

Documents on the North-East of India

A CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY

11



Chief Editor
O.P. RALHAN

DOCUMENTS ON THE NORTH-EAST OF INDIA

Volume – 11

A CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY



Chief Editor

O.P. Ralhan



SARUP BOOK PUBLISHERS PVT. LTD.

NEW DELHI-110002

Published by
SARUP BOOK PUBLISHERS PVT. LTD.
4740/23, Ansari Road
Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002
Tel. : 23281029, 23244664, 41010989
Fax : 011-23277098
E-mail : sarupandsonsin@hotmail.com.
Website: www.sarupbooks.com

DOCUMENTS ON THE NORTH-EAST OF INDIA
Volume - 11
A Chronological Study

© Editor

1st Edition - 2009

ISBN-978-81-7625-895-1 (Set)

Call No. 900.95416
Acc. No. 8018

PRINTED IN INDIA

Published by Prabhat Kumar Sharma for
Sarup Book Publishers Pvt. Ltd.
Laser Typesetting at Chitra Computers and
Printed at Roshan Offset Printers, Delhi

Preface

I was inspired by the numerous hidden chapters of Indian mythology related to the history of Assam to undertake this project to apprise the future generations of India and international world about the glory and greatness of Indian society, Indian culture and Indian civilization.

Pragiyotisha has been mentioned in the great Epics of the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. According to the Ramayana, the city of Pragiyotisha was built on a gold crested mountain called Varaha which was 64 yojanas in extent and which abated on the sea "Varunalaya". Bhagdatta the king of Pragiyotish recruited his troops from the Kiratas (Mongolian people).

According to the Kalika Purna, the name of this land was changed from Pragiyotisha to Kamarupa as soon as Naraka of Mithila became king and was placed in charge of the temple Kamakhya. Dr. Kakati opines that the term Kamarupa (Kamakhya) symbolized the new cult and in exaltation of it, the land itself was renamed. According to the Puranic legends the name Kamarupa is associated with Kamadeva.

Narka's name is mentioned in the Yogini Tantra, while his son Bhagdatta's name in the Mahabharata's—as fighting on the side of the Kauravas at the great battle of Kurukshetra... It is said that Narak wanted to marry the Goddess Kamakhya.

Narakasura, who is said to have been the son of the Earth by Lord Vishnu's blessings.

The popular belief is that 99999 Sivlingas were engraved at Goalpara by Vyas Deva in order to build up this place as second Kashi.

Bhim (one of the Pandava brothers); Mahabharat fame, married Hidamba of Assam... and birth of Ghatotkuchch from them.

Ghatotkuchch married with Asur Maur's daughter Moorvi of Pragytishpur... and birth of Barbarik...later on known as Khatushyam. Moorvi was known as Kamkantakta... They were blessed with a son namely Barbarik. Later on known and famous as Khatushyam by the blessing of Lord Krishna.

Arjuna (one of the Pandav brothers) was also married with Manipur's Raja namely Chitravahan's daughter princess Chitrangda. Chitrangda gave birth to a son namely Veer Babruvahan. After Ashumadhyagna when Arjuna was accompanying the Ashumadhyagna horse he was killed by his son Veer Bahravahan. On his mother Chitrangda's request Alupi helped Arjuna to regain his life.

If God will bless with few days of survival with good health, the readers will definitely read the detailed stories from the Epic Ramayana, Mahabharata etc. regarding Narakasur, Bhagadatta, Bhim, Hadimba, Ghatotkuch, Barbarik (Khatushyam) Arjuna, Chitravahan Chitrangda veer Babruvahan Alupi and Subhadra in my forth coming biographies from the Epic Ramayana, Mahabharata, etc. under the title of Jewels of India or Pride of North-Eastern Region of India to be published very shortly.

The district town of Tezpur (Sonitpur) was the legendary capital of the Asur king Bana. The archaeological ruins which are found lying in and around Tezpur, are associated with Bana and his daughter, 'Usha'. The Agnigarh hill, the

Bamuni hill, the Bhairavi Temple Mahabhairab temple and the twin tanks of Bar Pukhuri and Padum Pukhuri still preserve their memory. The Tezpur rock inscription of Harijjara, Tezpur, Grant of Vanamala Varman, the Parvatiya Plates of Vanamala found near Tezpur, the Bargaon Grant found in Bargaon near Tezpur indicate that the tract of land now known as Sonitpur, also known as Darrang till recent past was a part of ancient Kamrupa which at one time consisted of North-Eastern Bengal and a great part of the present Assam State.

Romantic Legend of Usha and Anurudha

Tezpur (Sonitpur) the city of eternal romance as ancient Tezpur was known in the olden days is a city steeped in mythology legend and folklore. The city of Blood (Sonit or Tez-Blood Pur city) conjures up images of the romantic legend of Usha and Anuradha and of the fierce battle between 'Hari' and 'Hara'. Through the ages around popular figures gather many a legend which obscure history but what is history after all? Legends agree upon! One such legend fondly cherished by the people is about Banasura, the mighty Asura king his beautiful daughter, Usha and her friend Chitraklekha. Legends have it that the ancient Sonitpur was the capital of the kingdom of 'Bana' of the Asura dynasty. The mighty Asura king was also devout worshipper of Lord Shiva. His daughter Usha a princess of rare charm and beauty saw in her dream a handsome prince and fell in love with him. Her friend Chitraklekha, a talented artist not only painted the picture of prince from Usha's description but recognized him to be Anirudha—grandson of Lord Krishna, the ruler of 'Dwarka'. Using his magical powers, Chitraklekha spirited away Anirudha to Usha's *Boudoir* (Ladies small private room) where Usha secretly married Anuradha under Gandharva rites without her father's knowledge. When Banasur learnt of the secret romance, he threw Anirudha into prison. Lord Krishna then came to Sonitpur to rescue

his grandson, where Banasur challenged him to a battle. A fierce battle ensued and the whole city was drenched in human blood hence the name Sonitpur. In the battle of Hari (Lord Krishna) and 'Hara' (Lord Shiva; in Form of Banasur). Bana was vanquished and Usha and Anirudha were united forever. The ruins and remains of Agnigarh where the immortal romance blossomed, still bear mute testimony of this legend.

Agnigarh

Preserving the sweet memory of young lovers, Agnigarh or the rampart surrounded by fire, is perhaps the most beautiful tourist spot of Tezpur. According to legend princess Usha the only daughter of king Bana, was kept inside the palace which was surrounded by a rampart of fire. The present Agnigarh, now only a hillock facing the Brahmaputra provides the tourist a soul touching panoramic view of both the Brahmaputra river and Tezpur district.

It is recorded in the Tantras that Sibsagar formed a part of the great kingdom of Pragjyotish (Kamrupa).

The world's largest river, island, Majuli, is a place of great religious interest for the Assamese Vaishnavites because of the location and nerve centre of Vaishnavite cultural research.

The Vaishnavite temple 'Barpeta Satra' is the biggest of its kind in Assam. The satra was established by Shri Mathura Das Burha Aata, a disciple of Mahapurush Shri Madhavadeva Patbausi; another important Vaishnavite shrine is at the southern end of Barpeta. It was at Patbausi, where Shri Shankar Deva spent greater part of his life and composed some of his best works including Shri Shri Kirtan Ghosha and a number of Bargeets. Towards the north of the town lies Sundaridia Satra set up by Shri Madhvadeva. Thousands of pilgrims visit Barapeta particularly during Doljatra (Holi) festival and to this of the two gurus.

The mighty Brahmaputra is the only river in the world to have a masculine name meaning the son of Brahma. The name of the river is putra (son) not daughter.

Bhattdeva, a pioneer of prose writing translated the Bhagvad Gita in Assamese in the 16th century and thus began the onward journey of prose literature in the language. It is said that forefather of Shri Shankardeva established their capital at ROWTA and Shri Sankardeva, the great saint poet of Assam stayed at Rowta for a few months for propagating Neovaishnavism.

The district of Darrang was a part of the ancient Hindu Kingdom Kamrupa, which at one time consisted of North-Eastern Bengal and a great part of the present Assam state. According to the Yogini Tantra, the kingdom of Kamrupa extended from the Karatiya river of Rangpur in the Dikrai river in the east of Darrang district. The earliest king of Kamrupa was Naraka.

The darkest period of the history of Assam is from 1818 A.D. to 1824 A.D. during which Burmese invaded Assam and let loose a reign of terror. They were guilty of gross atrocities during their occupation of the country. The villages were plundered burnt and the people were compelled to seek shelter in jungles. Even women, children and the old had to suffer immensely. The misery of the people knew no bounds. After conquering Assam the Burmese intruded in British territory that led to the British intervention and a war was declared against the Burmese in 1824 A.D. Army was sent to the Brahmaputra valley which occupied Rangpur in January 1825 and compelled the Burmese to retire to their own territories. In the following year by the treaty of Yandabo February 24, 1826, Assam was annexed in the British colony.

Vasisthashram supposed to be the ancient hermitage of saga Vasistha, houses a temple in very *idyllic* environs. Three rippling streams and a bewildering variety of birds cast a sonorous spell all around and provide the citizens an ideal picnic spot.

Ugratara temple is located in the heart of the city of Kamrup. Atop the Sukleswar hillock, also within the central part of the city, is the Janardana temple. On the north bank is Aswaktanta, where Arjuna and his weary horse, according to legends, had rested during his Aswamedha journey.

Haidimba Kingdom

The Kacharis of Cachar or Dimasa, as they called themselves, are generally believed to be a section of great Bodo horde. This powerful race is said to have its origin somewhere between the upper waters of Yan-Tse-Kiang and the Hoang ho. They came to Assam in successive waves and had even penetrated as far south as Tippera Hills. Gradually their population increased in great numbers and traveled by land and water to Nilachal, the hill near Guwahati on which the temple of Kamakhya stands. The Kachi King Suradarpa Narayan set himself to reorganize the people and improved the capital brick-built palaces and temples were constructed in different parts of Khaspur and the kingdom was named 'HAIDIMBA KINGDOM.'

It is said that the Brahmans were forced to invent legend that the race was descended from Bhim, one of the brothers of the pandavas. The Kachari legend runs that Bhim while wandering on earth met the daughter of a Rakshas (Asura)—demon. He immediately fell in love and married her. They had a son namely Ghatothkachch, the first of the Kachari race from Ghatothkachch descended a line of 103 independent sovereigns.

Near Hallong the district headquarters of North Cachar Hill District (Assam) is an important railway station, the town is fast growing into a prominent centre of commercial and educational activities. At a stone's throw is Jatinga, a small Khasi village, known throughout the world for the unexplained phenomenon of migratory birds committing mass suicide there...

Assam has a glorious role in the freedom struggle and as early as the first revolt against the British in 1857 a number of Assamese patriots like Dewan Maniram and Pyali Barua suffered at the hands of the British. During the struggle for independence the people of the state fought shoulder to shoulder with the rest of India under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Gopinath Bardoloi, who was the first Chief Minister of Assam, was a great patriot and freedom fighter.

Tezpur is another place of glorious struggle of the people during 'Quit India Movement 1942', for the freedom of the country where the martyr Kanaklata Barua was killed by police firing while attempting to hoist the national flag at Gohpur police station on 20th September 1942.

The martyrs, especially Kanaklata and Kushal Konwar have become household names in Assam.

List of Martyrs of 1942 Revolution in Assam

1. Kushal Konwar (Hanged at Jorhat Jail)
2. Kamala Miri (Died in Jorhat Jail)
3. Tileswari Barua
4. Kumali Devi
5. Khahuli Nath
6. Manbar Nath
7. Maniram Kachari
8. Ratan Kachari
9. Mahiram Kachari
10. Dayal Das Panika
11. Soruram Chutiya
12. Mangal Kukular
13. One Monk (Unidentified)

(xii)

14. One beggar (unidentified)
15. Larela Kachari (Serial No. 3-15. These 13 men and women were killed in Dhekiajuli firing (Darrang district)
16. Kanaklata Barua (Barangabari, killed at Gohpur, Darrang)
17. Mukundaram Kakati – Dhopabar village.
18. Kulai Koch of Kumargaon, killed in Babeja firing Nowgong
19. Hemram Bora – Hatigarh
20. Hemram Patar – Barapujia
21. Gunabhram Bardoloi—Darangiagaon
22. Tilak Deka – Killed at Barapujia firing (Nowgong)
23. Lakshi Kanta Hazarika
24. Thagiram Sut.
25. Boloram Sut
26. Bhogeswari Phukanani

(Serial No. 23-26, killed at Barhampur (Nowgong)

27. Nidhanu Rajbangshi – killed at Dhupdhora (Goalpara District)
28. Madan Chandra Barman – killed at Rehabari firing (Bajali, Barpeta Sub-division)
29. Rauta Ram Koch

Persons injured by gun-shots—47—mostly from (Nowgong and Darrang District)

(Source: Report of the Enquiry Committee of Freedom Fighters Government of Assam, Guwahati, 1979) Annexure I.

The prominent freedom fighters of Assam also played historical role in the freedom struggle are:—

(xiii)

- U. Kiang Nongbah (—1862); The hero of the Jaintia rebellion
- Padmadhar Chaliha (1895-1969); a revolutionary writer and poet
- Rohini Kanta Hatibarua (1895-1929); member of famous Ahom family
- Kali Ram Medha (1880-1954); a pioneer in the field of the application on modern scientific methods of...
- Maulvi Mehboob Alam (1862-1937); known journalist
- Tikendrajit Singh (1858-1891); the hero of Manipur Revolution.
- U. Tirot Singh (1802-1834); was Raja of Nongkhlaw State
- Nilmoni Phookan (1879-); An educationist
- Tarun Ram Phukan (1877-1939); A scion of the famous Dhekiyal-Phukan family of Assam
- Holiram Phookan Dhekiyal (1802-1832); known author
- Anundoram, Borooh (1850-1889); known scholar
- Nicholas Roy, James Roy Mohon (1884-1959); Relative of U. Tirot Singh, the hero of Khasi war of Independence.
- Hiranyan Chandro Bhuyan (1905-1973); promoter of science education
- M. Tayyebulla (1894-1967); a true satygrahi and follower of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Gopinath Bardoloi (1890-1950); one of the makers of modern Assam; was known as Lokpriya Gopinath Bardoloi
- Nabin Chandra Bordoloi (1875-1936); a true nationalist.

- Rajani Kanta Bordoloi (1867-1940); a known author
- Mahendra Mohan Choudhary (1908-1982); Devoted his entire life in the service of the motherland.
- Jadonang (1905-1931) a pioneer freedom fighter of Manipur
- Monul Haque Choudhary (1923-1976); a known patriot
- Maulvi Abdul Rasul (1872-1917); a foresighted leader.
- Gaidinliu (1915-1993): Rani of the Nagas (1915). Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was so much moved by her bravery that he went to Assam in 1937 and met her in Shillong jail. Later, at a press conference he described her as the Rani of the Nagas. She was only 17 years old, when she was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1932. She died in 1993.
- U. Soso Tham (1873-1940); known as father of khasi poetry and a great master of khasi prose, but also as the greatest exponent of khasi culture.
- ... and so many other greatmen of Assam....

Introduction

Assam has long been known to Indian mythology and history and has always been part and parcel of the Indian consciousness. In the early days the region was known as Pragytisha and its King Bhagadatta fought as an ally of Duryodhana in the historic Mahabharata War. Devi worship in India is as old as the hills and forms part of Assam's culture and tradition for ages. The temple of goddess Kamakhya, near Guwahati, is testimony, to the prevalence of this cult which can be found in all parts of India.

The district of Goalpara had never been a separate political entity of its own. The legendary history of this district has to be considered in connection with that of the various kingdoms which sprang up from time to time in the eastern region of India. It was originally included in the ancient Hindu Kingdom of Kamakhya which is mentioned in the Mahabharata and which at one time comprised North-Eastern Bengal and a great part of what is now known as the State of Assam. According to the 'Jogini Tantra' the kingdom of Kamarupa extended from the Karatoya river on the western boundary of Rangpur district of East Pakistan.

The earliest king of Kamrup of whom anything is particular is recorded is Narakasura, who is said to have been the son of the Earth by Lord Vishnu and who defeated and slew his predecessor Chataka. He established his capital at Pragjyotishpur, the modern Guwahati, and seems to have had been a powerful and prosperous, though somewhat

headstrong prince. He was succeeded by his son, Bhagadatta, who is mentioned in the Mahabharata as fighting on the side of the Kauravas at the great battle of Kurukshetra, and we thus seem justified in assuming that complete a thousand years before Christ. Goalpara formed a part of a powerful kingdom ruled by a line of non-Aryan kings. The dynasty of Narakasur was displaced by some foreign invaders who left little sign of historical importance.

The present district of Kamrup originally formed part of the kingdom of Kamrup, which at one time is said to have included part of the Northeastern Bengal and the whole of the Brahmaputra valley from available evidences, its chronology can be traced from Narak and Bhagadatta, and Narak's name is mentioned in the Yogini Tantra while his son Bhagadatta is mentioned in the Mahabharata as fighting on the side of the Kauravas at the great battle of Kurukshetra. Narak established his capital at Pragjyotishpur corresponding to the modern Guwahati.

He was powerful prosperous and head-strong. There is an interesting legend associated with this monarch. It is said that he wanted to marry the goddess Kamakhya and the goddess gave him Her consent on the understanding that he would construct a temple, a road and tank in a single night for Her. He took up the challenges and was about to complete his task when the goddess Kamakhya made a cock crow before the usual hour. In his rage, Narak killed the cock at a place about eight miles from Guwahati and since then that place is known as Kukurakata. Narak's name is also remembered as one of the protectors of Kamakhya and the builder of the causeway up the southern face of the hill Nilachal on which the temple of Kamakhya stands. Thus Kamrup which formed a part of a powerful kingdom was ruled by a chain of non-Aryan princes a thousand years before Christ.

It is not clearly known whether the whole of the Nagaon district was a separate kingdom under any ruler. It has no

independent history of its own other than the Assam valley. According to Mahabharata and Ramayana it was originally included in the ancient Hindu Kingdom of Pragjyotishpur and Kamrup. For many centuries, the history of the district remained in obscurity. But the research work on Assam history has thrown some light. The whole of the Nagaon district consisted of kingdoms ruled by different rulers at the same time such as the kings of Kamarupa, the Jaintias, the Kacharis, the Bara Bhuyans, the Koches and the Ahoms. Assam was known in ancient times as Progyjotishpur and in medieval time as Kamarupa. Modern Assam, including the Nagaon district, is a part of the ancient kingdom of Pragjyotishpur.

Pragjyotishpur has been mentioned in the great epic of the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. According to the Ramayana, the city of Pragjyotishpur was built on a gold crested mountain called Varaha which was 64 Yojanas in extent and which abated on the sea "Varunalaya". That the country was close to the mountain is evident from the fact that Bhagadatta, the king of Pragjyotishpur, is called Sailalaya in the Mahabharata. Bhagadatta recruited his troops from the Kiratas, the Cinas and the dwellers of the marshy region near the sea. The Kirata most probably was the genuine name of the Mongolian people and the name Cina was perhaps applied to the Tibetans and the Bhutias. Those who lived in Sayananupa (near the sea) were evidently the people living in the marshy region of Sylhat, Mymensingh and Tripura.

According to the Kalika Purana, the name of this land was changed from Pragjyotish to Kamarupa as soon as Naraka of Mithila became king and was placed in charge of the temple Kamakhya. Dr. Kakati opines that the term Kamarupa (Kamakhya) symbolized the new cult and in exaltation of it, land itself was renamed. According to the Puranic legends the name Kamarupa is associated with Kamadeva.

The family of Pusyavarman constituted the first historical dynasty of the Bhuma Naraka family said to have ruled in the ancient Assam in 325 A. D. In the Allahabad Pillar inscription of Samundra Gupta between 330-380 A. D Kamarupa is mentioned as a foreign Kingdom along with Samatra, Nepal, Kartipur and Davaka. According to some historians, Pusyavarman was the contemporary of Samundra Gupta, and Davaka was another frontier kingdom in the Kopili valley. Both the countries might have submitted to Samundra Gupta though their autonomy remained unimpaired.

There is an interesting legend in the Mahabharata that when Bhagdatta and Arjun were fighting at Kurkshetra war, Bhagadatta, was seriously injured. He attacked Arjun with Vaishnavastra. It was forceful weapon which could have been proved fatal. Lord Krishna was fully aware of that mighty weapon, which had been targeted on the chest of Veer Arjun. Lord Krishna pushed aside and took that weapon on himself. Arjun was upset to see this. Arjun asked Lord Krishna, Me Lord! You had pledged not to participate in the Mahabharata war and only to take part as a chariot guide, but I am sorry to say that Me Lord! You are not properly following your pledged?

Hearing this Lord Krishna narrated a most secret incident to Arjuna—Please listen to me O' Kuntinandan! I may tell you one secret thing which had happened centuries ago. I always remain busy in Four forms to serve the human beings. By distributing my spiritual powers in various forms I always work for the suffering mankind. In the shape of 'Narayan' my statue form always remain in deep devotion. My second form in a statue always look after well-being of the mankind. Third form as a human being on earth discharge numerous works...and the Fourth and last-forms always remain beneath the water. This is my fourth role when got up after one thousand years from sound sleep, this is the proper time to bless my devotees, Rishis and Munis, etc. Once on this occasion Mother Earth asked this blessing

from me that my son 'Narakasur', should be a person of independent personality. Neither Devatas and Asurs should dictate him anything, and he should always be empowered with 'Vaishnavastra'. On her request 'O' Arjun! I blessed her with a "Amodh Vaishnv Astra". And told her that 'O' Earth Mother! This weapon will always remain with him for his defence and protection...and nobody will be entitled or empowered to kill him. Thus Mother Earth's wish was fulfilled and due to that blessing Narakasur became worthy and challenge to his enemies. Listen, Arjun after the demise of Narkasur, his son Bhagadatta had got that weapon (Vaishnavastra). That is so forceful weapon that every Devata including Indra and Rudra can be killed with that. That is why I took that weapon on my chest and spoiled it....As Bhagadattga had lost that weapon, you can easily kill him.

On the advice of Lord Krishna, Arjun, first of all killed Bhagadatta's elephant and then killed him.

There is another legend in the Mahabharata that after the successful escape of Pandvas from Virnavarat, Pandavs after crossing river Ganga were hiding themselves in a jungle. As they were deadly tired and feeling hungry and thirsty, Bhim made them to rest under a banyan tree and went in search of water. When he came back with drinking water all of them had slept soundly. He was terribly upset to see the saddened faces of his near and dear ones. He pledged to take revenge from Dhiratrashttra and Duryodhan after killing them.

On a nearby tree an Asur namely Hidimb along with his sister was putting up. After feeling the smell of human beings, he advised his sister to call them to him, so that after killing them he may fulfil his stomach with the human flesh and suck their blood.

When Bhim was in a pensive mood and was thinking deeply and safeguarding his family members Hidimba appeared before him. After seeing Bhim, she in her first

sight she fell in love with him and requested Bhim to marry with her. She also apprised Bhim about the malicious desigus of his brother, who was eager to kill them. I wish to marry with you. You kindly awake them most urgently, so that I may take all of you in a safe place. If my brother comes, he would definitely kill all of you.

In the meantime Hidimb also reached there. Seeing Hindimba a beautiful girl's form he tried to kill her. Bhim came to her rescue. They fought fearlessly. Owing to their quarrel all the Pandavas woke up. They came to help Bhim but Bhim killed Hidimb himself.

Hindimba was much impressed by the bravery of Bhim. She requested Bhim's mother Kunti to allow her to marry with Bhim. The marriage was solemnized. A son namely Ghatotkuchh was born to her. He was a great warrior.

The first of the Kachari race from Ghatotkuchh decended a line of a 103 independent soverings, the list of those names, however, is entirely the invention of Brahmins, the last eight are being accepted, as genuin historical personages. The names of these rulers are as follows:

- Suradarpa Chandra,
- Dharmdhuraj Chandra,
- Kartik Chandra,
- Ram Chandra
- Hari Chandra
- Lakshmi Chandra
- Krishna Chandra
- Govind Chandra.

