

NORTH EAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE NOVEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace (NEIWIP). The journey of a humble initiative of women from India's Northeast that started in 2010 has now entered its third year. A network of over 120 women has been formed from across eight states of the region and efforts are on to further strengthen work for peace, democracy and rights of the people of region through this initiative.

Please find here November 2013 issue newsletter, positive news of November regarding Diaspora, history, peace and news on women empowerment from Northeast India and rest of the world to renew our hopes and strengthen our efforts to work towards peace making.

YouthNet & Eclectic Northeast Young Leaders Connect 2013

Source: Kanglaonline, 18 Nov 2013

YouthNet in association with Eclectic Publications is organising the 3rd edition of the Young Leaders Connect, to be held on 22nd November 2013 in Guwahati. The Young Leaders Connect acts as a powerful network of influential leaders visualizing where they would like to see North East vis-à-vis India in the next 10 years, plan a roadmap for the future and strategize interventions at the grassroots and policy level. [Read more:](#)

34th annual conference of NE India History Association held at Manipur University

Source: TwoCircles.net, 16 Nov 2013

The North East India History Association (NEIHA) held its 34th Annual Conference from 11th to 13th November 2013 at Manipur University, in Manipur. The conference, hosted by Department of History, Manipur University, was inaugurated at the Centenary Hall of the university on 11th November. [Read more:](#)

A woman's body is a war zone

Source: Tehelka, 9 Nov 2013

Any stage that women as brave and interesting as Haifa Zangana, Golshifteh Farahani, Binalakshmi Nepram, Ima Ngambi and Caroline Fourest share, is bound to stir controversy. The fact is, as Fourest (a French journalist of some distinction who has made a documentary on the radical feminist group Femen) said, women are not expected to be unsmiling, to be aggressive. [Read more:](#)

Northeast showcases its rich culture and traditions at India International Trade Fair

Source: Aninews.in, 25, Nov 2013

A large number of crafts persons and entrepreneurs from eight northeastern states are participating in the India International Trade Fair 2013 in New Delhi. Each state has a dedicated pavilion at the fair with different themes. Around 20 exhibitors from Nagaland showcased a variety of products like handloom, artificial jewellery, decorative items, paintings and cultural artifacts. [Read more:](#)

Easterine Kire: A writer who is taking the Northeastern state worldwide

Source: Livemint.com, 27 Nov 2013

This week, Naga poet and author Easterine Kire received the Catalan PEN International Voice Award at Lloseta, Spain. In her acceptance speech, she rightly said that this award was a recognition for "Nagas as a whole". A prolific poet, novelist and writer-activist, Kire, 54, is the first published writer from Nagaland writing in English. Kire's writing has lyrical beauty, which makes her activist zeal to take Naga stories out to the world all the more powerful. [Read more:](#)

Burma wants trades with Northeast India

Source: Bnionline.net, 26 Nov 2013

Two Burmese political leaders, who arrived in Assam for a business summit, made an unanimous call for improving trade linkages with the northeastern States of India. Addressing the 9th North East Business Summit 2013 at Dibrugarh in eastern Assam, Mandalay chief minister U Ye Myint and Sagaing chief minister U Thar Aye stated that the region, which is adjacent to northern Burma (Myanmar) has a huge potential of trades. [Read more:](#)

Youth mission for Northeast India

Source: Donboscoindia.com, 22 Nov 2013

The Salesians of Don Bosco who arrived in Shillong in 1922 are planning an ambitious programme called "Don Bosco School Improvement Mission" (DBSIM), which is dubbed internally, as DBVision 2020! The programme is expected to impact the lives of over 100,000 young people in 6 years. [Read more:](#)

Abotani: the primal ancestor of the Tani group people of North East India

Source: Pasighat Wordpress

Abotani is considered the primal ancestor of the Tani group of people in Arunachal Pradesh – Apatani, Nyishi, Adi, Tagin, Hill Miri. They follow the Donyi Polo belief system and they consider Abotani as the one who firstly introduced the technique of rice cultivation. The following story is told orally through priests Miri among the Adi people: In older time Abotani Abo "father", tani "human" has wandered in forest for want of food. Once he went to Takar-Taji's place Tatar-Taji marriage ceremony where a gaur Mithun was sacrificed. [Read more:](#)

Mizoram's Chapchar Kut Festival

Source: Sevendary.com

Chapchar Kut — the most joyful festival of the Mizoram, is celebrated in the month of March every year across the state. It is believed that Chapchar Kut existed in the land of Mizoram from the era of 1450 to 1600. Chapchar kut is celebrated before the onset of the sowing season. After February Mizos prepare the land for fresh planting. During this time — jungles are cleared, bamboos and trees are cut down, and the land is prepared for jhum cultivation. [Read more:](#)

Meghalaya launches massive skill development programme for youth

Source: Zeenews, 22 Nov 2013

Meghalaya, a state of just 3 million people and a 75 percent literacy rate, is embarking on a skill development programme covering 196,000 youths to stem burgeoning unemployment and unemployability in this mountainous northeastern state. [Read more:](#)

Mizoram film industry pins hope on new government

Source: Zeenews, 20 Nov, 2013

Swamped by Korean films dubbed in Mizo language, the film industry in Mizoram hopes that whichever party comes to power after polls should allocate more funds for its development. The chorus for more funds for Mizo films had gained momentum after a movie by independent film-maker Mapui Chungwatha, 'Khawnglung Run', was selected for screening in the Goa International Film Festival. [Read more:](#)

