

# Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## AWAITING JUSTICE



### KAMGOUGIN CHONGLOI (21 YEARS)

S/O JAMKHOHAO CHONGLOI  
ADDRESS: GANGPIJANG VILLAGE, SADAR HILLS  
DATE OF INCIDENT: 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024  
PLACE OF INCIDENT: SADAR HILLS  
CAUSE OF DEATH: DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY





## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 28. 11. 2024



**222**  
DEATHS



**200+**  
VILLAGES BURNT



**7000+**  
HOUSES BURNT

1. Thangtinmang Khongsai



**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.

# KWOHR DEMANDS IMMEDIATE ARREST OF KOROUNGANBA KHUMAN AMIDST OBSTRUCTION BY MEIRA PAIBIS

The Kuki Women's Organization for Human Rights (KWOHR) has issued a strong condemnation of the recent interference by the Meira Paibis, who are accused of obstructing law enforcement agencies from arresting Korounganba Khuman, a criminal allegedly responsible for war crimes and gross violations of human rights against the Kuki-Zo community. The organization claims that Khuman's actions, which include genocidal violence and the abuse of Indian citizens' rights, have been facilitated by powerful figures such as Manipur Chief Minister Biren Singh, titular king Leishemba Sanajaoba, and insurgent groups based in the state's valley region.

In a statement released today, the KWOHR called for Khuman's immediate arrest, emphasizing the grave threat he poses to the safety and security of citizens, particularly women and children. The organization described the violent legacy of his actions, which have left many Kuki-Zo women widowed, children orphaned, and victims of sexual violence. The trauma inflicted by Khuman and his associates continues to devastate the community, and the KWOHR insists that his freedom is an affront to the pain and suffering of the victims.

The KWOHR also pointed to what it describes as clear evidence of collaboration between Khuman's group, Arambai Tenggol, and the Meira Paibis. The organization cites social media posts by Khuman himself that appear to instruct the Meira Paibis to block the efforts of paramilitary forces trying to apprehend him. The KWOHR asserts that this complicity, if ignored by central authorities, would render the arrest of Khuman an empty gesture, undermining the pursuit of justice.

Further complicating the situation, the KWOHR highlights the influential network of support for Khuman's group within Manipur, particularly from high-profile figures such as Biren Singh and



Leishemba Sanajaoba. This, the KWOHR argues, ensures that those responsible for crimes like Khuman are shielded from accountability. The lack of action from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in pursuing Khuman is seen as deeply insulting to the victims, perpetuating their suffering and undermining the rule of law.

The KWOHR has called on central agencies, including the NIA, to act swiftly and decisively to arrest Khuman and bring justice to the victims. Inaction, the organization warns, will not only perpetuate the trauma of those affected but will also damage India's global reputation as a defender of human rights.

In their final demand, the KWOHR urged the central government and law enforcement agencies to demonstrate their competence and responsibility in handling this case, emphasizing that words alone are insufficient. The time for action, they declare, is now.



# IMPHAL VALLEY- THE CAPITAL OF EXTORTIONS, THREATS AND INTIMIDATION

On Wednesday, a hand grenade was reportedly discovered outside the ICICI Bank branch at Singjamei Mayengbam Leikai in Imphal West. Another similar explosive device was found at Kangla Foods in Nambol, Bishnupur district.

The powerful bomb in ICICI Bank was found by joggers at around 8 AM today along the road; after which, a team led by the sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) of Singjamei Police Station alerted the people and rushed towards the spot leading to the main door of the ICICI Bank branch.

Describing the incident, a Police officer said, "The bomb was found by joggers around 8 am. It was missing the lever, so we called in the bomb disposal squad to handle the situation. They safely recovered the grenade by 10 am." The device is a highly explosive No. 36 hand grenade.

The bank near National Highway 102 restricted vehicles and pedestrian movement for approximately 30 minutes. The bomb disposal squad removed the hand grenade at around 10 AM today.

Even though no group or individual has claimed responsibility for planting the explosive so far, the Meitei militants are highly suspected for the crime related to extortions.

Meanwhile, the bomb found at Kangla Foods in Nambol, Bishnupur district, was accompanied by a warning note that read, "Contact us within 24 hours at the given phone number... this is the last warning for the manager."

After bombs were found in different locations, the Meitei people including the staff and employees of the



company staged a sit-in protest today.

The protesters held placards that read, "We condemn the bomb planted in crowded areas" and "We demand immediate clarification regarding the reason for the bomb placed at our office gate."

These discoveries of bombs in the Meitei-dominated valley areas indicated that the greater Imphal area has become the capital city of all crimes and anti-social elements such as extortions, killings, threats and intimidation.

It may be noted that the Meitei terror groups including the Arambai Tenggol are deeply involved in illegal activities in Imphal valley and are seen openly brandishing their sophisticated weapons in public places without any impunity.

