

ISSN 2349-753X

PROCEEDINGS OF
**NORTH EAST INDIA
HISTORY ASSOCIATION**



38th
SESSION

D. K. GIRLS' COLLEGE
MIRZA, KAMRUP, ASSAM
2017

**PROCEEDINGS OF
NORTH EAST INDIA
HISTORY ASSOCIATION**



**THIRTYEIGHTH SESSION
D. K. GIRLS' COLLEGE
MIRZA, KAMRUP, ASSAM
2017**

Edited & Published by
Amrendra Kumar Thakur

On behalf of
North East India History Association
Department of History
North-Eastern Hill University
Shillong - 793 022

Editorial Board
Prof. J. B. Bhattacharjee
Prof. D. R. Syiemlieh
Prof. Amena Passah

ISSN 2349-753X
No.42520 in the UGC Approved List of Journals

© North East India History Association

The Publication of the Proceedings volume was financially supported by the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi and the responsibility of the facts stated and opinions expressed or conclusions reached is entirely that of the authors of the papers and the Indian Council of Historical Research or the North East India History Association accepts no responsibility for them.

Preface

I feel privileged to present to members and the general public this volume of Proceedings of the 38th session of the North East India History Association (NEIHA) held at D. K. Girls' College, Mirza, Kamrup, Assam on 2-4 October 2017. This Volume is a collection of the papers presented in the various academic panels during the 38th session and also the proceedings of the business meetings of the Session. We are thankful to the College authorities for untiring efforts in successfully hosting the session.

Dr. Gajendra Adhikary, Principal, D. K. Girls' College, Mirza, and the Local Secretary of the Session welcomed the guests in the Inaugural function. Professor Priyam Goswami (who was elected at the 37th session at Gangtok, Sikkim to be the President of the 38th session) kindly accepted the position and presided over this session. His Majesty Governor of Assam, Shri Banwarilal Purohit addressed during the Inaugural function as the Chief Guest. Prof. Dipak Kumar Sarmah, V. C., Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit and Ancient Studies University and Dr. Samujjal Kumar Bhattacharya, Chief Advisor, ASSU graced the occasion during the Inaugural function as the Guests of Honour. Sjt. Pranab Kalita, Hon'ble MLA, Palasbari, Assam and Sjt. Vinod Sessan, IAS, Hon'ble D. C. Kamrup, the Patrons of the session also addressed during the Inaugural session. Sjt. Babulal Sarmah, Director Higher Education, Assam also shared his views as the Advisor of the Session during the Inaugural function. Prof. Hira Neog, the President of the Governing Body, D. K. Girls' College offered the vote of thanks. More than two hundred fifty outstation members attended the annual conference. It is a healthy sign for the discipline of history and the NEIHA that a large number of young teachers and research scholars of history and sister disciplines attended the session, presented papers in person.

All the participants of the session would recall with gratitude the affectionate hospitality of the management, faculty, other staff and students of D. K. Girls' College, other nearby colleges and people at large. The artists of the cultural programmes were excellent in their performances. We again record our appreciation and best wishes to all of them. We also appreciate the enthusiasm of history lovers for holding the session for the first time in Mirza and most importantly in befitting manners.

The Association is thankful to the Indian Council of Historical Research for the financial support advanced towards the publication of the Proceedings volume. As the Editor, I have tried my best with the help of the Editorial Board to maintain as far as possible a particular academic standard in publishing the volume. I gratefully record the support I received from Prof. Priyam Goswami,

General President during the session and after. Initially these papers, while being presented, had been given critical comments for improvements by the Presidents of the academic sections. After being submitted again these papers have been further screened by the Editorial Board. Thus these papers are fully reviewed.

It pleases me greatly to see that the style sheet of NEIHA is being followed by the paper presenters. We would also like to remind the esteemed members of NEIHA again that they should ensure that the revised papers should reach us within the last day announced in the business session. The time taking task of editing, composing, proof reading, etc. of such a large number of papers within a very limited time period is tough task to undertake and we can do the work upto the satisfaction of all NEIHA members only with the co-operation of all the papers presenters. **In this regard I would like to appeal to all the NEIHA members to precisely FOLLOW THE NEIHA STYLE SHEET and submit neatly typed papers and abstracts in duplicate for presentation at the session. The papers may also be sent to the General Secretary by email in MS Word. This will help in improving the quality of the Proceedings.** I am also thankful to ICSSR-NERC, Shillong and the ICHR, New Delhi for providing financial support towards holding the Session.

