



**AIA**  
MUMBAI



WINDOWS TO VERNACULAR | 4.0

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## EXPLORING NORTH-EAST

ASSAM | ARUNACHAL PRADESH | MIZORAM | TRIPURA | MANIPUR | NAGALAND | MEGHALAYA

## EXPLORING INTO OUR UNKNOWN

The north east region of India being a land of verdant valleys and silent hills along with the mighty Brahmaputra-Barak river system covering the land with its many tributaries is a place with varied geographical features spread amongst the famously known seven sisters:

**Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.**

The climate in the north-east region of India is predominantly a humid sub-tropical climate with severe monsoons making it rainiest region in the country with Cherapunji in the Meghalaya being one of the rainiest places in the world.

While temperatures are moderate in the Brahmaputra and Barak valley river plains, it decreases with altitude in the hilly areas.

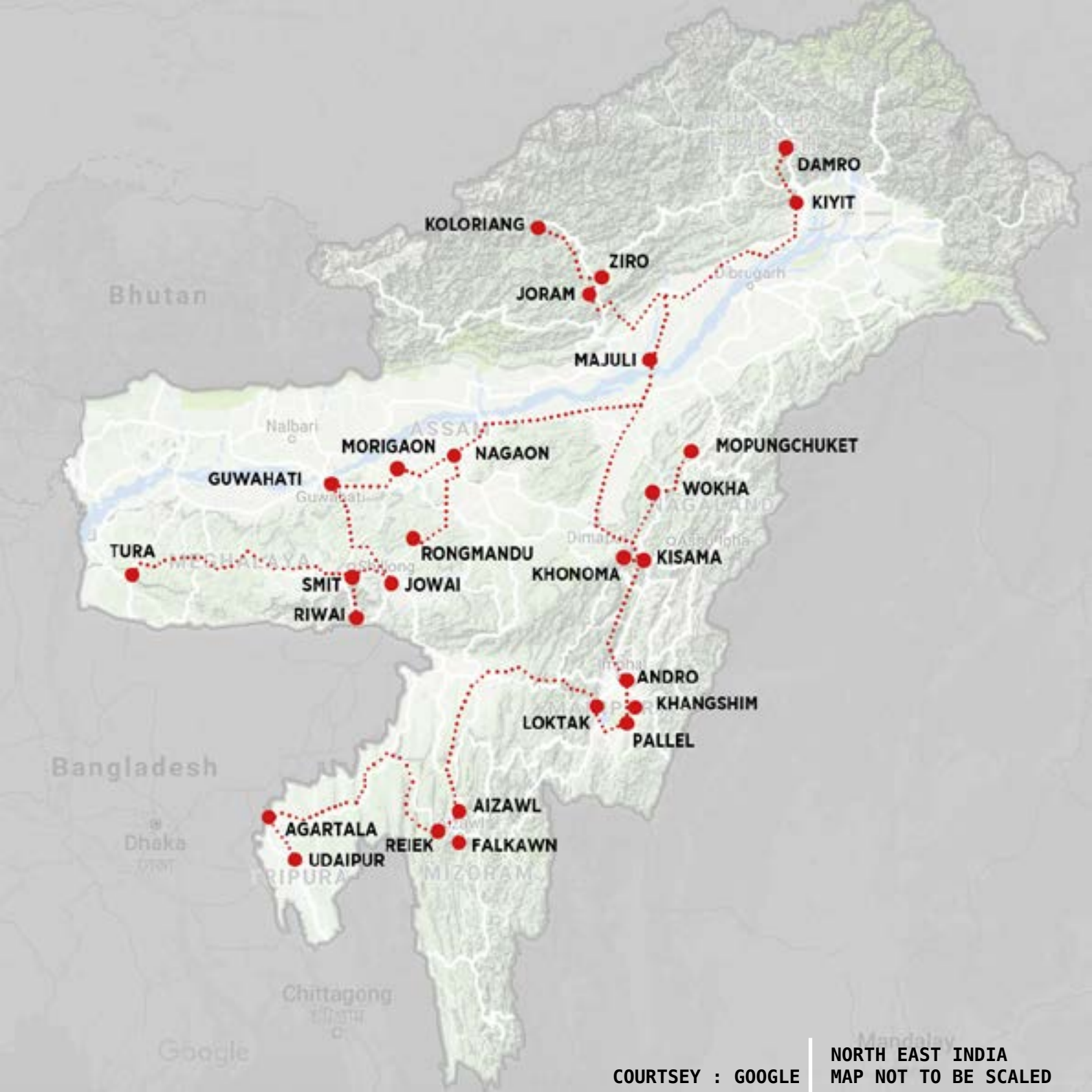
With these changing topography and climate through the seven states of the north east, there is a difference seen in the construction techniques and architecture styles of the states that are unique to its climatic conditions and materials available locally.

These houses built hundreds of years ago in the traditional construction techniques and locally sourced materials have withstood the test of time and the severe climatic conditions that they have been subjected to throughout the years in this region and are a true testament of the vernacular construction techniques of the place.

But today, with newer techniques coming up that are less time consuming but not necessarily as enduring as the traditional techniques; little consideration is given to the traditional techniques and practices as they are rendered obsolete.

It is important that this traditional wisdom and knowledge of construction is not lost in today's fast pace world.

The importance of the study is to understand the connotations of the process of building and construction with respect to its climatic conditions and the needs of the society.



Bhutan

Bangladesh

Google

NORTH EAST INDIA  
MAP NOT TO BE SCALED

DAMRO

KIYIT

KOLORIANG

ZIRO

JORAM

MAJULI

MORIGAON

NAGAON

MOPUNGCHUKET

GUWAHATI

WOKHA

TURA

RONGMANDU

KHONOMA

KISAMA

SMIT

JOWAI

RIWAI

ANDRO

LOKTAK

KHANGSHIM

PALLEL

AGARTALA

AIZAWL

UDAIPUR

REIEK

FALKAWN

Dhaka

Chittagong





**Windows to Vernacular** in collaboration with **Academy Of Architecture, Mumbai**

**4.0 |**

## **EXPLORING INTO OUR UNKNOWN - I**

With this project we aim at understanding and documenting the traditional architectural practices and techniques of the region that has allowed the structures to stand strong against all odds, with a comparative analysis of all the architectural styles present in the north-east of India.

The study aims at going back to the basics to comprehend the different layers that are plastering the buildings in the country and formulating an alternative paradigm to the current architectural practice in the country, which is not only subjected towards the modern culture but is rooted in its context.

This project is split into two parts, with the first part being the documentation in **Meghalaya, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.**

### **A - TRADITIONAL BUILDING PROCESS**

The aim is to document various building processes in the region, that has sustained the test of time and fury of nature.

The predominant material of construction being Bamboo, one can witness and learn various process as adapted and evolved by different communities over the decades or centuries.

A team of 4 individuals, will explore one state and 7 such teams will be documenting the 7 different states parallelly.

### **B - LEARNING THE APPLICATION**

A 7 day hands-on workshop at the Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre, Brynihat, Meghalaya, shall give every individual the practical experience and understanding of the material and a positive approach towards the same in contemporary context.







windows to vernacular

**ava**  
**M U M B A I**



**रचना संसद**  
**RACHANA SANSAD**