If the Government of India still hesitates to contain such anti-social elements, it could become a grave national security threat in the near future. The need of the hour is re-imposition of AFSPA in all districts of Meiteis' Kangleipak

# FEAR, UNCERTAINTY HAS GRIPPED MANIPUR: GAURAV GOGOI

Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi on Wednesday said Manipur was in the throes of a grave humanitarian crisis and demanded that Home Minister Amit Shah make a statement in Parliament on the issue.

Raising the matter during the Zero Hour in the Lok Sabha, Gogoi slammed the BJP for raising the George Soros issue in Parliament, contending that the ruling party was doing so to “hide its failures in Manipur”.

“The entire state is in a humanitarian crisis and instead of finding a solution, the government is sending paramilitary forces and enforcing the AFSPA. This is not addressing the cycle of violence,” the Congress leader said.

He said the people of Manipur only want to know when Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit the state and when will the home minister apprise the House of the steps required to resolve the situation in the state.

“This government, in order to hide its failure in Manipur, is using George Soros as a shield,” Gogoi said, triggering a sharp reaction from the treasury benches.

The Congress leader said extortion has become rampant in Manipur, the economy has been shattered and basic public services were on the brink of collapse.



“Unfortunately, there has been a rise in the illegal trade of arms, drugs, and timber. The impact on the lives of ordinary people has been devastating,” he said.

Gogoi said schools and colleges were closed and the education of thousands of students was at risk.

“Healthcare facilities have been damaged or destroyed. Fear and uncertainty have gripped the population,” the Congress leader said.

Gogoi’s reference to Soros prompted Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal to counter by claiming links between the Congress leadership and certain Soros-backed outfits allegedly working to destabilise India. (Indian Express)

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**It is easy to be brave from a distance.**

— *Omaha Proverb*





FEATURED ARTICLE

## The Gnawing Indifference Towards the Women of Manipur

Jacqueline Chochoi

Manipur's hills have always been filled with stories – of birth and burial, of laughter and longing, of women carrying water from streams with songs in their hearts, and of divine maidens guarding the pristine landscapes.

But now these stories are drowned in a silence thicker than the morning mist, a terrible silence punctuated by screams that these weathered hills can no longer echo.

From the recent horrific case in Jiribam – where a Meitei family of six (three women and three children) were allegedly abducted and brutally murdered – to the systematic violence targeting the Kuki-Zo women through calculated acts of murder and rape, Manipur has entered its darkest chapter in the history of its statehood.

As Hannah Arendt once warned, the greatest evils in the world are not committed by fanatics or sociopaths but by ordinary individuals following orders, fulfilling duties, and bowing to systems.

In Manipur, many perpetrators of these crimes were not unknown to the victims. They were not strangers emerging from the shadows but familiar faces – people

who had shared meals, celebrated festivals, and lived as part of the same community. How does one reconcile such betrayal when the most fundamental human bonds are severed with such cruelty? These men no longer saw these women as humans but as objects in a game of power. They become instruments of power, desensitised by the machinery of conflict that normalises gendered violence and dispossession. In this tragic transformation, the banality of evil finds its most chilling expression.

**Reliving Trauma:** Women in Relief Camps  
In Manipur's crowded relief camps, women huddle together in quiet despair, attempting to piece together the shattered pieces of their lives. These spaces, which were intended to be sanctuaries, are now haunted by memories of violence – the day their daughters were violated, their husbands were lynched, and their homes were burned down. The violence against these women – displacement, mutilation, sexual abuse – is not the work of monsters but of men made monstrous by the banal rhythms of authority.

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The history of violence against women during conflict is a tale as old as time, a poignant seam that ties narratives of conflicts worldwide. Women's bodies have been used as battlefields and symbols used to exert domination and power. What unites these atrocities is not their brutality but the everyday nature of their execution.

The breakdown of law became an opportunity for gendered violence to thrive. Violence against women persists in these spaces in subtle but equally devastating ways. They are left to fend for themselves, with no access to reproductive healthcare, trauma counselling, or safety, even as bureaucratic machinery moves papers in the name of "relief."

The overcrowded and under-resourced camps are also examples of systemic neglect. Privacy is a forgotten luxury, and lacking basic necessities exacerbates the suffering. Pregnant women live in precarious conditions; children grow up in a liminal space of trauma, leaving them with no hope of rebuilding their futures. The state's failure to address these systemic issues exacerbates the suffering, turning relief camps into sites of prolonged trauma rather than healing.

**India's Global Ambitions vs Domestic Failures**  
India's bid for a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has gained traction after many current permanent members backed the council's expansion. However, this aspiration is complicated by an abrupt contrast between India's international ambitions and its domestic realities.

Chronic discrimination based on ethnicity, caste, and gender undermines fundamental human rights throughout the country.

In Manipur, Kuki-Zo communities' systematic marginalisation and displacement exemplify these failures. This is further exacerbated by the government's

failure – or unwillingness – to address institutional indifference and structural vulnerabilities that affect migrants, asylum seekers, and Indigenous Peoples. The situation in Manipur serves as an unsettling illustration of these systemic flaws. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence, punctuated by a vague statement in response to national outrage, reflects either indifference or a lack of strategy in dealing with the crisis. The administration of Chief Minister N Biren Singh, which has been accused of bias and complicity in the violence, has further undermined the state's credibility.

