

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



**KHAMJAHAU  
KUM 32**

**AWAITING JUSTICE**



## **KHAMJAHAU (32 YEARS)**

S/O (L) HAUKHANTHANG

ADDRESS: KUVAN VILLAGE, SANGAIKOT, LAMKA

DATE OF INCIDENT: 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY, 2023

PLACE OF INCIDENT: SANAKEITHEL, LAMPHEL, IMPHAL WEST

CAUSE OF DEATH: ABDUCTED & KILLED BY MEITEI MILITANTS



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 12. 11. 2024



**218**  
DEATHS

1. Zosangkim Hmar
2. Lalsiemlien Hmar
3. Joseph Lalditum
4. Lalthanei Infimate
5. Robert Lalnuntluong
6. Ramneilien
7. Francis Lalzarlien
8. Elvis Lalropui Zote
9. Henry Lalsanglien
10. Ruolneisang
11. Fimlienkung



**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.

# BODIES OF 10 MARTYRS KILLED BY CRPF IN JIRIBAM AIRLIFTED TO CHURACHANDPUR

The bodies of ten Hmar Village Volunteers, who were killed by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Jiribam on November 11, were airlifted from Silchar to Churachandpur on Saturday, amidst mounting tensions and protests. The helicopter carrying the remains landed at the Assam Rifles Khuga Battalion helipad, and the bodies were transferred to the district hospital with full honours.

As the bodies made their way through town, local businesses closed in a show of respect and solidarity with the deceased. The community held an emotional tribute as the procession made its way along the road, and many mourners lined the streets.

The bodies had initially been taken to Silchar Medical College and Hospital (SMCH) in Assam for postmortem on November 12. However, tensions had been rising since then, as protesters from the Kuki-Zo communities gathered at the hospital, demanding the release of the bodies. The situation turned violent on Saturday morning when Assam and Manipur police attempted to remove the bodies for transportation.

In the ensuing clash, police were forced to use a lathi-charge to disperse the crowd, which retaliated by throwing stones, injuring several officers and four journalists. The standoff lasted for about 30 minutes, before senior police officials intervened, and the protesters agreed to allow the bodies to be airlifted under the condition that traditional rituals were carried out first.

David Keivom, a local leader from Dima Hasao, voiced strong opposition to the decision to move the bodies by helicopter, stating that it unnecessarily prolonged



the agony for the families of the deceased. “The bodies should have been transported by road, as originally planned,” Keivom said.

Meanwhile, the Indigenous Tribal Leaders’ Forum (ITLF) has been vocal in its criticism of the government’s decision to airlift the bodies, asserting that this action violated the community’s wishes. The ITLF claims that the government intervened despite objections and that security forces caused injuries during the protests.

“The central government ordered the bodies to be brought by helicopter, and despite our efforts to halt this, the bodies were evacuated by air,” the ITLF said in a statement. “We will continue to demand justice for our martyrs and ensure their memory is honoured.” The ITLF has convened an urgent meeting to discuss the next steps, which include legal action and a careful review of the postmortem reports for any discrepancies.

As of now, the bodies will be kept in the district hospital morgue until the postmortem reports are available. The ITLF has stated that an

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expert will be appointed to review the postmortem documents to ensure accuracy and transparency. Additionally, the ITLF's Legal Cell will handle all related legal matters.

The Joint Philanthropic Organization (JPO) has announced plans to work with the Hmar Inpui to

organize a proper burial ceremony for the ten martyrs, with further details to be shared once the legal processes are completed.

"We are grateful for the support we have received, and we will not rest until justice is served for our martyrs," the ITLF stated.

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## MEITEI RADICALS TORCH CHURCHES AND HOMES IN JIRIBAM, AMID HEIGHTENED TENSIONS

In a disturbing escalation of violence in Jiribam town, at least five churches and six homes belonging to the Hmar-Mizo community were vandalized and set ablaze by Meitei radicals. The attacks, which took place despite the presence of Central police forces in the area, have further fueled tensions in the region.

According to reliable sources from Jiribam, the churches targeted in the attacks included the Independent Church of India (ICI Church), Evangelical Free Church of India (EFCI Church), Booth Tucker School & Salvation Church, Presbyterian (Vaiphei) Church & Pastor's Quarter, and the Evangelical Assembly Church (EAC Church). The homes of several Hmar-Mizo families in the town were also destroyed during the rampage.

The destruction of religious buildings and properties marks a significant flare-up in the ongoing ethnic



and communal tensions between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities in Manipur. Local residents report that the violence began in the late hours of this evening, with mobs of Meitei radicals going on a rampage, targeting Christian churches and homes of the Hmar-Mizo community.

