



Consulate General
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Kolkata



THE ASIATIC SOCIETY



Ministry of Culture
Government of India



EXHIBITION & SYMPOSIUM ON

Documenting & Safeguarding the Cultural Heritage of Nagaland

PROGRAM ON MARCH 20, 2025

3 PM | Exhibition Inauguration

Agenda

- 3:15 - 3:20 PM | **Welcome & Introduction**
Ananya Bhattacharya, Director, Contact Base
- 3:20 - 3:25 PM | **Indo-German Collaboration for Cultural Preservation**
Barbara Voss, Consul General, German Consulate General, Kolkata
- 3:25 - 3:40 PM | **Asiatic Society and Cultural Heritage Preservation**
Col. Anant Sinha, Administrator, The Asiatic Society Kolkata
- 3:40 - 3:50 PM | **Congratulatory remarks**
Invited dignitaries from Nagaland Government
- 3:50 - 4:00 PM | **Website Launch – NagalandLivingHeritage.com**
Dr. Madhura Dutta, Culture & Development Specialist, Contact Base
- 4:00 - 4:10 PM | **Presentation on Oral Tradition**
Veswuzo Phesao, Ex Deputy Director, NEZCC
- 4:10 - 4:20 PM | **Past Forward: Reimagining Cultural Preservation**
Rheiweu Kreoh, Co-founder, Lihnyü Kro
Mr. Kedoutsolhi Wetsah, Ex Secretary, Zapami Village Development Board
- 4:20 - 4:40 PM | **Lost & Found: Reclaiming Indigenous Languages**
Dr. Lanurenla, HOD Literature Division, Ao Academy
Biswadip Chakraborty, Founder-Director, Antonym Collection and Antonym Council of Global Art and Literature
- 4:40 - 5:10 PM | **Echoes of Tradition: Innovation & Indigenous Aesthetics**
Bambi Kevichusa, Founder, Bambi K.
Swarup Dutta, Scenographer
Moderated by **Esha Dutta**, Director, Priya Entertainment Pvt Ltd.
- 5:10 - 5:25 PM | **Open Session & Q&A**
Moderated by **Ananya Bhattacharya**
- 5:25 - 5:30 PM | **Vote of Thanks**
Dr. Shakti Mukherjee, R.O In Charge, Asiatic Society
- 5:30 - 6:00 PM | **Networking & Tea | Exhibition Visit**

PROGRAM ON MARCH 21, 2025

11:00 AM- 6:00 PM | **Exhibition and Sales**

Profile of Speakers and Exhibitors



Veswuzo Phesao

Ex Deputy Director, NEZCC

Veswuzo Phesao (retd. Dy Dir. of NEZCC) is reviving Chakhesang architecture, folk songs, dances, and instruments. His home in Naga United Village, Chümoukedima is a living museum, embodying the essence of traditional Naga architecture.



Kedoutsolhi Wetsah

Ex Secretary, Zapami Village Development Board

Mr. Kedoutsolhi Wetsah, from Zapami Village, Phek District, Nagaland, is a distinguished community leader known for his dedicated service. As the former Village Development Board (VDB) Secretary of Zapami, he played a pivotal role in community development, earning accolades such as the Best Implementation Award from the Chakhesang Public Organisation and the Best VDB Award in Phek District from DRDA Phek. He was also honored with the Best District Commendation Award by the Deputy Commissioner of Phek. A graduate in Arts, he remains actively involved in social and cultural initiatives, contributing to the progress of his community and beyond.



Rheiweu Kreoh

Co-founder, Lihnyü Kro

Rheiweu Kreoh is a women's leader and Indigenous Environmental Advocate from Nagaland, committed to preserving traditional crafts, weaving, and eco-friendly practices. As co-founder of Lihnyü Kro (a community driven initiative) she leads sustainable heritage conservation through stinging nettle weaving, tree planting, and community clean-ups. A strong voice in climate justice and eco-theology, she actively engages in global discussions on biodiversity conservation and indigenous wisdom.



Dr. Lanurenla

Head of the Literature Division, Ao Academy

Dr. Lanurenla is currently serving as the Principal of a college in Nagaland and is deeply involved in literary and academic pursuits. She has co-authored four books, co-edited one, and translated four documents and books. As the Head of the Literature Division of Ao Academy, she plays a vital role in preserving and promoting Ao literature and language. With extensive experience in translation, she has contributed significantly to linguistic and cultural documentation. Her expertise in Ao Language Translation continues to support scholarly research and the enrichment of indigenous literature.