These domestic failures are not peripheral issues but core indicators of a country's commitment to human rights. Without addressing these inequities, India's ambitions for global leadership risk being overshadowed by domestic issues.

**Impunity and Legal Apathy**

India's obligations under international frameworks such as CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women), UNSC (United Nations Security Council) Resolution 1325, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) demand that it addresses gender-based violence in conflict zones and prevent ethnic discrimination. Yet, the absence of gender-sensitive policies in relief efforts and post-conflict negotiations continues to exclude women from decision-making processes.

In the case of Manipur, the perpetrators of violence against women operate in an environment of impunity, supported by the breakdown of the rule of law. It raises critical questions about the state's role and accountability under both national and international legal frameworks.

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The magnitude of the conflict, fuelled by an unfounded rumour of an attack on Meitei women by the Kuki tribe, also highlights the state's failure to prevent propaganda designed to incite ethnic hatred. This neglect violates Article 8(2) of UNDRIP, which obligates states to combat such propaganda.

The conflict caused one of the most significant displacements around the world, where over 60,000 people have left their homes, and approximately 14,857 families are living in relief camps.

Relief camps, reliant on NGOs and civil society for basic sustenance, are emblematic of a governance structure that has failed its most vulnerable. This further illustrates the state's inability to provide adequate relief to women and children bearing the brunt of this crisis. Addressing these gaps is not only a moral imperative but a prerequisite for any meaningful resolution to the conflict.

**Human Rights Day: A Call to Action**  
As the world observes Human Rights Day, the plight of Manipur's women highlights the critical need for systemic change. Overcrowded relief camps serve as a stark reminder that the state has failed its people.

Kuki-Zomi women face additional marginalisation because they are barred from owning land, have no access to reproductive healthcare, and lack trauma counselling or adequate safety measures. These conditions are not inevitable; they are the result of a system that normalises violence, eliminates accountability, and excludes women from the justice and recovery processes. The failure to enforce constitutional protections such as Articles 14 (equality before the law) and 21 (right to life and dignity) is a damning indictment of crisis-era governance.

However, despite systemic neglect, Manipur's women are far from passive victims. They advocate for peace,

justice, and accountability. They confront the systems that have failed them by documenting atrocities, mobilising communities, and shaping grassroots initiatives.

Their voices echo in quiet defiance. Their lives demonstrate the tenacity of memory – the stubborn refusal to let the weight of violence and loss fade into silence.

The greatest danger is not the violence but the forgetting. To forget is to be complicit in the systems that enable such atrocities. Women in Manipur resist for survival and to ensure that their stories are preserved. Their pain, courage, and fight are not just the remains of a tragedy but the seeds of transformation.

Justice for these women is more than just punishing perpetrators; it is about creating a future where no woman is left alone in the shadows of conflict. It is about honouring their defiance by dismantling the systems that enabled such violence to thrive and ensuring their inclusion in narratives of peace and healing.

On this Human Rights Day, let us continue their fight – not as saviours but as partners. Their resistance demonstrates that humanity can rise even in the darkest times – not through a grand revolution but through a quiet, unwavering commitment to remember, rebuild, and demand better.

(Jacqueline Chochoi has a bachelor's degree from St Joseph's University, Bengaluru. She is currently a recipient of the Zubaan Young Researchers from Northeast (2024) as well as a National Gender Fellow)

Published by [The Quint](#)



THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ



Rupee is falling, Inflation rising, Manipur is burning.

But our PM is doing Action Cut in front of some bollywood kapoor family



From BALA

Last edited 7:22 PM · Dec 11, 2024 · 14.1K Views



Ravi Kapur  
@Kap5760811

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The silent protest by Kuki MLAs at Jantar Mantar was more than a political act. It was a powerful cry for justice dignity and the right to survive amidst ongoing struggles. Their voices represent a community's pain and resilience. The world must listen. #KukiVoice #JusticeForKuki



11:45 am · 11 Dec 24 · 734 Views



THE DEAD HUMAN RIGHTS IN MANIPUR





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# SADASTIC COMMUNITY: THE MEITEI

Crime against women is a strong suit of the Meiteis,  
In fact they excel this morbid art like none,  
Even terrorist groups must be ashamed  
By this act of criminals with no humanity at all.

Our women were paraded naked, molested and raped,  
This sick community have no qualms of killing,  
Women and children were killed in the most gruesome manner,  
Sending shockwaves, anger and revulsion across the land.

While the Manipur police looked the other way  
The Meitei mob unleashed one of the most savage acts.  
In the heart of Imphal city, innocent people, women folks  
Were hunted and hounded, dragged and murdered.

In fact rape and crime are used as a weapon of war,  
It's a horrific reality we cannot ignore.  
The world should stand together against this evil misdeed,  
And fight for justice for Kuki's innocence.

*~ Janggoulen Khongsai*