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**The hero wanders, the hero suffers,  
the hero returns. You are that hero.**

— Steven Pressfield

# VIOLENCE PROTEST ERUPTS IN IMPHAL VALLEY: THE JUSTIFICATION FOR IMPOSITION OF AFSPA

Protests erupted across several districts in the Imphal valley on Saturday, following the discovery of six bodies believed to be those of individuals missing since November 7th in Jiribam district. The deceased, who were part of a single family, included three women and three children, with the youngest being just two and a half months old. The bodies were found over two days, three on Friday and three more on Saturday.

The discovery sparked widespread outrage among the Meitei community, leading to violent protests. Demonstrators, largely women, stormed the residences of several local lawmakers, including BJP MLA Sapam Nishikanta and MLA RK Imo. The protestors set fire to properties and damaged buildings, including bunkers at Nishikanta's house in Keishampat and furniture at Imo's residence in Sagolband, Imphal West.

The situation swiftly deteriorated, prompting the state government to impose a curfew in Imphal West from 4:30 PM onwards and suspend internet services in the affected areas. Authorities hoped these measures would help contain the unrest and curb the spread of misinformation, which was fueling further tension.

The deaths occurred amid an ongoing conflict between armed militants and security forces. The victims went missing after a violent confrontation between the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Manipur Police, triggered by an alleged attack on a CRPF camp and a police station in the region. While the Meitei community has blamed Kuki insurgents for the abductions and killings, Kuki-Zo groups have denied these allegations. They claim the deceased were "village volunteers" from the Hmar community, who had been defending their villages from potential Meitei attacks. According to Kuki-Zo organizations, the volunteers were killed in a confrontation with security forces.



In response to the escalating violence, the Manipur state Cabinet held an emergency meeting on Friday night. The Cabinet condemned the incidents in Jiribam and expressed concern over what it described as a "vested interest group" attempting to undermine the peace process initiated by the central government.

The Coordination Committee on Manipur Unity (COCOMI), a group representing the Meitei community, has called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and secure the safe return of the missing individuals. The committee also warned of severe consequences if the bodies of the six individuals were not recovered, or if those responsible for their deaths were not brought to justice.

The killings have sent shockwaves across the state, further deepening the ethnic tensions that have plagued Manipur in recent months. On Saturday morning, the busy Imphal Khwairamband Keithel market witnessed widespread protests, with demonstrators expressing their anger and demanding justice for the victims.

**NEWS ANALYSIS****Complicity of Centre in Ethnic Cleansing Pogrom: An Escalating Threat to Kuki-Zo People's Existence**

It is shameful and beggars belief that the Solicitor General (SG) of the Government of India, Tushar Mehta, has the audacity to blatantly lie to the Supreme Court of India, while representing the Centre over a writ petition filed against the fascist Meitei Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh, over his explosive whistleblower's audiotapes.

Unprofessionally and without cross-checking the facts, SG Tushar Mehta, on November 8, submitted his arguments to the Supreme Court that "CM [N. Biren Singh] is meeting all Kuki MLAs and trying to bring the situation down to get peace", which is a blatant lie and tantamount to misleading the highest Court of the Country. In fact, the narcissistic Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, the main architect of the violence, cannot assert such negotiations for peace talk while continuing the ethnic cleansing of Kuki-Zo people.

This unsolicited and blatant lie of the Solicitor General of India, who represents the Centre in the Court, has proven beyond doubt that even the Government of India is complicit with the

Meiteis and their government to annihilate the minority Kuki-Zo people in Manipur. This has become a cause of serious concern as it will result in further escalation of grave threats being launched on the existence of Kuki-Zo people in their own ancestral land.

This is not the first time that the Government of India has misled the Apex Court since the beginning of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom which erupted on May 3 last year. In August 2023, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had also told the Supreme Court that most of the Kuki-Zo dead bodies lying in the morgues of Imphal Hospitals were of infiltrators, which was a blatant lie and devoid of any facts.

"I didn't want to say this but most of the unclaimed dead bodies are those infiltrators who came with a particular design and got killed," the S-G had shamefully told a three-judge bench presided by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud that took up petitions related

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to the Manipur violence. The fact was that all the victims of Meiteis' atrocities were of true Indian citizens who were selectively raped and murdered, tortured to death or burnt alive just because they belong to Kuki-Zo ethnic groups.

The Solicitor General's constant lies aligning with Meiteis' fabricated narratives have exposed a shocking collusion of the BJP's "Double-Engine" governments at the Centre and State, thus betraying the people's trust in the establishments. It also proved that the ongoing violence in Manipur is "state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom."

