

OFFICE OF THE
GRACIOUS SOCIETY

AHTRIBUNG: PEREN, NAGALAND

Regd. No.- HOME/SRC- 7369, dated 20-10-2022, *NGO Darpan ID- NL/2024/0449614*

Email: cherylgracious@gmail.com, mb:-, 8731963043, 8416013163

REPORT ON NEC SPONSORED SEMINAR - WEAVING HERITAGE

The NEC sponsored seminar- **Weaving Heritage: A Seminar for Propagating Sustainable Community Life in Harmonious Co-existence with Nature through the Cultural and Traditional Ethos and Values of the Tribal Kukis in Nagaland** was held at four different places in two districts of Nagaland on 16th Sept., 20th Sept., 27th Sept., and 4th Oct. 2025. 8.00 lakhs NEC funding

Resource persons were:-

1. Shri. Lensei Lotjem, President, Custom and Culture Board Kuki Inpi Nagaland,
2. Shri Zampao Kilong, Social and Culture Secy. KIN,
3. Smti. Hatjaphal, Writer of folk songs and folklores,
4. Smti. Hoineichin Singson, Founder of Gracious Society, Ahtribung,
5. Dr. David Hanneng, Asst. Professor, Burdwan University.

Gracious Society organised the seminars in collaboration and with the support of Kuki Students' Organisation Nagaland and Kuki Inpi Nagaland (tribal Kuki Apex Body).

The modes of presenting the seminars were paper presentations, projector, quiz and displaying of cultural and traditional items.

Since, most of the place where seminars were held are in remote rural area in Ahtribung sub-division under Peren district and the organiser and resource persons have to travel day ahead and camp in the nearest town called Jalukie, Peren district of Nagaland where fooding and lodging is available

1. First Seminar at Ahtribung (16th Sept. 2025): Ahtribung is an interior mini hill town located under rural area of Peren district, Nagaland. It is 66 Kms. away from Dimapur. The seminar was conducted at Community Hall with students, youths, church leaders, village elders and leaders from nearby villages as the participants. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. L. Gangte, Retd. SDEO. It was held in three sessions:-

- i) *Khankho*- The Guiding Principle of Life: - Harmonious life in a community and peaceful co-existence with nature through folk songs and folk lores.
- ii) Celebration of festivals in light of nature as co-partner to life and providence.
- iii) Weaving handloom-significance of nature as identified through traditional motives and designs.

With the active participation from the participants in the discussion hour and quiz, it can be seen that the seminar enlightened and inspired on how the cultural and traditional values and ethos of the tribal Kukis co-exist harmoniously with nature as a co-partner to life.

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The seminar went about five hours along with displaying of cultural and traditional items to show the rich heritage of relationship with nature, where nature has been a provider of life in day to day living. After the seminar, the participants were served a heavy meal.

2. Second Seminar at Lilen (20th Sept. 2025) : Lilen is located at the interior part of rural area of Peren district, Nagaland. It is 54 Kms away from Dimapur. Like Ahtibung, the nearest town to Lilen is Jalukie which is 12 Kms away and the roads are kaccha road and in bad condition. The resource persons have to travel one day ahead and camp at Jalukie Town.

The seminar was held at Community hall at 11:00 AM. It was inaugurated by Shri. Seijalam Hangsing, Vice President, Kuki Inpi Nagaland. As mentioned earlier, the seminar was held in three sessions along with displaying of cultural and traditional items. Questions were ask in the form of quiz competitions. It was attended by students, youths, village elders and leaders from nearby villages as the participants.

As a sign of their concern and commitment to take care of nature through the seminar, the Chief of Lilen village led on planting trees on the seminar day. The seminar ended with a heavy meal and the resource persons and the organizers returned to the hotel after the nightfall at Jalukie town.

3. Third Seminar at Bongkolong Village (27th Sept. 2025): Bongkolong is one of the most interior Kuki villages under rural area of Peren district, Nagaland. The seminar was held at Community hall. Like the other places mentioned earlier, Jalukie is the nearest town which is 49 Kms away. The road is only kaccha which is in a pathetic condition. As mentioned before, it was conducted in three sessions. Cultural and traditional items were shown to portray the significant of nature in our daily life.

The participants actively participated in discussion and question hour, which was held in the form of quiz competition, showed their interest in upholding their cultural and traditional ethos and values in preserving the nature. The seminar was followed by planting of trees by village elders, GBs and Church elders from the participants from nearby villages. The Seminar ended with a heavy meal served to all the participants. The resource persons and organizers returned towards Jalukie at night.

