

## Appendix-I

## **Glossary of Manipuri Terms**

Ahallup Sanglup - Dormitory for men

AngomNingthou - Head of Cheirap court

*Apokpa Khurumba* - Worship of ancestors

Apokpa Laipham - Altar of clan ancestors of Sanamahi cult

Arambai Hunba - Dart shooting

Asthi - Ashes or a piece of bone of cremated body collected

from pyre for future rituals

Atiya Guru Sidaba / SidabaMapu - Supreme Lord (Creator of the Universe)

Bamons - Brahmins of Indian origin

Bishnupriya - Low class/subordinate class; immigrants

Chahi Taret Khuntakpa - Seven Years Devastation and occupation of

Manipur from 1819 to 1826 CE by Burma

(modern Myanmar)

*Chakhou* - Purple/plain coloured sticky rice indigenous of

Manipur

*Chakpa* - Pre-Meitei indigenous inhabitants of the region;

nowadays, low class/subordinate class

*Chawumba* - *Annaprashan*; first time feeding of solid food to an

infant

*Cheiraoba* - Celebration of Manipuri calendar New Year

*Cheirap* - Court for civil and criminal cases

Cheitharol Kumbaba - Royal chronicle of Manipur maintained from the

reign of Pakhangba, 33 CE

Chenba - Elopement

Cheng-hi - Indigenous shampoo of water drained from cleaning

rice mixed with several aromatic leaves and herbs

ChingkhongPoreiton / Poreiton - The first person who came from the west and lit a

ceremonial fire for the first time at Andro behind

Nongmaijing Hill

Chupsa Moithen - Funeral ceremony of Sanamahi cult

Churakaran - Tonsure or shaving head ceremony (of a child at the

time of initiation)

Garot - Court for military purposes

Hanjaba - Office head

Hidang - Office assistant

Hijan Hirao - Text dealing with nature

Hiyang Tannaba - Boat race

*Imoinu* - Goddess of wealth

*Innaphi* - Stole/shawl- like drape

*Ipanthaba* - Ritual of *Sanamahi* cult for the well-being of the

child

Kajenglei - A beautiful circular tiara

Kang - Rathyatra

*Kangdroom* - Round ball for Polo game

*Kangjei* - Stick for Polo game

Kangjeibung - Playground for Polo game

Kangjeirol - Rules and regulations of Polo game

Kanyadaan - Formal giving away of daughter/sister in marriage

by father/brother

Khamba-Thoibi dance - Dance dedicated to ancient deities by Khamba and

Thoibi

Khangenpham - Courtyard

*Kheer* - *R*ice cooked in milk and sugar

*Khoi mayek* - Unique pattern on the edge of the *phanek* which was

introduced in 969 CE especially for ladies of royal household and other high-end families in ancient

period

Khongjom Nubi Nonggarol - Text on the legend of six girls

Khongjom Parbas - Ballads on Khongjom War episodes

Khubak Eshei - Devotional song and dance with clapping of hands

by female singers with a male drummer during the

nine-day Kang festival (Rathjatra)

Khulang Eshei - Harvesting songs

Khunthok Lakpa /Lakpa - Public relation agent

Khunung Eshei - Folk songs

Khwangjet - Waist band

Kolu Yaithiba - Shrines/ altars of indigenous Meitei deities that were

demolished at the advent of Hinduism

Koubru - Highest peak in Manipur rising up to 8000 feet/

790 m above sea level

Krishna Janma - Janmastami (birth anniversary of Lord Krishna)

Kshatriya - General Meiteis

*Kuchu* - An administrative office especially for women

Kwakjatra - Dussehra

Kwatangla - Paan plates; quarter-sized plates made out of

banana leaves for arranging betel nut, betel leaves, lime, aniseeds, cardamom, a slice of coconut, etc. on

them

Lai Haraoba - Festival of the Meiteis of the indigenous faith;

literally meaning the amusement of the gods and

goddesses

Lai - God/goddess

Laikai - House-builders

Laiming Louba - Taking the name of God; officially embracing

Vaishnavite Hindu faith

Laisara /Laisana - Sister of Poreiton and queen of Pakhangba

Lakkhong - First unit of Kuchu

Lallup - Obligatory service to the King by men and boys

Lalupkaba - Essential class/ common class

Lamlai - Countryside deities (non-domestic)

Lamta Thangja Saroi Khongba - Appeasing of the spirits at year end performed by

women

Lashingphi - Light cotton blanket made with cotton sliver

Laton - Second unit of Kuchu

Leima Lainaotabi - Wife of Poreiton

Leimarel Shidabi - Consort of Atiya Guru Shidaba (Creator of the

Universe)

Leithak Leikharol - Text on the story of creation of world

Loi - Low class/subordinate class; community of Manipur

said to be the descendents of the Chinese prisoners

of war

Loipotkaba - Dishonourable class/ working class

Loishang - Academy or insitution

Loithaba - Infamous punishment and degradation of a high

class person to low status of Lois

Lugoon - Sacred thread of Hindus

Lugoon Thangba - Sacred thread ceremony/initiation ceremony for

boys

Luhongba - Marraige/wedding

Maiba - Priest of the indigenous Meitei faith

Maiba Loisang - Institution of priests

*Maibi* - Priestess of the indigenous Meitei faith

Maibi dance - Creation dance by Maibis

Maibi Loisang - Institution of priestesses

Maichou Loisang - Institution of scholars

Maichou - Scholar

Mandali - Venue circle

Mantri - Minister

Mayangs - People from neighbouring regions; non-Manipuri

Mayeknaibi lei phanek - Light pink and black striped phanek with

embroidered border

Meira Paibi - Women torch-bearers

*Meitei* - The main community inhabiting in the state of

Manipur

Meitei-Leipak/Meitrabak - Land of Meiteis

Meiteilon - Language of Meiteis

Meiteimayek - Indigenous script of Meiteis

*Meiteism* - The indigenous religious faith of the Meiteis

(Manipuris), also known as Sanamahism/ Sanamahi

Apokpa

Moirang innaphi - Innaphi with ethnic temple motif border

Moirang Parba - Ballads based on adventures of Moirang kingdom

*Mongalsang* - Court for Mohammedans

Muga innaphi - Innaphi made of muga (silk)

