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Content

Editor's Spectra

1. India's Northeast: A Critical Analysis of Colonial and Post-Colonial Discourse

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India's Northeast is a humanely diverse region having ethnic pluralism, linguistic diversity as its defining characteristics. Colonial and post-colonial writings of the region unravel an entirely different experience on issues concerning the region. This paper attempts to critically analyze the colonial and post-colonial understanding of the region and engage in the contexts which frame the two discourses. As a region which is out of the ambit of the national discourse, there are continual pitfalls in the understanding of the region till today. By way of contesting both the discourses, this paper argues the need for a committed and deeper engagement so as to produce the correct and right perspective about the region.

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.

This paper analysed 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

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*)

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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)

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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. Role and Response of Opposition Party in Democratic State: The Experience of Manipur (Oinam Muhindro Singh)

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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.

8. Opium among the Wanchos of Arunachal Pradesh (Dr Haobijam Vokendro,* Philip Modi, Kh. Wangs***)**

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Because of good income and profit, opium cultivation in Arunachal Pradesh is considered as a boon and on the contrary, because of the negative impacts on the health of consumers, it is considered as a curse. The Wanchos of Longphong village in Longding district is a sample village of Arunachal

Pradesh where without any productive means of livelihood clings to opium cultivation for earning income and self-consumption. The people use **kani chung** (smoking pipe made from bamboo). At present about 90% people of the village cultivate poppy either for personal consumptions or for selling because now they realize the economic potentiality of opium. Almost 50% of the villagers are opium addicts. The socio-economy significance of opium in the village as well as other villages of different districts where poppy plants are cultivated is almost similar. Because of its socio-economy significance, opium is a storehouse of value by the value of which the people can buy the basic requirements of life; it is also a form of wage payment of labour in which instead of money, opium is paid as a medium of exchange for labour; it is used as vegetables; it is used as medicines for treating stomach pain, headache, body pain and minor injuries, diarrhea and dysentery etc. If government does not take up any concrete actions of interventions of addiction of kani among the people, then the future of the people is gloomy with lots of health complicacies and concomitant socio-cultural problems and predicaments.