

Current Trends of Biodiversity Research in Mizoram H Lalramnghinglova, Vanramliana, H Lalthanzara

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# COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT HIERAR-CHICAL CLUSTERING METHODS IN ANALYZING SPECIES COMPOSITION

Lalpawimawha

Hierarchical clustering treats each data point as a singleton cluster, and then successively merges clusters until all points have been merged into a single remaining cluster. A hierarchical clustering is often represented as a dendrogram (Manning et al., 1999 and Defays, 1977).

In data mining, hierarchical clustering (also called hierarchical cluster analysis or HCA) is a method of cluster analysis which seeks to build a hierarchy of clusters (Oswin Aichholzer et al, 1996).

Classifications are generally pictured in the form of hierarchical trees, also called a dendrogram.

A dendrogram is the graphical representation of an ultrametric (= cophenetic) matrix; so dendrograms can be compared to one another by comparing their cophenetic matrices (Lapointe, FJ et al., 1995). Cluster Analysis (CA), Principal Components Analysis (PCA) and Discriminant Analysis (DA) are three of the primary methods of modern multivariate analysis. Because of its utility, clustering has emerged as one of the leading methods of multivariate analysis (Kettenring et al., 2006).

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# Rajiv Gandhi

Pioneer of India's 21st Century



Edited by:
Chayanika Uniyal Panda
Surendra Kumar

Courtesy: Rajiv Gandhi Study Circle

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# Chapter 14

# Panchayati Raj Institutions : A Decentralisation Process For Rural Development

Dr. T. Sadashiyam

Assistant Professor, Pachhunga University College Central University of Mizoram

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Assistant Professor, Zakir Husain Delhi College (Evening), University of Delhi

# Introduction

India, the biggest democracy in the world, experimented with the local governance in 1990s, to call itself as the most representative and participatory democracy. Initially, in our constitution through the Directive Principles of State Policy provides a democratic decentralization (Article 40) in India, but, it was 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) of 1992, which constitutionally mandated for establishing a true local self-government in India. Here, the importance of the 73<sup>rd</sup> CAA related to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), is utmost important. The

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### EGM83

# Study of Methanolic Extract of Spilanthesacmella as Corrosion Inhibitor of Mild Steel in 1 N HCl and 1N H2SO4 Acidic Medium

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### ABSTRACT

Natural products or secondary metabolites have been the most successful source of value added product in science and industrial research, since they represent molecules that have been useful for applications as therapeutics, cosmetics and corrosion inhibitor of metal in acidic medium. The corrosion inhibition property of plant extracts was evaluated by electrochemical technique such as Potentiodynamic polarisation technique. The methanolic extract of Spilanthesacmella plant species as a found maximum corrosion efficiency 91% at 0.5gL-1. From adsorption isotherm study shows that the phytochemical molecule adsorbed on metal surface as a monolayer and obeyed Langmuir adsorption isotherm. The adsorption of extract of Spilanthesacmella molecule on metal surface conformed by using SEM technique.

KEYWORDS: acidic media, mild steel, inhibition efficiency, anodic reaction

### INTRODUCTION

Mild steel is valued metal for its durability, availability, strength, low cost and used in various tools. A clean surface of mild steel is critical for the performance of many devices, and it is also important for the production of high quality material. However mild steel may be rough or covered with mill scale due to reaction with its contact with surrounding oxygen and humidity. Due to reaction of metal with its surrounding environment the damage of metal surface and losses the thickness of the metal layer [1]. So that the metal equipment must be cleaned from time to time to prevent damage and maintain efficiency of operation. Generally chemical cleaning agent such as acid cleaning or pickling has been used as acidic media HCl and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which possessed rust removal (iron oxides) properties to remove the inorganic contaminants (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) by converting them into their ferrous salts. However the main disadvantages of these acids are that it also reacts with the metal and damage the equipment. Taking all these factors into account the corrosion inhibitors are used as additive in acidic, which prevent of metal loss in acidic solution. Most of the well known green corrosion inhibitors containing heteroatom (nitrogen, oxygen sulphur), with multiple bonds are considered as adsorption on metal surface through electron donor-accepter centres, are effective as corrosion inhibitor [2].

The aim of this work is to evaluate and to compare the corrosion inhibition efficiency of Spilanthesacmella for mild steel in 1 M HCl at 25°C using electrochemical technique such as potentiodynamic polarization. Spilanthesacmella is an important vegetable in Mizoram due to its unique flavour and traditionally it is used in digestive, throat infections and toothache as a medicinally purpose. Spilanthesacmella locally known as "Ansapui/Aakasakir" and it is a wild herb, and growing in the hilly slope in this area.N-alkylamides derivative and spilanthol [3] have been reported in Spilanthesacmella. The aim of this study is to investigate the ability of Spilanthesacmella as environmental friendly, low cost and safe corrosion inhibitors, which protect the mild steel against corrosion in 1NHCl and 1N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>acidic solutions. The investigation of corrosion was evaluated by using electrochemical technique polarization measurements and conformation of protective layer of inhibitor molecule were investigated SEM.

### MATERIAL PREPARATION

The plant S. acmella was identified by H. S. Thapa, Department of Botany, Pachhunga University College Mizoram, India and the whole plant including flowers of the plant were collected from the area College campus and were shade dried at room temperature 25°C for 15 days. The plant dried parts are make a powder and passed through a sieve and extracted with methanol (70%) for one week. The extract was filtered and dried on water-bath at 45°C. The complete dried extract was stored in air tied a bottles for corrosion inhibition study. Mild steel strips of chemical compositions 0.21 wt%

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## Indoor Radon: Inhalation Dose Assessment in North-Eastern Part of India

Lalmuanpuia Vanchhawng, P.C. Rohmingliana, B. Zoliana, R. Mishra and B.K. Sahoo

Department of Physics, Pachhunga University College, Aizawl, PIN-796 001, India. E-mail: lmuanpuia@gmail.com