Notably, there has been normalisation or institutionalisation of lies and vicious politics being played in the ongoing Manipur conflict that even the official legal representative of the present regime at the Centre has to align with Meiteis' false narratives. In such a collusion of the State and Centre over the mayhem, the Kuki-Zo tribals remain victims of this systematic injustice.

What will happen if the Government of India continuously misleads the highest court of the land about the mayhem in Manipur? Can justice be delivered by spreading/presenting false narratives of the Meiteis and their communal State government? Why is the Government of India complicit with the dictatorship of N. Biren Singh, while dehumanising the minority tribals who are the real victims?

In a statement issued on November 10, the Kuki MLAs have clarified that they had never had any meeting with the Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh since May 3, 2023, nor have any intention to meet him in future as he is the mastermind behind the violence and ethnic cleansing of the Kuki-Zo people

from the Imphal valley, which is continuing till today.

While condemning the Solicitor General's unprofessional conduct of submitting arguments before the Supreme Court without cross checking the facts, the MLAs - including Haokholet Kipgen from Saitu A/C, Nemcha Kipgen from Kangpokpi A/C, Kimneo Haokip Hangshing from Saikul A/C, Letpao Haokip from Tengnoupal A/C, Paolenlal Haokip from Saikot A/C, LM Khaute from Churachandpur A/C, Chinlunthang from Singngat A/C, Letzamang Haokip from Henglep A/C, Vungjagin Valte from Thanlon A/C and Ngursanglur from Tipaimukh A/C - have categorically stated that S-G Tushar Mehta's submission to the Supreme Court was a blatant lie and tantamount to misleading the Apex Court.

With the continued ethnic persecution and dehumanisation of the minority tribals still ongoing even after more than one and half years, the Kuki-Zo people continue to legitimately seek justice. They stand resolute in their commitment to defend themselves and repel any attack that threatens their communities' existence.

The Government of India must know that the Kukis' unwavering determination to protect their people and their land is steadfast, and they will not hesitate to take action against any threat to their safety and security. Kuki-Zo people will not rest until justice is served and those responsible for the ethnic cleansing pogrom are held accountable for their inhumane actions.

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THE BUZZ

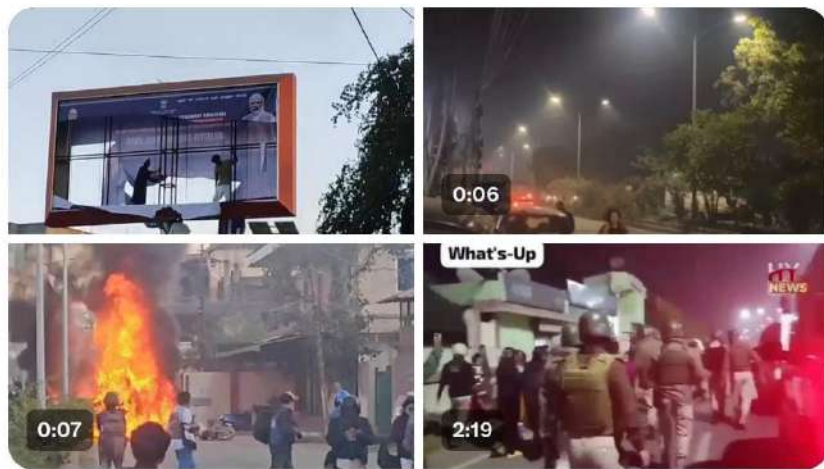


Patrick O Haokip  
@PatrickOHaokip

18th months, Biren led BJP Double engine sarkar Manipur continues to burn!!

Today, his posters were torn in the heart of Imphal, even as mobile and internet services were cut again. Democracy is a tall order - the rule of law itself has fallen apart in the state.

#Manipur



19:47 · 16 Nov 24 · 843 Views



Sushmita Dev সুস্মিতা দেব  
@SushmitaDevAITC

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It's a tragedy to see so many bodies come into Silchar, Cachar, Assam from #Manipur for postmortem.