Finally, I would like to say a very special word of thanks to the Chairpersons of various academic sessions during the three day session for their comments on each and every paper, members of the Editorial Board for editing the papers and deciding the status of the same. Their commitment to the cause of NEIHA made my job as the Editor much easier. I would also like to thank the Treasurer, Prof. Amena N. Passah for managing the finances of NEIHA and Dr. Sagar Boruah for helping in every way. My colleagues, research scholars and office staff of the Department of History, NEHU, Shillong also deserve my sincere thanks for helping us in various ways to run the permanent office of NEIHA and the printing of the Proceedings Volume in time. In particular I am thankful to Dr. Aparna Mathur who not only helped in proof reading but also in editing some of the papers dealing with ancient and early medieval northeast India; Dr. Rusievan Shangplian, Ms. Babhador Khongdup and Dr. Lasoborki Pymgap for their support and concern. Last but not the least Mr. Pradeep Kr. Shaha and his staff of Modern Offset, Shillong deserve our heartfelt thanks for their interest in the work and their efforts in getting the Volume ready in time for release during the 39th session.

Shillong :
15th October 2018


(Amrendra Kr Thakur)

Contents

Page No.

1. Presidential Address	—Priyam Goswami.....	1
2. Panchakhanda and Itā Copper Plates of the Tripura Kings : A Reappraisal	—J. B. Bhattacharjee.....	13
3. Borgangā Inscription of King Bhutivarman of Kāmarūpa : Understanding <i>Dāna</i> and <i>Dānadharma</i>	—Gajendra Adhikary.....	20
4. Megalith Traditions in Arunachal Pradesh	—Shyamalee Gogoi & Dhritiman Sarma.....	27
5. Ramayana Traditions in Northeast India	—Amrendra Kumar Thakur.....	34
6. Oral History in Northeast India : Some Methodological Issues	—Rajib Handique.....	43
7. Oral History as Alternative Archive: Documenting Transgender Voices in Manipur	—Rena Laisram.....	51
8. Sources for Reconstructing the History of Sikkim	—Sunita Kharel.....	61
9. Short Lived Copper Coinage of Sikkim	—S.K. Bose.....	75
10. Contextualising Numismatic with Religion: Focus on Medieval Koch	—Debajit Dutta.....	78
11. Bead (Tadok) Among the Adis of Arunachal Pradesh	—Antoni Perme.....	87
12. Buddhist Art in Assam: Some Observations	—Aparna Mathur.....	93
13. Buddhist Centres and Trade in Northeast India: Some Observations	—Babhador Khongdup.....	102
14. Religious Syncretism in Assam in the Context of Heruka	—Boby Das.....	110
15. A Critical Appraisal of <i>Simhāsana</i> or <i>Guru-āsana</i>	—Biman Hazarika.....	119
16. Neo-Vaishnavism among the Tiwa	—Raktim Patar.....	127
17. Ding Ksuid: The Lore of the Disappearing Ghostly Lights in the Khasi Hills	—Christine Z. Myllem Ngap.....	133
18. Occult Practices of Medieval Assamese Society	—Ankita Borgohain.....	140
19. The Significance of Land in a Naga Life	—Lanukumla Ao.....	147

20. Historical Matrix of Nagamese as a Communitect
in Northeast India —*Meeta Deka*.....152
21. Konyak- Ahom Relations: Understanding
Through Folk-Narratives —*N. Nyejat Konyak*.....164
22. Migration and Socio-Cultural Life of the
Sumi Naga during the Pre-Colonial Period —*Atokali Kiba*.....173
23. Religious Faith of the Ahom Related to
Warfare (1497-1669) —*Sikhamoni Konwar*.....182
24. Traditional Meitei Culture as an Integral
Part of Tai Culture —*Salam Anand Singh*.....188
25. Brahma Sabha in Monarchical Manipur: Some Reflections
—*B. Devdutta Sharma & K. Ruhinikumar Sharma*.....198
26. The Origin and Development of Iewduh :
According to Khasi Tradition —*Clara Bamon*.....209
27. Inter-*Hima* Relationship in Khasi Hills: With Special
Reference to *Hima* Nongstoin —*P. Gracefulness Bonney*.....219
28. Consecration and Cremation Rituals of the
Hima Sohra —*Marbiangdor Myrthong*.....227
29. Garo Beyond Their Homeland —*Binea M. Momin*.....235
30. Formation of the Tripuri State : Some Aspects
—*Deepayan Chakraborty*.....242
31. The Military Expedition of the Mughals in
Northeast India: Some Aspects —*Pradeep Kumar Deepak*.....254
32. Reconstructing the History of the Memba of
Menchuka —*Chera Tamak & S. K. Singh*.....262
33. Haltugaon: An Imperial Forest Division —*Jaysagar Wary*.....267
34. Medical Science and Health Care in Assam during
the Second World War —*Nafisa Younis*.....277
35. Western Medicine and Changing Perspectives on
Health and Hygiene —*Arani Saikia*.....288
36. Protection of Environment in Meghalaya and
Role of the National Green Tribunal —*Naveen Kumar*.....303
37. Earthquake of 1950 : Government Response and
the Peasantry of Assam —*Dhanmoni Kalita*.....315
38. Rise and Growth of Lunatic Asylum in the Northeastern
India during the Colonial Period —*Bidisha Singha*.....324
39. Drinking Culture in the Traditional Mizo Society :
Some Aspects —*Lallianzuali Chhangte*.....336