Abstract. Radon and their progeny concentrations contribute most of the natural radiation dose to general populations. This fact draws a considerable attention and hence, large scale and long-term measurement of radon concentrations has been going on. Radon present in indoor as well as outdoor air as they had been exhaled from soil and building materials. Radon levels in the indoor have been realized as a concern of public health in many countries and even in India. Consequently, studies related to monitoring of radon and the inhalation dose to the public living in that environment has been a keen interest. Measurement of radon concentrations was done over the past 50 years in many countries, but with the improvement of experimental apparatus and technical formulation, the same is going on till today. Subsequent decay products are formed in the air. It is well-known that in radon problem, the progeny species and not the radon are primarily responsible for lung doses. Among the progenies, short lived nuclei viz .214Po is focused due to its high contribution in deposition and emission of alpha particles inside the lung. Study of indoor radon inhalation dose have been carried out in North-Eastern part of India in 40 dwellings, which were specifically selected according to the site location of the dwellings. Solid-state nuclear track detectors (SSNTD) have been used to obtain the time integrated concentration levels of indoor radon. Globally assumed value of equilibrium factor (F-factor) of radon, which is 0.4, is used to obtain the annual inhalation of indoor radon.The data obtained in the present work has been analyzed to obtain the significant inhalation dose of indoor radon. It has been found that the annual inhalation dose of indoor radon in the study area is 1275.83 µSv/y, which is comparable to the global average.

Keywords: F-factor, Inhalation dose, Radon; SSNTD.

### Introduction

Study of the behavior of 222Rn (radon) and its decay products in indoor air is important for assessing the natural background radiation exposures received by general populations, through the inhalation route. Radon and its progeny contribute about 54% of the total annual population exposure. These gases are available in the environment produced from the radioactive decay of radium isotopes, produced as a result of decay of 238U. As a result, the amount of radon concentration in the soil is determined by the amount of uranium present in the bedrock and soil materials. Etiope (2002), Virk (1994) and other researchers (Burton, Neri and Condarelli, 2004) found that monitoring of radon exhalation from soil and its concentration in indoor as well as outdoor air is found to be helpful in many investigations such as uranium exploration, earthquake prediction, ground water transport, assessment of geothermal resources and health risk assessment. Radon is continually formed in soil from its parent nucleus 226Ra and being gaseous it is exhaled to air through pores and fractured portion of the earth and subsequent decay products are formed in the air.

Studies related to monitoring of radon and the inhalation dose to the public living in that environment has been a keen interest. According to UNSCEAR (2000) report, measurement of radon concentrations was done over the past 50 years in many countries, but with the improvement of experimental apparatus and technical formulation, the same is going on till today. Radon is continually formed in soil and is released to air. In radon

primarily responsible for lung doses. BEIR V (1990) report mentioned that among the progenies, short lived nuclei viz. 214Po is focused due to its high contribution indeposition and emission of alpha particles inside the lung.2

Annual inhalation dose rate is the amount of radon inhaled per annum (µSv/yr) by individuals living in dwellings. Inhalation dose can be calculated using the obtained concentrations of the parent nuclei and the progenies. For this calculation, the equilibrium factor (F-factor) of radon is required. The equilibrium factor for radon was a globally assumed value and even the calculation of radon progenies were inferred using this value.

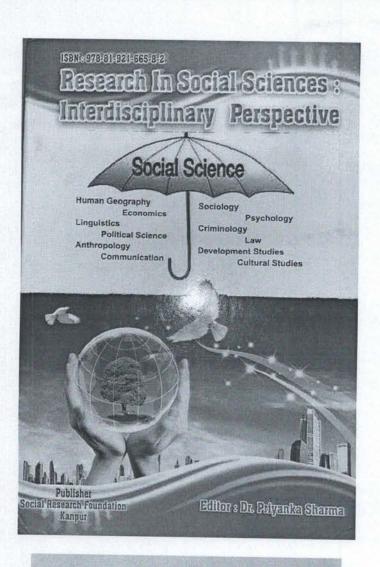
In this report, we present the works on indoor radon concentration and inhalation dose of the same in the dwellings in Kolasib District, Mizoram, North-Eastern part of India. As there is no man made sources of radiation present in these areas, like refinery, thermal power plant, geothermal springs, slate mines, industrial zones, etc., the main sources of radiation obtained from these studies is mainly due to natural radiation.

### Material and Methods

The concentrations of the parent nuclei and equilibrium factors are required to obtain the inhalation dose of indoor radon. In measuring indoor radon concentrations, Solid State Nuclear Track Detector (SSNTD) based pin-hole dosimeters have been used. Eappen (2005) developed this dosimeter system which is a cylindrical plastic chamber in which LR-115 (Type-II) films are used as detectors. Radon problem, the progeny species and not the radon aren'l bases are allowed to enter through a pin-hole, which is

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Choosing Appropriate Statistics in Research Zokaitluangi & Dr. Rinpari Raite, Mizoram

Research in Social Science: Interdisciplinary Perspectives Choosing Appropriate Statistic in Research

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Introduction

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Most behavioral researchers are familiar to some degree descriptive statistical measures such as those of central cy and those of dispersion. However, we falter at inferential telegency and those or dispersion. However, we take at interental statistics due to the widespread availability of powerful and at the same time user-friendly statistical software. As we have outlined below, a few fundamental considerations will lead one to select the appropriate statistical test for hypothesis testing. However, it is important that the appropriate statistical analysis is decided before starting the study, at the stage of planning itself, and the sample size prosen is optimum. These cannot be decided arbitrarily after the study is over and data have already been collected.

At the initial stage, the researcher has to know the importance of selecting appropriate statistics to have authentic research results and conclusion. These are the important points the researcher has to know for selecting appropriate statistics:

- What type of hypothesis is to be tested?
- What type of data is to be analyzed: Level of data
- What is the sampling size, and number of groups?

