be "full of Khankho". It automatically acts as a parameter to discern whether an individual is good or bad. Khankho may also be known by some as "being humane" in short. This way of life which is more or less similar to the principles of Christianity always existed even before Christianity was practiced in the Kuki-Zo Community.

Since 3rd May 2023, strings of violence and destruction have been witnessed in Manipur. Unfortunately, many, especially from the Kuki-Zo Community believed that "Humanity has died in Manipur" or "Humanity has died in the minds or hearts of the Valley people". They all have valid reasons – women paraded naked, raped, tortured, burned, killed; children killed, burnt alive, etc. etc. Stories and reasons could be said to justify their statements.

However, fortunately, for the Meiteis, *Khankho* plays a deep role in rescuing and saving so many of their lives.

On May 4, 2023, Meitei Mob numbering around a thousand came to attack Khoken village, Kangpokpi district, bordering Sangaithel, Imphal West, with men with matches and petrol, long knives in the front, and armed men at the back. A few meters before they

stepped into the village trying to burn the whole village down, they were encountered by the villagers who were guarding the village with catapults and a few licensed guns.

The villagers managed to grab hold of some of the attackers since some of them were weak drunkards fooled by the men at the back but as directed by the village leaders, they let them go with a stern warning and fell back. "Even though those armed Meitei men at the back fired shots at us from a distance, we didn't fire any shot directed towards the mob but only blank fire shots because some of them were known to us and we didn't want to ruin the relationship that we've had over the years. If not, we could have killed at least 30 of them," a villager said.

On June 12, 2023, two Meitei men - Khwairakpam Sashikumar (40) alias Tomba from Sagolband Moirang Leirak Akham Lampak and O. Kumar (58) from Thoubal Leishangthem were set free by Kuki people after being detained for a period in Saivom area along the Imphal-Moreh road.

The two men were let go with some words of advice. "Just as we set you free because you are innocent civilians, make sure to extend that kindness to innocent Kuki civilians too," the Kuki elders told the two, according to Khwairakpam Sashikumar.

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Speaking of the incident, Khwairakpam Sashikumar said that the Kuki people treated them with humanity and thus he expressed gratitude towards them for their kindness. (Source: The Sangai Express)

On July 2, 2023, Kuki volunteers released five Meitei youths who were in their custody and sent out a message of peace. According to the Kuki volunteers at Gwaltabi under Saikul Police Station in Saikul Sub Division in Kangpokpi district, they apprehended five Meitei individuals on July 1 afternoon at around 2:00 pm. "For the sake of peace and ending the violence we have handed them to the Indian Army", said the volunteers. One among the five individuals also expressed gratitude to the Kuki volunteers in particular and the Kuki community as a whole for their kindheartedness and goodwill gesture while urging the Meitei community to imitate the peaceful mindset of the Kukis and end the violence. (Source: India TodayNE)

On October 22, 2023, residents of a Kuki village of Lhangnom, Tousem in Tamenglong helped a distressed Meitei person reach home safely. The distressed person identified as Yaikhom Maipaksana Meitei of Imphal East, was caught up in a distressing situation after he had lost money due to theft, leaving him with no means to return home. The residents of Kuki village of Tamenglong immediately brought him to safety and informed Assam Rifles, Kadamtala for assistance.

The Assam Rifles along with the Jiribam police established the Meitei person's identity and promptly informed his family and local police station about his safety. On the morning of 23rd October, the distressed man was safely dispatched to his home in Imphal East. (Source: India TodayNE)

On December 11, 2023, a Meitei woman, identified as Laishram Lata (45) w/o late Aken of Sekmaijin from Langjing Bazar and a Meitei Pangal man, Md Hussain Ahmed Ali (51) of Kwakta, Bishnupur, were released without any harm done to the two individuals, who crossed the buffer zone in Gamgiphai, Kangpokpi district at around 11 PM.

They were handed over to the 22nd Assam Rifles and Kangpokpi Police the next day, Tuesday, at around 11

AM by the Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU). The sources said that they lost their way and reached Gamgiphai as they were under the influence of alcohol. (Source: CoTU Press Release/Video)

On January 3, 2024, showing humanity amidst the violence, a group of Kuki elders and youths helped rescue a Meitei driver, Konthoujam Dingku, from a potentially unsafe area.

This incident occurred when Dingku mistakenly drove into T Lailoiphai, a Kuki village while transporting BSF personnel to their headquarters at Serou Practical High School in Kakching. (Source: India TodayNE)

Again, when we trace back to the initial days of the present Manipur conflict, although many innocent Kuki-Zo civilians were killed, burnt alive, raped, and murdered in the Imphal valley, the truth is, no Meitei residents in the Kuki-Zo-dominated areas were killed nor harmed. They were not killed not because the Kuki-Zos didn't have the guts or guns to do it. But the idea of Khankho instilled in their hearts and minds was stronger than the desire to kill somebody innocent.

From the mentioned incidents and facts, and many untold stories as such, it is seen that *Khankho* which was inculcated in the core of the lives of the Kuki-Zo community since time immemorial hugely benefitted the Meiteis whose lives were hanging by a thread under the hands of the Kuki-Zos.

As stated, Khankho is more than humanity alone. It is the moral standard of how a person lives his or her life. If this way of life in the lives of the Kuki-Zo people were embedded in the lives of the Meiteis, at least at the beginning of it, the present conflict would've been less terrorizing and traumatic. And for sure, fewer casualties would've been mounted. Or the conflict might have ended just a few days after 3rd May 2023. And the phrase "Ching-tam amatani" would still be relevant today.







Important breaking story: Manipur High Court modifies its controversial direction given to state government last year asking it to consider inclusion of the majority Meitei community in the list of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). The direction was seen as a trigger for the massive ethnic violence in the state ongoing since May last year. Sadly the order may have come a tad too late. Too much blood and mistrust has spread. Qs: who will heal the wounds of families who have lost their near and dear ones? Or does Manipur not affect our collective conscience even after more than 200 people across communities have died? #Manipur

Last edited 4:38 PM · Feb 22, 2024 · 85.5K Views



Bhavika Kapoor (backup for... @bhavi_kap



- He had no time for Manipur; when it was burning, women were getting raped and children were killed.
- He still doesn't have time to visit Manipur.
- But the lowlife man has the whole time in the world to visit West Bengal because it is being ruled by his opposition parties. 😤



5:38 pm · 22 Feb 24 · 3,196 Views





BENEFICIARIES
OF THE
PROLONGED
VIOLENCE







A Tribute to all Kuki-Zo's

Fallen Heroes

In a land where stories of bravery echo loud,
A group's lost fighters rest beneath solemn shroud.
Kuki-Zo's brave warriors, in battles they stood,
Their memory held deep in the soil and wood.
On tough ground, where the breezes loudly cry,
Kuki-Zo's soldiers marched with courage, aiming to defy.

Their souls burning bright, they fought with pride, Protecting their kin, they bravely ride.
Their names may vanish, in time's endless stream, But their acts and sacrifice forever gleam.
In Kuki-Zo's heart, their memory's pure gold, In tales of valour and stories, yet untold.

Though gone from our sight, their spirit's alive, In the hills where their memories thrive. In conflict's heart, they stood tall, Answering duty's unwavering call. A tribute to their heroes, who answered the call, Saluting Kuki-Zo's Fallen Heroes, one and all.

- Thongminthang Lhungdim