

2013

ISSN 2278-2737

SKWC Journal of Social Science

Vol. V, Issue-I, Jul-Dec. 2013

Content

EDITOR DESK

1. **Memory, History and Materiality: Seventy-two Horse Riding Deities of Kutch**, *Anisha Saxena*

Doctoral Candidate, Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University,
salabhanjiks@gmail.com

In the dry and deserted landscape of Kutch in Gujarat, India there exists on hilltops temples dedicated to Jakh. Jakh refers to seventy-two horse riders, seventy-one men and a woman their sister Sayari or Sayara. Today the popular legend associated with their coming to Kutch begins with a shipwreck, which is believed to have brought these foreigners to Kutch. It is said that they were fair-skinned and had knowledge of warfare and medicine, thus attracting the attention of the native population. The wicked king Punvro, who had built the capital city of Padhargadh, then ruled the area. The Jakh are said to have slayed the king and destroyed his city, but soon the widow of the king, avenged the murder of her husband by having all the Jakh killed, they were thereafter commemorated as martyrs. Today in Kutch, there are several temples dedicated to Jakh. Majority of them are located on hilltops facing the west, looking towards the Arabian Sea, marking the direction from which the Jakh came. These temples are simple structures, often small square rooms painted white containing seventy-two equestrian images. Presently the cult of the Jakh in Kutch is in a process of being claimed. The Hindus and the Jains in the area have begun to claim Jakh as Yakshas. It is being suggested that the seventy-two horse riders are incorrectly being called Jakh and should be identified as Yakshas, ancient demi gods that appear in early Brahmanical, Buddhist and Jaina literature and art. Both malevolent and benevolent Yakshas: “are associated with a variety of familiar mythological characters and symbols among the lower deities and demi-gods who inhabit the trees, rivers, oceans, rock mounds, and sacred spots that fill the cosmological landscape of India.”

2. **Redefining Sovereignty for the 21st Century** Alex H. Chung

School of Social Sciences, University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA) His research interests lie in International Security Studies (ISS), Post-colonialism, Liberal Pluralism and International Society, International Human Rights Law (HRL), International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) doctrine. Alex’s family fled from Hong Kong to Toronto, Canada after the Tiananmen Square Massacre in 1989.

As with its cognate disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, concepts and constructs within International Relations (IR) have been shaped by the intellectual currents of its time.

Korencia & Doli (2009) demonstrate that discourses on the notion of sovereignty have shifted its prevailing definition, even prior to the establishment of IR as a formal discipline. This paper will present various contemporary perspectives on the conceptualisation of 'sovereignty' and attempt to reconcile abstract notions with tangible examples. The effects of interdependency on 'sovereignty' will be examined, in addition to the changing nature of the relationship between state and non-state actors. In the context of Global North-South interaction, the postcolonial emancipation of Global Southern states will be explored in an attempt to demonstrate hierarchies of power and claims to legitimacy in the inter-state system. Burke (2002) characterizes the identity of the state as dependent on (in) security and the existential threat of one or more 'other(s)'. With conflict trending towards intra-state, irregular, and asymmetric characteristics, the role of human security and 'sovereignty as a responsibility' within the R2P norm will be assessed as major development in the (re)definition of sovereignty, allowing for a liberally conceived middling between absolute mutual non-interference and the international society's obligation to protect civilians from mass atrocities.

3. **Social, Economic and Political Advancement of Women: A Gandhian Perspective, N. Gopiraman Singh**

M.Pharm., M.A. (Pol. Sc. & Pub. Adm.), LLB. S.G.Lecturer (Dept. of Pharmacy), Govt. Polytechnic, Takyel and presently Research Scholar, Department of Political Science, Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal-79 5003, Manipur

