

# Ningel Villagers still safeguarding traditional Salt Well

"After working for such a long years, I had been able to employ few locals of Ningel in manufacturing the local salt (Ningel Thum) and also helping them to maintain their family. In terms of wages of the employers, it has been given according to number of salt they made per day. Though required more workers, there are few workers at her shed (Thumshung) manufacturing salt known as Eeshing Kabi (one who fetch salt water from the well). Mei thabi (one who control over the firing of hearth) and Thum shabi (those who make salt)", said Khujam Ongbi Maipakpi.

Ningel Village has three salt-wells where two of which are cemented and the remaining oldest one is a wooden structure known as Ching-Yenjin. The villagers mainly used the oldest well as it carries larger volume of salt water that remained filled all the time and never over flow. There is a Shrine of the guardian god Nongpok Ningthou and Panthoibi in its northern extremity of the village which is very near to the site of salt well.

There are also three aother salt well near Ningel namely Chundrakhong, Seekhong (Chi= salt, Khong= well) and Waikong but they don't produce salt anymore due to none maintenance and among three one of them has been

totally destroyed due to excavation of hill areas.

**Types of Salt**  
The locally manufactured salt cakes found in the state are looks like the shape of a plate and there are five types of Salt (Thum) namely (1) *Thumjao*, the biggest size of salt cake ever produced in Manipur, (2) *Thum Talak*, little smaller than the Thumjao, (3) *Thum Samer*, characterised by the presence of a small ring of depression at the central surface and a thin edge, (4) *Thum Koiga*, a plain form of salt cake that bears no central depression or inner ring, (5) *Thum macha*, the smallest form of salt cakes produced by the Meitei salt makers.

**Method for Preparation**  
Fresh salt waters collected from the well are brought to the shed (thumshung) and stored in a large earthen pitcher then the required quantities of fresh salt waters stored in the pitcher are uniformly poured over the pans that are placed on the larger holes in successive rows than allowed to boil till a preliminary concentration of the salt water is noticed. The concentrated waters are then transferred from one pan to another with the help of dry gourd spoon, where maximum heat is available. The precipitate form of salt with larger concentration produces white bubbles arising inside the pan. It shows that the boiling of salt water in an



appropriate temperature is attained. These crystalline forms of concentrated salts are collected in an earthen plate and transferred to the salt makers for giving shape of the salt cake. Salt is given shape on the circular iron trays called Tei that are place upon the smaller holes of the hearth. By placing plantain leaves on the surface of the tray salts are given shape in a low temperature. To get a complete form of round structure it is finally given finishing touch by rubbing the edges with the help of a potsherd or Chegai (a piece of pot used for scrapping the rim of salt cake to give a finishing touch). "Despite preserving the tradition of salt production and manufacturing the indigenous salt, the earning is not quite sufficient. During off season they had to struggle to maintain their livelihood compare to season's time where they travel everyday to Imphal Market far from their village to supply the prepared salt to the brokers where they made quite good earnings."

"Few years back, the villagers had sought for help from the concern authority and

government for the preservation of the NINGEL THUMKHONG from being extinct but none have turned their eye on them. The villagers were left with no option to preserve it by their own", said Khujam Ongbi Maipakpi. Khujam Ongbi Maipakpi disappointedly said that he would also like to renovate her salt shed (thumshung) for proper production of salt. Even her house is in bad shape but had no option to continue with the daily situation. If the government and concern authority show interest in preserving the Ningel Thumkhong and the remaining salt manufacturer of the Ningel Village, it will bring some changes in the Ningel Villages, said Khumujam Ongbi Maipakpi.

The villagers of Ningel are still waiting for support and different policies from the government side. They also shows interest for festival of Salt (Local made Thum) in their village like the festival of Morok, Orange, Pineapple, etc. so that the whole world will know that their still exist the indigenous salt of Manipur.

# Popular movements in colonial Manipur, 1891-1947

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It is worth mentioning that in early 1917, 22nd Manipur labour corps was raised with a strength of 2000 Nagas and Kukis. Much against the wishes of people, authorities again made arrangements for raising a second labour corps in September 1917, which was strongly objected by the Kuki chiefs and they were even prepared to resist the actions if continued, with force. Having sensed such an adamant attitude of the Kuki chiefs, Higgins, the political agent warned the chief's that they had either to supply recruits within a fixed period or submit to punishment. Ngulkhup, chief of Mombi village, as a challenge to the warning sent around message to the Kuki inhabiting villages that if they sent coolies, their village would be burnt and their women and children killed. Higgins on failure to arrest Ngulkhup burnt down his village. Meanwhile, Chingakhom Sanajaoba, a Meitei who claimed to have possessed messianic powers spread a message that the days of British raj are numbered and went to Wakha, mobilised ten Kuki villages then attacked and looted the forest toll station on 19 December, 1917. Attempts by the Assam Rifles to subdue them proved ineffective and suffered heavy casualties in attempting to take the strongly fortified Kuki stockades. The Thadous (a sub-tribe of Kuki) destroyed telegraph lines and cut the road to Burma. Alarmed by these developments the state government started sending in more force but without much result. However by the end of