TV channel for Arunachal and Sikkim soon

Source: Zeenews, 11 Nov 2013

Prasar Bharati will soon launch a television channel for Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim to help promote the rich art and culture of these two northeastern states. A TV channel 'Prabha' will be launched soon for the two states, Prasar Bharati CEO Jawahar Sircar said in a meeting with the staff of the All India Radio and the Doordarshan Kendra (DDK) here yesterday, a press release said here. [Read more:](#)

West Sikkim gets first 5-star resort

Source: Sevendary.com, 13 Nov 2013

West Sikkim's first 5-star resort at Naku Chumbong, Pelling has been inaugurated by state Chief Minister Pawan Chamling yesterday. The Chumbi Mountain Resort & Spa is spread over three acres of land and offers an amazing view of Khangchendzonga range and is set up in a natural environment that offers hospitality in tranquility. [Read more:](#)

Manipur to witness first International flight on Nov 21

Source: Sevendary.com, 13 Nov 2013

Tulihal Airport in Imphal is finally set to debut on International Aviation map on November 21, more precisely at 9.30 am, when Golden Myanmar Airlines aircraft from Myanmar makes it maiden landing at the airport, coinciding with the inaugural event of Manipur Sangai Tourism Festival 2013 on the same day. [Read more:](#)

Nagaland declared 'Falcon capital of the World'

Source: Assamtribune, 25 Nov 2013

An international team of ornithologists has declared Nagaland as the "Falcon capital of the world" after estimating that about one million Amur Falcons roost in the State during the small aerial predators' annual migration on way to South Africa. The phenomenon is declared the largest in the world. [Read more:](#)

4th Upper Assam Chavang Kut Festival celebrates in Dibrugarh

Source: Sevendary.com, 24 Nov 2013

The Chavang Kut, one of the biggest festivals of the Chin-Kuki-Mizo community was celebrated on the 10th November, under the theme "Kut: A Testimony of Our Common Origin" at the Assam Sahitya Sabha Auditorium in Chowkidingee, Dibrugarh. [Read more:](#)

Forest Man: Jadav Payeng of Assam fetches award

Source: Sevendary.com, 14 Nov 2013

The Forest Man of India – Jadav Payeng, whose lone efforts in planting trees and protecting what has become a small forest area filled with birds and animals in a remote sandbar near Majuli in Assam, has drawn global attention. His small budget 30-minute documentary made last year by Canadian William Douglas McMaster, entitled Forest Man, has received the International Film Festival of Cinematic Arts (IFFCA) for short film documentary award 2013. [Read more:](#)

Community Radio stations to go live across Assam

Source: Sevendary.com, 13 Nov, 2013

In a bid to focus on educational programmes and training programmes for the unemployed youth in Assam. The state government would set up Community Radio Stations (CRS) with Department of Information and Public Relations (IPRD) across the state. The CRS project would aim to also address the various issues faced by the communities of the state and to promote the folk culture of various indigenous groups. [Read more:](#)

Exotic cuisine and a grand culture tour in India's northeast

Source: Forimmediaterelase.net, 27, Nov 2013

Based in the remote and non-touristy regions of Northeast India, Greener Pastures is a sustainable travel company which promotes the responsible tours and adventures in an area which is predominantly forested and home to indigenous cultures. Due to the region's unique location of being triangulated by South Asia, Tibet and South East Asia, Northeast India is a sort of melting point of cultures which trace their history to all of these places. [Read more:](#)

Sikkim: World's best region to visit in 2014, says Lonely Planet

Source: Sevendary.com, 1, Nov 2013

The tiny Himalayan state Sikkim has been named as the best region to visit in 2014. The suggestion comes from the travel guide Lonely Planet on 'Best in Travel 2014 – Top 10 regions'. The guide Sikkim's record as India's cleanest state and its sustainable community-based tourism in less developed areas. [Read more:](#)

NorthEast.Ink

Source: Thenortheasttoday, 9 Nov 2013

Art for generation has been an expression, portrayal or a visual representation of one's creativity and ideas. For centuries it is been a creation that stimulates an individual's thoughts, emotions, beliefs or ideas through the senses. Art has always been dominating around the globe and has always portrayed different ethnic cultures and indigenous tribes and people for many like us in the Northeast India. [Read more:](#)

Folklore from North-East India – Nohkalikali falls: a Folktale from Meghalaya

Source: Greener Pastures

The Khasi Tribe of Meghalaya are unarguably one of the most fascinating people of Northeastern India. They have stories for nearly almost everything. Here is one about the Nohkalikai Waterfalls ~ Long ago, a young woman named Likai had a daughter. She married a man for the second time – a man who loathed his step-daughter. [Read more](#)

The Elephant's Nose: An Assamese Folktale

Source: Kidsgen

Many years ago, it is said, that elephants had small trunks with stubbed noses. One year, it did not rain for many months. The ponds and lakes began to dry up, and the streams had very little water. All the animals in the forest were very thirsty, and desperately searching for a source of water. A river used to flow not very far away from the forest, and an elephant decided to go there in search of water. [Read more:](#)

Folktales from Assam

Source: Friedeye.com

"Burhi Aai'r Xaadhu" (literally translated to Grandma's Tales) is a collection of stories or folklore, that have been compiled by famous Assamese author and poet Laxminath Bezbarua. As most folklores go, before this version, there had been no written record of these stories. While some of the stories are more like the Assamese version of Panchatantra, with speaking animals and birds as main characters of the story, most of these are based on the life of a simple villager. [Read more:](#)

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