4 Fourth Seminar at Molvom (4th October, 2025): Molvom is located some 30 kms away from Dimapur and is under Chumoukedima district. The seminar was held at Molvom. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. L. Singsit, IPS Retd, the President of Kuki Inpi Nagaland. It was attended by Church elders, village leaders, youths from neighbouring villages and representatives from Kuki Mother Association. The seminar was conducted in three sessions along with displaying of traditional and cultural items showing our rich relation with nature.

The delegates from Mothers' Association led the planting of trees at Molvom to show that just like mother nourishes a child; it is nature that nourishes us.

The seminar ended with heavy refreshment.

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Through these seminars, the organizers could reach out around 30 villages and people in town areas. Due to weather condition, the organizers faced bad road and bad weather challenges. However, inspite of all these challenges, the participants eagerly participated in the seminars. This shows that they were enlighten and at the same time took keen interest on their cultural and traditional ethos in harmonious co-existence with nature.

This project seminar happens to be the first kind of seminar among the tribal Kukis of Nagaland. We express our sincere gratitude to the North Eastern Council for sponsoring these seminars for the tribal Kukis of Nagaland.



(THANGJAMANG MISAO)

Project Director

Project Director
Gracious Society
Ahtribung : Nagaland



(HOINEICHIN SINGSON)

Chairman

Chairman
Gracious Society, Ahtribung
Peren : Nagaland

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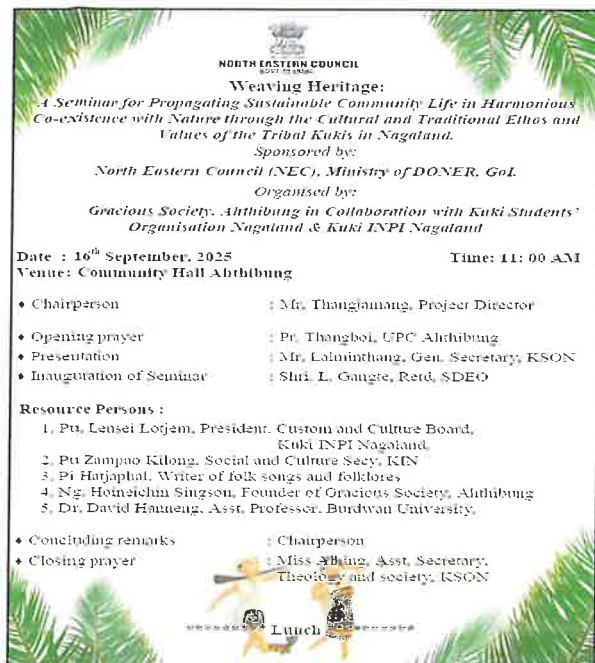
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The Weaving Heritage Seminars Report through Pictures and News Clips

1) Weaving Heritage Seminar at Ahtribung, Peren District, Nagaland on 16th Spetember,2025.



Weaving Heritage Seminar Programme and Shri L. Gangte, Retd. SDEO, inaugurating the seminar programme



Resource Person Shri Lensei Lotjem, President, Custom and Cultural Board, Kuki INPI Nagaland along with Smti. Hoiniecin Singson, Founder of Gracious Society and Gracious Society Handloom.



Shri Zampao Kilong, Sopcial and Culturay Secy, Kuki INPI Nagaland (Tribal Apex body) delivering his presentation. The second pictures is the participants mostly students having their lunch.



Group Photo at Ahthibung, Peren Nagaland

3) **Weaving Heritage Seminar at Lilen Village, Peren District, Nagaland on 20th September, 2025**



Resource person with projector showing nature as co-partner of life while participants participated in the discussion hour



Participants having lunch and the Chief of Lilen Village planting tree signifying the important of trees in life.

3) Weaving Heritage Seminar at Bongkolong, Peren District, Nagaland, on 27th September, 2025



Project Director addressing the participants



Gifts are presented to Invitees and Dignitaries



Resource person giving presentation on the human and nature inter-dependent relationship. The second picture is of an elderly person planting trees for the coming generation.



4) **Weaving Heritage Seminar at Molvom, Chumoukedima District, Nagaland on 4th October, 2026.**



Resource person Dr David Hanneng presenting the connection between folk lores and folk songs with nature with the help of projector. The second picture is a pose with the leaders of KNK (Mothers' Association)



The President of Kuki Nute Kiloikhom (Mother's Association) planting tree to signifies that for a sustainable life we must take care of nature who are co-partner of life. The next picture is about the participants of the seminar at Molvom having a good and heavy lunch