Not only did Gandhi struggle to free the country from the foreign yoke, but also to free her from social maladies. As an important aspect of this programme for the social reconstruction of the Indian society, he wanted to bring about a reform in the status and general condition of women in society. Gandhiji believed that man and women except their natural difference, are equal. Daughters and sons must be treated alike. Women are gifted with mental capacities as are men. They are companions of men and have the right to participate in all activities. Social evils such as child marriage and enforced widowhood were severely criticized by Gandhi. He spoke out against prohibition and devadasis. He also took up many other disabilities from which women suffered. By observing the position of women in the family as well as in the society, Gandhi firmly believed in the economic empowerment of women. He wanted to make women self-reliant and competent economically in the family, in the society and in the country. He had diagnosed that Indian poverty and unemployment were not due to British rule but modern civilization nourished by the British rule. He also knew that a meaningful empowerment of women would be possible only through their active participation in politics. He was always for equal rights of women with men from the lowest level i.e. the family up to the highest level i.e. the political life of the country.

4. **A Panoramic Discourse on the Scheduled Castes of Manipur, Mangoljao Maibam**

Asst. Prof. Dept. of Political Science at N. G. College, Imphal, India

The present paper is a humble approach to explore a thorough political history and bird's eye view of the Scheduled Castes of Manipur. The Scheduled Castes in Manipur came into existence only after the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes List (Modification) Order, 1956. This Order recognised (i) Lois, (ii) Kamu-Yaithibis, (iii) Dhubi/ Dhobi, (iv) Namsudra, (v) Patni, (vi) Sutradhar and (vii) Muchi/Ravidas, as Scheduled Caste communities in Manipur. Of all the Scheduled Caste communities of Manipur, the Lois formed the most important section in Manipur. And, the Loi communities of Manipur were mainly of Chakpa origin. So, when we talk about the history of the Scheduled Castes in Manipur, it generally refers to the transformation of the Chakpas into the Scheduled Caste community. Being once a Loi village, recently, many Loi villages, led by the residents of Kakching, begin to claim the status of Scheduled Caste Lois. The paper also analyses in this matter.

5. Language, Identity, and Social Grammar of Zou, Lukram Himmat

Ph. D Scholar, Department of Linguistics, Manipur University, Canchipur, 795003, India

Zou language is spoken in the Churachandpur and Chandel Districts, about 65 km. away from Imphal, towards the south west of Manipur and the Chin State and Sagaing Division of Myanmar (Burma). The data is collected from Zou Veng of Churachandpur District, India. It is geographically not too far from Imphal. This paper makes an attempt to discuss the phonological systems of Zou. Six vowel phonemes i.e. /i, e, o, u, a, and ə/, and six diphthongs have identified. Twenty-one consonant phonemes are identified. All the consonant phonemes except /w/ and /y/ can occur the initial position. All the vowels and consonants are established on the basis of minimal pairs (contrast). Consonant clusters can occur in initial, medial and final position, occurrence of clusters in three positions is remarkable.

6. Digital Library Model for Theological Colleges in North East India: Concepts, Issues and Implications Haominthang Vaiphei & Dr. Th. Madhuri Devi

Haominthang Vaiphei, Research Scholar, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Manipur University, India; Dr. Th. Madhuri Devi, Associate Professor Dept. of Library & Information Science, Manipur University, India

Recent developments in information and communication technologies the World Wide Web (WWW). Development of digital libraries brings significant changes in the creation, distribution, access, use and management of information, brought the concept of digital libraries. The paper explores and outlines the set of major activities and skills for designing, developing and managing digital libraries. The skills are with four broad categories: Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) skills, Information skills, Management skills, Research and Project Management skills and leadership skills. This article is to examine the problems of digital library and information profession in North East India theological colleges. It also briefly discusses how to address the issues. Some recommendations for the future prospects of digital libraries in North East India have been made by the authors.