While the Raja and aristocracy embraced Hinduism, the mass of the Kacharis who had stayed in the hills when the court moved from Maibong retaining their old faith.

Arjun Banbas (Exile)

There is one another mention of Arjun's *Banbas* (going to jungle) in the Mahabharata once Nard Muni visited Indraprastha. He was much impressed to see the ruling pattern within the Hindu religion code by the Pandavas. Addressing all the five Pandava brothers he said. "Dropati is wife of all five brothers. He suggested that it would be in the fitness of thing that you must have framed certain rules to live with her as your wife. Narad's proposal was agreed by them. In this period if any of you will break this rule, he had to go to jungle for 12 years as a punishment. Accordingly they started living with Dropati within the framework set up by Narad Muni.

One day the cows of one Brahmin were stolen by some miscreants. The said Brahmin approached Arjun for help. Arjun's weapons were lying in the room when his eldest-brother Yudhishtir and Dropati were sitting. He was at a loss to know what to do? If he dares to enter Yudhishtir's palace he is bound to go to jungle for 12 years. If fears to help restore Brahmin's stolen cows he would be guilty of not helping the Brahmin? Arjun entered Yudhishtara's palace without his permission and after taking necessary weapons he rushed to chase the miscreants along with the Brahmin and after recovering the cows and handing over to the said Brahmin came back to Indraprastha. Reaching there he straight away went to Yudhishtara for permission to go to jungle for 12 years as a punishment. Yudhishtar told Arjun that younger brothers 'entry in his elder brothers' room is not a crime but Arjun did not acceded to his request...and left Indraprastha for 12 years' *Banbas*.

Arjun's wedding with Aloopi

After quitting Indraprastha, Arjun reached Haridwar. He stayed there in a Ashram. One day when he went to take a dip in the river Ganga, Aloopi, the daughter of Nagraj, saw him. She was so impressed by Arjun's dynamic

personality that she took him to Naglok. She expressed her desire to Arjun for marriage.

Arjun acceded her request and with the consent of her father married Aloopi and started living with her in the Naglok. Aloopi blessed and assured Arjun that he will be in a position to walk in the under-water like on earth. Water creature will not harm him...and next day Aloopi escorted Arjun to Haridwar.

Arjun's wedding with Chitrangda

After visiting various places Arjun reached Manipur. The daughter of Chitravahan, the king of Manipur namely Chitrangda, was very handsome. Arjun expressed his desire to marry with her. As Chitravahan had no son, he suggested to Arjun, it will only be possible, if after the marriage, the son of Chitrangda will be declared my decendent after my demise and take over the charge of the kingdom. Arjun acceded his conditions and Arjun's marriage was solemnised with Chitrangda. After marriage Arjun stayed in Manipur for three years. During this period Chitrangda gave birth to a son who was named 'Babhruvahan'.

Arjuns' wedding with Subhadra

From Manipur Arjun reached at 'Prabhas Tirath' near Dwarka. From there Lord Krishna took Arjun to Dwarka, where he was welcomed with a rousing reception. Arjun met Subhadra there. Subhadra was the sister of Bhagwan Krishna. On Arjun's request Lord Krishna managed his sisters' marriage with him. Along with Subhadra Arjun reached 'Pushkar Tirath', where they stayed till the expiry of his *Banbas*...and then proceeded to Indraprastha. Subhadra gave birth to Veer Abhimanu.

Early Muslim Invasion

It should be noted, however, that prior to the final invasion of Assam by Mir Jumla in 1162, Assam was

already invaded by Bakhtiyar Khilji after the latter's conquest of Bengal in 1203 A. D. He was followed by Giyasuddin Bahadur Shah who is said to have advanced as far as Saddiya in 1220 A. D.

In the year 1256 Ikhtiyar Uddin Yuzbak Tughril Khan invaded Kamrup. The first was compelled to retire without annexing any part of the Brahmaputra valley as the difficulties of the country proved inseparable. The second though unsuccessful at first, was also defeated and driven back to Gaur. The third one's triumph was of very short duration. The rains and fever took their toll once again and only a few returned to Bengal to tell of the destruction of his army. The general himself and most of his followers were killed by the Assamese. He was followed by Muhammad Shah who, in 1337 A. D. sent one lakh horsemen well equipped to Assam, but the whole army perished in that land of witchcrafts and no trace of it was left (Alamgirnama). In the year 1506, Turbuk marched up the Assam valley gaining a victory over the Ahom troops, he met with less success in his second invasion of Assam and was defeated and killed in a bloody battle in Bhareli in 1532. Twenty-one years later, Kala Pahar, a Hindu apostate made a marauding expedition into the valley and attempted to demolish the temples at Kamakhya and Hajo. A fanatical zeal for the propagation of his new religion seems to have been his guiding motive and no attempt was made to permanently annex new territory to the Mughal empire.

Assam pioneered the writing of history in the Indian subcontinent. The Ahom kings were meticulous in recording history in hand written tomes called burajnis.

The early history of Assam is obscure although there are numerous references in the Mahabharata, the Puranas, the Tantras to a great kingdom known as Kamrup that encompassed the Brahmaputra valley, Bhutan, Cooch Behar, and the Rangpur region in Eastern Bengal. The

legendary king Narakasur, whose son Bhagadatta distinguished himself in the Mahabharata war, ruled Kamrupa from his capital at Pragjyotishpur, the site of the famous temple dedicated to the Tantric goddess Kamakhya, near modern Guwahati.

Among the early sources of history of Assam is the writings of the Chinese pilgrim Huanzang (Hiuen-tsang) who in 640 A. D attended the court of king Bhaskar Barman an ally of the great Gupta monarch Harsh of Northern India. Stone and copper inscriptions dating from the seventh to the twelfth century indicate a succession of Hindu dynasties, but it is unclear to what extent the indigenous populations of Kamrupa had embraced Hinduism beyond the royal patronages of Brahmans.

On the eve of the movement of the Ahoms to Assam in the early thirteenth century any semblance of a centralized kingship in the region had collapsed into a fragmented system of tribal politics and loose confederacies of petty Hindu Rajas, called Bhuyans. The Ahom, a Shan tribe from which the name Assam is probably derived, crossed the Patkoi mountains from Burman in 1228 A. D and by the sixteenth century had absorbed the Chutiyas and Kacharis kingdoms of the upper Brahmaputra, subdued the neighbouring hill tribes, and integrated the Bhuyans into the administrative apparatus of a feudalistic state.

During the latter part of the sixteenth and much of the seventeenth centuries the Ahoms repulsed a succession of Mughal invasion of their territory from Bengal as they moved to annex the eastern portion of the powerful Koch kingdom (1682) and to consolidate their rule over the entire Brahmaputra valley. The kingdom of the Ahoms reached its height under Rudra Singha reign (1696-1714), the renowned military strategist and patron of the buranji or Ahom chronicles. Rudra Singha established extensive trade with Tibet and built the great city of Rangpur.

Consolidation of British Rule (1818-58)

The year 1818 is an important landmark in the history of India for the map of India, as drawn by Lord Hastings, remained substantially unchanged until the time of Lord Dalhousie.

By 1813 the greater part of India, extending from the Sutlej to the Brahmaputra and from the Himalayas to Kanya Kumari, had been brought under British control. There, however, remained the problem of securing effective control over the western and eastern frontiers of India. Control over the western frontier was secured by annexing Sind and Punjab and by making Afghanistan a buffer state between the British and Russian empires. Control over the eastern frontier was to be secured by annexing Lower Burma and by establishing British authority over Assam, Manipur, Cachar and Jaintia. In addition, the process of political unification of the country was to be hastened by annexing some of the problem states. An attempt was also to be made to consolidate British power in India by carrying out far reaching reforms, such as the encouragement of English language, the abolition of sati, the suppression of thuggea etc. on the eastern frontier, war between Burma and British India lay in the logic of history, for it was of vital importance to both the countries to secure control over the frontier by annexing Assam, Manipur and other border states, slowly but almost inevitably events moved to a crisis and led to the first Anglo-Burmese war (1824-26).

Border Disputes

The Burmese conquest of Arakan in 1785 had brought Burma for the first time into direct contact with Chittagong and led to border disputes. Thousands of Arakanese fled to Chittagong Burmese forces sometimes entered British territory in pursuit of Arakanese rebels. The influx of refugees was great, especially in 1787, 1794 and 1798. The Burmese asked the British authorities to expel them, a

demand which was difficult to concede. Attempts were made to arrive at a peaceful settlement of these border disputes. The British government sent envoys to Burma—Captain Symes in 1795 and again in 1802; Captain Cox in 1797; and Captain Canning in 1803, 1809 and 1811. These missions proved unsuccessful as the envoys were not treated well but there was an easing of the tension. Unfortunately in 1811 the Arakanese refugees from Chittagong invaded Arakan in large numbers. The Burmese now became more aggressive and tried to bring Manipur and Assam under their control.

Manipur

In 1764 Burmese forces invaded Manipur and its ruler Jai Singh (1764-88) fled to Assam. He regained his throne three years later but was driven out again in 1770. The see-saw struggle continued until the Burmese finally pushed into Manipur (1782) and compelled Jai Singh to submit. When Jai Singh abdicated in 1788 there were fierce disputes about the succession to the throne. The victory of Kaurjit led the rival Maijit, to seek Burmese help. He agreed to renounce Manipur's claim over the Kubo Valley and acknowledged Burmas' suzerainty. He occupied Manipur in 1812-13, but he was driven out six years later, and the kingdom was annexed to Burma.

Assam

In 1817 taking advantage of interval dissensions in Assam, Burmese forces invaded the country and placed Chandrakanta on the throne. When he was deposed by some of the chiefs and replaced by Purandar, the Burmese invaded Assam again (1819) and Chandrakanta was reinstated. He soon tried to shake off Burmese control and that led to hostilities (1821). Next year Bandula, the Burmese general, conquered Assam and it became part of Burma.

First Burmese war (1824-26). The Government of India under Lord Amherst (1823-28) was alarmed at the Burmese conquest of Assam and Manipur. In September 1823, the Burmese attacked the island of Shahpuri near Chittagong, belonging to the Company and made hostile moves on the Company's territories in Bengal. Lord Amherst declared war on February 24, 1824. Great difficulty was experienced in conducting operations because of the *pestilential* nature of the terrain. One expedition with gunboats proceeded up the Brahmaputra into Assam. Another marched by land through Chittagong into Arakan, as the Bengal sepoy refused to go by sea. A third and the strongest sailed from Madras direct to the mouth of the Irrawaddy. The war dragged on for more than two years. Rangoon fell on May 11, 1824, and Proma (The capital of Lower Burma) on April 25, 1825. Hostilities were ended by the treaty of Yandaboo concluded on February 1826. By this treaty the king of the Ava agreed to cede the provinces of Arakan and Tenasserim to the British give up all claims to Assam, abstain from interference in Cachar and Jaintia, recognize the independence of Manipur, enter into a commercial treaty, agree to the appointment of a British Resident at Ava, and pay an indemnity of a crore of rupees. The king of Ava still retained the whole valley of the Irrawaddy down to the sea at Rangoon.

Second Burmese war (1852). Under Lord Dalhousie (1848-56) the Second Burmese war was fought in sharp contrast to the First. While the First had been provoked by military threats and the aggressive policy of the Burmese, the Second Burmese war was the result of ill-treatment of some European merchants at Rangoon and insults heaped on the captain of British frigate who had been sent to remonstrate. Lord Dalhousie's through-going preparations for the campaign yielded good results. The lower valley of the Irrawaddy, from Rangoon to Proma, was occupied in a few months and as the king of Alva refused to enter into negotiations, it was annexed by proclamation on December 20, 1852, under the name of Pegu.

Assam After 1826

1826-Annexation of Assam by British completed. Assam was made a part of the Province of Bengal. Assam was divided into two commission—Upper Assam and Lower Assam.

1832-Division of Assam into the districts of Goalpara, Kamrup, Darrang, Nagaon.

1832-Kochari Kingdom consisting of current districts of Kerbi Anglong, Cachar and other annexed to Assam, made part of Nagaon district.

1833-Upper Assam made an independent kingdom and Purandar Singh made the king.

1834-Independent Kochari kingdom re-established.

1835-Tea plantation inaugurated.

1835-Jaintia Hills were annexed to Assam.

1836-Assamese language was replaced by Bengali as the official language of Assam.

1838-Upper Assam again annexed by the British, districts of Sibsagar and Lakhimpur established.

1842-Matak kingdom around Sodiya annexed by British into Assam.

1850-Kochari kingdom re-annexed to Assam.

1866-Angami Naga kingdom annexed to Assam, made a district.

1869-Garo kingdom annexed to Assam, made a district.

1873-Assamese was once again made the official language of Assam after a period of 37 years.

1874-Assam was separated from Bengal and made into a separate province.

1898-Lushal kingdom annexed by British, made a district of Assam.

1905-12-Assam was made a part of the new province of East Bengal and Assam was put under a Lieutenant Governor.

1912-Division of Bengal ends. Assam was made a part of Bengal again. Assam was overseen by a Chief Commissioner.

1917-Kuki Naga kingdom was annexed to the district of Nagaland in Assam.

1919-Assam was made a separate province again. Sylhet was made a district of Assam.

1921-Governorship was created in Assam.

1947-District of Sylhet voted to join East Pakistan.

1951-Dewangiri in Kamrup ceded to Bhutan.

1963-District of Nagaland was separated from Assam and made into a state.

1972-NEFA, Garo and Khaasiyaa Hills became the State of Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura separated from Assam. Garo and Khaasiyaa Hills became the State of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura also become a state. NEFA became the state of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram also became a state in 1987.

Nalbari was a part of undivided Kamrup district till recent past. For many centuries the history of Kamrup is shrouded in great obscurity. However, it appears probable that a king of the line of Narak was displaced by a Bodo Chief whose line was subsequently driven eastward to the valley of the Dhansiri. Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang briefly lights up the corridors of history in the seventh century. King Bhaskaravarman enhanced the power and prestige of Kamarupa to an extent never dreamed before. The Naraka line was subsequently snapped by aboriginal onslaughts and a long spell of uncertainties followed. The kingdom at times stretched to the seas and shrank at other times into fragmented principalities.

Lower Assam ceased to matter much following the advent of the Ahoms in early thirteenth century save for a new decades beginning early sixteenth century when the illustrious Koch king, Naranarayana, considerably extended the limits of his western kingdom. The Koch glory was however, shortlived and faded out with the turn of the century. The coming of the Ahoms across the eastern hills in 1228 was the most noteworthy turning point in Assam history. The local tribes mostly yielded to the very first flashes of their swords while two powerful tribes, the Chutias and the Kacharis, gave in after long drawn fighting. The following six centuries were eventful for the land of golden bear as the Ahoms called Assam. The enviable rise of the Ahom power charged the Delhi emperors but all their seventeen incursions were abortive. The climax of the long drawn tug of war was the legendary battle of Saraighat near Guwahati, which gave the Ahoms a prestigious victory and the Ahom general, Lachit, immortal fame.

It was followed by spell of treacherous court intrigues until Rudra Singh, the Shivaji of the East, once again took Ahom glory to its zenith. The Ahom decline started with the uprising of the Moamaria Mahants in the 1780's.

The Ahoms were a Shan tribe from the kingdom of Pong in the upper Valley of the Irrawaddy, who, at the beginning of the 13th century A. D crossed the Patkai and settled in the south of the territory which now forms the districts of Sibsagar and Lakhimpur. They first overthrew the Chutia kingdom at Sadiya and afterwards the Kachari kingdom at Dimapur. At the beginning of the 17th century the Ahom kings began to intervene in the affairs of lower Assam. Godadhar Singh was the first king to definitely annex Kamrup to the Ahom territories but the zenith of their power was reached in the reign of his successor Rudra Singh (1695-1714). When he died at Guwahati in 1714 A. D. his son erected Rudreswar temple in memory of the sad event, which still

stands on the north bank of the river opposite to Guwahati. From the middle of the 18th century the Ahom power began to decline. Lakshmi Singh reign (1769-80) was signalized by the outbreak of the Moamaria insurrection. After initial successes, the Moamarias were defected and very cruelly dealt with. He was succeeded by his son Gauri Nath (1780-95) in whose reign the Moamaria insurrection broke out a new war with increased violence. At first the kings' troops met with some measures of success and orders were issued outlawing the rebellions and authorising any person to kill any Moamaria he might meet. According to the Ahom chronicler, "the villagers thereupon massacred the Moamarias with their wives and children without mercy." The rebels to their turn were not slow to make reprisals. They plundered the country on every side and the burning villages appear like a ball of fire. The ordinary operations of agriculture were suspended. No harvest could be raised and famine killed those whom the sword had spared.

In the year 1786, the Moamaria rebels under Bharat Singh inflicted a decisive defeat upon royal troops and took the capital Rangpur by storm. Soon after, Gauri Nath died and was succeeded by his son Kameleswar Singh, in whose region the country remained in a state of great disorder, that was chiefly due to the attacks of the Daflas. He was succeeded by his son Chandra Kanta Singh in 1809. The Bor Phukan or Viceroy of Guwahati incurred the suspicion of the Bor Gohain or Prime Minister and fled to Burma via Calcutta. At the beginning of 1816, the Burmese army crossed the Patkoi, re-instated the Bor Phukan, but shortly after their withdrawal, Chandra Kanta was deposed and Purandar Singh appointed in his stead. The banished monarch appealed to the Burmese, who in 1818, returned with a large force and replaced him on the throne. They soon, however, made it clear that they intended to retain hold in Assam.

The Burmese were guilty of gross atrocities during the occupation of the country, burning and plundering villages. Assam groaned under the oppressions and lawless tyranny of the Burmese whose barbarous and inhuman policy depopulated the country by more than one half of its population, which had already been thinned by successive civil wars and the Moamaria insurrections. Chandra Kanta fled to Goalpara, and from British territory began a series of abortive attempts to recover his lost kingdom. In the meantime, however, causes of quarrel arose between the British and the Burmese and in 1824 war was declared by the British Government and a force was sent to the valley of Brahmaputra. The Burmese evacuated Guwahati without striking a blow, such fighting as there was, taking place in the districts of Sibsagar and Nowgong, Rongpur was occupied in 1825 and in the following year by the treaty of Yandbahoo, Assam was ceded to the East India Company.

Most of the Kamrup district hills and people are associated with mythology and they are treated as objects of pilgrimage by many generations of Hindus. The most well known is Kamakhya or Nilachal Hill on the top of which stands the Kamakhya temple. Towards the southern and the western side of the peak is situated the town of Kamakhya which also has many temples. Most of these temples have a long history behind them. Other hills which have an important place in mythology or the respect of the local people are Buragohain Parbat, Gumi Hill, Gobardhan, The Kurpara, Tiniboini, Buragohain, Chilali, Burna, Chamua, Dakhotia Hill Maliata Dhomora, Kameswar, Sidheshwar, Soupara, Poa Mecca, Hathimura, Madan Kamadeva and Gopeswar. The hills in Western Kamrup are covered with sal trees and in the outer ridges of the Khasi Hills, the Khasis and Garos sometimes raise lac, chillis betelnuts and vegetables.

Located on the south bank of the Brahmaputra, the town is known as the 'Pancha Tirtha' or seat of the pilgrimages. The shrine of Kamakhya, a top the Nilachal

sill is considered one of the famous pithasthans and during the Ambubachi festival it draws devotees from all over the country. Umananda fondly referred to as the Peacock island is the seat of Siva temple. During the Sivaratri festival, hundreds of devotees ferry a cross to the mid-stream temple 'Navagraha' atop the Chitrasala hill, is a temple of the nine planets and was in the remote past a renowned centre of astrological and astronomical studies. That is also one reason why Guwahati was called Pragjyotishpura or the city of eastern lights in the past. Vasisthashram supposed to be the ancient hermitage of sage Vasistha, houses a temple in very idyllic environs. Ugratara temple is located in the heart of the city. Atop the Sukleswar hillock also within the central part of the city, is the Janardana temple. On the north bank is *Aswaklanta* where Arjuna and his weary horse, according to legends, had rested during his Aswamedha journey.

Guwahati is linked with the north bank by the magnificent Saraighat bridge connecting Pandu a busy river port of south bank with Amingaon, an industrially developing township of North Guwahati.

Hajo, 20 kilometres off Guwahati is a place of pilgrimage of equal importance for Hindus, Muslims and Buddhists. The Hindus visit its Hayagraba Madhava temple of Kedar. The mosque at Hajo is believed to have one fourth sanctity of Mecca and is hence called Poa-Mecca. The Buddhists cherish the belief that Lord Buddha had his nirvana in this town.

The north-eastern region of India is the most varied, but also the least visited by the foreign travellers. Before independence, the entire north-east was known as Assam Province. Various factors including ethnic and linguistic divide led to the formation of seven separate states, now popularly called the seven sisters. The following is the new set-up of the former Assam Province after re-organisation:

<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Area (Km)</i>	<i>Population</i>
Assam	Dispur	78,438	22,294,562
Manipur	Imphal	22,300	1,826,714
Meghalaya	Shillong	22,400	1,760,626
Nagaland	Kohima	16,500	1,215,573
Tripura	Agartala	10,400	2,744,827
Arunachal	Itanagar	83,600	852,392
Mizoram	Aizawl	21,000	686,217

Source: 1991 census

In many ways, north-east is very much unlike the rest of India. It is an area inhabited by a great number of tribes who speak a hundred different dialects and languages. In Arunachal Pradesh alone over 50 distinct languages are spoken. In some ways, these hill tribes are similar to tribes found in other parts of the Himalayas. The tribal people here have more similarity with those found in Burma, Thailand and Laos. During the British period, the Christian missionaries found the tribesmen an easy prey for conversion under the state patronage. The missionaries were the only people to get Inner Line Permits to enter the tribal areas.

Chief-Editor 'Yojana' Shri Anurag Mishra in his introductory note to December 2005 issue has recorded that the north-eastern region with a landmass of 2, 62,500 square kilometres comprising eight states, namely *Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura* and *Sikkim* is a land-locked region with 19 per cent of its border being international. Despite being rich in natural resources with fertile land, rich forests and mineral deposits, development of the region has lagged behind the rest of the country due to historical reasons. The per capita income in North-Eastern Region on an average is Rs. 12, 918 only, as compared with the national average of Rs. 17,823 at the current prices of 2001-02. The

traditional economy is simple. Shifting cultivation is still being practiced. Economic growth has taken place in recent years following government's efforts.

Removal of infrastructure bottlenecks, healthcare, provisions, basic minimum services, creating conducive environment for private investment are the important priority issues. The lack of expertise/professionals in the government bodies in the region also creates problems. In the North-Eastern Council meeting, the prime minister had suggested to involve people to outsourcing of talent. Investments of academics, civil society, Panchayats, etc. will improve accountability upgrading of employment skills of the work force, students especially the youth is another important area.

North-Eastern region has been attracting illegal immigrants. The problems created by the cross-border movement of people between two countries say Bangladesh and India can be addressed only with more trust and co-operation between the two countries. In the long run, only an agreement and a bilateral institution responsible for managing the cross-border movement of people can address the problem.

It is a fact that peace and development go hand in hand. There is an urgent need to bring back insurgent groups to the national mainstream and involve them in developmental activities through rehabilitation plans. The problem should be studied in co-ordination with social scientists, healthcare and employment opportunities can surely enhance their participation in development activities.