1918 the government started getting an upperhand and by March 1919 they were able to take the sting out of the movement. The Kuki rebellion, though short-lived brought far reaching changes in the history of Manipur. The most significant result of the rebellion was the overall reorganisation of the administration of Manipur. The most significant result of the rebellion was the overall reorganisation of the administration of Manipur hills. Reactions against the British rule in the hills of Manipur continued in the form of Kabui rebellion under the leadership of Haipou Jadonang, a Kabui Naga of Kambiron in Tamenglong District. Jadonang's movement was primarily anti-British and revivalist in nature and character. Some historians prefer to call, Jadonang's movement as Zeliangrong movement. Zeliangrong is a generic term denoting a conglomeration of three kindred tribes of the Kabuis, viz. Zemi, Liangmei and Rongmei. The spread of Christianity and extension of colonial administration in the hill areas of Manipur greatly undermined the internal structure, traditional institutions and old values of the Kabuis. There was tension and frequent conflict between the new converts and traditional elite represented by the village council members. The chiefs and village elders started feeling that their privileges and powers were being undermined by the new converts who had the patronage and backing of colonial officials and missionaries. Another feature of the movement was the attempt

to revive and revitalise the Kabui traditional religion against advancing Christianity. This fact was amply supported by the importance given to their worship of Tingkao Ragwang (God of the Heavens or Universe). By doing so Jadonang abolished a number of irrational taboos and superstitions. To realise his belief more popular Jadonang initiated construction of a number of temples as places of worship and centre of religious discourse. He also introduced hymns in the local language. Even before this Jadonang had carried recognition and fame as a result of his healing and soothsaying activities. Through these activities Jadonang was able to earn and command respect among his people. Very soon people from the surrounding areas including Cachar and Naga hills started visiting Kambiron village to meet and seek advice and blessings of Jadonang. It is against such socio-religious revival movement that Jadonang started his political movement. During the course of operation against the rebelling Kukis, the hill people suffered a lot as a result of the tightening administrative control over the hill areas of Manipur. They were subjected to severe harassments like strict enforcement of payment of hill house tax and forced labour of pothang system. To launch his movement Jadonang made an elaborate preparation. (To be contd.....)

10. (1one) post of Labourer :

Pay Scale	Essential Qualification	Desirable	Age Limit	ST
Rs. 4,400 + 7,440 and Grade pay of Rs. 1,300/-	i) VIII Passed..	Knowledge of Hindi and Manipuri.	i) 38 yrs. and below (Relaxable by 5 yrs. for SC/ST & 3 yrs. for OBC Candidates). ii) The upper age limit is relaxable for Govt. Servants appointed under Govt. of Manipur/Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat to the extent of the period of continuous service put in the post/service who belongs to SC/ST/OBC will get the facility admissible to a Govt. servant in addition to the relaxation admissible to SC/ST/OBC candidates mentioned at (i) above	1

11. (1one) post of Farrash :

Pay Scale	Essential Qualification	Desirable	Age Limit	ST
Rs. 4,400 + 7,440 and Grade pay of Rs. 1,300/-	i) HSLC Passed.	Knowledge of Hindi and Manipuri.	i) 38 yrs. and below (Relaxable by 5 yrs. for SC/ST & 3 yrs. for OBC Candidates). ii) The upper age limit is relaxable for Govt. Servants appointed under Govt. of Manipur/Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat to the extent of the period of continuous service put in the post/service who belongs to SC/ST/OBC will get the facility admissible to a Govt. servant in addition to the relaxation admissible to SC/ST/OBC candidates mentioned at (i) above	1

11. (1one) post of Jr. Machineman :

Pay Scale	Essential Qualification	Desirable	Age Limit	ST
Rs. 4,400 + 7,440 and Grade pay of Rs. 1,300/-	i) HSLC Passed. ii) Knowledge of handing Printing Machines, both Platen & Cylinder.	Knowledge of Hindi and Manipuri.	i) 38 yrs. and below (Relaxable by 5 yrs. for SC/ST & 3 yrs. for OBC Candidates). ii) The upper age limit is relaxable for Govt. Servants appointed under Govt. of Manipur/Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat to the extent of the period of continuous service put in the post/service who belongs to SC/ST/OBC will get the facility admissible to a Govt. servant in addition to the relaxation admissible to SC/ST/OBC candidates mentioned at (i) above	1

11. (1one) post of Binder :