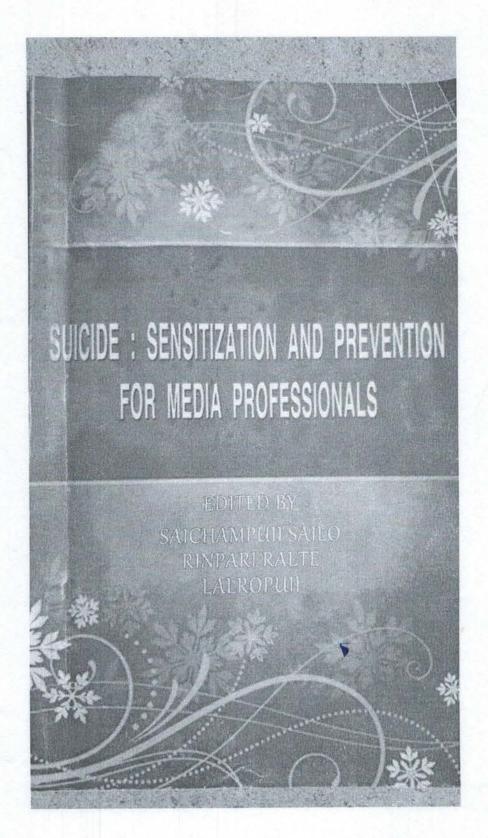
What is the sampling size, and symptomic war sampling method is employed?

What are the independent and dependent variables, and how

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# MAHNI INTIHHLUM LEH MAHNI INTIHLUMTE REPORT DÂN

- Lalthantluangi Sailo

Oxford dictionary chuan 'suicide' awmzia chu tum vang renga mahni intihhlum tihin a hrilhfiah a.

Mahni intihhlum tum hi a tam ber chu kum 18-24 inkar an ni tlangpui a. Rilru lam harsatna, depression leh schizophrenia nei te, zu ngawlvei avanga enkawl ngai te, mahni chauh a khawsa te, khawtlang nun buai deuh kara cheng te leh mahni eizawnna lama mi bik, thu leh hla, sumdawnna, ziakmi leh lehkhathiam kawnga lar lawr lak te zingah te hian mahni intihhlum duh mai lar lawr lak te zingah te hian mahni intihhlum duh mai sawi thin. United na chance hi a sang bawk niin an sawi thin. United states of America ah chuan an zirna atanga an shaules of America ah chuan an zirna atanga an thum ngawtin mahni intihhlum an "tum" zing zawk a; thum ngawtin mahni intihhlum an "tum" zing zawk a; amaherawchu, mipa te hi hmeichhia aiin a let li ngawt amaherawchu, mipa te hi hmeichhia aiin a let li ngawt



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PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
OF THE VICTIMS
AND FAMILY MEMBERS
OF LAIPUITLANG LANDSLID
ON 11th MAY, 2013

Department of Psychology,
Pachhunga University College
and
Disaster Management Centre,
Administrative Training Institute,
Aizawl, Mizoram



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# Report On

PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE VICTIMS AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF LAIPUITLANG LANDSLIDE ON 11th MAY, 2013



Department of Psychology, Pachhunga University College and Disaster Management Centre, Administrative Training Institute, Aizawl, Mizoram

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Lalbiakzuali,

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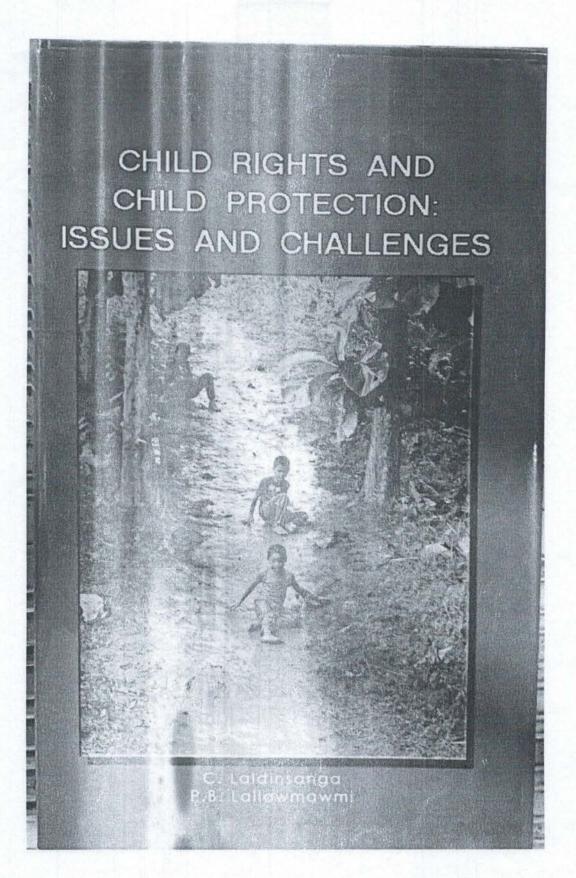


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# A PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF CHILDREN IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION IN AIZAWL DISTRICT

Rinpari Ralte

Keywords: children in need of care and protection, depression, stress, psychological interventions

# Introduction

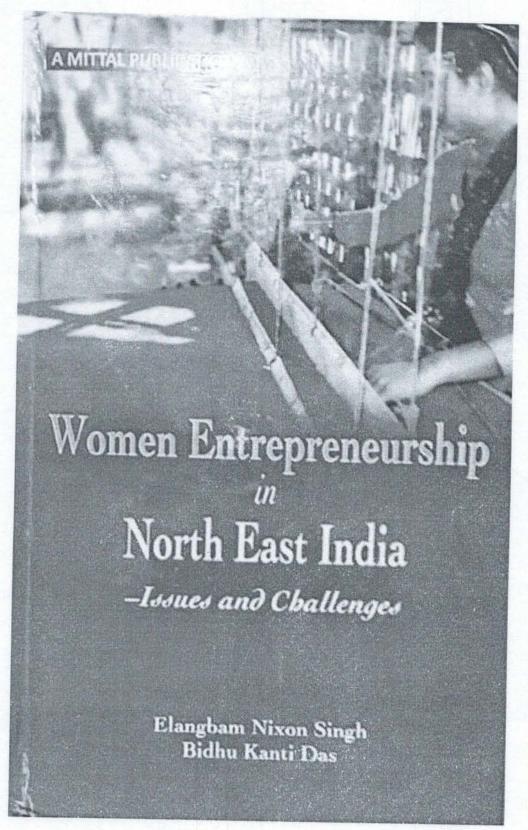
Children constitute the most vulnerable section of society and are considered a supremely important asset of our nation. They are dependent on others, have the least power, and have less control of their lives. Among children there are some who are more marginalised and neglected than others because of their socio-economic circumstances. These children are considered as children in Need of Care and Protection (CNPC) are found in the following situations (Mehta, 2008):