Mukna Kangjei - A type of Wrestling-Hockey game

Mukna - A type of Manipuri Wrestling

Naahutpa - Ear-piercing ceremony

Naharup Sanglup - Dormitory for boys

Ningol chakouba - Feast dedicated to daughters and sisters in their

Parental homes

Ningthou - Chief of a particular clan/yek/salai

Ningthou Senba - King's bodyguard and house servants

Ningthourol Lambuba - Ancient literary text of Manipur

Nongchupharram - People who came from the West

Nongda Lairen Pakhangba/ -

Pakhangba

- Ruler of the Ningthouja clan; the first king

of Manipuri k]younger son of Atiya Guru Shidaba

and Leimarel Shidabi

Nongpokharram - People who came from the East

Numit Kappa - Text on shooting the Sun

Nupa Pala - Sankirtan by men

Nupi Keithel/Ima Keithel - The largest market run exclusively by women or

mothers; *Nupi* = women, *Ima* = mother,

Keithel = market

Nupi Lan - Women Revolution

Nupi Pala - Sankirtan by women

Ootanbi - Catch-catch game

Ougri - Verse text dealing with creation of universe

*Paja/Pacha* - Court exclusively for women

Pajahanba/Pachahanba - Head of Paja/Pacha court

Pambomjai - Arm bands

Pana Hazari/ Hazari - Military head

Panthoibi Khongul - Text on Footprints of Panthoibi; story of Panthoibi,

the divine mother

Panthoibi - Goddess of warfare

Pena Eshei - Songs with Pena, a musical string instrument

Pena Loisang - Institution of musicians

Phamnaiba - Prestigious class/ noble class

Phanek - Sarong-like skirt wraped around the waist;

traditional costume of the Manipuri

Phigei phanek - Phanek made from of muga (silk)

*Phiroi* - First death anniversary

Phouoibi - Goddess of crops

Phunam Selungba - Officer who looks after the land revenue system on

behalf of king

Piba - Eldest son of yumnak /sagei (family lineage)

Pibaren - The eldest living person of a particular yumnak;

chief of all pibas of several sageis of same yumnak

Pitritarpan - Annual ancestor worship of Hindu cult

Poreiton Khunthokpa - Text on migration of Poreiton

Pothang - A system of forced labour abolished in 1913

Potloi - Huge cylindrical skirt worn by a bride as well as the

costume of Radha and the Gopis in Ras Leela

Pung Cholom - Classical dance with Mridanga (drum) performed to

mark invocation of Nat Sankirtan and Rasleela

Puyas - Ancient literary texts/ ancient manuscripts

Rasleela - Manipuri classical dance based on Hinduism

Sagei/Yumnak - Lineage/family names

Sagei Apokpa - Meitei ancestral deities of Sanamahi cult

Sagei Chak Chanaba - Feast within the sagei

Sagei Lathaba - Feast given for affiliation of a new member with

sagei

Sagol - Horse/pony

Sagol Kangjei - Polo

Sajibu Cheiraoba - Last day of Hindu Year

Sanamahi - Eldest son of Atiya Guru Shidaba and Leimarel

Shidabi

Sanamahism - Equivalent to Meiteism

Sangai - Dancing deer; rare and endangered Brow-Antlered

Deer (Cervus eldi eldi); State animal of Manipur

Sareng Chanaba - Feast with consumption of Sareng fish

Senapati - Head of Garot court; also Commander of forces

Shiroi lily - (Lilium Macklinae Sealy), a beautiful terrestrial lily

found only on topmost part of Shiroi hills in Ukhrul

district; State flower of Manipur

Shraddha - Death ceremony

Shumang Leelas - Proscenium plays where artistes are all male and

Female roles are played by male

Sindoor - Vermilion

Swasti Puja - Birth ceremony of Hindu cult

Thabal Chongba - Moonlight dance

*Thang-Ta* - Martial arts with sword/dagger (*thang*) and

spear (ta)

Thourani Janma - Radha's birth anniversary

*Tilak* - Application of sandalwood on forehead

*Tulsi* - Sacred basil plant

Umanglai - Sylvan deities

*Ureirong pungou phanek* - Peach/pink coloured *phanek* 

Wari Leeba - Art of story-telling

Yaithibi - Low class/subordinate class/ descendants of

convicts

Yaoshang - Holi

Yek/Salai - Meitei clan

Yongchak - Tree beans

Yu - Indigenous alcohol

Yubi-Lakpi - A type of rugby where the ball is a coconut (yubi)

Khong Kangjei - Manipuri Hockey

Yum mangba - Social defilement

Yum sengba - Social sanctification

YumchangbaPuya / Paripuri - Geneology records

Yumkhei Ngakpi - Women defenders of kingdom among Chakpa

Yumlai - Domestic deities

*Yumnak/Sagei* - Lineage/family names

Yuvaraj - Crown Prince