Pay Scale	Essential Qualification	Desirable	Age Limit	ST
Rs. 4,400 + 7,440 and Grade pay of Rs. 1,300/-	i) VIII Passed. ii) Knowledge of Book Binding.	Knowledge of Hindi and Manipuri.	i) 38 yrs. and below (Relaxable by 5 yrs. for SC/ST & 3 yrs. for OBC Candidates). ii) The upper age limit is relaxable for Govt. Servants appointed under Govt. of Manipur/Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat to the extent of the period of continuous service put in the post/service who belongs to SC/ST/OBC will get the facility admissible to a Govt. servant in addition to the relaxation admissible to SC/ST/OBC candidates mentioned at (i) above	1

**Terms and Conditions :**

- Application on plain paper (type-written) stating the particulars mentioned in the attached APPLICATION FORMAT alongwith self attested copies of certificates/marksheets/testimonials etc. should reach the office of the undersigned on or before 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 during office hour.
- Application must be accompanied by (i) Application fee of Rs. 250/- (Rupees two hundred and fifty) only for Gen/OBC candidates and Rs. 150/- (Rupees one hundred and fifty) only for SC/ST candidates by Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque drawn from S.B.I, Imphal Branch, M.G. Avenue, Imphal in favour of Deputy Secretary(Admn), Manipur Legislative Assembly which must be drawn after the date of publication of this notification and before the last date of submission of applications (ii) Four recent and identical passport size photographs (3.5 x 4.5cm) duly signed by the candidate (one each to be pasted on the top right corner of the application & bottom right corner of the admitcard respectively and another to be stitched with the application) and (iii) Attested copies of certificates/marksheets/testimonials etc.
- Applicants are advised to fill up their application forms correctly, properly and completely otherwise their application will be rejected.
- Candidates already in service should submit their applications through proper channel. Advance copy may be submitted directly. However, in such cases the candidate should submit "NO OBJECTION CERTIFICATE" or original application duly forwarded by the Competent Authority.
- Date of Written Test/Selection Test/Interview will be notified later on.
- Candidates will have to appear for Written Test/Selection Test/Interview at the place/time yet to be notified at their own cost as and when required.
- The Assembly Secretariat shall verify the antecedents or documents submitted by the candidates at any time either at the time of appointment or during the tenure of the service. In case, if it is detected that the documents submitted by the candidates are fake or the candidate has a clandestine antecedents/background and has suppressed the said information, his/her service shall be terminated forthwith.
- Decision of the authority as to the eligibility or otherwise of the candidates will be final.
- This notification may be cancelled any time without assigning any reasons as per decision of the authority.
- Detailed information can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hour.
- There shall be relaxation of upper age limited for those who have the experience of working in the Assembly Secretariat or any Govt. Department/Organisation/institution to the extent of number of year(s) they have served on contract basis or regular basis.

Sd/-  
**(G. Tapankumar Sharma)**  
Deputy Secretary(Admn)  
Manipur Legislative Assembly.

Copy to:-

- P.S. to Hon'ble Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly.
- P.A. to Secretary, Manipur Legislative Assembly.
- Director, Employment Exchange, Govt. of Manipur. For information.
- Editors, The ..... With a request to publish the above Notification in their dailies on 30-09-2016 & 01-10-2016 and to submit the bill in triplicate for early payment.
- Notice Board/Guard File/Concerned File.

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## Document Lost

I have lost my Admit Card, Marksheet and passed Certificate for class X bearing roll no 3115555 of 2000 issued by AISSSE and Admit Card, Marksheet and passed certificate for class XII bearing roll no 3210887 of 2002 issued by AISSCE on the way between Singjamei Chingamakta to Thangal Bazar on 25<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016. Finders are requested to handover it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
Sarangthem Vivek  
Singjamei Chingamakta, Liwa Lambi  
Chanam Pukhri Mapal  
Imphal, West Manipur  
Ph. No. 8131942004

**APPLICATION FORMAT**

Affix a recent self attested coloured passport of (3.5 x 4.5 cm)

**APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF.....**

- Name in full (IN BLOCK LETTERS) : .....
- Father's/Husband's Name : .....
- Postal Address : .....
- Permanent Address : .....
- Date of Birth : .....
- Age (as on 01-09-2016) : .....
- Educational Qualification : .....
- Sex & Marital Status : .....
- Phone/Mobile No. (if any) : .....
- Category (SC/ST/OBC/General) : .....
- Demand Draft No. with Date : .....
- List of enclosures : .....
- Any other relevant information with reference to the requirement of the post (Attach extra sheet, if necessary) : .....
- Nationality : .....
- Religion : .....

**DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that all statements made in this application are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and in the event of any information being found false my candidature is liable to be cancelled.

DATE : .....  
PLACE : ..... SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT IN FULL