Shri Bhanu Pratap Shukla in his book entitled 'What Ails India's North-East? (Surchi Sahitya-Jhandewalan, New Delhi-1980) under the 'title conspiracy' has recorded that the problem of migration from East Bengal, later on East Pakistan and now Bangladesh, to Assam has a history of about 75 years. The idea was first mooted in 1906 when at

the invitation of Nawab Salim Ullah Khan of Dacca, prominent Muslims of India had gathered at Dacca to deliberate over the formation of the Muslim League as suggested by the then Viceroy Lord Curzon to a Muslim delegation which had met him earlier in Simla. At a public meeting held at that time, Nawab Salim Ullah Khan exhorted the Muslims to migrate to Assam and settle there. Just a year back in 1905, Bengal had been partitioned and the Muslim Majority East Bengal was joined with Assam to form a new Province of East Bengal and Assam. At that time Assam was very sparsely populated and was covered mostly with jungles. But hundred years ago it was not so. Powerful Ahom kings had not only ruled Assam successfully for about 500 years but had also repelled the Mughals, invasions decisively. But when internal feuds cropped up in the Royal family, they fell a prey to Burmese invasions which not only destroyed the throne but also exterminated practically the whole population there. So when in 1826, after the Indo-Burmese war, Assam came under the British rule, much of the country had reverted to jungles. Sir William Hunter, commenting over the first ever census of 1881, remarked that the valley of the Brahmaputra covered an area three times that of the Surma valley but it had less population. Nature abhors Vacuum and it was natural that people from outside should come and fill it. And it was to this end that the Muslims of East Bengal were being exhorted to by the Nawab of Dacca.

When during partition of the country when Assam except Sylhet district and West Bengal did not become part of Pakistan, the plan of Adivasistan went awry. On that occasion Juel Lakra, Inchange of Lutheron Mission, Ranchi, had visited Germany, without any passport. First time he went to Germany on 12th July 1947, just one month before the partition of the country. Second time when Germany was under military command of allied powers headed by Mr. Eisenhower. Thirdly he entered Germany when it was

next to impossible. He was taken to the highest military office in Hamburg and was permitted to go to Berlin without a passport. He was taken through a British zone to the American Zone and there he was treated as a government guest. This indicates clearly that both the British and American military commands were interested in his visit. The German Lutheran Church was already active in Chhota Nagpur Area of the proposed Adivasistan. During the Second World War the administration of the German Lutheran Church was handed over to the American Lutheran Church. Thus in Nagaland the American Baptist Mission and in Chhota Nagpur the American Lutheran Church were active.

The interest of the Western Powers in this region is further reinforced by a news despatch released from Berlin captioned "Independent Bengal" with the dateline of Dacca 7-12-66 and released by Agencia International De Frensa. It read—

"The separatist readers are said to have agreed that a united and independent Bengal with its capital at Calcutta, should include east Pakistan, the Indian States of West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland, neighbouring territories of Tripura and Manipur, Indian protectorate of Sikkim and Bhutan. These territories have a total area of 1,70,000 square miles and a population of more than 100 million persons, 90% of whom speak Bengali. The separatists are counting upon United States and other Western Powers to give them the necessary assistance. They are confident that they would be interested in establishing an independent state in South-East Asia, which would help normalize conditions there and which would provide a shield against Chinese aggression.

As a result of all these moves we find today that not only have Mizoram, Nagaland and Meghalaya been converted into Christian states but demands for independence are also being raised from these states. At the time of Independence of India, the demand for an independent Nagaland was made by only a handful of hardcore Christian Nagas. According to the evidence which

came up before the Bardoloi Committee, the number of Nagas demanding independence was only five thousand. But later on due to the terroristic activities, other Nagas also became their supporters. In the year 1947 the percentage of Christians in Nagaland was only 20%, most of them being concentrated only in the district of Mokokchung. In the story of Longri Ao written by Richard G. Beers and published from America, the following excerpts will be revealing:

"In the midst of highly charged excitement over their own future it was learnt that the Indian Congress party was opposed to Naga Independence". We must have our freedom. These are our hills. Longri participated actively in the intense debate. He had long since become convinced that Christ's gospel taught men to join in the struggle for human dignity, uplift and freedom. Christ, living in and through his followers, would transform the life of the people; a Christian nation would provide the stage on which this great action might take place." A great opportunity lies before us. We shall not only be a free nation, we shall also be a Christian one... "The Naga National Council became the rallying point in the struggle for independence. They were those who believed that violent action was not only necessary but justified. This faction soon centered around a fiery revolutionary, A. Z. Phizo, a member of the Angami tribe. How the missionaries were interested in this movement is amply demonstrated from what they themselves have written in the book regarding the "Growth of Baptist Church in Nagaland". They say - 'An Independent Sovereign Nagaland' was the ultimate aim of the Naga nationalists. The Naga National Council was able to bring about an unusual unity of Naga people. They considered that India had a 'Hindu Government' and they had to fight against it to preserve their Naga Christianity.

Writing about the growth of Christianity in Meghalaya K. I. Aier writes that - "The establishment of the Meghalaya State without bloodshed and ill will was possible because of the political genius so successfully demonstrated by the Garos and the Khasis. While the Nagas and Mizos, the fellow travellers in politics, resorted to violence with a view to achieving their political aspirations, the Garos and Khasis patiently and tactfully worked their way through

without shedding a drop of blood and without creating ill feelings with their neighbours. Capitan Williamson Sangma, who belongs to the Atong Sub-tribe of the Garos is a member of the Baghmara Baptist Church.

It is clear how the Christian missionaries attempt an all out attack to achieve their immediate and long-term objectives. On the one hand they encourage the underground terrorist movements by giving them ideological and monetary support. A statement from the 5th Assembly of world Christian Conference held at Nairobi in the year 1975 says, - "In this connection it should be noted that Churches and their foreign missions agencies in the west ought to re-examine their use of human and material resources so that they can effectively support the liberation efforts and contribute to human dignity, in developing countries in ways that are beyond the scope of traditional patterns of giving and receiving.

The Mizo National Front, the Naga National Council and Tripura National Volunteers are already engaged in insurgent activities in the respective states. An underground militant organization has been formed in Meghalaya under the name - 'The Khasi Pnar National Council which distributed a notice-cum-appeal in the Hills on 4th July 1980 urging the people to liberate the Hills from foreign rule. It says all the enemies of the Hill people must get out immediately, otherwise their lenders would be liquidated in the peoples cause. The lender like Captain Manik Das, M. E. A had been executed for that purpose. The council urged all the Khasi Pnar to join the liberation movement for total independence.

It appealed to the United Nations, the U. S. A, U. K., West Germany, China, Japan and Russia to help the liberation movement - Please help us to be free from slavery by Indian leaders trying to crush our simple tribal masses. (Assam Tribune dated 21st July 1980).

In the year 1978, when Shri Morarji Desai, the then Prime Minister of India visited Nagaland, a delegation of Nagas went to meet him. When Shri Desai asked them as to who they were, they ensured that they were Christians. When he pointedly asked them whether they were Indians, an emphatic 'No' was their answer with a further remark that "We are Nagas". Shri Desai refused to talk to them. Even after the granting of statehood to Nagaland and Mizoram there is no let in the terrorist activities of the Naga National Council in Nagaland and Mizo National Front in Mizoram. The activities of the underground Nagas in adjoining Assam territory in the month of January 1979 when villages after villages were burnt down and people killed, sparing, however, the Muslims and the Christians; conspiracy of the M. N. F to kidnap and kill the Lieutenant Governor Shri N. P. Mathur of Mizoram in March 1979 which was, however, foiled by the alertness of the central government; stoppage of water supply for full 25 days to the Ramakrishna Mission Educational Institution at Cherrapunji having 700 inmates; serving of 'Quit Order' on the 'Vais' or non Mizos on 2nd June the same year by the M. N. F followed by the brutal murder in broad day light of a young Hindu S. D. O; the killing of Hindus especially Bengalis and burning the houses in Shillong during October, November and December 1978 and turning out the non-tribal tenants from Christian owned houses thereby forcing them to take shelter in refugee camps under the plan to drive them out the nationalistic elements from these states. Demand has also been made for the removal of all the central government offices from Shillong and the setting up of army cantonment near Shillong is also being opposed on the plea that the influx of a large number of outsiders will endanger the tribal identity of the Khasis and the Jayantiyas. Even Christian fathers have been arrested and their vehicles taken into police custody in connection with the brutal murders of Mr. Manik Das, M. L. A., and Mr. Marak, an Ex M. L. A of Meghalaya who were shot down on 15th December, 1979. The chief minister and other ministers of Nagaland,

Meghalaya, and Mizoram who were so vocal in denouncing Shri Omprakash Tyagi's Freedom of Religion Bill were mysteriously silent when a Shiv Temple at Rangapahar near Dimapur in Nagaland was desecrated and defiled and idols destroyed by Christian miscreants who read from the Bible before committing their heinous act. Mr. Martin Narayan Majaw, a Christian M. L. A. belonging to the Public Demands Implementation Connection Party (PDIC) said openly on the floor of the Assembly that even the Bible has proclaimed that the right of self preservation would sanction even killings (p. 62: What Ails Indians' North-East by B. P. Shukla-Sarnchi Sahitya. Jhandewala. New Delhi-110055). He is credited with the remark that it would take one month to drive out the *Bengalis, Nepalis* and a *single day* to drive out the rest of the Indians from Meghalaya.

After having their hold on Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland, they have now turned their guns towards Manipur and Tripura. In this area about 70% population consists of Vaishnavites. This Hindu pocket in an otherwise Christian dominated area is an eyesore to the Christian missionaries who are dreaming of carving out a contiguous Christian majority area, as formerly conceived of by Robert Reid, with the ultimate objections of forming a U. S. A. i.e., United States of Assam, to be used by the western power in their global strategy. As an eminent journalist of Kerala, Shri Joseph Idamaruku, has stated in an article published in Kerala Shabdham a Malayalam weekly from Quilon (Issue 8th July, 1979).

It cannot be denied that the vulture eyes of worlds Christianity are cast on this country.

The North-East Region Students Unity (NERSU), a Christian sponsored organization had said in the year 1979 that we must take our destiny into our own hands and our only chance of survival lies in complete separation from India which was in fact conveyed some decades ago by Phizo, the leader of the Nagas. They also said that we need

came up before the Bardoloi Committee, the number of Nagas demanding independence was only five thousand. But later on due to the terroristic activities, other Nagas also became their supporters. In the year 1947 the percentage of Christians in Nagaland was only 20%, most of them being concentrated only in the district of Mokokchung. In the story of Longri Ao written by Richard G. Beers and published from America, the following excerpts will be revealing:

“In the midst of highly charged excitement over their own future it was learnt that the Indian Congress party was opposed to Naga Independence”. We must have our freedom. These are our hills. Longri participated actively in the intense debate. He had long since become convinced that Christ’s gospel taught men to join in the struggle for human dignity, uplift and freedom. Christ, living in and through his followers, would transform the life of the people; a Christian nation would provide the stage on which this great action might take place.” A great opportunity lies before us. We shall not only be a free nation, we shall also be a Christian one... “The Naga National Council became the rallying point in the struggle for independence. They were those who believed that violent action was not only necessary but justified. This faction soon centered around a fiery revolutionary, A. Z. Phizo, a member of the Angami tribe. How the missionaries were interested in this movement is amply demonstrated from what they themselves have written in the book regarding the “Growth of Baptist Church in Nagaland”. They say – ‘An Independent Sovereign Nagaland’ was the ultimate aim of the Naga nationalists. The Naga National Council was able to bring about an unusual unity of Naga people. They considered that India had a ‘Hindu Government’ and they had to fight against it to preserve their Naga Christianity.

Writing about the growth of Christianity in Meghalaya K. I. Aier writes that – “The establishment of the Meghalaya State without bloodshed and ill will was possible because of the political genius so successfully demonstrated by the Garos and the Khasis. While the Nagas and Mizos, the fellow travellers in politics, resorted to violence with a view to achieving their political aspirations, the Garos and Khasis patiently and tactfully worked their way through

without shedding a drop of blood and without creating ill feelings with their neighbours. Capitan Williamson Sangma, who belongs to the Atong Sub-tribe of the Garos is a member of the Baghmara Baptist Church.

It is clear how the Christian missionaries attempt an all out attack to achieve their immediate and long-term objectives. On the one hand they encourage the underground terrorist movements by giving them ideological and monetary support. A statement from the 5th Assembly of world Christian Conference held at Nairobi in the year 1975 says, – “In this connection it should be noted that Churches and their foreign missions agencies in the west ought to re-examine their use of human and material resources so that they can effectively support the liberation efforts and contribute to human dignity, in developing countries in ways that are beyond the scope of traditional patterns of giving and receiving.

The Mizo National Front, the Naga National Council and Tripura National Volunteers are already engaged in insurgent activities in the respective states. An underground militant organization has been formed in Meghalaya under the name – “The Khasi Pnar National Council which distributed a notice-cum-appeal in the Hills on 4th July 1980 urging the people to liberate the Hills from foreign rule. It says all the enemies of the Hill people must get out immediately, otherwise their lenders would be liquidated in the peoples cause. The lender like Captain Manik Das, M. E. A had been executed for that purpose. The council urged all the Khasi Pnar to join the liberation movement for total independence.

It appealed to the United Nations, the U. S. A, U. K., West Germany, China, Japan and Russia to help the liberation movement – Please help us to be free from slavery by Indian leaders trying to crush our simple tribal masses. (Assam Tribune dated 21st July 1980).

a leader, a great leader, and we can hopefully look forward to our friend the great Phizo to come and take the land. Let the New Year bells from Kohima and Aizwal, from Guwahati and Imphal, from Shillong and Itanagar herald the beginning of this new era. Let us from that day cease to call ourselves Indians.... Earlier plan which was circulated in the year 1966 from Berlin is presented here in a modified form. It says—No wonder the various peoples of the region – The Nagas, the Mizos, and the Manipuris—are demanding complete Independence. Politically not to speak of hills, even the Brahmaputra valley never formed a subservient part of India except in times of British. Even the British annexation of 1826 was not legally binding on the government of the Kingdom of Assam. Assam was never a party in the treaty of Yandabo.

Shri P. K. Bandyopadhyay, the author of 'The North east Saga, Publications Division (2005) has recorded that the Sanskritization Process with the priests and warriors spread from the Gangetic plain to the Brahmaputra valley. References in the Adi Kand of the Ramayana, the Puranas and Tantras bear testimony to the eastward travel of the influence of the Aryavarta. Bhagadatta, the king of Pragyotisha is said to have taken part in the battle of Kurukshetra with a large army of Kiratas as an ally of the Kauravas. The Puranic legends say that the ruling dynasties of Pragyotisha and Kamrupa have come down from Vishnu. The son of Vishnu and the Earth was Naraka and Bhagadatta was Narak's son. The role of Ghatotkachh, the son of Bhima by Hidimba, the queen of Kachari Kingdom on the side of the Pandavas is part of the mythological tradition. Sonitpur near Tezpur, the mythical king Banasura, friend of Narak and Father of Usha, consort of Anirudha and their references in the folkore, Mairanka or Mahiranga near Guwahati, all show the remnants of the cultural extension of the Gangetic belt. Kalidasa's 'Raghuvarsam' says that king Raghu conquered Pragyotisha kingdom crossing the Lohit river. The Dah Prabatiya gate and rock cut of images of Agni,

Siva and Durga near Tezpur, the Kamakhya temple on the Nilachal hill, the temple at Hajo and Mahabhairab temple near Tezpur are examples of the same tradition. One can see the early Buddhist influence in the construction of the domes of temples in the shape of Shikharas, stupas and chaityas.

Another historic travel in the seventh century was to unravel the mystery of the kingdom—Kamrupa. This time by a famous Chinese traveler, Yuan Chuang. He visited the land during the reign of Bhaskaravarman (594-650 A. D) and described different events and aspects of life and society in his travelogues. He wrote that the kingdom of Kamrupa was on the north-east of Pundravardhan and he entered Kamrupa crossing the river Karotoya. Kamrupa was then enjoying its heydays. King Harsavardhan and Bhaskaravarman were very good friends. Banbhata's. Harsacharita corroborates the glorious days of Kamrupa and the participation of Bhaskaravarman in the great Buddhist congeration at Kanonj.

Shri P. K. Bandyopadhyay in his book 'The North East say's has recorded on page 105 that the percentages of people below parerty line is 36.9 in Assam, 34.44 in Tripura, 33.87 in Meghalaya, 33.47 in Arunachal Pradesh, 32.67 in Nagaland, 28.54 in Manipur and 19.47 in Mizoram as in the year 1999-2000.

The north-east has still some vestiges of disenchantment and elements of extremism. The organizations like United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB), the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and some such organizations in Tripura and Manipur continue to remain problem areas. Efforts are continuing to curb the extremist movements and bring them into the mainstream of society, within the framework of the Indian Constitution. In *December 2003 an interim Bodoland Territorial Council* was set up to fulfil the aspirations of the Bodos. Over 2600 Bodo Liberation

Tiger activists surrendered their weapons. This happened after many rounds of intensive talks between the central government and Assam government and the Bodo Liberation Tiger leaders.

The Bodoland Territorial Council with forty-six Executive Members would have administrative and financial powers. A new chapter of peace and development is expected to unfold soon.

The Naga outfit NSCN (Isaak Swu and Ti Muivah group) is having talks with the Government of India emissaries for a peaceful solution.

Voices of Various Insurgent Groups

A number of organizations were formed to give expression to the separatist urges of the elite classes. These included the Assam Association (1903); Asam Sahitya Sabha (1917); Asom Chhatra Sammelan (1919); Assam Samgrakshini Sabha (1926). The last one was later transformed into the Asom Jatiya Mahasabha. A notable writer and poet like Ambikagiri Roychaudhary spoke of 'Asomiya Swaraj' and stated that Swaraj for India might not bring Swaraj for Assam. The Samgrakshini Sabha demanded 'Assam for the Assamese. The Jatiya Sabha submitted a memorandum to the British *inter alia*, it was stated that 'Assam for the Assamese is the battle cry of all the true sons of Assam'.

After independence also, it was asserted in a meeting of the Jatiya Mahasabha, Kamrup Branch, that Assam should come out of the Indian union and become an independent country. Such sentiments which were supported before independence by members of the Assamese intelligentsia like Jnannath Bora and Nilmoni Phukan, continued to get the support of others of their ilk after independence also. S. K. Baruah stated. 'Culturally, racially and linguistically, every non-Assamese is a foreigner in Assam. In this connection we must bear in mind that Assam from the very ancient times, never formed a part of India'.

A terrorist organization by the name of Assam Peoples Liberation Army (APLA) was also formed about the same time by one Arpan Bezbaruah at Tezpur. They did commit a number of terrorist acts including the killing of police officers before the Assam State Assembly Election in 1983. However, gradually, they faded out of existence because of their own weaknesses and many of their members joined the ULFA.

The ULFA has also established contact with the Kachin Independent Army (KIA) of Myanmar and through them they have been able to procure arms and other assistance from China also. The ULFA is also in touch with the Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) and Peoples Revolutionary Army of Langleipak in Manipur. It is suspected that they have plans to establish their bases in Bangladesh also with the help of the Meitei insurgents located in Bangladesh.

The motives of the ULFA are as under:

- (a) To obtain Assams' sovereignty by armed revolution.
- (b) To safeguard the people and interests of Assam and those of its neighbouring land, that is, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Auranchal Pradesh and Tripura.
- (c) To have full control over the revenue resources of Assam like oil and natural gas, forests, etc.
- (d) To gain public support against Indian and non-Indian exploitation.
- (e) To stand against any suppression and repression of the Assamese masses.

Since October 2000 the ULFA has suddenly raised the level of violence. In a series of some exceedingly brutal massacres, they killed about 60 non-Assamese (mostly Marwaris and Biharis) people including young children in the districts of Sibsagar, Tinsukhia, Dibrugarh and Nalbari.

Many of the slain were poor laborers. The state police claimed after every incident that it had 'vital clues'. But not a single culprit could be arrested. We consider it highly deprecatory that even at the time of such a serious apparent to the authority of the State, a very senior politician of the ruling party should be blaming (see, for example, Kashyap, S. G., *Bihari workers Leaving Assam*' write up in the new Indian Express. December 5, 2006) the other party for it. There is no evidence to suggest that the ULFA is getting desperate as a result of desertions/surrenders in its ranks to say so is to disregard reality. The facts of the ULFA's selective killing of the Hindi-speaking settlers, and the inability of the police in apprehending any one of them, must raise some very disturbing questions—the readers must ponder over them. It is learnt that the ULFA has got an important training camp at Deothang, Bhutan. It is also learnt that they have a back-up to shift their strongholds to Bhutan in case pressure is mounted on them in Assam.

Naga Insurgency

Z. A Phizo, who was later to become the leader of the insurgents, had crossed over to Burma in 1942 itself with his band of followers. He himself admitted that he was in touch with the Japanese who, no doubt, filled his dreams of an independent state with vivid colours. The Naga National Council (NHC) was formed in 1946. Initially they demanded only local autonomy within Assam administration. In February 1947 they said that they would be prepared to accept sovereignty of India after its independence for a period of ten years, after which they should have the right of self-determination. Three months later they sent a delegation to meet the Governor of Assam. In July (1947) they approached Mahatma Gandhi with their demand of independence. As they expected no decision in this regard and without losing any time Phizo declared the independence of the Naga Hills on August 14, 1947 itself. He was asserted in 1951 but released shortly thereafter. When Phizo was out

of Jail, he became the president of the Naga National Council and claimed that he had held a plebiscite in which 99 per cent of the Nagas had voted for independence.

The Government of Burma asserted Phizo in the year 1952 when he crossed over to Burma and was handed over to Indian government.

Once again he was released. Afterwards he started underground movement. In the month of March 1956 he established underground Naga Federal government. It was replete with a parliament (Talar Hoho) a president (Kadaghe), Prime Minister (Ato Kilonser) a Council of Ministers (Kilonser) and a home guard with a Commander-in-Chief. Consequently the level of violent activities was raised. Government action against such acts yielded no result.

The Nagas movement's salient features were:

- (a) That the Nagas were independent before the advent of the British
- (b) That though the Nagas fought the British for 30 years, they were conquered in 1879.
- (c) That the Nagas had demanded independence at the time of the Simon Commission.
- (d) That the Naga Hills had been an 'Excluded Area' since the 1935 Act came into force.
- (e) That the Nagas demanded independence in 1946 when the British were about to withdraw from India.
- (f) That the Nagas had rejected the offer of an interim arrangement on the lines of district autonomy.
- (g) The Nagas had resisted the Japanese also as they had once resisted the British.

(1)

- (h) That the Nagas demand for independence was not the opinion of a Dewan or a ruler; it was the will of the people.

In the early years of insurgency, before he managed to escape first to Dacca in December 1959 and eventually to England, Phizo had directed the movement carefully. He also set up separate youth and women wings of the movement. The number of armed insurgents hardly ever exceeded the figure of 3,000. Much of the credit of the military aspect of the insurgency goes to leaders like Kaito Sema and Mowu Angami.

The Naga Peoples Convention, formed in 1957, was instrumental in securing statehood for Nagaland in 1963. Then a political party known as the Naga Nationalist Organization was formed. It took part in the election and formed the first government of the new state.

There are about 14 different tribes among the Nagas. Majority of the military leaders belong to same tribe and political leaders from the Angami tribe. Phizo himself belongs to Angamis. Rivalry among both the tribes to grab power is from the very beginning. Ao tribe Nagas who consider themselves the most advanced tribe has resented the domination by the Angamis and Semas and to some extent by the Chakesangs.

Peace Mission consisting of Jayaprakash Narayan, B. P. Chaliha and Michael Scott succeeded to bring a mutually accepted ceasefire on September 6, 1964. The dialogue continued with the underground Nagas till 1969. Violence started again in 1970. Incidents of sabotage on bridges and attacks on trains continued among the Assam Nagland borders till 1974.

The dialogue was resumed again and reached to an agreement which is known as the Shillong Accord, November 11, 1975. The supporters of Phizo, hiding in Myanmar rejected the Shillong Accord. This Accord also gave birth to

(1i)

another organization called the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (N.S.C.N). It was set up by a Naga named Th Muivah and a person called Isak Chish Swu from the Tangkhul tribe of Myanmar. Most of the Nagas are Christians, to overlook them will not be advisable. They are also well aware that the Naga National Council leaders who had signed the Accord, had branded them as Communists so they had been declared as Anti Christians.