1. In Families "At Risk" – at risk families are those that are likely to disintegrate and breakup due to social, economic, cultural pressures, or any other physical, emotional of psychological crises. E.g., single parent families, mentally prisoners, parents with HIV/AIDS, children of crime and antisocial activities.

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# MPACT OF CULTURE IN WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MANIPUR

CH. NALINI DEVI

### htroduction

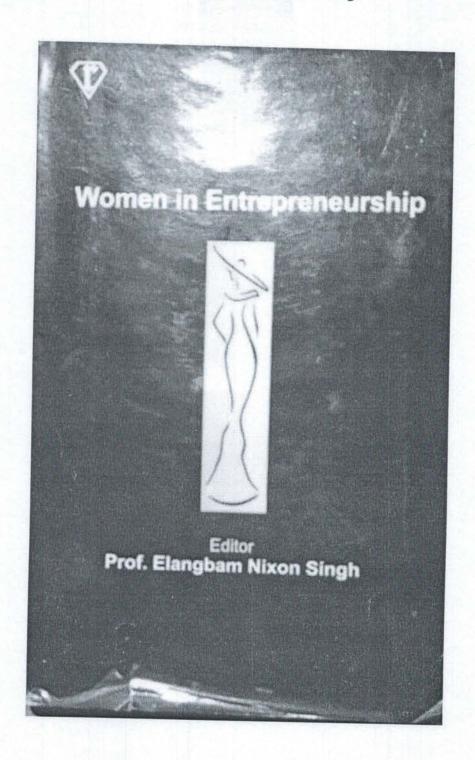
n today's dynamic business world, as we move in to the information age, enterprises need to adapt to the changes U in technology and the changing issues in every aspect of enaprise function. Even though our activities are not free from our out culture, local culture, lifestyles, language are being forced to (we way to the global culture. We are living together in the same and one influencing the other. We can't escape from our own

Culture has been defined variously by sociologist and attropologists, the simplest definition being, "Culture in the way of le' (Melver & Page) Robert Biersledt has defined Culture as a amplex whole that consists of everything we think and do and have a member of Society. Thus, culture of a society includes all the sators, traditions, institutions, beliefs and behaviour patterns of ti people and it also includes all the tangible elements like their attacts their dress, food, instruments and technology. Every society as to own culture but, we also find many similarities in the cultures delarert places. Hoftstede (1991) defines cultures as "a collective bogamming of mind which distinguishes the members of one group a category of people from another "In other wards regards culture \*\* collective phenomenon that is shaped by individuals social. monment, not their genes.

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# WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS AND THEIR WORK CULTURE IN MANIPUR

Ch. Nalini Desi

# INTRODUCTION

Every state has its own story of women entrepreneurship in India. For example, in Manipur, its women are taking very good role in developing the industrial sector of the state by way of active participation in promoting handloom industry and others in short from the very early period women have their responsibility in some sectors like handloom, handstratt embroidery, knitting and food processing, etc. Not only in industrial sector but also in social developmental activities they had contributed in many ways. In economic activity handloom sector is solely controlled and run by the women folk in the society. In Manipur it is believed that, the handloom activity is done before the birth of Christ. It is said that the Goddess "Paritheibi" once saw a spider producing fine threads.

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# ZIAKFUNG CHAWIA RAMTUANNA

A JOURNEY THROUGH WORDS



Dr. Robert L Khawlhring

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# OUR LAND AND US ...

Calm and serene as far as the eyes can see,
Strong and rugged 'the adventurer' it stirs up in me.
Far across the rows and rows of hill,
Fills the desire to seek a pleasurable thrill.

The woods, the rocks and the teeming green,
Brings a sense of peace one has even been...
The sweet water and bubbling stream,
Quenches thirst like fulfillment of a distant dream.

The pristine air that fills the lung,
A feel of life all around - far flung...
And sweet fragrance of forest flowers,
Reminds one of the great master's powers.

The melody of sounds that fills the air,
In integrated harmony that all beings share...
Fruits and leaves to hunger satisfy,
A circle of life and death - to comply.

The feel of breeze upon the face, Brings a reminder of our human race... While everything is in its proper place, Why can't we live in peace and grace...?

> Dr. Robert L. Khawlhring, Dt. 26.8.2014

### KAN RAM LEH KEINI

Hawi vel ila, mit tlin tawk, a thiang, a mawi ngei e,'
Thinlaiah hai ang a thang e, 'Pasaltha' chham ang zal hnu;
Tlang tin mual tin, kawlvalenchham thlengin,
Chuan ka nuam e, lung lawm a kim ngei ang.

Tuk loh ram, leilung leh phul hring a no nghial e, Tawn ngai loh thinlung damna min pe; Luite dam diai leh siktui thiang, Tawnmang rama duhaisam iang tuihal rehna.

Boruak thianghlim han hip meuh chuan, Nunna a thar, kawng tinrengin; Ramnaw par tin rimtui leng vel chuan, Siamtu ropui thiltihtheihna min hriattir e.