North East is a sensitive part of the country & the @BJP4India is undoing decades of work that brought peace & harmony in the region. #ManipurViolence

These videos reflect the extent of mayhem in Manipur & the spill over into a neighboring state like Assam. 🙄

Video credit : Bartalipi, Silchar



15:29 · 16 Nov 24 · 2,521 Views

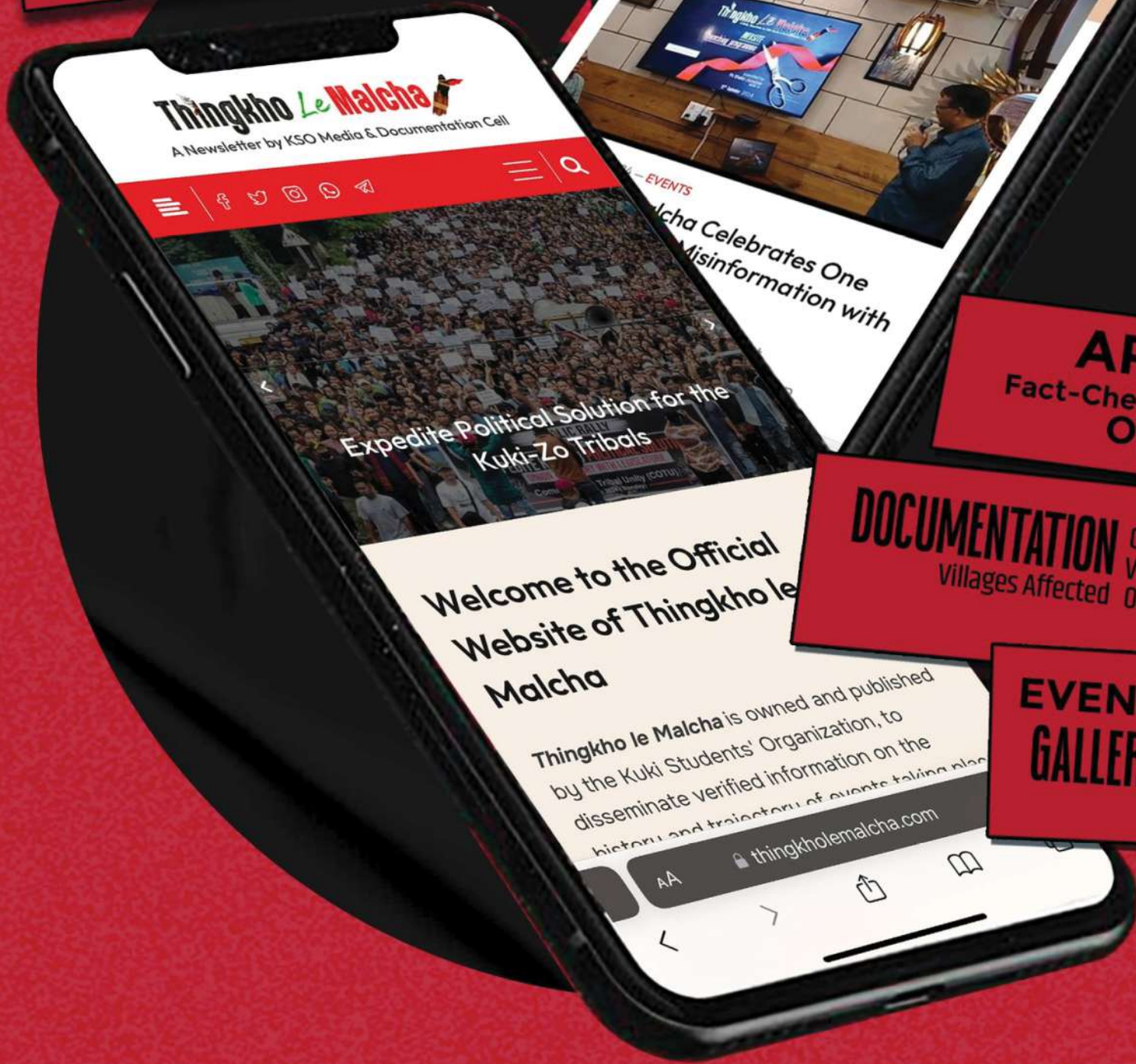


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[www.thinkholemalcha.com](http://www.thinkholemalcha.com)



# HONORING THE MEMORIES OF THE FALLEN (REMEMBERING JIRIBAM) ~ a poem by Henry Thangzawm

United we stand, a sea of faces strong,  
Demanding justice, our voices all day long.  
For the innocent lives lost, for the blood shed in vain.  
We seek accountability, and an end to this pain.

In Jiribam, our brothers and sisters fell  
Victims of violence, their stories untold to tell.  
Their memories we hold, their sacrifice we honor.  
As we march for justice, our hearts beating as one.

We are the Kuki-Zo, a people proud and free.  
Our ancestral lands, our heritage, we'll always be.  
We won't be silenced, we won't be tamed.  
Our voices will rise, our spirits unashamed.

We demand protection, and justice ahead.  
For the Kuki-Zo people, for our human rights,  
We'll keep on fighting, through day and endless nights.

Let our unity be the beacon of hope.  
Let our voices be the change we cope.  
For a brighter tomorrow, where all can live  
In peace and harmony, and freedom to give.