At present there are as many as 2 insurgent groups active in the state (Tripura). Some sources maintain that the number could be high as 20. Two of them, namely, the NLFT (National Liberation Front of Tripura) and the All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) are the most active ones.

In the year 1997 there were 303 incidents of violence in which 270 persons including 50 security forces personnels were killed. There were 568 incidents in the year 1998 in which 251 persons including 25 security forces personnels lost their lives. In the first nine months of 1999 there were 455 incidents of violence in which 181 persons including 25 security forces personnels were killed, the corresponding figures, in the first nine months of 1998 there were 302 Kidnappings, the figure went up to 341 in 1999.

Nineteen different tribes have been identified in the state (Tripura). Out of them the first five, in decreasing order of population, are Tripuri, Reang, Jamatia, Chakma, and Halam. It would be interesting to note that in comparison to Nagaland, Tripura suffers much less inter-tribe rivalries.

Assamese Literature – The first poet of Assamese is Hema Sarasvati, who composed PRAHLBDACARITRA and HARA. GAURI SAMVADA during the later part of the 13th century A. D. His contemporary was HARIHARA VIPRA, whose poetic narratives, BABRUVAHNAR YUDDHA and LAVA KUSA YUDDHA, describe two wellknow, episodes from the Mahabharata and the Ramayana. They were followed in the 14th century A. D. by MADHAVA KANDALL and KAVIRATNA SARASVATI, who rendered dramatic incidents from the Ramayana and the Mahabharata into Assamese.

About this time the cultural centre of the land seems to have moved eastward to the court of MAHAMANIKYA, the king of Cachar who patronized the chief poet of the time MADHAV KANDALL, who rendered the Ramayana into the language of the people giving it local colour and making it not the voice of god but a people story. The whole of Assam was now under the way of the VAISHNAVA movement and the leaders were SANKARADEVA (A. D. 1449-1569) and MADHAVADEVA (A. D. 1489-1596). The Bible of the VAISNAVA in Assam is the KIRITIANA CHOYA, an anthology of devotional songs. These were written mostly by SANKARADEVA, but other poets like *Madhavdeva*, *Sankara's* disciple, also contributed to it. Madhavadevas famous work is the 'RAJASUYA' depicting the Rajasuya sacrifice of the Pandvas wherein he established the superiority of Krishna over all other kings: The Bara-gitas of Madhavadeva are characterized by a rich variety of notes, the most predominant being that of Krishnas sportive childhood.

This was in a sense the golden age of Assamese literature. Besides poetry other branches of literature like drama and prose also developed. The eminent saint poet Sankaradeva was also a play writer, an actor and a musician of repute besides being a philosopher. He composed number of one act plays in Braja boli leavened Assamese prose interspersed with songs. They are known in Assam and outside as ANKIYA NATS.

Assamese prose was given a definite shape by BHATTADEVA (A. D. 1558-1638) who translated the BHAGAVATA and the GITA in prose. His style was academic, laden with Sanskrit vocabulary and idioms. Another monumental work was the biography of SANKARADEVA and MADHVADEVA, called the 'KATHA-GURU-CARITA' compiled in the latter half of the 17th century. A peculiar form of biography in verse had sprung up about a century earlier in the CARITA. PUTHIS or biography books. It centred round the Vaisnava saints and portrayed their life and religious activities.

Assamese Literature

The second phase in the development of Assamese literature covers the period from A. D. 1600-1800. Literature in this age flourished mostly under the patronage of the Ahom kings. Many Sanskrit works on medicines, astronomy, arthmatic, grammar, architecture, etc. were translated. A novel but highly developed form of prose literature is found in the BURANJIS, the chronicles of Ahom court. They contain periodical reports, judicial and revenues records, diplomatic correspondence statement of political significance, etc. and are remarkable for their veracity. Some religious works were also composed a translated from Sanskrit by the court poets. Kaviraja Chakravarti, who was in the court of king Rudra Simla (A. D. 1696-1714), translated a part of the BRAHMAVAIVARTA PURANA, Gopal Chandra Dwija, rendered the VISNU PURANA, BHAGAVATA PURANA and the HARIVANSA and Bhattadeva the *Bhagvat Gita*. There is however, no doubt that the religious fervour of the earlier century was on the war and romanticism of a secular nature was gaining ground. This is seen in the poetical romances like Mrgavati Charit, Madhava Slocana, and SAKUNTALA KAVYA, a poetical adaptation of Kalidasa's lyrical drama.

(Source: Gazetteer of India. Vol. II: History and Culture-Editor P. N. Chaper pp. 440-441.)

North-East Initiatives

The government set up a Non-Lapsable central Pool of Resource (NLCPR) for the North-Eastern region including Sikkim.

During the year 2002-03, projects amounting to Rs. 86.58 crore were sanctioned and fund to the tune of Rs. 43.29 crore were released to NBCC, which is the executing agency for these projects. In addition to this two projects in Tripurà and Mizoram respectively, at a total cost of Rs. 174.23 lakh were sanctioned and out of this Rs. 87.62 lakh were released to MBTPC, during the year 2002-03.

During the year 2003-04, a new Project amounting Rs. 207.34 lakh was sanctioned for the Manipur State and under this Rs. 103.67 lakh were released to NBCC, which is the executing agency. However, the second instalment of funds for the projects sanctioned in the earlier years, amounting Rs. 49.9633 crore were also released to NBCC during 2003-04. During the year 2004-05 Rs. 82 crore were released to executing agencies like NBCC, BMTPC and HPL.

A provision of Rs. 50 crore has been made for 2005-06 for taking up developmental schemes in the urban sector of this region.

(India-2006- Pub. Biv. Min. of I & B. Govt. of India. p. 502).

Amendment to the Constitution and North-East of India

13. *The Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act, 1962*—By this amendment, a new Article 371A was added to make special provisions with respect to State of Nagaland as pursuance of an agreement between Government of India and Naga People's Convention.

14. *The Constitution (Fourteenth Amendment) Act, 1962*— By this Act, Pondicherry was included in the first Schedule as a Union Territory, and this Act has also enabled the creative of Legislature by Parliamentary Law for Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Goa, Damen and Diu and Pondicherry.

22. *The Constitution (Twenty-second Amendment) Act, 1969*— This Act was enacted to facilitate the formation of a new autonomous state of Meghalaya within State of Assam.

27. *The Constitution (Twenty-seventh Amendment) Act, 1971*— This amendment was passed to provide for certain matters necessitated by the reorganization of north-eastern states. A new Article 239B was inserted which enabled the promulgation of Ordfinances by Administrators of certain union territories.

37. *The Constitution (Thirty-seventh Amendment) Act, 1975*—By this Act, Union Territory of Arunchal Pradesh was provided with a Legislative Assembly: Article 240 of the Constitution was also amended to provide that as in the case of other union territories with Legislatures, the power of President to make regulation for the Union Territory of Arunchal Pradesh may be exercised only when the assembly is either dissolved or its function remain suspended.

53. *The Constitution (Fifty-third Amendment) Act, 1986*—This has been enacted to give effect to the Memorandum of Settlement of Mizoram which was signed by Government of India and Mizoram Government with Mizoram National Front on 30 June 1986. For this purpose, a new Article 371G has been inserted in the Constitution *inter alia* preventing application of any Act of Parliament in Mizoram in respect of religious or social practices of Mizos, Mizos' customary law and procedure, administration of civil and criminal practice involving decision according to Mizos' customary law and ownership and transfer of land unless a resolution is passed in the Legislative Assembly to the effect. This, however, will not apply to any Central Act already in force in Mizoram before the commencement of this amendment. The new Article also provides that the legislative Assembly of Mizoram shall consist of not less than 40 members.

55. *The Constitution (Fifty-fifth Amendment) Act, 1986*—This Act seeks to give effects to the proposal of Government of India to confer statehood on the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh and for this purpose, a new Article 371H has been inserted which, *inter alia*, confers, having regard to the sensitive location of Arunachal Pradesh to vest special responsibility on Governor of the new State of Arunachal Pradesh with respect to law and order in the State and in the discharge of his function, the Governor shall after consulting the Council of Minister, exercise his individual judgement, as to the action to be taken and this responsibility shall cease when President so direct. The new

Article also provides that the new Legislative Assembly of the new State of Arunachal Pradesh, shall consist of not less than thirty members.

57. *The Constitution (Fifty-seventh amendment) Act, 1987*—The Constitution (Fifty-first Amendment) Act, 1984 was enacted to provide for reservation of seats in the house of the people for Scheduled Tribes in Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh and also for reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in the legislative assemblies of Nagaland and Meghalaya by suitably amending Articles 330 and 332. Even though these states are predominantly tribal, the underlying objective of the aforesaid act was to ensure that the members of Scheduled Tribes in these areas do not fall to secure a minimal representation because of their inability to compete with the advanced sections of the people. The Constitution (fifty-first amendment) Act, though formally enforced could not be fully implemented unless parallel action is taken to determine the seats which are to be reserved for Scheduled Tribes in these areas. The number of seats reserved for Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of any State under Article 332 of the Constitution will have to be determined having regard to the provisions of Article 332 (3) of the Constitution. However, in view of the historical background with respect to the areas comprised in northeastern states, the circumstances obtaining in these areas in the state of development of Scheduled Tribes and other relevant considerations, it was considered necessary to provide for special arrangements with regard to the reservation for Scheduled Tribes in these areas for temporary period so as to facilitate easy transition of these areas to the normal arrangements as envisaged in the Constitution. Article 332 of the Constitution was further amended for making a temporary provision, until the re-adjustment of seats on the basis of first census after the year 2000 under Article 70 of the Constitution for these states, for the determination of the number of seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes. This amendment seeks to provide that if all the seats in the

Legislative Assembly of such States in existence on the date of coming into force of this constitution amendment act are held by the members of Scheduled Tribes, all the seats except one shall be reserved for scheduled tribes and in any other case such number of seats as bears to the total number of seats a proportion not less than the number of members belonging to Scheduled Tribes in the existing assembly bears to the total number of seats in the existing assembly. The act achieves these objectives.

71. *The Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Act, 1992*—There have been demands for inclusion of certain languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. This Act amends the Eighth Schedule to the constitution to include—Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

North-East Insurgent Groups

A

- Achik Liberation Matgrik Army (ALMA)
- Achik National Volunteers Council (ANVC)
- All Assam Students Union (AASU)
- All Bodo Students Union (ABSU)
- All Party Hill Leaders Conference (APHLC)
- Arakan Liberation Party (ALP)
- Assam Association (1903) (AA)
- Assam Chhatra Samilan (1919) (ACM)
- Assam Gana Parishad (ACP)
- Assam Peoples Liberation Army (APLA)
- Assam Sahitya Sabha (1917) (ASS)
- Assam Samgrakshini Sabha (1926) (ASS)
- Asom Jatiya Sabha (AJS)

(Iviii)

- All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF)
- All Tripura Volunteer Association (ATVA)
- All Tripura Volunteer Force (ATVF)
- Autonomous District Council (ADC)

B

- Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC)
- Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT)
- Bru National Liberation Front (BNLF)

C

- Chakma Autonomous District Council (CADC)
- Chin National Front (CNF)

D

- Dimasa Halam Daogha (DHD)

G

- Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF)

H

- Hmar People's Convention (HPC)
- Hynniewtrep Achik Liberation Council (HALC)
- Hynniewtrep Voluntary Council (HVC)

I

- Ireik Chasinges Punshi Kanba Phurup (IPKF)

K

- Kachin Independent Army (KIA)
- Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP)
- Kanglei Yawal Kanna Lup (KYKL)

(lix)

- Kuki Democratic Front (KDF)
- Kuki National Organisation (KNO)

M

- Meghalaya United Movement (MUM)
- Mizo National Famine Front (MNFF)
- Mizo National Front (MNF)
- Mizo National Army (MNA)
- Mizo National Volunteers (MNV)
- Mizo Nirlai Pawl (MZP)

N

- Naga Federal Government (NFG)
- Naga National Council (NNC)
- National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB)
- National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT)
- National Socialist of Nagaland (K) (S.S Khapling of Myanmar)
- National Socialist Council of Nagaland (I/M)
- National Unity Party of Arakan (NUPA)

P

- Peoples Liberation Army (Manipur) (PLA)
- Peoples Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PRPK)
- People United Liberation Front (PULF)
- Plains Tribal Council of Assam (PTCA)

S

- Social Democratic Front of Tripura (SDFT)

(Ix)

T

- Tripura Liberation Organisation (TLO)
- Tripura Resurrection Army (TRA)
- Tripura Security Army (TSA)
- Tripura Tribal Democratic Force (TTDF)
- Tripura Tribal Volunteer Force (TTVF)

NORTH-EAST INSURGENT OUTFITS

Assam

- United Liberation Front of Asom—Banned since 27 Nov. 1990.
- National Democratic Front of Bodoland—Formerly Bodo Security Force—banned since, 1992.
- Bodo Liberation Tigers—Banned since 1997 but has declared ceasefire with government early this year (2000).
- Assam Tiger Force, which police claim is ULFAs red herring. (Police also have dossiers on 25 Islamic militants outfits, formed mostly by criminals and ISI backed fanatics. The Bengali Tiger Force was floated to protect Bengali Hindus.

Meghalaya

- Achik National Volunteers Council.
- Hynniewtrep Achik Liberation Council. (Both banned last week (H. T. 25.11.2000)

Tripura

- National Liberation Front of Tripura.
- All Tripura Tiger Force.

Mizoram

- Hmar Peoples' Convention.

(Ixi)

Arunchal Pradesh

- Safe haven for Assam and Naga militants.

Nagaland

- National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak Moviah)—Banned but has declined truce with government since August—1997; Ceasefire not extended to Manipur, Assam and Arunachal.
- National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang). Banned; arch rival of NSCN (Isak Moviah)

Manipur

This state has some 12 frontline militant groups: The top six are:

- National Socialist Council of Nagaland (IM)
- People's Liberation Army
- Peoples Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak.
- United National Liberation Front.
- Kuki National Front.
- Hmar People's Convention.

(Source: Hindustan Times-25.11.2000)

23 Groups banned under POTO (Prevention of Terrorist Ordinance)

Kashmiri terrorist groups:

1. Jaish-e-Mohammed
2. Lashker-e-Tayyaba
3. Harkat-ul-Majuhideen
4. Hibz-ul-Mujahideen
5. Al-Umar-Mujahideen
6. Jammu and Kashmir Islamic Front

North-East

1. United Liberation Front of Assam (Ulfa)
2. The National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB)
3. The People's Liberation Army (PLA)
4. The United National Liberation Front (UNLF)
5. The People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK)
6. The Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP)
7. The Kanglei Yaol Kanba Lup (KYKL)
8. The Manipur People's Liberation Front (MPLF)
9. The All Tripura Tiger Force.
10. The National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT)

Other Groups

1. LTTE
2. SIMI
3. The Deendar Anjuman
4. The Babbar Khalse International
5. The Khalistan Commando Force
6. The Khalistan Zindabad Force
7. The International Sikh Youth Foundation.

(Hindustan Times-Friday October 26, 2001)

The Union and its Territory

India comprises 28 States and seven Union Territories.
They are:

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Arunchal Pradesh
4. Bihar

5. Chhatisgarh
6. Goa
7. Gujarat
8. Harayana
9. Himachal Pradesh
10. Jammu and Kashmir
11. Jharkhand
12. Karnataka
13. Kerala
14. Madhya Pradesh
15. Maharashtra
16. Manipur
17. Meghalaya
18. Mizoram
19. Nagaland
20. Orrisa
21. Punjab
22. Rajasthan
23. Sikkim
24. Tamilnadu
25. Tripura
26. Uttranchal (Uttrakhand)
27. Uttar Pradesh
28. West Bengal

Union Territories are:

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Chandigarh

(Lxiv)

3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4. Daman and Diu
5. Delhi
6. Lakshdweep and
7. Pondicherry

NORTHEASTERN STATES

Members of Parliament
(As on 23 November 2005)

Arunchal Pradesh (2)

1. Arunachal West—Khiren Rijiju—BJP
2. Arunchal East—Tapir Gao—BJP

Assam (14)

1. Karimganj (SC)—Lalit Mohan Sukla Baidya—INC
2. Silchar—Santosh Mohan Dev—INC
3. Autonomous District (ST)—Biren Singh Engta—INC
4. Dhubri—Anwar Hussain—INC
5. Kokrajhar (ST.)—Sansuma Khungur Bwiswmuthiny—IND
6. Barpeta. A. F. Golam Osmani—INC
7. Gauhati—Kirip Chalilia—INC
8. Mangaldoi—Narayan Chandra Borkataky—BJP
9. Tezpur—Moni Kumar Subba—INC
10. Nowgong—Rajen Gohain—BJP
11. Kaliabor—Dip Gogoi—INC

(Lxv)

12. Jorhat—Bijay Krishna Handique—INC
13. Dibrugarh—Sarbananda Sonowal—AGP
14. Lakhimpur—Dr. Arun Kumar Sarmah—AGP

Manipur (2)

1. Inner Manipur—Dr. Thokchom Meinya—INC
2. Outer Manipur (ST).—Mani Charenamei—IND

Meghalaya (2)

1. Shillong—Paty Ripple Kyndiah—INC
2. Tura—Purna Agitok Sangama—AITC

Mizoram (1)

1. Mizoram (ST)—Vanilalawma—MNF

Nagaland (1)

1. Nagaland—W. Wangyuh—NPF

Tripura (2)

1. Tripura West Khagen Das—CPI (M)
2. Tripura East—Baju Ban Riyan—CPI (M)

Abbreviations

BJP—Bharatiya Janta Party
INC—Indian National Congress
IND—Independent
AGP—Assam Gana Parishad
AITC—All India Trinamool Congress
MNF—Mizo National Front
NPF—Nagaland Peoples Front
CPI (M)—Communist Party of India (Marxist)

**Northeastern States
Members of Parliament Rajya Sabha
(An on 23 November 2005)**

Arunachal Pradesh (1)

1. Naham Rebia—INC

Assam (7)

1. Karnendu Bhattacharjee—INC
2. Indramoni Bora—BJP
3. Urkhao Gwra Brahma—IND
4. Silvius Condpan—INC
5. Dwijendra Nath Sharmah—INC
6. Dr. Manmohan Singh—INC
7. Smt. Syeda Anwara Taimur—INC

Manipur (1)

1. Rishang Keishing—INC

Meghalaya (1)

1. Robert Kharshiing—NCP

Mizoram (1)

1. Lalhmingliana—MNF

Nagaland (1)

1. T. R Zeliang—NPF

Tripura (1)

1. Matilal Sarkar.—CPI (M)

Abbreviations

INC	—	Indian National Congress
IND	—	Independent
NCP	—	National Congress Party
MNF	—	Mizo National Front
NPF	—	Nagaland Peoples Front. (India 2006)

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	(v)
<i>Acknowledgment</i>	(xv)
<i>Introduction</i>	(xvii)
1. A Chronological Study	1
2. Arunachal Pradesh	42
3. Assam	45
4. Manipur	80
5. Meghalaya	85
6. Mizoram	93
7. Nagaland	100
8. Tripura	113
<i>Index</i>	137

1

A Chronological Study

594-650 A.D. A famous Chinese traveller *Yuan Chuang* visited Kamrup during the reign of *Bhaskaravarman* (594-650 A.D.) and described different events and aspects of life and society in his travelogue. He wrote that the *Kingdom of Kamrup* was on the north-east of *Pundravardhan* and he entered *Kamrupa* crossing the river *Karotoya*. *Kamrupa* was then enjoying its heydays. King *Harasvardhan* and *Bhaskaravarman* were very good friends. *Banbhutta's Harsacharita*. Corroborates the glorious days of *Kamrupa* and the participation of *Bhaskaravarman* in the *great Buddhist congerigation at Kanouj*. (B2/ p. 2)

594-650 A.D. Prior to the *Ahoms* a number of dynasties ruled Assam like the *Salastambhas*, the *Varmans*, and *Devas*. The most important *Varmana* King was *Bhaskaravarman* during whose reign *Hiuen Tsang* the Chinese pilgrim come to *Kamrupa* and made references to different aspect of the life in *Kamrupa* during the time in his famous travelogue. (B2/ p. 20)

1228 A.D. During the *Ahom* rule Assam enjoyed an almost uninterrupted power till 1826 when the *Yandabo Treaty* was signed by which the *Burmese ceded the territory of Assam* to the *East India Company*. (B2/ p. 20)

1228 A.D. The epoch-making significant advent was that of the *Ahoms* from the *Irawati Valley* in *Myanmar* in 1228 A.D. *Sukapho* with a band of followers entered Assam crossing the *Patkai range*. (B2/ p. 20)

1228 A.D. The *Chutiyas* had conflicts with the *Ahoms* who had been ruling *Assam* from 1228 A.D. (B2/ p. 23)

1431-62: The reign of *Dharma Manikya* is an important landmark in the history of *Tripura*. (B2/ p. 87)

1449-1569: A versatile genius *Sankardeva* brought about the new *Vaishnavite movement* and gave a new dimension to the *Assamese art, culture, dance and music*. He was indeed the *fountainhead of the Assamese culture*. Drawing his inspiration primarily from the *Bhagavatta*, he was himself a prolific writer of poetry, songs, plays and *Kirtan*. (B2/ p. 21)

1463-1515: *Dhanya Manikya* is considered to be the most prominent of all *Tripura Kings* who was not merely a conqueror but also a builder and a social reformer. (B2/ p. 87)

1489-1596: Another important personality of the *Vaishnavite movement* in *Assam* is *Madhavadeva* (1489-1596), a disciple of *Sankaradeva*. His works like *Namghosha, Bhakti Ratnavali, Ramayan Adi Kand* and *Vaisnava Kirtan* are outstanding contributions in the *Assamese literature and society*. (B2/ p. 21)

1502-26: The first major *Damasa Raja (Assam) Khorapha* is believed to have reigned from 1502-1526. This is called the ruling dynasty of *Cachar* or *Haramba Rajya*. (B2/ p. 26)

1593: *Assam* has to distinction of having a prose literature as early as 1593 when *Bhattadeva* who is considered the father of *Assamese prose* translated the *Bhagavata Gita in Assamese prose*. (B2/ p. 22)

1662: The *Mughals* made several attempts to capture *Assam*. *Mir Jumla's* invasion was temporarily successful and the *Ahom* outpost at *Gargaon* fell. (B2/ p. 3)

1663: A truce was arrived at in the year 1663 with the *Ahom King Jayadharaj Singh*. It was short lived as the

successor *King Chakardhwaj Singh* abrogated the treaty and a battle followed. (B2/ p. 3)

1671: The *Mughal* army under General *Ram Singh* had a fierce battle at *Saraighat* on the mighty *Brahmaputra* in 1671. The *Ahom Army* under *Lachit Barphukan* was victorious. It was a historic assertion of *Assam's* pride and glory. *Assam* was outside the *Mughal Empire*. (B2/ p. 3)

1681: The *Tawang monastery* was founded in *Arunachal Pradesh* at the height of 3500 meters above the sea level. (B2/ p. 11)

1714 A.D. Before independence *Manipur* was a native state with a monarch assisted by a Council of Advisors, *Durbar*. The history of the *Manipur kingdom* can be traced back at least to the thirteenth century and from available records it has been found that by 1714 A.D. one hundred forty seven kings have ruled the area. (B2/ p. 36)

1761: The *British* conquered *Tripura* in 1761. (B2/ p. 84)

1762: *Jai Singh (Manipur)* held negotiations with the *British* in the year 1762. (B2/ p. 36)

1763-98: The *Vaishnavite culture* on the neo-*Vaishnava renaissance* moulded the *Meitei society* and structure radically. The *Rasheela* and thousands of *Natya Manudaps* emerged in the villages of the valley with for reaching influence. This process of what may be called *Sanskritization* began by the 15th century and reached its peak in the 18th century during the reign of *Bhagyn Chandra (1763-98) in Manipur*. (B2/ p. 38)