7. India's Look East Policy: Its Implications for the north east India, K. Brojendro Singh

K. Brojendro Singh is PGT Economics at J. N.V. Bishnupur, Manipur and Ph. D research scholar at CMJ University, Meghalaya

The initiation of India's 'Look East Policy' since 1991 provides vast opportunity to the underdeveloped North Eastern Region (NER) of India. It is part of a greater integration of India's economy into the global economy. One of the root causes of underdevelopment in the NER is the sudden block of the region's political, economic and cultural relations, a traditional relation, with the East and the South East Asian Countries. The long border line of the NER running along the surrounding countries such as Myanmar, China, Thailand, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan was once the convenient open vast gateway for various relations. However, since colonial period this vast open gateway has been artificially blocked that has retarded all economic and social development. The opening of the Eastern gate is quite natural and can enhance the economic development of the region. So, the Look East Policy can be operationalised as an economic boon to the underdeveloped region which will also serve other national interest such as solution to insurgency, alienation syndrome, etc. The people of the NER, however are well aware of the fact that they have a legitimate right to participate actively in the operationalisation of the LEP as the most prospective means to develop the economy of the region. In this regard, the minimum required infrastructure should also be built up. Otherwise, the NER has a right to change their political paradigm in order to challenge all forces of neo- colonialism.

8. Schedule Caste Women and Entrepreneurship: A Study on Molasses Production, Dr P. Dhaneshwari Devi

Post-doctoral Fellow, ICSSR, New Delhi and Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology, Kha Mannipur College, Kakching, Manipur, dr.okramdhaneshwari@gmail.com

This paper was attempted to explore socio-economic aspects of the Scheduled Cast women workforce of Kakching through empirical and exploratory research with a view to analyse present status of women workforce engaged in molasses entrepreneurs; search whether it is possible to give a sustain economic conditions; challenges to render the trade successfully. Essence and efficacy of money is unlimited to human beings to some extent to meet the requirements of life and additional things but it is very hard to someone to earn even one meal. The SC women of Kakching have experimented through various occupations for their livelihood. The study learned that some women entrepreneurs had started molasses production and their success story had influenced others and felt them for better earning. The findings confirmed that Molasses production of Kakching has been gradually increasing since the functioning of these units about 40 years back. If the Government extents suitable help toward these women entrepreneurs it will definitely bring economic growth of not only entrepreneurs but also to the state. The gradual incline on molasses production implies there is scope and prospect for further expansion in this trade. Eventually, it can say that molasses entrepreneurs have enough potential and this trade have more prospects with the coming of look east policy.

9. HIV/AIDS, Society, Gender & Youth: Breaking the Social Construct, B. Anilkumar Sharma, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Moirang College, Moirang, Manipur, India

Manipur is one of the very high HIV/AIDS prevalent states in the country. There are 38,016 persons (MACS 2011) with HIV/AIDS in the state. An interesting aspect of the situation is the prevailing variations at the level of gender distribution. The larger share is constituted by the male than females. Despite the initial low prevalence of HIV/AIDS amongst females, there are an increasing number of HIV/AIDS occurrences among females today. In addition to the challenges towards meeting clinical facilities and supports to the people living with HIV/AIDS, there is an extensive social challenge that the people living with HIV/AIDS are now seriously facing in their lived world. The social challenge is a construct that results into stigma, discrimination, manufacturing outcaste, tabooed identities, etc. The biggest impact of construct is on the female persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs). The paper looks into the gender question locating state of deprivations, their rights, and needs, etc., while exploring the limitation that is inherent in the prevailing approaches to understand the situation of HIV/AIDS, its impact and remedies. The study also tried to look into the problem face by the children's of HIV/AIDS parents--who are in the age of marriage. The paper also brings out the factual spatial distribution of the affected persons in the districts of Manipur. The study covers a ranges of arena in which HIV/AIDS may cause or add to the existing impact of social exclusion particularly the right of younger generation.

10. Role and Response of Opposition Party in Democratic State: The Experience of Manipur, Dr. Oinam Muhindro Singh

Sr. Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Thambal Marik College, Oinam.

In a parliamentary system of government the alteration of political parties is a great restraint on the vagaries of the government. The party in office is fully conscious that tomorrow is the day of election and they shall have to face the electorate and answer for their acts of omission and commission. Then there is the party in opposition to remind the government vulnerability of its position and weakness of its policies. Lapses of the government are the opposition's opportunities and it is always on the lookout of fish loophole in the transaction of the government to expose and plague it. Opposition of today is tomorrow's government.