Profile of Speakers and Exhibitors



Biswadip Chakraborty

Founder-Director, Antonym Collection and Antonym Council of Global Art and Literature

Biswadip Chakraborty is an engineer, writer, restaurateur, and travel enthusiast. An engineer by training, he has authored four Bengali fiction books, weaving compelling narratives that resonate with readers. His passion for literature extends beyond writing—he is the Founder-Director of Antonym Collection and the Antonym Council of Global Art and Literature, platforms dedicated to fostering cross-cultural literary exchanges. Alongside his literary pursuits, he is also a restaurateur, blending creativity with hospitality. Biswadip's diverse endeavors reflect his commitment to storytelling, culture, and innovation, making him a dynamic force in both the literary and entrepreneurial landscapes.



Bambi Kevichusa

Founder, Bambi K.

Bambi is a celebrated fashion designer from Nagaland, renowned for her exquisite bridal wear and innovative use of traditional Naga weaves and natural fabrics. Trained at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, her designs have gained global recognition, gracing runways from Nagaland to Europe and the U.S. Her work is also featured in the Horniman Museum, London. Beyond fashion, she owns Windfall, a concept store in Nagaland offering curated clothing, furnishings, and home decor. With a keen eye for design and craftsmanship, Bambi continues to redefine indigenous fashion with elegance and innovation.



Swarup Dutta

Scenographer

Swarup Dutta is a scenographer, educator, photographer, and multidisciplinary artist based in Kolkata, working globally. With a Master's in Fashion & Textiles from Nottingham Trent University, he has led design education at NIFT Kolkata and served as Dean of Academics at the Indian Institute of Crafts & Design. Passionate about heritage restoration, he has repurposed old Kolkata homes and revived traditional crafts. His scenography practice creates immersive public art experiences, including The India Story. A collaborator with folk and urban artists, he has worked with artisans from Nagaland during the Project Documenting and Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Nagaland. He continues to push creative boundaries through design, installations, and photography.



Esha Dutta

Director, Priya Entertainments Pvt. Ltd.

Esha Dutta is the Director of Priya Entertainments Pvt Ltd. and Ehsaas Woman of Kolkata, an initiative of Prabha Khaitan Foundation. She also serves as the Convener for North East India Affairs at the foundation, playing a pivotal role in fostering cultural and literary initiatives. She initiated the Ehsaas chapter in Northeast India, expanding it to Guwahati, Shillong, Dimapur, and Aizawl. With her leadership, she continues to bridge communities, promote cultural exchange, and amplify voices from the Northeast, making a significant impact in the literary and artistic spheres.



Profile of Speakers and Exhibitors



Wekhro U Wetsah



Mudotsulu Thopi

Tukhu Rhi

Tukhu Rhi is a women's collective based in Bade Village, Nagaland, dedicated to crafting eco-friendly products from banana fiber. With a deep commitment to sustainability and traditional craftsmanship, the collective weaves baskets, mats, and other handmade items, preserving indigenous skills while promoting economic empowerment. Wekhro U Wetsah and Mudotsulu Thopi, two incredible women artists, will showcase their exceptional craftsmanship at this exhibition, highlighting the rich heritage of banana fiber weaving.



Rheiweu Kreoh



Kedoutsolhi Wetsah

Lihnyü Kro

Zapami, a heritage village in Phek district, Nagaland, is home to the Chakhesang community. Through various community-based organizations and village councils, they preserve age-old traditions of community-led governance, social order, customs, practices, textiles, handicrafts, food, cultivation, songs, dances, and architecture. Lihnyü Kro, a community-based organization, will showcase and sell their handcrafted textiles and artifacts at this exhibition, celebrating their rich heritage.



Aienla Longkumar

Inla's Genesis

Inla's Genesis was founded in 2015 as a journey of freedom and creativity by Aienla Longkumar. After over a decade in the corporate sector, Aienla chose passion over security, turning jewelry-making from a hobby into a full-time career. Her designs are bold, unique, and unconventional, blending tradition with modernity for all ages and genders. Inspired by life's small joys, she creates pieces that celebrate individuality while keeping heritage alive.