1765: *Zopui* which had been built around 1765 about 33 kilometers to the west of *Tiu river (Mizoram)*. (B2/ p. 62)

1765: *Burmese* invaded *Manipur*. *Jai Singh* had to flee to *Cachar*. Later on he sought help from the *Ahom King* and

with his help *Jai Singh* got restored. During the next 14 years he was dethroned four times. Finally he had to come to terms with the Burmese to retain his control over the throne. (B2/ p. 36)

1792: *Maomaria Rebellion*: The *Maomaria* were a religious sect and the rebellion led by a priest forced the *Ahom King Gaurinath Singh* to seek the assistance from the Britise. (B2/ p. 3)

1813: The *Serampore Baptist Mission*, a branch of the *London Baptist Society* was the *first Christian mission* to arrive in *Khasi Hills*. Around 1813 *Krishna Chandra Pal* baptized seven *Khasis* at the *immersion Baptist ceremony* in the *river Kushiara* in the presence of a large crowd which include *eight Khasi Syiems* at *Panduah* on the outskirts of *Bholaganj* near the borders between *Khasi Hills* and *Sylhet*. (B2/ p. 47)

1816: *Barmese* led several invasious on *Assam*. (B4/ p. 1)

1822: One *David Scott* made a request to the *Serampur Baptist Mission* to depute a Missionary to work among the *Garos* in *Meghalaya*. (B2/ p. 51)

1823: *David Scott* had been appointed Agent to the governor General on the *North-East Frontier*. (B4/ p. 3)

1824-26: *First Burmese war*. (B4/ p. 1)

1824 Mar. 5: The government of *Lord Amherst* declare war on *Burma*. (B2/ p. 4)

1824 March 10: The British contact with the *Khasi Jaintia Hills* can be traced back to 1824 when the *East India Company* concluded a *treaty of friendship* with *Ram Singh*, the *Raja of Taintia* on 10th March 1824. (Meghalaya). (B2/ p. 46)

1826: The signing of the *Yandaboo treaty* between the British and the Burmese king in 1826 had raised hopes of

stability and an end to the frequent conflict in the region. (B2/ p. 37)

1826: On the request of *David Scott*, *Velentine William Hurley* were appointed School Master in *Singimari*. (Meghalaya). (B2/ p. 51)

1826: The *Ahoms*, a branch of the *Shan group* of people in *Burma (Myanmar)* has ruled *Assam* for over 600 years till 1826. (B2/ p. 29)

1826: The history of *Assam* at least till their rule up to 1826 was virtually a history of the *Ahoms*. (B2/ p. 3)

1826: In *Manipur* *Jai Singh's* son *Gambhir Singh* was restored to the kingdom this infant son *Chandra Kirti Singh* with his uncle *Narsingh* as a regent succeeded him. (B2/ p. 36)

1826: *British occupied Assam*. (B1/ p. 120)

1826: *Assam passed into British hands*. (B4/ p. 1)

1826: *David Scott* was appointed Senior Commissioner of *Assam*. (B4/ p. 3)

1826 Feb. 24: *Treaty of Yandabo* followed with the British. (B4/ p. 1)

1826 Feb. 24: The *Treaty of Yandabo* was signed. (B2/ p. 4)

1826 Feb. 24: The *Treaty of Yandabo* signed between the then *Burmese King* and the *East India Company* on *24th February 1826* was a major landmark which changed the course of the entire region. The king of *Ava* ceded *Assam* and its dependencies and the contiguous petty states of *Cacher* and *Jyntea* to the *East India Company*. (Meghalaya). (B2/ p. 47)

1827: The *Khasi new Testamout* in *Bengali script* was printed. (Meghalaya). (B2/ p. 47)

1828: *Rebellion of Gomdhar Kanwar*: This was the rebellion of Gomdhar Konwar, son of Phena Konwar, a Prince of the Ahom royal blood, supported by *Dhanjoy Pealia Bargohain* and other ex-nobles of the *Ahom*. (B4/ p. 4)

1828: The *Serampora Baptist Mission*, however, worked upto 1828 and translated the *Bible in Khasi* in Bengali script. The *Khasi new Testament in Bengali script* was printed in 1827. It was taught in the *Baptist Mission school* set up in Cherrapunji up to 1838. (B2/ p. 47)

1828: One Junior teacher of English Mr. *Fermie* from Calcutta was appointed in July 1823 (*Singimari/ Meghalaya*). (B2/ p. 51)

1828 Mar 7: The new government declared the permanent annexation of *Lower Assam* to the British possession leaving the question of Upper Assam still pending. (B4/ p. 4)

1828 Oct: The rising of '*Swargadeva*' against the British Raj was suppressed by a detachment of troops under Lieutenant *Rutherford*. (B4/ p. 4)

1829: *Insurrection of the Khasis*. (B4/ p. 5)

1829 April 4: A band of about 500 Khasis, by a sudden attack massacred two English Officer Lieutenant *Burlton* and *Bedings field*. (B4/ p. 6)

1829-39: Decade old battle between the *Khasi Chiefs* and the *East India Company*. (*Meghalaya*) (B2/ p. 47)

1830: The Revolt in *Upper Assam* was planned. (B4/ p. 8)

1830: Year was a *year of revolts in Assam*. (B4/ p. 6)

1830: Many of the *refractory chiefs* made their submission but *Teirut Singh* and his followers determined to wage a grim war from mountain fastnesses to which they retreated. (B4/ p. 6)

1830: *Cachar* or *Haramba Rajya* was brought under the British control in 1830 after the *assassination of Raja Govinda Chandranarayana* who is recorded to have ruled from 1813 to 1830. (B2/ p. 26)

1830 Mar. 25: *Pealia Bargohain* and other leaders with a force of 400 men set out for the attack *Peali Barphukan* remained in the air. (B4/ p. 10)

1830 August 6th: Death sentence was confirmed on *Peali Barphukan* and *Jeuram Daliya Barua*. (B4/ p. 11)

1833: Until the annexation by the British in 1833, the *Khasi Hills (Meghalaya)* was administered by an indigenous system of the *institution of Syiemship*. (B2/ p. 46)

1833: *Purandar Singh*, the last independent Ahom king was restored by a treaty concluded with him, as a *vassal king of upper Assam*. (B4/ p. 12)

1833, Jan 13th: *Teerut Singh*, the *hero of the Khasis* surrendered at last, when all hope was lost, and soon found himself in the British prison at *Dacca*, where a separate house was allotted to him with a monthly pension of Rs. 63. (B4/ p. 7)

1835: *Khasi Hills Political Agency*-1935 Saw the setting up of the official headquarters of the Agency at *Cherra*. (B4/ p. 47)

1835: *Captain White* a British officer in *Assam*, had pointed out that the possession of *upper Assam* was essential to the security of a most valuable portion of the empire in India. (B4/ p. 12)

1835: The *Raja of Jaintia* was pensioned off following a dispute he had with the British Government, and his territories were taken over and placed along with *Khasi Hills* under a Political Officer. (B4/ p. 14)

1838: *Purandar Singh* was deposed and his territories resumed by the British. (B4/ p. 13)

1838: The *Khasi new Testament in Bengali script* was printed in 1827. It was taught in the *Baptist Mission School* set up in *Cherrapunji* up to 1838 (*Meghalaya*). (B2/ p. 47)

1838: *Christianity* came to the *Nagas* as a new force. The first school and chapel were set up by *Dr. Miles Bronson*, an American *Baptist Missionary* at a *Konyak Naga village* at *Namsang* in 1838. (B2/ p. 77)

1839: There was a fresh rising amongst the *Khamptis*, resulting in the *massacre of Captain white*, the British political officer stationed at *Sadiya* in the *eastern frontier*. (B4/ p. 13)

1839: *Maniram* was made the *Dewan* of the *Assam Company*, a British concern for the *exploitation of Tea in Assam*. He resigned from the *Company* in the year 1844. (B4/ p. 16)

1841 June, 22: *Thomas Jones* of the *Welsh Presbyterian Mission* arrival at *Cherrapunjee (Meghalaya)*. (B2/ p. 47)

1841: A new dawn was heralded in the *Khasi Jaintia Hills* when *Khasi* was reduced to the *Roman script* under the guidance of Reverred *Thomas Jones* of the *Welsh Presbyterian Mission*. (B2/ p. 47)

1842: The British annexed *Sadiya* and the *Muttock country* to the South of it to their possessions. (B4/ p. 14)

1847: A Government school was set up at *Goalpara* for *Garo boys (Meghalaya)* (B2/ p. 51)

1850: Later *Narsingh (Manipur)* replaced *Chandra Kirti Singh* through a conspiracy. His brother *Devendra Singh* succeeded *Narsingh* in 1850. (B2/ p. 36)

1850: The British had their first armed encounter with the *Nagas* in the course of the construction of a road connecting *Assam* and *Manipur*. Suitable punitive measures were undertaken and in the year 1850 the British went on to capture a *Naga Fort* also at *Konemah*. (B1/ p. 120)

1851: Subsequently *Chandra Kirti* was able to get back his control of the kingdom through well laid out strategy. The British recognized him as the king of *Manipur* in 1851. (B2/ p. 37)

1854: The territories of *Tooleram Senapati*, a *Kachari Chief* in the *North Cachar Hills* were annexed. (B4/ p. 14)

1857 Sep 7: *Lowther* arrested *Kandarpeswar Singh*, and he was sent to the *Alipur Jail* for detention. (B4/ p. 25)

1858 Feb. 23rd: *Maniram Dewan* was tried, convicted of treason and hanged at *Jorhat* publically on the 26th together with *Peali Barua*. (B4/ p. 22)

1860-62: The *Jaintia Rebellion*. (B4/ p. 30)

1860-62: The *Syntongs* as the people inhabiting the *Jaintia Hills* were known, were not, however, willing to submit to *British taxation*, and they organized two rebellions against the *British* in 1860 and 1862. (B4/ p. 14)

1861: The *Phulaguri Uprising*. (B4/ p. 28)

1863: After the *Jaintia rebellion*, the *English Government* came to a decision to shift the headquarters to a place more centrally situated, equidistant from left, right, east and west and also because the rainfall in *Sohra* was too heavy. The *British Government* initiated a move to shift the headquarters from *Cherra* to *Shillong* in 1863. (B2/ p. 58)

1866: The *Naga Hills* district was formed under the charge of a *Deputy Commissioner*. (B2/ p. 78)

1867: *Dr. Bronson* a *Baptist Missionary* at *Nowgong* to baptize the first batch of 37 *Garos*. (*Meghalaya*). (B2/ p. 51-52)

1870: The *Sadharan Brahmo Samaj* of *Calcutta* sent *Nilmani Chakravorty* as permanent representatives in the *Khasi Hills* in 1870. (*Meghalaya*) (B2/ p. 48)

1870: *Tarun* was made a mission station (*Meghalaya*). (B2/ p. 52)

1871: After over three decades the missionary work started in the AO area. (B2/ p. 77)

1871: Though British conquered *Tripura* in the year 1761 but no *Political Agent* was appointed there till 1871. (B2/ p. 84)

1873: The *Assam Inner Line Regulations* of 1873 promulgated to keep the tribal areas separate was applied. (B2/ p. 9)

1873: The Lieutenant Governor *George Compbell* was of the opinion that they could manage to establish political control and influence over the tribes without any overt assertion of actual sovereignty over the tribal areas. (B2/ p. 120)

1874: The administration of many adjacent territories like *Cachar, Jaintia, Sadiya* and other hill areas were tagged to Assam. (B2/ p. 4)

1874: By a proclamation dated 6th February 1874 *Assam* and the hill areas were separated from the administration of the Government of *Bengal* on 12th September 1874 *sylhet* was incorporated into the jurisdiction of the newly formed Chief Commissionership Lt. Col. *R.H. Keatinge* was appointed the first Chief Commissioner with *Shillong* as the capital of the new province. (B2/ p. 47)

1874 March 20: The capital was shifted on March 20, 1874. But not to *Shillong*, but to the valley of *Lewduh*, below *Shillong* the name was subsequently changed to *Shillong*, which is associated with a local myth and the highest hill feature *Shillong* remained the capital of *Assam* till the creation of the government state of *Meghalaya*. (B2/ p. 58)

1874, Sept. 12: *Sylhet* was incorporated into the jurisdiction of the newly formed Chief Commissionership Lt.

Col. *R.H. Keatinge* was appointed the first Chief Commissioner with *Shillong* as the capital of the new province. (B2/ p. 47)

1875: The translation of the *gospel* by *Saint Mathew* was published (*Meghalaya*) (B2/ p. 52)

1876: Other four gospels published which were written in *Bengali script*. (*Meghalaya*) (B2/ p. 52)

1878 Nov.: *Taru Mission* started functioning from *Taru* and since then there is no looking back and the expansion of the Church in the *Garo hills* went on pace. (B2/ p. 52)

1879: Though the Nagas fought the British for 30 years, they were conquered in 1879. (B1/ p. 122)

1879: The administration did not really go beyond occasional interference in the cases of intertribal or inter-village clashes or in the cases of depredatory raids by the Nagas upon the plainsmen. (B1/ p. 120)

1880: Insurrection of the Singphos. (B4/ p. 5)

1884: The *Sarbajanik Sabha* was formed in *Jorhat*. (B4/ p. 39)

1886: *Debicharan Barua* attended the second session of the Congress at *Calcutta* in 1886 and made a speech on the *Jury system*.

1887: *Tonga service* (mode of traveling) had been introduced by *Golam Hyder Mollah*. The service had been in operation till 1906. *Hyder Mollah* was an enterprising businessman. (B2/ p. 6)

1889 March: One *reconnaissance party* of *General Tregears Expedition* had set up a stockade in March 1889 at *Lungrei* (*Lung* means stone and *Lei* means bridge). (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 67)

1890: In *Manipur* there was a strong dispute on the issue of succession in 1890 and *General Tikendirjit* fought

against the British. A military expedition by the British curbed the conflict with an iron hand. (B2/ p. 37)

1891: The British had annexed the Mizo areas. (B1/ p. 150)

1891: Rebellion in the Manipur. (B4/ p. 31)

1891: When peace was restored in the North *Lushai Hills*, the expansion work of Aizwal was carried out under the readership of the then political affair, Mr. *Davies* and *Captain Lochi* (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 67)

1891: The *impact of Christianity* was felt during the reign of *Chura Chand Singh* who became Maharaja after the *Manipur uprising* of 1891. The *American Baptist Mission* and the *North-East India General Mission* or the *Thado-Kuki Pioneer Mission* and their various offshoots worked in the hill areas vigorously. (B2/ p. 39)

1893 Nov.: The first formal school opened in *Aizwal* (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 65)

1893-94: The *rising of 1893-94* caused a deep stir throughout the province and had their echo even in the *Imperial Legislative Council* of those days where Dr. *Rash Behari Ghosh*, in a series of questions, questioned the property of the enhanced assessment of revenue in *Assam*. (B4/ p. 37)

1894: The Assam Riots. (B4/ p. 32)

1894: School were also started in *Lunglei* and *Demagiri* (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 65)

1894, Jan 11th: The arrival of *Savidge* and *Lorrian*, the pioneering missionaries of the *London Arthington Baptist Mission in Aizawal* on 11th January 1894 is significant as it had a very powerful impact on the social, cultural and political life of the *Mizos* in the years to come. (*Mizoram*) (B4/ p. 64)

1894, Apr. 2: *Savidge* and *Lorrain* set up a Primary school for the *Lushai boys* (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 65)

1897, Aug. Reverred *D.E. James* of the *Welsh Presbyterian Mission* came three years later in August 1897 (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 64)

1897, Aug, 21: A government school was established for the *Lushai boys*. (*Mizoram*) (B2/ p. 65)

1898: The British had created the *Lushai Hills* district as a part of *Assam*. (B2/ p. 15)

1898: Certain portions of (*Mizoram*) were brought under the British administration. (B2/ p. 63)

1898, Feb. 15th: D.E. Jones started another school. (*Mizoram*) (B2/ p. 65)

1898-1987: Within a span of less than a century between 1898-1987, the *Lushai Land*, the *Lushai Hills* District, to be precise, underwent several political and administration changes and re-organization of the areas to ensure greater measures of local control. (*Mizoram*) (B2/ p. 63)

1899, Nov. 23: *Song Khasi* a social-cultural organization was set up on 23 November 1899. It would be worthwhile to mention that *Babu Jeeban Roy's son Babu Chandranath Roy* was its founder Secretary. (*Meghalaya*) (B4/ p. 48)

1900: It was decided to entrust the educational activities to the missionaries. (*Mizoram*) (B2/ p. 65)

1901: The percentage of Christian was only 0.8. After one hundred years, most of the *Mizos* are Christian over 86 per cent. (B2/ p. 72)

1903: Assam Association was formed. (B4/ p. 41)

1903: The first Lower Primary Examination was established, covering whole district. (*Mizoram*) (B2/ p. 65)

1905: Assam was combined with *East Bengal* to form a new province. (B2/ p. 4)

1906: In the year 1906 *Dadabhai Naoroji* had declared *Swaraj* to be the objective of the Congress. (B4/ p. 54)

1906-12: Assam formed a part of the newly created Province of *Eastern Bengal* and *Assam*. (B4/ p. 42)

1907: Following an *agreement between the Manipur king and the British government* in 1907 a *Political Agent of the Governor of Assam* was to preside over the Durbar. (B2/ p. 37)

1910: The *first Matriculate* was produced in 1910 (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 65)

1911-12: *Arunachal Pradesh* was formally known as *North-East Frontier Agency* (NEFA). The term was actually coined for these hilly and tribal areas after the expedition in the *Adi territory* in *Siang* in 1911-1912. (B/ p. 9)

1912: *Assam* was restored to its earlier status. (B2/ p. 4)

1914-19: After the Second World War, people of *Manipur* demanded for what they called a responsible government. A constitution making body of seventeen members, twelve of them elected, was constituted. The body submitted their recommendations, which led to the *Government of Manipur Act of 1947*. (B2/ p. 37)

1916: The *Assam Students' Conference* was formed. The first session of which was held amidst great enthusiasm at *Guwahati* under the presidentship of the great Assamese litterateur and patriot *Lakshminath Bezbarua*. (B4/ p. 49)

Bezbarua composed the patriotic song "O *Mor Aponar Desh*" which used to be sung like an *Assamese national anthem*.

1916: From 1916 onwards younger men of advanced political views began to enroll themselves as members of the Association. (B4/ p. 42)

1917: The *Assam Sahitya Sabha* founded by *Sarat Chandra Goswami* and others also contributed to the growth of national consciousness amongst the Assamese people. (B4/ p. 49)

1917: *Karambir Nabin Chandra Bordoloi* presided over the 1917 session of the Association at *Dibrugarh* struck a new note in the Association's mode of activity when he said,

"Organise, knock at the door and you find the door opened". (B4/ p. 42)

1918: Presiding over its *Goalpara Session* in December, 1918, *TR Phukan* said, The Government is bad and bureaucratic. (B4/ p. 42)

1918-Nov. The *Assam Association* under the Presidentship of *Padmadhar Chaliha* elected *Nabin Chandra Bordoloi* to be its role representative and through it of the people of Assam to give evidence before the *Parliamentary Committee* set up for finalizing details of *Reforms Scheme*. (B4/ p. 46)

1920: Indian National Congress in a special session held at *Calcutta* with *Lala Lajpat Rai* as President decided to launch the great Non-Co-operation Movement under the leadership of *Mahatma Gandhi* against the British Government in India. (B4/ p. 51)

1920, 11th Oct. In a special session held on 11th October 1920, at *Guwahati*, the Association carried through the Resolution of non-co-operation with the Government, for the achievement of *Swaraj*. (B4/ p. 52)

1920, Dec. This decision was confirmed at the plenary session of the Association held at *Tezpur* in December 1920, with *Prasanna Kumar Burua* in the Chair. (B4/ p. 52)

1921, Jan. The students of Assam launched a strong agitation for boycott of schools and colleges. (B4/ p. 56)

1921, June: The Association was allowed to be defunct and the Provincial Congress was setup in its place in June 1921. (B4/ p. 52)

1921, Aug. The visit of *Mahatma Gandhi* to Assam in company with the Ali brothers gave fillip to the movement which was already gathering momentum in both the valleys of Assam. (B4/ p. 57)

1922: Mahatma Gandhi directed Dr. *Rajendra Prasad* and *Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya* to visit Assam and to submit a report on the repression of the movement in Assam. (B4/ p. 65)

1923: *C.R. Das* and *Pandit Motilal Nehru* with T.R. Phukan from Assam formed the *Swarajya Party* within the Congress to fight the reforms from within by entering the councils, majority of members of the Assam Congress decided in favour of council entry. (B4/ p. 66)

1924: The first graduate received his degree (Mizoram). (B2/ p. 66)

1924: Swarajya Party members though numbering eight only entered the *Assam Legislative Council* in 1924. *Phukan* himself was returned to the Council Legislative. (B4/ p. 66)

1930: *Kamrup Academy* at *Guwahati* was started. (B4/ p. 75)

1930, Nov. *Chandradhar Barua*, proceeded to *England* as a representative nominated from Assam to join in the *Round Table Conference* which met in November, 1930. (B4/ p. 79)

1931, (7th September to 1st December): Mahatma Gandhi agreed to attend the Second Round Table Conference as sole representative of the Congress. (B4/ p. 79)

1931, Dec. 28: Gandhiji returned to India empty handed. (B4/ p. 79)

1932: The *Roman Catholic Church Mission* started work in the *Garo Hills* in 1932. (Meghalaya). (B2/ p. 52)

1933: *First Church* was set up in Meghalaya. (B2/ p. 52)

1934: Assam's record of participation in this second phase of the Congress movements for freedom was thus kept high. The campaign dragged on till May 1934. (B4/ p. 79)

1934: Gandhiji's visit to Assam in the same year on the mission of *Harijan uplift* gave an impetus to the constructive programme of the congress which continued to be pursued in the rural areas. (B4/ p. 79)

1935: The Naga Hills had been an 'Excluded Area' since 1935 Act came into being. (B1/ p. 122)

1935: The Garo Hills district (Meghalaya) was declared *partially excluded area*. (B2/ p. 54)

1935: The *Government of India Act 1935* admitted the *Naga Hills* as 'Excluded Area' that is, excluded from the normal provincial administration. (B1/ p. 120)

1935: The southern and the northern parts (of Mizoram) were amalgamated into one district called *Lushai Hills District* and put under the charge of the government of Assam with *Aizwal* as the district headquarters. Following the enactment of the Government of India Act 1935, the *Lushai Hills District* along with a few other areas were kept within the 'Excluded Areas'. After Independence the provisions of the sixth schedule were extended to these areas and the *Lushai Hills District* was given the status of *Autonomous District*. (Mizoram) (B2/ p. 63)

1936: In the year 1936, on the eve of the general elections to be held under the *Government of India Act* of 1935, the Congress suffered defection of some members on the issue of acceptance of office in the new government to be formed after the elections.