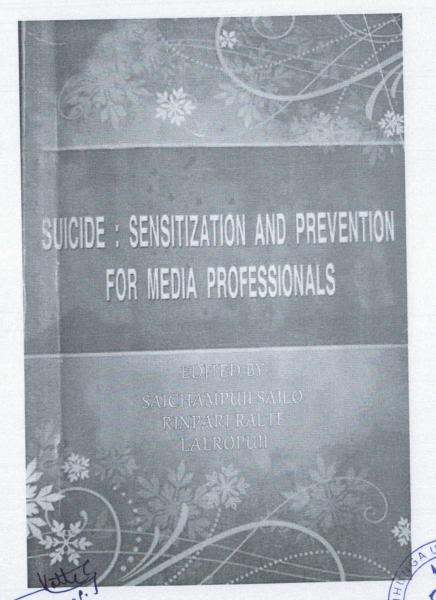
Boruak thiang karah rimawi a thang vel Hringfa nunkhua min dawntir e; Thilsiam tinreng an nih tur ang an nih laiin, Eng vang kher nge hlim leh muanga kan len theih loh?

POEM TRANSLATION

Robert L Khiangte



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# A CHHUNGA THU AWMTE Thuhmahruai MJA President thuhma Thu Ziaktute Buaipui tham - Suicide 13 - CLALHREKIMA 37 Suicide chhan leh a ven dan - ZOKAITLUANGI Suicide Responsible Reporting 49 -H.K. LALDINPUII FENTE Mahni intihhlum leh mahni intihlumte 59 report dan -LAL THANTLUANGI SAILO Mahni kutzâla thite chungchâng media-a 73 (chanchinthar) chhuah dân -LALLIANPUII Mahni intihhlumina a nghawng dân -81 engtin zêl nge? -LALREMRUATI 91 Editor-te chanchin

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# MIZORAMA THIL THLENG KA VEIZAWNGTE (2003-2014)

(Essays on contemporary issues in Mizoram: 2003-2014)

L.H. Chhuanawma

Principal
Pachhunga University College
Aizawl: Mizoram



Mizorama thil thleng ka veizawngte (2003-2014)

(Essays on contemporary issues in Mizoram: 2003-2014)

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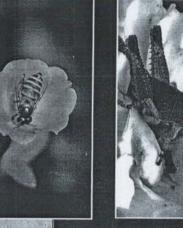
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# **Biodiversity Research** in Mizoram **Current Trends of**







H Lalramnghinglova H Lalthanzara Vanramliana v

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# Current Trends of Biodiversity Research in Mizoram H Lalramnghinglova, Vanramliana, H Lalthanzara

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Prof. H. Lalramnghinglova completed his B.Sc. from St. Edmund's College, Shillong, M.Sc (Botany) and Ph.D. from NEHU, Shillong. He had been teaching in Lunglei Govt. College for ten years (1978-1988); worked as Forest Botanist in E&F Dept. Govt. of Mizoram (1988-2003); joined Mizoram University as Reader(2003-2004) and became a Professor since 2005 onwards. He holds the posts of Head of the Department of Environmental Science for two terms (2003-2007 & 2009-2013) and Dean of the School of Earth Sciences & Natural Resources Management (2007-2009). Having 20 years of teaching experience; and 17 years of research experience, He has written 4 books (including edited books), 2 booklets & 1 manual and more than 50 research papers in national and international journals and periodicals. He has been invited for lecture at the state, regional and national levels seminars and conferences. He takes initiatives and organized tree plantation programme in the University Campus on World Environment Day, 5th June, every year since 2003 onwards. He has guided 12 Ph.D scholars, 4 on the pipe-line and 5 registered. He undertook research projects from GBPIEHD, NIPER, NMPB/ SMPB, MoEF, UGC, DBT & ICFRE. He has been awarded for putstanding contribution in the field of Non-Wood Forest Products

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### BARCODING CULEX MOSQUITOES: A POTENTIAL VECTOR OF JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS IN MIZORAM

Lal Ringngheti, Lalramliana Vanramliana



Arbovirus - a class of viruses transmitted to humans by arthropods such as mosquitoes and ticks are known to cause diseases much as yellow fever, dengue, West Nile fever, encephalitis including Western equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, Eastern equine encephalitis, California encephalitis, Venezuelan equine encephalitis and Japanese encephalitis (Foote and Cook, 1959).

Culex (Diptera: Culicidae) mosquitoes which breed at temperatures ranging from 15° C to 30° C (Loetti et al., 2008) are increasingly being implicated in the transmission of arboviral and parasitic diseases worldwide. Accurate identification of the mosquito vector species involved is a prerequisite to successful control of these diseases (Gunay et al., 2015).

The application of genetic markers has proven extremely useful for resolving cryptic and hidden species of mosquitoes (Gunay *et al.*, 2015). DNA barcoding uses cytochrome oxidase I gene of mitochondrial DNA. The COI gene is slowly evolving compared to other protein coding mitochondrial genes and is

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#### Chapter 4

#### A PRELIMINARY STUDY ON THE HELMINTH PARASITE OF FRESHWATER FISHES IN MIZORAM

C. Malsawmtluangi, Lalramliana V Vanramliana V

Fish constitute an important component of diet for the people of North-East India. They are extensively used as a protein-rich diet for human consumption. A majority of fishes carry heavy infection of parasites, which causes deterioration in the food value of fish and may even result in their mortality. Helminths are an important group of pathogens, which cause infection and diseases of fish both in freshwater and marine environments, their importance being related directly to the fish that may affect the general public health (Hoffman 1967). In recent years, diseases transmitted by fish have probably become more widely distributed, and have greater economical and medical impacts (Ko 1995). The World Health Organization (1995) has estimated that the number of people currently infected with fish-borne are at large and the trematodes alone exceeds 18 million. Every parasite living in or on a fish extends some degree of harmful Influence on its host (Williams and Jones 1994). Besides there Chapter

#### LABORATORY EVALUATION OF THE PATHOGENICITY OF THREE ENTOMOPATHOGENIC NEMATODES AGAINST LARVAE OF GREATER WAX MOTH, GALLERIA MELLONELLA (L.) FROM MIZORAM