40. Food Habits of the Assamese People in Changing Times
—*Tapan Kalita*.....347
41. Women in Economy: As Reflected in Khasi-Jaintia
Oral Traditions —*Kerl'ihok Lyngdoh Buam*.....359
42. Economy and Society of War Khasi: A Study from
Gender Perspective —*Damut Skhem Umdor*.....368
43. Representation of Women in Khasi Films: The Case
of 'Onaatah- of the Earth' —*Marhunlang Kharwanlang*.....377
44. Gender Roles in Khasi Society —*Rishababiang L. Nonglait*.....384
45. Ao Women: Reflections in Writings and Oral Narratives
—*Obendangla*.....397
46. The Place of Saphohlynrum in the History of the Jaintias
—*P. M. Passah*.....404
47. The Contributions of the Brahmos to the Improvement
of the Education in the Khasi Hills —*Arpita Sen*.....415
48. Jeebon Roy and the Issue of Khasi Identity
—*Adella Risa Sawian*428
49. All Assam Kachari Sanmillioni: The Tribal
Movement of Assam —*Pallabita Das*.....434
50. Politics of Changing Identity: The Gurungs' (Tamu)
Experimentation with 'Cultural Revivalism'
in Sikkim and Darjeeling —*Tejimala Gurung*.....447
51. Caste System among Gorkhas: With Special Reference
to Martial Race Theory —*Dipak Bajgain*.....459
52. Reconstructing Identity in Northeast India: A Social
History of the Khasi of Meghalaya —*Rusievan Shangpliang*.....470
53. The Role of the Bodo Elites in the
Socio-Religious Reformation Movement
—*Oinam Ranjit Singh & Kumud Ranjan Basumatary*.....485
54. Changing Indigenesness: A Case Study of Religious
Flux in a Tribal Village of Arunachal Pradesh —*Tajen Dabi*.....497
55. Emergence of Plains Tribal Council of Assam and
the Quest for Udayachal —*Viva Mushahary*.....503
56. Power Structure within the Jaintia Kingdom during
the Pre-Colonial Period —*Lasoborki Pyrngap*.....513
57. Immigration in the Post-Independent
Period in Assam: Some Aspects —*Amulya Kalita*.....520
58. Insurgency Movement in the Garo Hills
of Meghalaya —*Sanggra A. Sangma*.....530

59. Colonial Disarmament Policy and Indigenous Response
in the Chin Hills —*Pum Khan Pau*.....542
60. Water: Boon or Bane to Manipur under the British Rule
—*M. Mustaque Alish Aijaja*.....554
61. History of Radio Broadcasting in Northeast India
with Special Reference to Manipur
—*Nawaz Khan & M. Abhilasha*.....564
62. Unsung Heroes: The Khasis in the I.N.A. —*Amena N. Passah*.....577
63. Trails of INA in Naga Hills during World War II
—*Zhokusheyi Rhakho*.....592
64. Partition of 1947: The Politics and Experiences of
the Khasi-Jaintia Hills —*Sashi Teibor Laloo*.....602
65. Islamic Religious Shrines of Lower Assam:
A Study —*Mirza Abdur Rohim Mollah*.....609
66. Role of Freedom Fighters of Nalbari and Barpeta
Districts in the Quit India Movement —*Ajit Chandra Deka*.....617

Papers Presented631

Appendix

- A. Executive Committee of NEIHA, 38th Session, Mirza (2016-17).....636
- B. Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive
Committee, NEIHA, at Mirza (38th Session)637
- C. Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the 38th Session
of (NEIHA) held at Mirza640
- D. General Secretary's Report for 2016-2017644
- E. Treasurer's Report for 2016-2017647
- F. Life Members of the North East India History Association648
- G. Life Members who are no longer with us694
- H. Annual Members of North East India History Association
for XXXVIII Session held at Mirza695