1937, June: The Congress Party suffered a great loss by the untimely death of its Deputy leader *Kshirod Chandra Deb*, an ardent and life long fighter for freedom. (B4/ p. 88)

1937, Nov. 28: A Memorandum presented to *Pandit Nehru* at *Rongia* on November 28, 1937 (AICC Files-Nehru Memorial Library Teen Murti House, New Delhi). (B1/ p. 47)

1937: In Assam Legislative Assembly Election Congress won 33 seats in a House of 108 forming the largest single group in it and *Gopinath Bardoloi* was elected leader of the *Congress Assembly Party*. (B4/ p. 87)

1937: *Syed Mohammad Saadulla*, the leader of a Muslim group with the support of the *European group* and other tribal and non-tribal members, formed a Ministry in *Assam*. The Congress group was not even consulted by the Governor. (B4/ p. 89)

1938, Sep. 19: The *resignation of the Saadulla* Ministry was accepted and *Gopinath Bardoloi* as leader of the Congress Party formed a Coalition Ministry in Assam with the support of a number of Independents and Muslim members outside the League who had been dissatisfied with the working of the Ministry just thrown out of power. (B4/ p. 90)

1938, Sep. 13: To avoid an unpleasant 'no confidence' motion facing him the Prime Minister, *Syed Sir Saadulla*, tendered the resignation of his Ministry. (B4/ p. 90)

1939: *T.R. Phukaun* indeed the *Deshbhakta* which his grateful countrymen called him as he passed away in 1939. (B4/ p. 91)

1939, Sep.: *Second World War started*. (B4/ p. 92)

1939, Oct. Nov.: The Congress Ministries in eight provinces including the coalition Ministry in *Assam* resigned their offices, thus creating or first class constitutional crisis in India. (B4/ p. 92)

1939, Nov. 17th: On the resignation of the Coalition Ministry, *Syed Saadulla* again came to power in Assam by bringing together different groups and individuals to his side and remained in office till December 1941. (B4/ p. 93)

1939-42: The occasion came in the year 1939-42 when *Ratan Mani*, a leader of the *Reang Tribe*, incited his people to revolt against the exorbitantly high rates of house tax imposed by the king. The natural fury of the people (of *Tripura*) was excited more by their miserable condition caused by a contemporaneous drought and there were several armed encounters with the royal forces. (B3/ p. 135)

1940: *Jinnah advanced his demand for Pakistan*. (B4/ p. 93)

1940: Negotiations proceeded between the Congress and the Government of India during the greater part of 1940 for finding out a solution of the crisis. (B4/ p. 94)

1940, July: The Poona offer of the Congress in July, 1940, formulated the minimum demand of the Congress for the formation of Provisional National Government at the centre for the duration of the War. (B4/ p. 94)

1940, Aug. 8: The viceroy refused to concede the National Government on grounds of Hindu Muslim disunity but made instead an offer to expand his Executive Council with a number of representative Indians, to form a War Advisory Council, and to set-up after the war a representative body to devise a constitution for India. (B4/ pp. 94-95)

1940, Oct.: The Congress viewed this '*August Offer*' as quite unsatisfactory and commenced in October 1940, a campaign of *Individual Satyagraha* under the leadership of *Mahatma Gandhi*. (B4/ p. 95)

1941: The *migration of the Bengali speaking population started in Tripura* from 1941. (B2/ p. 85)

1941: The *Satyagraha* campaign went on smoothly and by the end of 1941 the war approached the gates of India. (B4/ p. 95)

1941: The tribals (*Tripura*) constituted nearly half of the total population of the *Tripura* state. (B1/ p. 135)

1941: *Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru* seeing a rally of Volunteers of '*Santi Sena*' at *Boko* on his visit to *Assam* in the year 1941, had said, "I would not forget easily the sight I have seen here". (B4/ p. 99)

1941: *Subhas Chandra Bose* had left *India* in 1941 in a mysterious way throwing dust in the eyes of the British Indian Police and he made a desperate bid to liberate India with the help of the *Germans* and the *Japanese*. (B4/ p. 108)

1941, Dec. 6: There was a clash between police and the students of the *Cotton College* at *Guwahati* where as a result of *severe lathi charge* by the police many students were badly injured. (B4/ p. 93)

1941, Dec. 16: *Rohini Chowdhury* came out of the Cabinet being dissatisfied with its working and policy especially with regard to the incident at *Guwahati*. (B4/ p. 93)

1941, 24th Dec.: The *Saddull*, Ministry resigned and on the 25th December *Assam* was placed under Section 93 Administration by a Notification to that effect. (B4/ p. 93)

1942: *Z.A. Plizo*, who was later to become the leader of insurgents, had crossed over to *Burma* in the year 1942. (B1/ p. 121)

1942, March: The compulsion of events made the British Government Conciliatory in its attitude to India and in March 1942, *Sir Stafford Cripps*, a member of the British Cabinet, was sent to India for a solution of the Indian problem. (B4/ p. 95-96)

1942, May: The failure of *Cripps Mission* gave a sense of triumph to *Jinnah* and in May, 1942, *Shri C.*

Rajagopalachari advocated Congress acquiescence in the principle of *Pakistan* though he was out voted in the Working Committee. (B4/ p. 96)

1942, Aug. 8: The Congress Working Committee adopted the famous "*Quit India*" Resolution at *Bombay* and decided on a mass struggle on the widest possible scale to meet the challenge of *Lord Linlithgow* and *Mr. Amery*, the *Viceroy* and the Secretary of State for *India* respectively. Who would not let go their hold on *India* as a dependency while the British Prime Minister *Churchill* professed big things in the *Atlantic Charter* then announced to the world. (B4/ p. 96)

1942, Aug. 9: The British Government was prepared for a show-down in *India* and the next day (9th Aug. 1942), *Mahatma Gandhi*, *Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru* and other leaders of the Congress were arrested and put behind prison bars. (B4/ p. 96)

1942, Aug. 9: *Mohammad Tayebullah*, President of the *Assam Provincial Congress Committee*, *Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad*, *Bisnuram Medhi*, *Debeswar Sarma*, Chief whip of the Congress Party, *Dr. Harekrishna Das*, *Laila Barua* and some others were arrested on 9th August 1942. *Gopinath Bardoloi* and *Siddhirath Sarma* who had gone to *Bombay* to attend the All India Congress Committee meeting were arrested immediately on their return to *Assam* at *Dhubri*... Arrest of other leaders followed:— *Mahendra Mohan Choudhary*, *Bijoy Chandra Bhagvai*, *Haladhar Bhugan*, *Motiram Bora*, *Purna Chandra Sarma*, *Mahendra Nath Hazarika*, *Pitambar Goswami*, *Satradhikar of Garamur*, *Bimala Prasad Chaliha*, *Kamakhya Prasad Tripathy*, *Jyoti Prasad Agarwal*, *Sriman Profulla Goswami*, *Mahadev Sarma*, *Laksheshwar Barua*, *Rajindranath Barua*, *Krishnanath Sarma*, *Debakanta Barua*, *Mahikanta Das*, *Girindranath Gogoi*, *Hari Narayan Barua*, *Narnarayana Goswami*, *Robin Kakati*, *Beliram Das*, *Harendranath Barua*, *Khagendranath*, *Dr. Jinaram Das*, and *Purnananda*

chetia, are only a few of those who played prominent roles and suffered incarceration in this struggle. (B4/ p. 97)

1942, Aug. 25: A ministry headed once again by Sir Saadulla and dominated by Muslim League politics was instalked in office on 25th August 1942. (B4/ p. 106)

1943: The advance in 1943 to the very frontiers of Assam of the Azad Hind Fauj added further complications to the political situation in India. (B4/ p. 106)

1943: *Bengal Famine of 1943* of unequal fierceness leading to the death of some thirty lakhs of people in Bengal and leaving a dark blot in the records of the then Bengal Government and the Government of India. (B4/ p. 107)

1943, Jan, 26.: When Chandraprova Saikiani was arrested at Pathshala, while presiding over the Independence Day meeting there a large number of women were first dispersed by the police by force, *Pushpalata Das, Chandraprova Saikiani, Guneswari Nath* and other women leaders and workers suffered arrest and imprisonment. (B4/ p. 99)

1944, May: *Mahatma Gandhi* was released from jail, due to illness, and he effectively replied to the government changes making Congress responsible for the disturbances of 1942. (B4/ p. 108)

1945: *Mr. L.B. Thanga (Mizoram)* obtained the Master's Degree in Economics from the *University of Calcutta*. (B2/ p. 66)

1945: *Mahatma Gandhi* visited Assam in January 1945, the fourth and the last visit of the greatest man of modern times. (B4/ p. 109)

1945: *Hem Chandra Barua* passed away in the year 1945...was a great leader of Congress in Assam; a man who led sacrificed his all for the cause freedom. (B4/ p. 123)

1945: The Nagas streak of insubordination and their indifference to the Indian consciousness was very much

evident in the memorandum they submitted to *J.P. Mills*, Adviser to the Governor for Tribal Affairs in the year 1945. "We the Nagas are not ready to take our place in a democratic constitution or to complete with the sophisticated so called Indian politicians. We the Nagas became dependent only on the British. It is immaterial to us who rules Hindustan or Pakistan as long as we are the subjects of the British, under the great king of Britain. (B1/ p. 121)

1945, Dec.: *Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru* undertaken tour of Assam rousing the people's faith in the Congress. (B4/ p. 110)

1946: The *Garo National Council (Meghalaya)* was set up to promote, protect and preserve the interest of the Garos. (B2/ p. 54)

1946: The *Naga National Council (NNC)* was formed in the year 1946. (B1/ p. 121)

1946, Apr. 9: *Mizo Union* was founded. (Mizoram). (B2/ p. 65)

1946, June 9: 'Case of the Great Assamese People and their Homeland Assam': Memorandum submitted on behalf of the *Asom Jatiya Mahasabha* to the *All India Congress Committee*, New Delhi. (B1/ p. 117)

1946, Feb. 10: Congress came to power with *Gopinath Bardoloi* as the Prime Minister of Assam. (B4/ p. 110)

1946, Aug. 16th: *Direct Action Day* followed by the great 'Calcutta Killing' and violent communal riots and massacre of innocent people in Bengal and Bihar. (B4/ p. 113)

1946, Dec.: *Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati and Mahendra Mohan Choudhary* saw *Gandhiji* at *Srirampur* on behalf of *Bardoloi* and placed Assam's case before him seeking his advice and guidance. (B4/ p. 115)

1947: *Manipur Act of 1947*. This act stipulated the formation of a Legislature and a Ministry of six elected members to be headed by a nominee of the Manipur Maharaja. (B2/ p. 37)

1947: Many splinter groups like—

1. Hmar Congress
2. The Paite National Council
3. The Gangte Tribal Union and
4. The Mhar National Union emerged from the parent Kuki National Assembly (KNA). 1947... (Manipur). (B2/ p. 40)

1947: The *Kuki National Assembly* (KNA) was formed with ethnic overtones as a political unit of *Kukis* in Manipur. (B2/ p. 40)

1947: The Lower Primary and Middle School Leaving Examinations were conducted by the Missions at *Aizwal* and *Sarkawn* till 1947. (*Mizoram*) (B2/ p. 65)

1947: They (the *Nagas*) said that they would be prepared accept the sovereignty of India after its independence for a period of ten years, after which they should have the right of self-determination. Three months later they sent a delegation to meet the Governor of Assam. (B1/ p. 121)

1947: *Massacre of innocent people in Punjab*. (B4/ p. 113)

1947: *Mahatma Gandhis' Peace Mission to Noakhali in Bengal* where fanaticism of the majority community had gravely endanger the life and property of the minority community. (B4/ p. 113)

1947, July: They approached *Mahatma Gandhi* with their demand of independence. (B1/ p. 121)

1947, July. 16: One of the prominent Naga leaders *Theyieu Sakhire* sent a letter to Mahatma Gandhi regarding the past history of the Nagas. (B1/ p. 122)

1947, Aug. 9: The *Khasi* leaders of *Meghalaya* signed the *Standstill Agreement*. (B1/ p. 148)

1947, Aug. 14: *Z.A. Phizo* declared the independence of *Naga Hills*. (B1/ p. 121)

1948: In fact a communist movement in the year 1948 led by *Hyam Irabot* had floundered because the feudal loyalties of the people turned out to be much stronger than what the communists had expected in Manipur. (B1/ p. 143)

1948, Jan. 4 (*The Assam Tribune*). It was asserted in a meeting of the *Jatiya Mahasabha, Kamrup*, Branch that 'Assam should come out of the Indian Union and become an independent country. (B1/ p. 117)

1948, March 24: *Wickliff Syiem* the nephew of *Sib Syiem*; a leader of *Meghalaya*, who was against '*Standstill Agreement*', and was instrumental to sign an '*Agreement of Friendship*' with *Pakistan* submitted an appeal to the Secretary General of the *United Nations* on March, 24, 1948. (B1/ p. 148)

1948, Jan., 14: A general durbar was convened under the *Nongstoin Syiemship*. In the durbar they (leaders of *Meghalaya*) not to merge with India and to remain as an independent *Syiemship*. After considerable efforts, one of the leaders, namely. *Sibsyiem* was persuaded to sign the '*Instrument of Accession*'. His nephew *Wickliff Syiem* was not at all agreeable to this. (B1/ p. 148)

1949: The insurgents (of *Tripura*) have had a morally as well as legally weak point when they demanded the ejection of every settler who come to the state after 1949. (B1/ p. 142)

1950, Aug.: *Gopinath Bardoloi*, the first Chief Minister of Assam and with great vision, and idealism, ability and statesmanship suddenly passed away in August 1950. (B4/ p. 123)

1950, Seng-Krak: Taking after an organization bearing the same name in the year 1950, the present organization led by *Rajendra Reang* and *Samprai Deb Barma*. Its activities are quite similar to those of the *Tripura Tribal Youth Force* (TTYF). (B2/ p. 140)

1950, Aug. After the death of *Gopinath Bardoloi*, *Bisnuram Medhi* became the Chief Minister of Assam. (B4/ p. 123)

1951: Phizo was arrested but released shortly afterwards. (B1/ p. 121)

1952: The Burmese authorities arrested Phizo when he crossed over to Burma and was handed over to the Indian authorities. Once again he was released after a short period. (B1/ p. 121)

1954: Epoch making legislation was passed. (Mizoram). The *Assam Lushai Hills District (Acquisition of Chiefs Rights Act)* abolished the institution of the Chiefs and the rights and interests of 259 *Lushai Chiefs* and 50 *Pauri Lakher Chiefs* were vested in the government. (B2/ p. 63)

1954, Apr. 29th: The crst while *Lushai Hill District* in the State of Assam was changed to Mizo District by an Act of Parliament called the *Lushai Hill District (Change of Name) Act 1954*. Under the provisions of the Act, the change of the name was effected with effect from 29th April 1954. (B2/ p. 61)

1955: *The first incident of insurgency in Nagaland was reported* way back in the year 1955. (B1/ p. 118)

1956: Set up a so called *Naga Federal Government*. (B2/ p. 74)

1956: *Territorial Council Act of 1956*—Manipur continued to be a centrally administered territory and was given some measures of local self-government under the Act. (B2/ p. 37)

1956, Mar. Phizo formed the underground *Naga Federal Government*. (B1/ pp. 121-22)

1956, Oct.: Amongst the great departed leaders of Assam, we must mention the name of *Lakabandhu Dr. Bhubaneswar Barua* who passed away in October 1956. (B4/ p. 123)

1957: The *Naga People's Convention* was formed, was instrumental in securing statehood for Nagaland in 1963. (B1/ p. 126)

1957: *Tuensang Division* (Arunachal Pradesh) was amalgamated with the Naga Hills in the year 1957. (B2/ p. 9)

1957, 20 Dec.: On *Shri Visnuram Medhis'* resignation as Chief Minister of Assam due to ill health *Sri Bimal Prasad Chaliha*, President of the Pradesh Congress... became the Chief Minister of Assam. (B4/ p. 123)

1959: *Mizo Hills* were hit by a most severe famine. (B1/ p. 150)

1959, Oct.: *Third Naga People's Convention* had in October 1959, finalized the memorandum, which spoke of the demand for a full fledged state within the Indian Union to be known as '*Nagaland*'. (B2/ p. 75)

1959, Dec.: In the early years of insurgency before he managed to escape first to Dacca in December 1959 and eventually to England, Phizo had directed the movement with utmost care. (B1/ p. 125)

1960: Among the insurgent groups one of them was an educated young man namely *Bisheswar Singh*, with the appropriate leftist leanings in the mid 1960's he crossed

over to East Pakistan to form a Revolutionary Government of *Manipur*. (B1/ p. 143)

1960, July, 6-7: *Eastern India Tribal Union* met in *Shillong* and founded the *All Party-Hill Leaders Conference* (APHLC). (B2/ p. 55)

1960, July: The Naga Peoples' Convention delegation started negotiation with the Government of India. (B2/ p. 75)

1960, Aug. 15: The then Prime Minister of India (Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru announced in Parliament, the decision of carving out a new state of the Indian Republic to be composed of *Mega Hills* and *Tuensang*. (B2/ p. 75)

1960, Aug. 22-23: The second conference of the APHLC held in *Shillong* and authorized its Council of Action to prepare a plan or pattern of separation. (B2/ p. 55)

1960, Nov. 18: The *third conference of APHLC* was held and articulated the aspirations very clearly. It said that the creation of a separate state was the real issue and fulfillment of that goal was the only solution that can safeguard the interests and satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the hill people. (B2/ p. 55)

1960-62: From the number of Parleys held between the APHLC delegations and the then Prime Minister and Home Ministers, several proposals emerged. Firstly the *Scottish pattern'* proposal was mooted. But the APHLC leaders rejected it. (B2/ p. 55)

1960-70: It is also a fact that there were frequent changes of government by a multiplicity of parties at the state level (*Manipur*). (B1/ p. 143)

1962, Dec. 12: Lal Denga embarked upon the path of armed struggle for the sovereign independence of *Greater Mizoram*. (B1/ p. 151)

1962: The Chinese invasion on India brought about a sea change and the need for a new approach in the pattern of administration in NEFA. (B2/ p. 9)

1963: *Manipur* was allowed to have an elected Legislation under the Government of *Union Territories Act*. (B2/ p. 37)

1963: The administrative machinery (in *Arunachal Pradesh*) was revamped in 1963. (B2/ p. 9)

1963: The *Bodo language* became the medium of instruction in the Bodo dominated primary school of *Kokrajhar* areas in 1963. The Bodo language since been included in the *Eighth Schedule of the Constituion*. (B2/ p. 22)

1963, June, 10: *Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru* broached the proposal of 'full autonomy' instead of the *Scottish Proposal*. This was branded as '*Nehru Plan*' and the APHLC leaders decided to give the Nehru Plan a fair trial. The *Pataskar Commission* was set up to work out the details of the Nehru Plan. The *Pataskar Commission's* recommendations, however, did not satisfy the APHLC leaders. Meanwhile *Pandit Nehru* passed away and with him the Nehru plan, was also given a go by. (B2/ p. 55)

1963, Dec.: *Lal Denga* was arrested when he was trying to cross over to *East Pakistan*. (B1/ p. 151)

1963, Dec. 1st: The new state of *Nagaland* came into being. (B2/ p. 75)

1964: *Lal Denga* was released in early 1964. (B1/ p. 151)

1964: After the statehood the first general election was held to the *Nagaland National Assembly*. (B2/ p. 79)

1964, May: The Governor of *Arunachal Pradesh* formed a committee to consider setting up and further expansion of local self-government in NEFA. (B2/ p. 9)

1964, Sept. 6: Peace Mission consisting of *Jayaprakash Narayan*, *B.P. Chalia* and a missionary leader *Michael Scott* could bring about a mutually accepted ceasefire. The Mission had the blessings of the government. (B1/ p. 126)

1966: Three autonomous districts, namely *Chakma*, *Lakher* and *Pawi* were also created. Earlier from the early part of 1961. The district faced serious internal disturbances. The *MIZO National Front* under the leadership of Laldenga gave a call for independence for the *Mizo Hills*. The two decade old disturbance came to an end on 3rd June, 1986. (B2/ p. 63)

1966: Mizo National Volunteers (MNV) insurgents raided almost all the security posts simultaneously all over the Mizo Hills. (B1/ p. 51)

1966-1986: *Mizoram under insurgency*. (B1/ p. 150)

1966: *Lal Denga escaped to Dacca*. (B1/ p. 151)

1967: *The Tripura Upjati Juba Samiti (TUJS) was formed*. (B1/ p. 136)

1967: Panchayati Raj in *Arunachal Pradesh* was introduced. (B2/ p. 11)

1967: *Raj Regulation (in Arunachal Pradesh)* was formulated and implemented. (B2/ p. 9)

1967: *Plains Tribal Council of Assam (PTCA)* for a separate *Bodoland* to be called *Udayachal* with a Union Territory status was formed. (B1/ p. 112)

1969: Process of dialogues dragged with the underground Naga leaders till 1969. (B1/ p. 126)

1967, July: The *Ashok Mehta*, Committee was set up to work out an agreed formula to settle the reorganization issue. The *Mehta Committee* in its recommendations rejected the federal structure plan and opposed the bundling up of all the hill district. The APHLC had earlier boycotted the Committee and hence it was practically rendered ineffective. (B2/ p. 56)

1968, Sep., 11th: After long and protracted deliberations emerged a plan, which stipulated the creation of an autonomous state within Assam and setting up of the North-Eastern Council with a view to encouraging an integrated approach to the security and development of the region. (B2/ p. 156)

1969: During the year the insurgents were on the defensive. (B1/ p. 152)

1969: The need for (*Religious Faith Act 1978*) legislative was first articulated in 1969 by the Agency Council of the then *North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA)* through a unanimous resolution. (B2/ p. 17)

1970: Violence erupted again. (B1/ p. 126)

1970: Lal Denga himself started making secret parleys for a negotiated settlement. (B1/ p. 151)

1970: Government of India decided to grant full statehood to Manipur. (B2/ p. 37)

1970: The All Party Hill Leaders Conference (APHLC) was formed to lead the movement for the Hill State. The movement remained quite peaceful and succeeded in securing the Autonomous State of *Meghalaya* in the year 1970. (B1/ p. 148)

1970, April, 2: The Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Autonomous State of Meghalaya in Shillong following the passing of the *Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act*. (B2/ p. 56)

1970-71: Many members of the dissidents group (in *Mizoram*) took advantage of the amnesty offered by the government and surrendered. (B1/ p. 151)

1971: Another turning point in the history of *Mizo insurgency* came with the creation of *Bangladesh* in late 1971. (B1/ p. 151)

1971, Mar., 25: On the other hand, the government was more convincing when they promised to take necessary

action in compelling those citizens of Bangladesh to return to their country who had come to the state (Tripura) after March 25, 1971. (B2/ p. 142)

1971-72: The *Brahmaputra valley*, the *Barak Valley*, the *Karbi Anglong* and the *North Cachar Hills* constitute the present *Assam* after the reorganization of the northeastern states in 1971-72. (B2/ p. 19)

1972: The *Mizo Chauvinists* are not pleased with the creation of the *Chakma Autonomous District Council* (CADC) in 1972. (B2/ p. 19)

1972: The *Mizo* district was upgraded into a Union Territory with the implementation of the *North Eastern Reorganization Act*, 1971. (B2/ p. 63)

1972: *Full-fledged statehood* was awarded to *Meghalaya*. (B1/ p. 146)

1972, Jan. : Upgradation of the *Lushai Hills District* (later converted to *Mizo Hills District*) into a Union Territory in 1972. (*Mizoram*). (B2/ p. 67)

1972, Jan, 20: The full statehood status was finally accorded to *Manipur*. (B2/ p. 37)

1972, Jan. 20: *NEFA* became a *Union Territory* on January, 20, 1972 under the *North-Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act of 1971*. (B2/ p. 9)

1972, Jan. 21: *Tripura* became a full-fledged state on 21 January 1972 with the implementation of the *North-Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act*. 1971. (B2/ p. 86)

1972, Jan., 21: When the State of *Meghalaya* was carved out of the State of *Assam* on January 21, 1972 under the *Northeastern Areas Reorganisation Act of 1971*, with two hill district, *United Khasi Jaintia District* and *Garo Hills District*, it was given a poetic name of '*Meghalaya*' the abode of clouds. (B2/ p. 43)

1972, Jan, 21: *Mizoram* was granted Union Territory status on January, 21, 1972. (B1/ p. 151)

1972, Jan. 21: The full-fledged state of *Meghalaya* saw the light of the day. (B2/ p. 56)

1973: The number of Assembly seats went up to sixty after the re-organization of the administration set up in 1973. (B2/ p. 79)

1974: English was introduced as a medium of instruction in *Arunachal Pradesh*. (B2/ p. 9)

1974: Incidents of sabotage on bridges and attacks on trains along the *Assam Nagaland* borders continued till the year 1974. (B1/ p. 127)