Vanlalhlimpuia, Lalramdintharg Chenkual Vanramliana, Lalramliana

Entomopathogenic nematode (EPN) species of the genera Steinernema Travassos, 1927, and Heterorhabditis Poinar, 1976 (Rhabditida: Nematoda) have attracted the attention of nematodes have been reported to occur in the tropical subtropical and temperate countries (Kaya 1990). The principal occur in the principal inversity CoWhite traps (Woodring & Kaya, 1988) and incubated at 25 subtropical and temperate countries (Kaya 1990). The principal occur in the principal occur in the principal occur in the tropical occur in the principal occur continent where they have not been found to occur is Antarctica (Griffin et al. 1990). Numerous surveys for EPNs have been conducted throughout the world by using baiting technique (Bedding & Akhurst 1975). Since the use of chemical pesticides pose environmental threats, these nematodes have received considerable attention as biopesticides, because they are environmentally safe, they have a broad host range, negative impacts on non-target organisms, easy mass production, ability Coordinator

to search (chemoreceptors) the target insects, kill the target insects within a short period of time (24 - 48 hours), easy storage and application.

There is an intense interest to isolate entomopathogenic nematodes from different regions of the world, which are climatically adapted and have the potential for biological control of pests in that area. Surveys have been conducted in many parts of the world demonstrating their wide spread occurrence and providing an indication of which species are indigenous for a given area. The present study aims to evaluate pathogenicity and behaviour of three locally isolated Steinernema spp. (PUCEPN-01, PUCEPN-02 and PUCEPN-03) from Mizoram for their future use as a biopesticides in the region.

#### Materials & Methods

All the nematodes used in the experiment belong to the genus Steinernema, coded here as PUCEPN-01, PUCEPN-02 and PUCEPN-03 collected from Chalrang, Kawlbem and PUC Campus respectively. Laboratory cultures of all the EPNs were reproduced using final instar larvae of G. mellonella, maintained in the artificial diet and reared as described by modification of

#### Mortality Test for Larvae

Six well tissue culture plates were used for the assay. Each well was lined with double layer of Whatman No.1 filter paper for each nematode concentration. Nematodes of different concentrations (50, 100, 200 and 400 IJs/larva in 0.5 ml of ability Cool Assurance Cool and Rept at least for 30 minutes. One larva was placed in each pachhunga University Mizoram University of Mizoram University College Of Mizoram University Col

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Lalramnghinglova Vanramliana H Lalthanzara

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Quantitative measures are employed to describe the structure of plant communities with much ecological precision,

#### Chapter 17

## ECOLOGICAL STUDIES OF THE COMMUNITY STRUCTURE OF TAWI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Lallawmkimi, H. Lalramnghinglova Wilda Lalrinpuii

Tawi Wildlife Sanctuary is selected for the present study. The sanctuary is located in the South eastern part of the Aizawl District, Mizoram (Latitude - 23030'N and Longitude 930E), with altitude ranging between 500 m- 1894 m asl. It occupies an area of 35.75 sq. km, and is situated about 101 km, from the state capital Aizawl towards east. The sanctuary was notified as "Tawi Wildlife Sanctuary" on 8th April 1999. It is surrounded by 5 villages *viz*, Hmuntha, Maite, Hualtu, Tawizo and Lenchim.

The vegetation of the sanctuary falls under the Tropical semi-evergreen and Sub-tropical broadleaved hill forests.

The area experiences equable warm climate to chilly winter during November-January at the higher altitude. Maximum temperature ranges between 170C to 280C and the minimum between 100C to 160C with the annual rainfall between 2000 and 2500 mm. June and July experience.

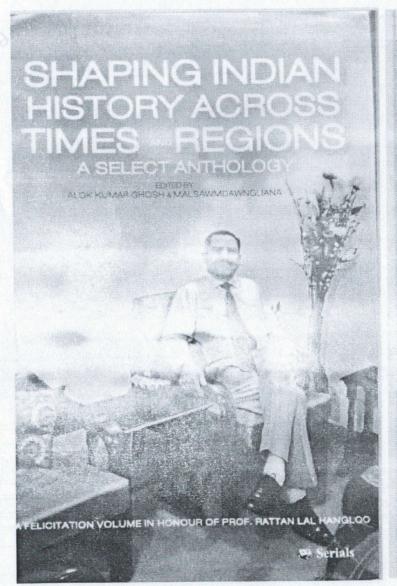
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qualitative characters such as species richness, life-form spectrum and vertical disposition of species are some of the important parameters to describe community structure. Raunkiaer (1934) described communities of different climatic zones or phytoclimatic zones of the earth on the basis of lifeform spectrum or Biological spectrum. Any change in the lifeform composition away from its phytoclimatic zone is considered as an indicator of alteration in vegetation either due to biotic or edaphic factors or both. However, in recent years man has abused the natural vegetation so much so that often plant communities do not show their natural structural complexities. Over exploitation of forest resources and overgrazing has resulted in change in the life form composition of plant communities (Reddy et al. 2002). Vegetation profile of the component species indicates the phytoclimatic condition of the area and is employed commonly in community structural description through profile diagrams (Ashton and Hall 1992; Chen Wei-Lie 1995; Pignatti 1995)

The research work was an attempt to evaluate the ecological INE pand botanical aspect of plant diversity of Tawi wildlife sanctuary. The study focused on the status of floristic diversity and their mutual adjustment with respect to the habitat and life processes. The outcome of the present investigation contributes to the better understanding of the floristic and ecosystem diversity in the sanctuary.