1975, (*Shillong Accord*): A landmark event happened when a number of underground (*Naga*) leaders came over ground and surrendered arms following the signing of what is known as *Shillong Accord*. (B2/ p. 75)

1975, Aug. 15: The Pradesh Council (in *Arunachal Pradesh*) was converted into a Legislature and Council of Ministers took. (B2/ p. 9)

1975, Nov. 11: *Shillong Accord* was signed. Those who had participated in the dialogue agreed to come over ground, surrendered their weapons and accept the statehood of *Nagaland* within the Indian constitution. (B1/ p. 127)

1976, Apr. 1st: *Ratan Thiyam's Chorus Repertory Theatre (Manipur)* was set up. (B2/ p. 41)

1976: The Government of India related and made the venture of inviting him to Delhi in January 1976. (B1/ p. 152)

1978: *Bisheswar Singh* went on to form the *People's Liberation Army (PLA)* is the year 1978 for the liberation of *Manipur* from India. (B1/ pp. 143-44)

1978: The Territorial Assembly subsequently passed the *Arunachal Pradesh Freedom of Indigenous Faith Bill 1978*. The Bill with some minor modifications got the assent of the President of India. (B2/ p. 17)

1978: A landmark event in the socio-cultural life of the people of *Arunachal Pradesh* is the enacting of the *Arunachal Freedom of Religious Act. 1978*. The aim was to safeguard the indigenous faith and culture of various tribes and sub-tribes in the state. (B2/ p. 17)

1979: Prior to *Mizoram University, Mizoram Campus* of the *Northeastern Hill University* had been functioning in Mizoram since 1979. (B2/ p. 66)

1979: One of the first attacks on a police station took place as early as on August 3, 1979 where the *Birganj Police Station* in *South Tripura* was attacked. (B1/ p. 137)

1980: A most real dance macabre was witnessed at the massacre at *Mandai* near *Agartala*. (B1/ p. 137)

1979-1985: The Assam movement between 1979-85 against foreign nationals was primarily an assertion of the Asamiya identity against a perceived threat of being marginalized demographically in their homeland. (B2/ p. 34)

1980: The *People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak* was formed when *R.K. Tulachandra* and *Sushila Devi* broke away from the people's Liberation Army. They were, however, arrested in the year 1980 and subsequently entered into an agreement with the Government. (B1/ p. 145)

1980: Though under the *Shillong Accord*, the Naga leaders had agreed to work within the framework of the Indian Constitution... but leaders like Mr. *A.Z. Phizo*, Mr. *Issac Chist Swu* and *T. Muivah* rejected the *Shillong Accord*. *C. Swu* and *T. Muivah* formed the *National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN)*, which was popularly known as the eastern faction, while the group under *Phizo* was labelled as the western faction. (B2/ p. 75)

1981: Once the fly wheel was set in motion, it did not make any great difference even as *Bisheswar* negotiated with the Government and joined the national mainstream in 1981. (B1/ p. 144)

1981: The *United Liberation Front of Assam* established contact with the *Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagaland*. (B1/ p. 110)

1982, Jan.: The creation of Tribal Autonomous District Council for the predominant tribal areas of the state. The Council was initially constituted in January 1982 by an Act of the State Legislature. (B2/ p. 89)

1983, July: The *United Liberation Front* leaders had started crossing over to *Myanmar* for training. (B1/ p. 110)

1985, Jul.: The Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council was constituted under (the Autonomous District Council) in July 1985. (B2/ p. 89)

1986: *Lal Denga* finally signed the Accord with the Government. In their wisdom, the politician decided to install him as the Chief Minister by asking the incumbent of their own Party (Cong. I) to vacate office in favour of *Lal Denga*. (B1/ p. 153)

1986: United National Liberation Front (UNLF) was floated by a communist ideologue *R.K. Meghan*. (B1/ p. 146)

1986, June 30: The Mizo National Front (MNF) signed the Peace Accord. (B1/ p. 150)

1986, June 30: The *Mizo National Front* under the leadership of *Laldenga* gave a call for independence for the *Mizo Hills*. The two decade old disturbance came to an end on June 30, 1986. With the signing of a *Memorandum of Settlement* by the Government of India and the *Mizo National Front*. (B2/ p. 63)

1986, June, 30: The signing of the Memorandum of settlement is an epoch making event as it marked an end

to the two decade old disturbance and paved the way for uninterrupted atmosphere of peace for development (Mizoram). (B2/ p. 60)

1986, June 30: Mizoram Accord stated that, it is open to the state to move for the establishment of a separate university in the state in accordance with the prescribed procedure. (B2/ p. 66)

1986, Dec.: The Union Territory (*NEFA*) finally became a full fledged state in December, 1986. (B2/ p. 9)

1987: Mizoram became a full-fledged state. (B2/ p. 67)

1987, Feb.: *Mizoram* became a state of the Indian Union in February 1987. (B2/ p. 63)

1987, Feb. 20: Mizoram was raised to the status of a full fledged state. (B1/ p. 150)

1988: A tripartite agreement was signed by the union government, the state government and the TNV. (*Tripura National Volunteers*). (B1/ p. 137)

1988: The National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) has been able to maintain a consistently high level of violence. In fact since 1988 it has emerged as one of the major insurgent groups in the entire North-East. (B1/ p. 139)

1988: NSCN has split into two groups on account of some ideological differences and inter tribal fends. (B1/ p. 127-28)

1989: *National Liberation Front of Tripura* (NLFT) was formed. (B1/ p. 139)

1989: *The United Liberation Front* unleashed its reign of terror. There were selective killings of non-Assamese, particularly those who had substantial business interests in Assam. (B1/ p. 111)

1989: The vestigial signs of some activities having an insurrectionary profile were first detected in 1989 in the shape of *Meghalaya United Movement* (MUD). (B1/ p. 146)

1990: '*Operation Bajrang*' was launched (by the Army). It proved a failure as no hard core United Liberation Front of Assam insurgent was killed or captured. (B1/ p. 111)

1990: *Indo-Burma Revolutionary Front* (IBRFT) formation was announced. (B1/ p. 146)

1990: After the death of *A.Z. Phizo* the NSCN broke up in two factions. *Khaplans group* known as *NSCN(K)*. (B2/ p. 75)

1991: *National Liberation Front of Tripura* (NLFT) achieved notoriety after the attack on the *Tainani Police Post*. (B1/ p. 139)

1991: *Achik Liberation Matgrik Army* (ALMA) was formed in *Meghalaya*. (B1/ p. 14)

1991, Dec. 11: Peace was shattered when the Tainani police outpost was attacked by a new insurgent group called *National Liberation Front of Tripura* (NLFT). (B1/ p. 137-38)

1991: In the year 1991 the percentage was found to have come down to less than one-third of the total population of *Tripura State*. (B1/ p. 138)

1992: *Hynniewtrep Achik Liberation Council* (HALC) was formed *Meghalaya*. (B1/ p. 146)

1992: *Implementation of 73rd Constitutional Act* (in *Arunachal Pradesh*). (B2/ p. 11)

1992: *Hynniewtrep Voluntary Council* (HVC) was also floated in *Meghalaya*. (B1/ p. 146)

1992-98: Violence perpetrated by the insurgent groups rose steadily from 1992-98. (B1/ p. 113)

1993: The first leader of *National Liberation Front of Tripura* (NLFT) was *Dhananjay Reang*. Since December 1993 it is led by *Biswa Mohan Deb Barma* after *Dhananjay* formed a different group. (B1/ p. 139)

1993: The *Kuki* and *Nagas* clashes reached at a peak in the year 1993. (B3/ p. 145)

1993: The *Kuki Naga* clashes reached at a peak in the year 1993 and are still seriously vitiating the public order climate in the state. (B1/ p. 145)

1993, Oct. : *Tripura Tribal Volunteer Force* (TTVF)—came to notice since October 1993. Its important leaders are *Matindra* Tripuri, *Baidya Deb Barma* and *Bijoy Deb Barma*. (B1/ p. 140)

1994: The truck drivers of Manipur had refused to ply their trucks on the *Dinapur Imphal* road for over a month in early 1994 in protest against lerraist activities. (B1/ p. 132)

1994, Jan. *Tripura Liberation Organisation's* (TLO) important leaders are *Sampak Deb Barma*, *Arjun Deb Barma*, and *Jumia Deb Barma*. This organization came to lime light since January 1994 when its above quoted leaders were found distributing leaflets and indulging in collection of taxes. In their leaflets they presented a ten-point charter of demands. (B1/ p. 140)

1994, May: *Tripura Resurrection Army* (TRA) was created by the first leader of the NLFT (*National Liberation Front of Tripura*) *Dhananjay Reang* after the split in the group. The formation of the group was announced in Bangladesh in May 1994. The area of its influence is South *Tripura* and *Dhalai* district. (B1/ p. 140)

1994, Sept. *All Tripura Volunteer Force* (ATVF). This outfit was noticed in September 1994. It is led by *Waishy Lal Halam* and *Gunanani Reang*. (B1/ p. 140)

1995, Jan.: *Social Democratic Front of Tripura* (SDFT). It is believed that this group is collaborating with the *National Liberation Front of Triura* (NLFT). It was noticed first in January 1995. It is led by *Suren Deb Barma* and *Sambhuram Deb Barma*. (B1/ p. 141)

1995, Jan.: *Tripura Security Army* (TSA). A rather small group, it was noticed in connection with some extortion activities in January 1995. (B1/ p. 141)

1997: The *Mizos* are having some problems with the *Reangs* too. The *Reangs* are demanding an ADC, which the *Mizos* do not approve of in October 1997 a Mizo was murdered in a *Reang* dominated area. In retaliation the *Mizos* resorted to large scale arson and did it with such brutal efficiency that about 41,000 *Reangs* were forced to flea to *Tripura* and *Assam*. (B1/ p. 153-54)

1997: There were 303 incidents of violence in which 270 persons including 50 security forces personnel were killed in *Tripura*. (B1/ p. 138)

1997, July 31: Cease-fire with NSCN (I/M) had been extended up to July 31, 2001. (B1/ p. 133)

1997, Aug.: The *Hmras* were placated to some extent in August 1997 by formation of the *Singlung Hill Development Council*, some of the disgruntle elements keeping in touch with the NSCN (I/M). (B1/ p. 153)

1998: There were a total of 735 incidents of insurgent terrorist violence in the state. In these incidents 603 persons, including 72 security forces personnel were killed. (B1/ p. 115)

1998: The corresponding for 1998 being 369 incidents and 184 casualties including 22 of the forces in the first-nine months of 1998 there were 302 kidnappings, the figure went up to 341 in 1999 in *Tripura*. (B1/ p. 138)

1998: There were 568 incidents in which 251 persons including 25 security forces personnel lost their lives in Tripura. (B1/ p. 138)

1999: Decline was noticed in the year 1999. (B1/ p. 113)

1999: In the first-nine months of 1999 there were 455 incidents of violence in which 181 persons including 25 security forces personnel were killed in Tripura. (B1/ p. 138)

1999, Sep. 30: The number of security forces personnel killed had gone up from 45 in the corresponding period of 1998 to 60 in the year 1999. (B1/ p. 115)

1999, Sep. 30: There were 330 incidents occurred in which 228 persons were killed. (B1/ p. 115)

1999, Sep. Election was held in Nagaland. (B1/ p. 136)

1999, Nov.: Chief Minister was ambushed. (B1/ p. 134)

2000, May: Towards the end the NSCN (I/M) had issued a three-page long open letter to the Indian Public in this letter it blamed the Government of India of not being sincere in its efforts to solve the Naga tangle. It also referred to a long history of betrayal of trust and promises made to the Nagas by the Indian Government, which the people of India do not know. The letter was quite objectionable in the sense that it spoke of the problem as 'Indo-Naga conflict,' and the Indian Government as 'your government, as if the NSCN (I/M) were a sovereign nation. According to press reports (for example, see Kashyap, S.G., 'A Time for Peace,' write-up in the New Indian Express, July 30, 2000) this letter was issued even as the official representatives of the government were holding talks with the NSCN (I/M) leaders in New Delhi, on May 25 and 26. We are not aware of the promises the NSCN (I/M) has referred to. (B1/ p. 133)

2000, July 30: A convoy of the Assam Rifles was ambushed in Senapati district, killing four and injuring seven. (B1/ p. 134)

2000, Sep. 13: NSCN (I/M) ambushed a police convoy near Diphu, Karbianglong, Assam, killing ten policemen injuring four, including an Additional S.P. (B1/ p. 134)

2000, Oct. *The United Liberation Front of Assam* suddenly raised the level of violence. In a series of some exceedingly brutal massacres, they killed about 60 non-Assamese (mostly Marwaris and Biharis) people including young children in the districts of *Sibasagar, Tinsukhia, Dibrugarh* and *Nalbari*. Many of the slain were poor labourers. The state police claimed after every incident that had vital clues. But not a single culprit could be arrested. We consider it highly deprecatory that even at the time of such a serious affront to the authority of the state, a very senior politician of the ruling party should be blaming the other party for it. (Indian Express, Dec. 5, 2000). (B1/ p. 117)

2001, Apr. 28: As far as the NSCN(K) was concerned, the government announced a ceasefire on April 28, 2001. (B1/ p. 133)

2001, May 23: The New Indian Express indicate that we have going to *Bangkok* to talk to them. (B1/ p. 134)

2001, July, 2nd: The first university, *Mizoram University* came into being in *Aizwal*. (B2/ p. 66)

2001, July: The ceasefire with the NSCN(I/M) was due only at the end of July 2001. (B1/ p. 13)

Arunachal Pradesh

- 1967, July, 2: I.A.F. takes over air-dropping work in NEFA. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1979, Feb. 10: President *Sanjiva Reddy* inaugurates the permanent capital of *Arunachal Pradesh* at Ita Fort, 12 km from Itanagar. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1979, Sep. 6: *Arunachal* Chief Minister, *Prem Khandu Thungen* resigned. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1979, Sep. 18: A five-member Ministry headed by Tomo Riba of the *United Pepoles Party* sworn in at *Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)*. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1979, Oct. 31: Chief Minister of *Arunachal Pradesh*, *Tomo Riba*, resigned and recommended dissolution of the State Assembly. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1979, Nov. 3: The President of India dissolved the *Arunachal Pradesh* Assembly. Union Territory came under Presidents' rule. (B5/1 p. 343)
- (Ref: Book No. 5/1) Page 343) Land and people of India/*Arunachal Pradesh*.
- 1983, July. 18: Hari Shanker Dube and *T.V. Rajeshwar* were appointed Lieutenant Governors of *Mizoram* and *Arunachal Pradesh*. (B5/ 344)
- 1983, Oct. 7: *First Trans-Himalayan Motor Expedition* ended at *Pangsu Pass*. (B5/1 344)

- 1987, Mar. 5: R.D. Pradhan was appointed Governor of *Arunachal Pradesh*. (B5/1 p. 344)
- 1987, Feb. 20: Rajiv Gandhi (1944-91), the Prime Minister of India (31 October 1984) — 1st December 1989). inaugurated *Mizoram* and *Arunachal Pradesh* as 23rd and 24th states of the Indian Union. (B5/1 p. 344)
- 1992, Apr. 6: Twenty-one persons were killed and 15 injured when the *Bitragunta Vijayawada passenger train* hit a stationary goods train near *Tsundur in Arunachal Pradesh*. (B5/1 p. 344)
- 1992, Jul. 26: A bus fell into the flooded Subnsiri in *Arunachal Pradesh* killing 40 persons. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1993, Oct. 11: *Mata Prasad*, former Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh was appointed the Governor of *Arunachal Pradesh*. (B5/1 p. 343).
- 1998, Aug. 24: *Arunachal Pradesh*, in terms of bio-diversity ranks fourth among the 20 hot spots in the world. (B5/1 p. 343)
- 1998, Sep. 24: *Mahavriksha Puruskar* 1996 announced for *Namdapha Project Tiger of Changland district in Arunachal Pradesh*.
- 1999, Jan. 19: A 30 member ministry led by *Arunachal Congress(M)* leader *Mukut Mithi* sworn in *Arunachal Pradesh*. (B/2, p. 344)
- 1999, May 11: The Governor of West Bengal *A.R. Kidwai* and *Arunachal Pradesh* Governor *Mata Prasad* asked to resign following the lapse of their tenure. (B5/1, p. 344)
- 1999, May 14: The President (*K.R. Narayanan* (1920-2005) sacked *Arunachal Pradesh* Governor *Mata Prasad* and accepted the resignation of West Bengal Governor *A.R. Kidwai*. (B5/1 p. 344)
- 1999, Aug. 2nd: *Arvind Dave* took over as Governor of *Arunachal Pradesh*. (B5/1, p. 344)

1999, Nov. 7: The Indian Army was put on maximum alert following increased 'activities of China along the Indo-China border in the *Arunachal Pradesh* seder.

2003, July, 27: *Mukut Mithi's* Congress government in the state was reduced to a minority 31 of the 58 MLA's including 17 ministers quit the party to align with former Chief Minister *Geong Apang* and formed the *United Democratic Front*. (B5/1, p. 344)

2003, Aug. 2: *Mukut Mithi* led Congress led Government in Arunachal Pradesh voted out of power through voice vote in Arunachal State Assembly. (B5/1, p. 344)

2003, Aug. 3: A 37 member *United Democratic Front* Ministry headed by *Geogong Apang* was sworn in by the Governor *V.C. Pandey*. (B5/1, p. 344)

2003, Aug. 26. *Gegong Apang* Chief Minister of *Arunachal Pradesh* quited the *Arunchal Congress*. (B5/1, p. 344)

3

Assam

Assam was known as "*Kamarupa*" or *Pragiyotisht* in the Epics period. (B5./ p. 20)

350 A.D. to 380 A.D. The first king of *Barman dynasty* reigned at *Pragiyotishpur*. (B5/2, p. 24)

640 A.D. Chinese pilgrim Xuanzang (Hiuentsang) attended the court of king *Bhaskar Barman*, an ally of the great Gupta monarch *Harsha* of Northern India. (B5/p.20)

650 A.D. to 790 A.D.: The reign of *Salastambra dynasty*. (B5/2 p. 24).

1142 A.D. The reign of *fall dynasty*, after the reign of the *Bhaskar Barman*, the most powerful and the last king of *Barman dynasty* (he ruled till 650 A.D.) (B5/2, p. 24.

743 A.D.: Hiuen Sang the Chinese scholar pilgrim who visited *Kamarupa* (Assam) on an invitation of its monarch, *Kumar Bhaskar Varman*. (B5/2, p. 17)

1228 A.D.: *Tai Speaker Sao Lung Sukapha* of *Mongolian race* stepped on this land. (B 5/2, p. 24.)

1228 A.D. Was the turning point in *Assam history*. The *Ahoms* ruled *Assam* nearly for six centuries. B5/2 p. 18).

1682: *Ahom kings* repulsed a succession of *Mughal invasions* of their territory from Bengal as they moved to annex the eastern portion of the powerful *Koch kingdom* and to consolidate there rule over the entire *Brahmputra Valley*. (B5/2 p. 21)

1696-1714: The kingdom of the *Ahom kings* reached its height under *Rudra Xingha*, the renewed military strategist and patron of the buranji or Ahom chronicles. *Rudro Xingh*, established the extensive trade with *Tibet* and built the great city of *Rangpur*. (B5.2, p. 21)

1769-1826: *Moamaria Rebellion* in the form of religious communalism became intensified. (B5/2 p. 25)

1780-1795: King *Gaurinath* ruled Assam. (B5/2, p. 21).

1793, Feb. 28: *Geiger Ensaiswood* and Dr. *Jahu Peter Bawdy*, the emissaries of British Officer *Captain Wales* entered into an agreement with the Ahom Monarch *Gaurinath Sangha* to initiate commercial activities in Assam. (B-5/2, p. 25)

1817: The Burmese took advantage of the dissensions within in the Ahom nobility and overran the Brahmaputra Valley. (B2/ p. 21)

1822-26: The Burmese occupied Assam for four years. (B5/ p. 25)

1823: The Tea was discovered by Robert Bruce in Assam. (B5/2 p. 26)

1823: As the *Tea of Assam* was proved to be qualitatively better than the *Tea of China*, the British started tea plantation in *Assam* investing one billion sterling pound as capital and founded the *Assam Tea Company*. (B5/2 p. 26)

1825: The *British Tea Board* admitted the commercial importance of the tea which was discovered by *Robert Bruce* in 1823. (B5/2 p. 26)

1826: When in 1826 after the *Indo-Burmese war*, Assam came under the British rule, much of the country had reverted to jungles, *Sir William, Hunter*, commenting over the first ever census of 1881, remarked that the valley of the Brahmaputra covered an area three times that of the

Surma Valley but it had less population. The Muslims of East Bengal were being exhorted to by the *Nawab of Dacca*. (B 3/ p. 16)

1826: *Assam was annexed by British*. Assam was made a part of the Province of Bengal Assam was divided in two Commissions. *Upper Assam and Lower Assam*. (B5/2 p. 26)

1826-38: The British kept Assam under Military rule keeping the commercial importance as their sole agenda. (B5/2, p. 26)

1826- A.D. Assam became the British protectorate when the *Burmese ceded Assam* to the British under the provision of the *Treaty of Yandabo*. (B5/2, p. 18)

1826, Feb. 24: The British signed the infamous *Yandaboo Treaty* with the Burmese general after defeating and chasing away them from Assam. (B5/2 p. 26)

1826, April: The refusal to fulfill the promises of *David Scot* led the broad Assamese people to rebel for independence under the leadership of *Dhananjoy Gohain, Poili Phukan, Gomadhar Kowar*. This was the *first rebellion against the British* after the *Yandaboo Treaty*. (B5/2, p. 26)

1830, Mar.: *Second Rebellion against the British occupation*. (B5/2 p. 26)

1832: Chachar was annexed to Assam. (B5/2 p. 19)

1832: Division of Assam into the districts of the *Goalpara, Kamrup, Darrang and Nugaon*. (B5/2 p. 19)

1835: The *Jaintia hills* were made part of Assam. (B5/ 2 p. 19)

1836: The Bengali language was imposed in the offices and courts in Assam which caused the growth of already germinated anti-Bengali sentiments with a degree from more too absolute. (B5/3 p. 28)

1838- *Upper Assam*: In olden times Assam was known as *Kamarupa*. *Guwahati* the biggest city was called *Prag Jyotisbpur* in ancient times. King *NARKASUR* was the

5

Meghalaya

1500 A.D.: The earliest Jaintia Raja said to have ruled (Meghalaya) from 1500 A.D. They were influenced by the Hindu culture. (B5/4, p. 17)

1765: The British came to Sylhet. (B/5, p. 17)

1824, Mar. 10: A friendship treaty was signed by the Rajah accepting the protection of the British. (B5/4, p. 20)

1824 Mar. 10: A *friendship treaty was signed by the Raja accepting the protection of the British*. Other *Khasi Chiefs* also allowed the passage of the British troops through their territories. (B5/4, p. 17)

1824: The *Burmese invaded cachar* and also appeared at the border of the Jaintia Hills. (B5/4, p. 17)

1862: The Jaintias revolted under *U. Kiang Nongbah*. (B5/4, p. 17)

1862: The Jaintias revolted under *U Kiang Nongbah*. By Virtue of these treaties, the British gradually took control of the mineral deposits and side by side subjugated the chiefs and also took control of judiciary. (Meghalaya).

1872: The *British occupied the Garo Hills*. (Maghalaya) (B5/4, p. 17)

1872: The British occupied the *Garo Hills*. (B5/4, p. 18)

1876: *Shillong* was a favourite holiday resort for the British, who built it on the site of a thousand year old *Khasi settlement* and made it the capital of *Assam*.

1874: Shillong known as the *Scotland of the east* was made the capital of Assam by the British. (B5/4, p. 17)

1929, Mar.: After the Burmese invasion was over, the British demanded a corridor through the *Khasi* and the *Jaintia Hills* to connect *Assam Valley* with *Surma Valley*. Most of the *Khasi Chiefs* agree, and the road was completed in March 1928 but only after qualling an upheaval by *U Tirot Sing* was the signing of several treaties with different *Khasi chiefs of Meghalaya*. (B5/4, p. 20)

1966, Dec. 27: Prime Minister Indira Gandhi discussed with representatives of the *All Party Hill Leaders' Conference at Shillong* their demand for a separate state. (B5/4, p. 237)

1969 Dec. 24: *Meghalaya (Assam Representation) Bill* passed by Parliament. (B5/4)

1970, Mar. 15: *All Party Hill Leaders Conference* elected Captain *Williamson Sangma* as leader of its Legislature Party in the *Meghalaya Assembly*. (B5/4, p. 237)

1970, Apr. 2: Prime Minister *Indira Gandhi* inaugurated *Meghalaya*, a new autonomous Hill State in Assam. (B5/4, p. 237)

1970, Apr. 2: A five member cabinet headed by Captain *Williamson Sangma* sworn in *Meghalaya*. (B5/4, p. 237)

1970 Apr. 2nd: *Meghalaya* (abode of clouds) was created as an autonomous state within the state of Assam. (B5/4, p. 17)

1970 Apr. 20: Indian lodged strong protest with *Bangladesh* against "unprovoked shooting" from across the border into *Meghalaya* in which a member of BSF patrol accompanying Director General BSF, suffered injury. (B5/4, p. 17)

1970, May 11: Lok Sabha passed bill for setting up of '*North-Eastern Council*' to coordinate development and

security of *Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur* and *Triupra*. (B5/4, p. 237)

1970, Sept. 30: Meghalaya Assembly unanimously passed a resolution to move the Union Government to convert the Autonomous Hill State into a separate State. (B5/4, p. 237)

1970, Nov. 10: Centre agreed to full statehood for Meghalaya. (B5/4, p. 237)

1972, Jan. 21: The fullfledged State of Meghalaya came into existence created from Secretary of Assam, Meghalaya is the smallest states in India. (B5/4, p. 18)

1973, Oct. 17: Uranium deposits discovered at a number of places. (B5/4, p. 237)

1975, Sept. 6: The Meghalaya Government fixed minimum wages of agricultural labourers. (B5/4, p. 237)

1976, Mar. 30: Eight states of Eastern region, *Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura* and *Union Territories of Mizoram* agreed to allow goods vehicles to operate on national and state highways in any of the states on payment of tax at a single point. (B5/4, p. 237)

1976, Apr. 25: Prime Minister laid foundation stone of Rs. 66 crore *Kopili Hydel Project* at *Garampani* on the *Assam Meghalaya* border, about 100 km. from *Shillong*. (B5/4, p. 238)

1976, Nov. 22: An eight-member Council of Ministers headed by *Williamson Sangma* sworn in is *Shillong*. (B5/4, p. 238)

1978, Feb. 28: No party got absolute majority in election to the *Maharashtra, Assam* and *Meghalaya* assemblies. (B5/4, p. 238)

1978, March 10: A ten member coalition ministry headed by *D. Pugh* of the *All Party Hill Hill Leaders Conference* assumed office in *Meghalaya*. (B5/4, p. 238)

6

Mizoram

1891: *Mizoram* after being annexed by the British for the first few years *Lushai Hills* in the north remained under *Assam* while the southern half remained under Bengal. Both these parts were amalgamated in 1898 into one district called *Lushai Hill District* under the Chief Commissioner of *Assam*. (B5/5, p. 219)

1895: Mizo Hills and formally declared as part of the British India by a proclamation in the year 1895. (B5/5, p. 18)

1898: *North and South Hills (Mizoram)* were united into *Lushai Hills* district, with *Aizwal* as its headquarters. (B5/5, p. 18)

19th Century: The *Mizos* came under the influence of the *Missionaries*. Now most of the *Mizos* are Christians. Mizo language has no script of its own. The *Missionaries* introduced the Roman script for the Mizo language and formal education. (B5/5, p. 17).

1935: The process of the consolidation of the British administration in tribal dominated area in *Assam* stated in 1919 when *Lushai Hills* along with some other hill districts were declared a Backward Tract under government of India Act. The tribal districts of *Assam* including *Lushai Hills* were declared excluded Area in the year 1935. (B5/5, p. 18)

1946, Apr. 9th: It was during the British regime that a political awakening among the Mizos in Lushai Hills started taking shape. The first political party. The *Mizo Common People's Union*. The party was later renamed as Mizo Union. (B5/5 p. 18)

1952: Following the *Gopinath Bardoloi Sub-Committee's* suggestion, a certain amount of autonomy was accepted by the Government and enshrined in the Six Schedule of the Constitution. The *Lushai Hills Autonomous District Council* came into being in the year 1952 followed by the formation of these bodies led to the abolition of chieftainship in the *Mizo society*. (B5/5 p. 18)

1954: The autonomy, however met the aspirations of the Mizos only partially. Representatives of the District Council and the Mizo Union pleaded with the *States Reorganization Commission* (SRC) in 1954 for integrated the Mizo dominated areas of Tripura and Manipur with their District Council in *Assam*. (B5/5 p. 18)

1955: The Mizo leaders were laboriously unhappy with the *SRC Recommendations*. They met in Aizwal in the year 1955 and formed a new political party namely. *Eastern India Union* (EITU) and raised demand for a separate state comprising of all the hill districts of Assam. The *Mizo Union* sprit and the breakaway faction joined the EITU. By this time, the UMFO also joined the EITU and then understanding of the Hill problems by the Chalhia Ministry the demand for a separate Hill state by EITU was kept in abeyance. (B5/5, p. 18)

1955: *Mizo Cultural Society* was formed under the *Secretaryship of Laldenga*. (B5/5, p. 20)

1959: *Mizo Hills* were devastated by a great famine. (B5/5, p. 20)

1960, Mar.: The name of *Mizo cultural society* was changed to *Mautam Front*. During the famine of 1959-60,

this society took lead in demanding relief and managed to attract the attention of all sections of the people. (B5/5, p. 20)

1960, Sep. 1st: The society adopted the name of *Mizo National Famine Front* (MNFF), The MNFF gained considerable popularity as a large number of Mizo youth assisted in transporting rice and other essential commodities to interior villages. (B5/5, p. 20)

1961, Oct. 22: The *Mizo National Famine Front* dropped the word 'Famine' and a new political organization, the *Mizo National Front* was born, under the leadership of *Laldenga* with the specified goal of achieving sovereign Independence of *Greater Mizoram*. (B5/5, p. 20)

1966, Feb. 28th: Large scale disturbances broke out on government institutions at *Aizwal, Lunglai, Chawngte, Chhinluang* and other places simultaneously. (B5/5, p. 20)

1967: *The Mizo National Front* was outlawed. (B5/5, p. 20)

1967, July 20: *Three Mizo rebel groups* went to China. (B5/5, p. 219)

1967, July 25: 18 army personnel were killed in clash with rebels in *Mizoram* area. (B5/5, p. 219)

1967, Aug. 21: 13 Mizo leaders were captured. (B5/5, p. 219)

1971, May: A *Mizo District Council* delegation, met *Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi* and demanded a full fledged state for the Mizos. (B5/5, p. 20)

1971, July: The Union government of its own offered the proposal of turning *Mizo Hills* into a Union Territory. (B5/5, p. 20)

1971, July: The Mizo leaders were ready to accept the offer on condition into a Union Territory. (B5/5, p. 20)

1972, Jan. 21st: The Union Territory of *Mizoram* came into being. Mizoram got two seats in parliament one each in the Lok Sabha and one in the Rajya Sabha. (B5/5, p. 21)

1972: Mizoram became Union Territory. (B5/5, p. 219)

1972: With the implementation of the North-Eastern Reorganisation Act, Mizoram became, Union Territory as a sequel to the signing of the historic memorandum of settlement between the Government of India and *Mizo National Front* in 1986. (B5/5, p. 219)

1979, Apr. 29: People's conference got absolute majority in *Mizoram* elections and captured 17 out of 33 assembly seats. (B5/5, p. 219)

1979, May 8: Five-man People's Conference ministry led by *Brigadier Sailo* sworn in *Aizwal*. (B5/5, p. 219)

1983, Feb. 2nd: The United Kingdom gave political asylum to *Laldenga*, the leader of the outlawed *Mizo National Front*. (B5/5, p. 219)

1983, July, 18: *Hari Shanker Dube* and *T.V. Rajeshwar* were appointed Lieutenant Governor of Mizoram and *Arunachal Pradesh* respectively. (B5/5, p. 219)

1985, Feb. 15: *Rajiv Gandhi's* assumption of power following his mother's death signaled the beginning of a new era in Indian politics. *Lalbenga* met the Prime Minister. (B5/5, p. 21)

1986, June 30: Statehood was a prerequisite to the implementing of the accord signed between to MNF and the Union Government. The Document was signed by *Laldenga*, on behalf, of the MNF, and the Union Home Secretary *R.D. Pradhan* a behalf of the Government. *Lakhama* Chief Secretary of Mizoram, too signed the agreement. (B5/5, p. 21)

1986, July: The MNF volunteers came out of their hideouts and surrendered arms to makeshift bamboo huts

up for the purpose at *Parva* and *Marpara*. A total of 614 activists gave themselves up in less than two weeks in the month of July 1986. Large quantities of small and big firearms including LMG's and rifles were received from them. (B5/5, p. 21)

1986, Aug. 5: While the MNF kept its part of the bargain, the Centre initiated efforts to raise the status of *Mizoram* to a full-fledged state. A constitution amendment Bill and another to confer statehood on *Mizoram* was passed in the Lok Sabha on 5 August 1986. (B5/5, p. 21)

1987, Feb. 20: The formalization of Mizoram state took place. Chief Security *Lalkhama* read out the proclamation of statehood at a public meeting organized at Aizwal's parade ground. Prime Minister *Rajiv Gandhi* flew in to Aizwal to inaugurate the new state. *Hiteshwar Saikia* was appointed as Governor of *Mizoram*. (B5/5, p. 21)

1987, Feb.: Mizoram is a mountainous region which became the 23rd state of the Indian Union. It was one of the districts of Assam till 1972 when it became a Union Territory. (B5/5, p. 219)

1987, Feb. 16: State went to polls for its Assembly. (B5/5, p. 219)

1987, Feb. 18: Mizo National Front (MNF) Ministry headed by *Laldenga* secured absolute majority in the State Assembly. (B5/5, p. 219)

1987, Feb. 20: *Mizoram* was granted statehood. (B5/5, p. 17)

1987, Feb. 20: A four-member *Mizo. National Front* (MNF) Ministry led by *Laldeng* was sworn in at Aizwal. (B5/5, p. 219)

1987, Feb. 26: The Prime Minister *Rajiv Gandhi* marked the inauguration of *Mizoram* and *Arunachal Pradesh* as 23rd and 24th states of the Indian Union. (B5/5, p. 219)

7

Nagaland

1832-33: Raja *Ghambir Singh* of Manipur who had the ambition of achieving permanent conquest of the *Naga Hills*, marched through Naga territories from Imphal. The British Government was not happy about this, but in a general way submitted some portion of the Southern Nagaland now extending up to *Mao* under Manipur, to the Manipur ruler (B5/5, p. 21)

1863: Marked the beginning of the *Naga war of Resistance* against alien political campaign and militancy occupation, division and destruction of their land and traditional institutions. (B5/5, p. 18)

1863: Only a small portion of *Nagalands territory* in the south-west entered the recorded history of the British imperialism in 1863 where some villages were invaded and occupied by the British forces. (B5/5, p. 6)

1881: This was the beginning of an effective administration in the Naga Hills, which was established in 1881. (B5/6, p. 21)

1887: In the year 1887, after the local officials were given authority to act as arbitrators in inter village feuds to enforce their powers, *Kohima* was established as the chief administrative centre of the area with a sub-centre at *Wokha*; a strong police force was posted in the interior, house taxes were collected. (B5/5, p. 21)

Nagaland

101

1888: In the year 1888 a new sub-centre was opened in *Mokokchung* Nagaland. (B5/6, p. 21)

19th Century: The British appeared on the scene and ultimately the areas of Nagaland were brought under British administration. (B5/6, p. 17)

1918: As far back in the year 1918 an organization was formed by a group of Nagas who had returned from *France*. Its members were Christians educated Government officials and headmen from various Naga villages called the *NAGA CLUB*. (B5/6, p. 22)

1929, Jan. 10: The Memorandum was submitted by the Naga Club, the only *All Naga Political Organisation* existing then, to the *Simon Commission*, that, "the Nagas should be left alone", clearly represented the burning desire of the Naga people to preserve the sovereignty of Nagalim. (B5/6, p. 22)

1931, Aug. 29: *Haipou Jadonang*, one of the Naga revolutionary pioneers, was jailed and finally hanged at *Imphal* by the British. His successor *Ms. Gaidlinu*, was also imprisoned for 14 years. (B5/6, p. 22)

1947: The Naga Club was reorganized into the *Naga National Council*, which was subsequently changed into the *National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN)* in 1980; in as much as the NNC signed the treasonous *Shillong Accord* with the Indian Government and forfeited its responsibility to lead the Naga Nation in its struggle for self-determination. (B5/6, p. 18)

1947, July, 19: When the Naga delegates approached Mahatma at *Bhangi colony in New Delhi*, he unequivocally told them: "Nagas have every right to be independent. We did not want to live under the domination of the British and now they are leaving us... If you do not wish to join the Union of India, nobody will force you to do that. The Congress Government will not do that. (B5/6, p. 18)

1947, Aug. 14: Nagas in the British occupied territory declared their independence. (B5/6, p. 18)

1949, Nov.: When another Naga delegation met His Excellency *C. Rajagopalacharya*, the Governor General of Free India, he reconfirmed the statement of Mahatma Gandhi thus: India does not want to deprive the Nagas of their land. Nagas are at full liberty to do as they like, either to become part of India or be separated if it would be best for their interest to be isolated. (B5/6, p. 18)

1950: In pursuance of their declared national decision Nagali refused to join the Indian Union when India was declared a republic in the year 1950 for the first time, saying "The Nagas do not accept the Indian Constitution," and the Naga people launched full civil disobedience movement and successfully boycotted the first and the second general elections of free India in 1952 and 1957. (B5/6, p. 19)

1950: *The Naga National Council* held a plebiscite which resulted in a majority supporting its stand. (B5/6, p. 23)

1951: Plebiscite was held in Nagaland when 99.9 per cent of the Naga population voted in favour of sovereign independent Nagalim. (B5/6, p. 18)

1952: Talks between *Z.A. Phizo* and *Jawaharlal Nehru* ended without any results. (B5/6, p. 23)

1952, Aug. 7: The first Prime Minister of India, *Jawaharlal Nehru* made a speech in the Parliament said, we want no people in the territory of India against their will and with the help of armed forces... we want no forced marriages or forced unions. This great Republic of India is a free and friendly union of states of India." (B5/6, p. 19)

1953, Mar. 31: When the Prime Ministers of Burma and India, Messrs, Unu, and *Jawaharlal Nehru* made a joint visit to Nagalim on 31 March 1953, the whole Naga

assemblage in Kohima walked out on mass jeering and drumming their buttocks because of the refusal of Naga leaders to give a hearing to them and for not allowing mens to submit their memorandum. (B5/6, p. 19)

1954: Despite the assurances from the Indian leaders to honour the national aspirations of the Naga peoples, India Government ordered her armed forces into Nagalim. (B5/6, p. 18)

1955: Fighting broke out after *Naga National Council Leaders* were arrested. (B5/6, p. 23)

1956: The Naga National Council went underground and *proclaimed the Naga Federal Government* with a President, Parliament and Ministers under the leadership of *Z.A. Phizo*. (B5/6, p. 23)

1956: The first flag of the Naga federal government was unfurled at Phensinyu a Rengma village. In the following years a virtual undeclared war was fought between the Indian Army and the Federal Government. (B5/6, p. 23)

1956: Prime Ministers *Jawaharlal Nehru* reiterated in the Lok Sabha the Governments inability to consider any political change for the Naga Hills until the return of normal conditions. (B5/6, p. 243)

1956, June, 3: Fifteen top Naga leaders, former Lieutenants of *Phizo*, appeal to their Kinsman to end violent activities and help creat a peaceful atmosphere. (B5/6, p. 243)

1957: After independence this territory (Nagaland) was made a centrally administered area under the Governor of Assam. It was known as the *Naga Hills Tuensang Area*. This failed to quell popular aspirations and unrest began. (B5/6, p. 17)

1957, Sep. 25: Government of India accepted the Naga demand for the constitution of the *Nag-Hills* District of

Tripura

According to Rajamala of Tripura deals with the Chronicles of the ruling dynasty. The historical account of Tripura, however, can be taken from 15th century when King *Dharma Manikya* requisitioned the services of Durlabhendra and two other scholars, *Sukresvara* and *Banesvara* to compile—*Rajamala*:

1431-62: The reign of *Dharam Manikya* is an important landmark in the history of Tripura. His rule is marked by a socio-cultural upheaval and also various military adventures. (B2/, p. 87)

1463-1515: Dhanya Manikya is considered to be the most prominent of all Tripura kings who was not merely a conqueror but also a builder and social reformer. (B2/, p. 87)

1618: The *Mughals invaded Tripura*. (B5/, p. 17)

1761: The *British conquered Tripura*. (B2/, p. 84)

1765: *Lord Clive* obtained the diwan of Bengal. (B5/ p.17)

1809: British established influence over Tripura. (B5/ p.17)

1871: No political agent was appointed until 1871 by the British. (B5/ p.17)

1923: *Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore* succeeded his father aged 15 reigning under the guidance of his powerful

uncles. For several years he ruled under a Council of Regency, a form of rule which usually prompted a deeper interest in state affairs by British officials. A series of administrative and other reforms were encouraged, education expanded, Communications and infrastructure improved. When the young Maharaja assumed full control, the state was on a par with other princely states. His keen interest in military affairs were to stand in good stead, particularly when the war in *Burma* reached India's borders and the Japanese threatened invasion. The small *Tripura* army served with distinction and honour, winning several locations. (B5/ p. 18)

1941: The migration of Bengali speaking population started in Tripura. (B5/ p. 85)

1947: *Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore's* early death in the year 1947 left his throne to his 14 years old son, *Maharaja Kirti Bikram Kishore*. This was a crucial time, not only because of British withdrawal and the subsequent uncertain status of the princes, but also due to the birth of East Pakistan. Tripura faced an immediate refugee problem, which brought conflict between the people, severe strain on the administration and threatened to exhaust the meager resources of the state. The Maharaja's mother who had assumed charge as Regent at her husband's death, was forced to cede sovereignty to India within a few months. (B5/ p. 18)

1948: The central government had assumed charge and the state continued to be ruled directly for many years. Tripura had now been recognized as a state of the Indian Union in its own right and democratic government has been in place for however, large sections of the population have long been unhappy about the Indian annexation and have campaigned vigorously against it. *Armed liberation groups* continue to operate in many parts of the state where the writ of the Indian government does not run. The Maharaja and his family largely reside in Calcutta, but continue to

play a very active part in the cultural and political life of Tripura several members of the family have served in the state legislature and in the national parliament in Delhi, the Maharaja, his wife, his uncles and cousins amongst that number.

The Boro people are one of the indigenous ethnolinguistic groups of present North-Eastern India belonging to India-Mongoloid origin of Tibeto Burman language family. Though spread in different parts of this region, as well as, in the neighbouring countries, majority of their population is found in Assam. The Boro people form the largest indigenous group in the present demography of the region. Linguistically the *Garos*, the *Dimasas*, the *Hajongs*. The *Sonowals*, the *Deors*, the *Rabhas*, the *Tiwas* and the *Boroks* of Twipra (Tripura), and many other cognate tribes, are part of this great Boro race. (B5/ p. 18)

1949: The Tripura kingdom signed an agreement of accession The *Tripura Merger Agreement*. (B5/ p. 86)

1949, Oct. 15: The Tripura acceded to the Indian Union and became state same year, being ruled under the Chief Commissioner on behalf of the President of India.

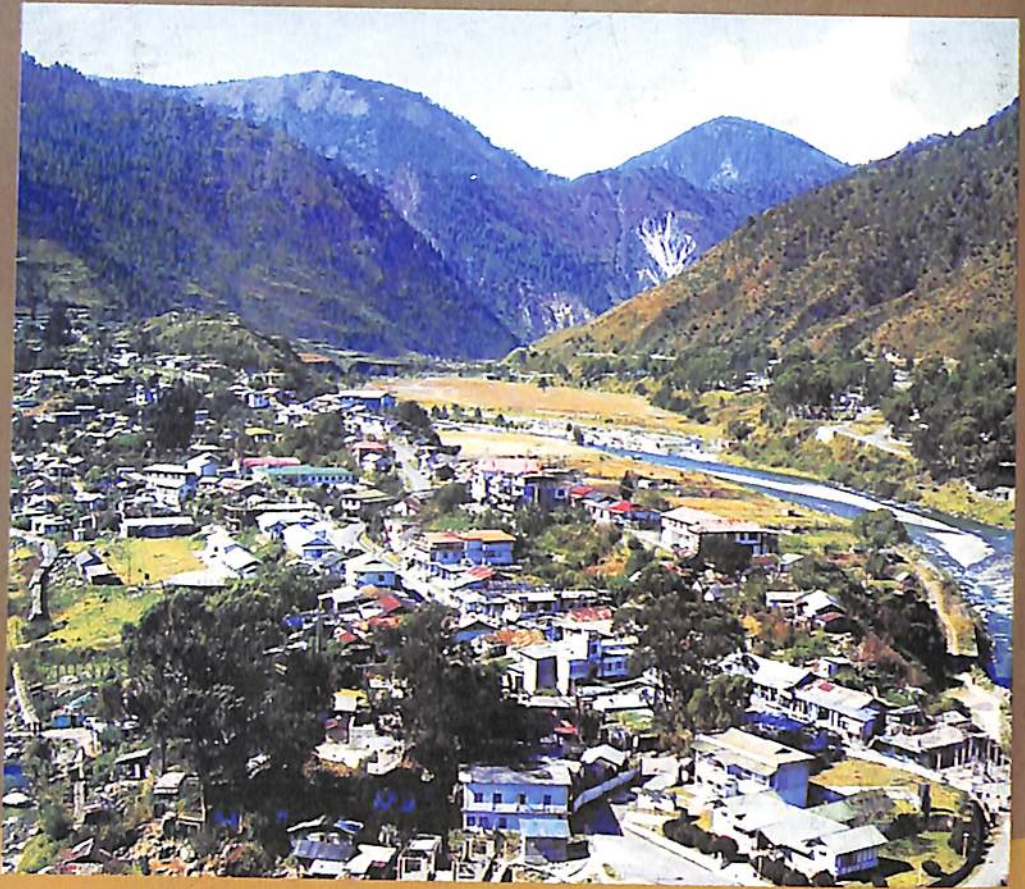
1979, Dec. 28: Heavy firing by *Bangladesh Rifles* on the *Muhurichar* area and *Belonia* town in South Tripura district from across the border. (B5/ p. 17)

1983, Jan. 3: Electioneering for the Assembly poll in *Andhra Pradesh*, *Karnataka* and *Tripura* ends. (B5/ p. 17)

1983, Jan. 7: The CPI(M) led Left Front is voted to power. (B5/ p. 17)

1983, Jan. 10: Nripen Chakraborty is elected leader of the CPI(M) led Left Front. (B5/ p. 17)

1983, Jan. 11: A twelve member CPI(M) led Left Front Ministry headed by Nripen Chakraborty is sworn in at *Agartala*. (B5/ p. 17)



Jacket Design by J.M.S. Rawat



Sarup Book Publishers Pvt. Ltd.

4740/23, ANSARI ROAD, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI-110002

PHONES: 23281029, 23244664, 41010989

FAX: 011-23277098

e-mail: sarupandsonsin@hotmail.com

website: www.sarupbooks.com

ISBN 978-81-7625-895-1



Rs. 13,500
(Set 11 Volumes)