#### Materails and Methods

A detailed floristic survey was carried out in the study area during the period from July 2006 to April 2010. Plant species were collected at monthly intervals and identified with the help of regional flora including the books of "Flora of British India



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#### YOUTH AND THE POLITICS OF CHANGE IN COLONIAL MIZORAM

Rohmingmawii

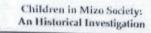
1

The process of modernization (which is interchangeably understood with westernization) in Mizoram can be said to have begun from the Colonial period. After much resistance, the Mizos who lived under separate independent chiefs were put under the rule of the British from the last decade of the 19th century, the last tribe to be subjugated by the British in Northeast India. With the establishment of British rule in Lushai hills, a systematic and uniform administration enforceable by law was introduced and the Mizos experienced modern political system which was totally new to them. Thus, establishment of colonial rule ushered in a new era in the Mizo hills.

Christianity followed the heels of Colonial rule in Mizoram. The pioneer missionaries J.H.Lorrain and F.W.Savidge landed on the hills on 11th January, 1894. Christianity in Mizo hills proved to be one important agency of change. In fact, with the process of Christianisation, the whole cultural development in the hills took a new turn. It prepared the minds of the Mizos to accommodate the socio-political changes that came as a result







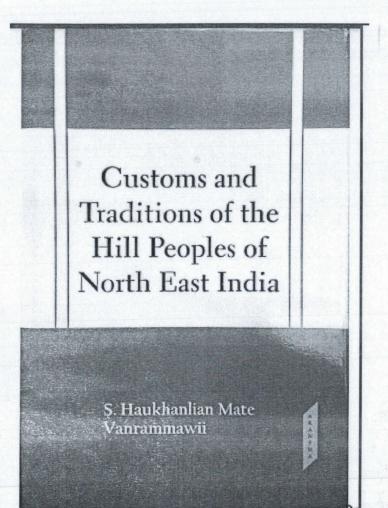
#### Rohmingmawii

Children in a society are found to have little role in history, and as such, writings in historical studies about them are lacking. Recent interest in children and child's rights have brought the issue of children to the attention of the people at large, and psychologists and social workers in particular have carried out many significant studies on children. However, it has not yet received enough attention in academic forum of social sciences especially in Mizoram. Much of the writings on children are from the perspective of social work,

The scanty references in historical texts of the Misse on children are found in connection with birth and death rituals, the games played by children, their participation in festivities and their role in Zawibuk, the young men's dormitory. The situation that these references could have inferred in regards to children is different from the common perception as it is with all other aspects of the period. This may be due to the fact that the pre-literate Mizo society had their history first written by colonial ethnographers and western missionaries whose works had been the main source of information about the society for a long time. It successfully influenced the people's mind in the construction of a mental image in which the pre-colonial period was considered to be a 'dark age' and the lot of children was no better than others. Therefore, it was generally concluded that the children were the unwanted component of the society and they were never really cared for. However, there could be different picture if we choose to shift our window and change our lenses.

The Mizos have certain rituals at the birth of a child, but reference of this is missing in most of the works on Mize culture. J. Shakespear, the

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#### MIZO LITERATURE: A REPOSITORY OF HISTORICAL ELEMENTS

Jamie Zodinsangi Hrahsel

The ties between place and identity are fundamental to the lives of individuals and groups. They shape the way in which relationships and social networks are created and maintained, how heritage is understood, reconceived and rewritten, how everyday life is anchored by a strong sense of self, and how narratives and histories are located in time and space. While the values and meanings attached to place remain significant, we are increasingly involved in networks that extend far beyond our immediate physical locations with the more recent acceleration of globalizing forces, particularly with the development of electronic communications. These, in turn, have enabled and have increased cultural juxtaposing, meeting and mixing. Indeed, locales are now often subjected to the influences of distant places. With this emerging global communication, queries on the issues of ethnic and cultural identities suddenly become more vital. Globalization has necessitated a questioning of the very essence of identity. Kobena Mercer opines, "Something fixed, coherent and stable is displaced by the experience of doubt and uncertainty." (Mercer, 12) Now the idea that identities are contradictory and cross-cut or dislocate

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# EMERGENT IDENTITES LITERATURE



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#### Folktales and Culture: Representation of Orphans in Select Mizo Folktales

#### ■ Jamie Zodinsangi Hrahsel

Through all societies, thousands of orphans had existed and continue to exist on the fringes of society where they could not even acquire the same status as children in the poorest of families. These children were often abandoned altogether or more commonly, ill-treated, exploited and ignored in the house. This paper attempts to explore the social reality of Mizo society that has been projected through the various orphan characters in Mizo folktales. Due to certain sanitisation and censorship, folk and fairy tales have often been associated with unrealistic, inhuman flawlessness and situations. That quality of perfection, however, is not representative of these tales as a whole, for they possess examples of behaviour that are realistic portrayal of cultural elements. Lutz Rohrich suggests that folktales are:

...a reflection of the reality in which they were produced, the characters and the settings being based upon real people and their surrounding culture. In that sense, folk tales mirror the stages of socialization of one specific group of people, and each version is representative of its own cultural context. (Rohrich, 199)

Themes of redemption, love, familial ties, honesty, heroism as well as negative features such as abandonment, fear, incest and abuse become significant in folk and fairy tales. If removed from their immediate surroundings, these tales are virtually incomprehensible and to recover their meaning, the situation in which they were produced has to be reexamined. Therefore, it can be surmised that literature, including folk narrative, can be a reference to understanding culture. Stephen Greenblatt writes:

Literary texts are not merely cultural by virtue of reference to the world beyond themselves; they are cultural by virtue of social values and contexts that they have themselves successfully absorbed. (Greenblatt, 229)

The orphan protagonist is a potent symbol of human isolation in the oral narratives of many diverse cultures. This enduring popularity is indicative of the universal recognition of the orphan's outsider status. Children are often considered as "Orphans" if "they had one surviving parent, had been abandoned by their family, or were forced out into the world because of overcrowding at home". (Cunningham, 4). Melanie A. Kimbell has described the orphan as "the eternal other", a Lacanian term derived from the theoretical view that humans have no sense of self separate to the world surrounding them:

Orphan characters in folktales and literature symbolize our isolation from one another and from society. They do not belong to even the most basic of groups, the family unit, and in some cultures this is enough to cut them off from society at large. In other cultures, orphans are regarded as special people who must be protected and cared for at all costs. In either case, orphans are clearly marked as being different from the rest of society. They are the eternal Other. (Kimbell, 559)



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The Chin State-Mizoram Border: Institutionalized Xenophobia for State Control<sup>1</sup>

BIANCA SON AND N. WILLIAM SINGH

In Mizoram State of India, a popular weekly television programme, Lamtluang (Mizo Lyric Blog 2014), reports on different cultures, lifestyles, religious institutions, transport systems as well as other facets of daily life abroad. In 2013, journalists from the programme travelled to the Chin State of Myanmar. In an interview of Chin elders, the topic that arose was the close ethnic relations between the Chin and the Mizo<sup>2</sup> (interview with Chin elders at Aizawl 2014).3 The elders maintained that while Chin State was part of another country, they were not different from the Mizo in any significant way. They explained that the Chin and the Mizo shared a culture and language and that in many cases, even had kin living across the border. Although the border was drawn during the colonial period, the people have always considered themselves, "wrongly divided; they are brethren" (comments by Mizo Elders during the Lamtluang television programme, 12 February 2014 at Aizawl).4 This was not a new concept. Numerous arguments for this shared ethnicity, history and the wrongly imposed division of the Chin and the Mizo can be found in Vumson (1986, p. 32) and Son (2013, p. 56). In fact, most Chin and Mizo accept that they are the "same people", yet, the television show emphasized that the Chin are from a "different" country. Chin interviewees did not accept this position and further commented on how badly most Chin are treated by their Mizo "brothers" when they cross the harder from Myanmar to accome nevert

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## IN A GLOBALIZED WOR EXPLORING ALTER

Edited by **Christoph Wul**l

**EXPLORING ALTERITY** IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

globalization. It also focuses upon India's school and education

system, its limitations and successes, and how it prepares to achieve

social inclusion. The work further shows how contemporary societies

the tensions between tendencies towards homogenization and

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India, 1987. Photograph courtesy of Heidrun Brückner.

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Christoph Wulf is Professor of Anthropology and Education and a member of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Historical Anthropology

and the Graduate School InterArts' at Freie Universität Berlin

be of interest to scholars and researchers of South Asian studies, This eclectic collection on what it is to be part of a global network will

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#### ABSENCE OF A PRESENCE

Text, pedagogy and social anthropology in Northeast India

William N. Singh

The validity of a particular knowledge depends on territories, facts and social systems: thus knowledge has certain borders. Trees defy gravity by rising up to the sky. Like trees, social scientists need to rise above with a view to examining different cultures and interpreting different social practices: in this case, the diverse ways of living in Northeast India and their differences. This must be the hallmark of social anthropological research and pedagogy in Northeast India.

Higher education's main objective is to capture social phenomena both universal and local, revealing new forms of knowledge and making sense of such phenomena in pedagogy. Revealing mysteries and making the unfamiliar familiar to others is not just a task for ethnologists, but for all believers of science. Social scientists must question the validity of a Eurocentric understanding of social customs in order to reveal differently grounded understandings. The following will illuminate social anthropology in Northeast India from the point of view of practice and of pedagogy. It will formulate the innovations necessary to making the discipline relevant to the subjects it studies, as well as to international academic discourse.

#### Absence of a presence

Social anthropologists focus on different cultures and reveal different cultural codes. The interpretation of different social practices and beliefs defines social anthropology. However, the sociocultural thinking of Northeast India remains silent in mainstream academic texts. There is a fair amount of absence regarding the existing social realities of Northeast India in mainstream academia and institutions of higher learning. Northeast Indian

#### ABSENCE OF A PRESENCE

issues are not discussed in academia, reported on by mainstream Indian media, or examined in scholarly journals. This failure to regard the social anthropological realities of Northeast India is what is meant by 'absence of a presence'. Why is local knowledge absent in mainstream texts? Why does Northeast India remain unconsidered in anthropological observations?

The term 'absence of a presence' is intended to support the visibility of social anthropology in Northeast India across the continent. It will make the inaudible audible, unnoticed values noticeable, and most importantly, counter the fickle nature of epistemology. The absence of a Northeast Indian presence urges for the creation of innovative, more grounded forms of epistemology. This 'absence of a presence' is not just a body of concepts. It is also a form of methodology in pursuing more meaningful studies of Northeast India. It looks for narratives, biographies and facts of the social realities of Northeast Indian societies. It incorporates event-based, densely contextual and spatially located forms of social facts occurring in Northeast India into the pedagogy and research of higher educational institutions.

The social history of Northeast India differs from the rest of India as much as it varies among the different parts of the region. Northeast India has brought forth diverse forms of social movements, from armed secessionist movements and new forms of violence and punishments to environmental movements and the rapid growth of Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). The growth of social problems is pandemic. Social anthropological teachings and research cannot remain confined to concepts of tradition, culture, tribe, indigeneity, etc. It must expand its horizons and engage in analysing these new forms of movement and violence. New social facts with specific historicities have arisen from the changes in social structures of Northeast Indian societies. By studying the relevant relations among facts, moral problems, and the historiography of Northeast Indian society, anthropological exercises in Northeast India can become more relevant, more concrete and more appealing. The goal is to make pedagogy and the practice of social anthropology more fruitful for the inhabitants of Northeast India, as well as contribute to the global academic discourse.

In identifying this absence of a presence, what consolidates is the need to theorize local knowledge by systematizing its existing forms in Northeast India. Indigenous knowledge is dying out due to the hegemonic nature of scientificity and universalism in knowledge systems. Western science has propounded its own forms of knowledge with certain political agendas, but in the process has threatened indigenous forms of knowledge (see Cohn 1996, also see Nandy 1983). Thus, a comprehensive examination of local knowledge is still absent in texts of higher studies in Northeast India. Practitioners of social science avoid analysing local meaning structures if they merely follow the

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