

Kyrwoh

Communication using Bamboo
Threads in the Khasi Hills

By
Pascal Mario Kmenlang Pathaw

PROJECT 3

Communication through coded Bamboo Ringlets

in the Khasi Jaintia Hills

Illustrated Information book

Project by:

Pascal Mario Kmenlang Pathaw

Communication Design.

186450006

Project Guide: Prof. **Arun Mascarenhas**

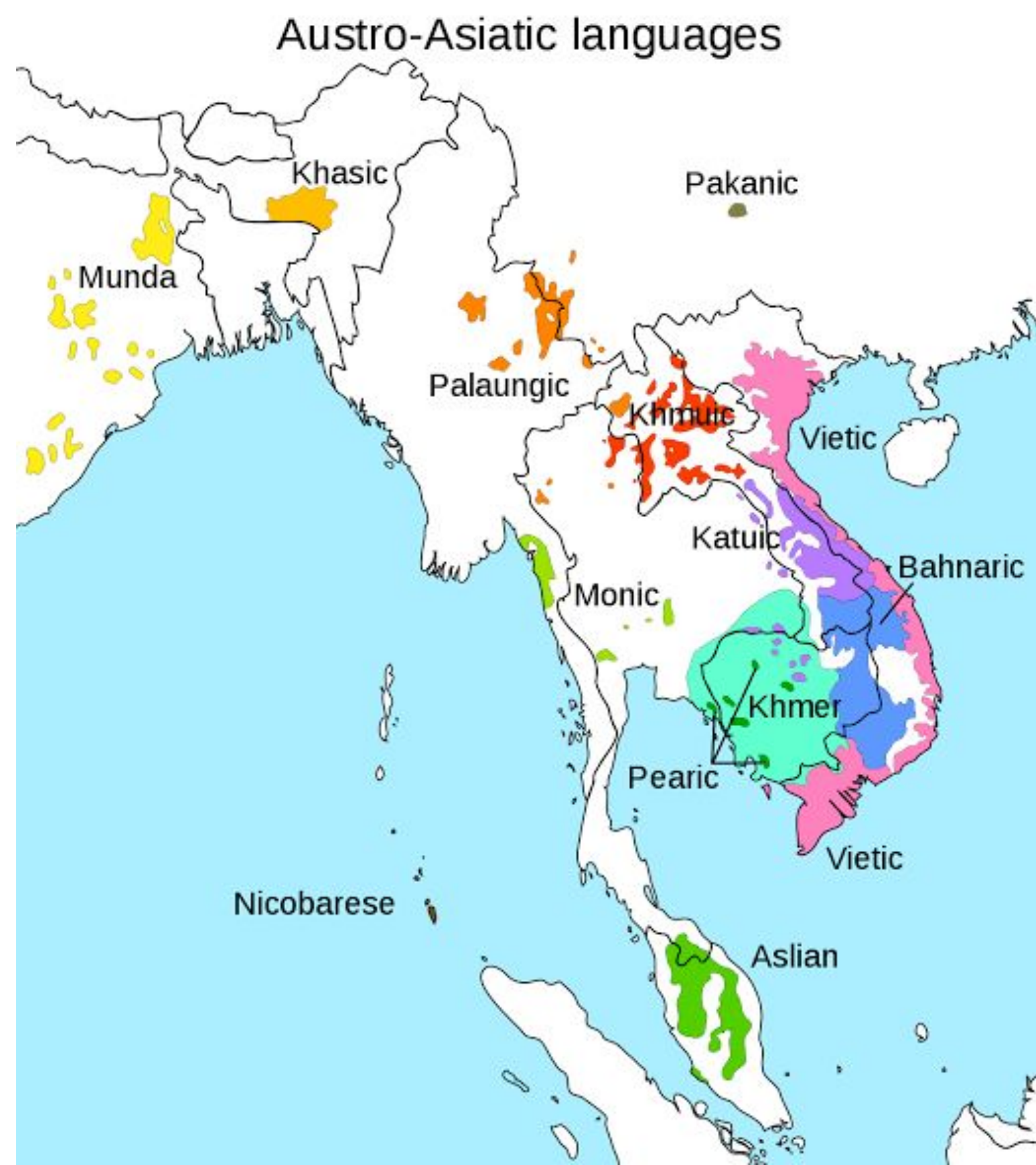
What are the other modes of Communication?

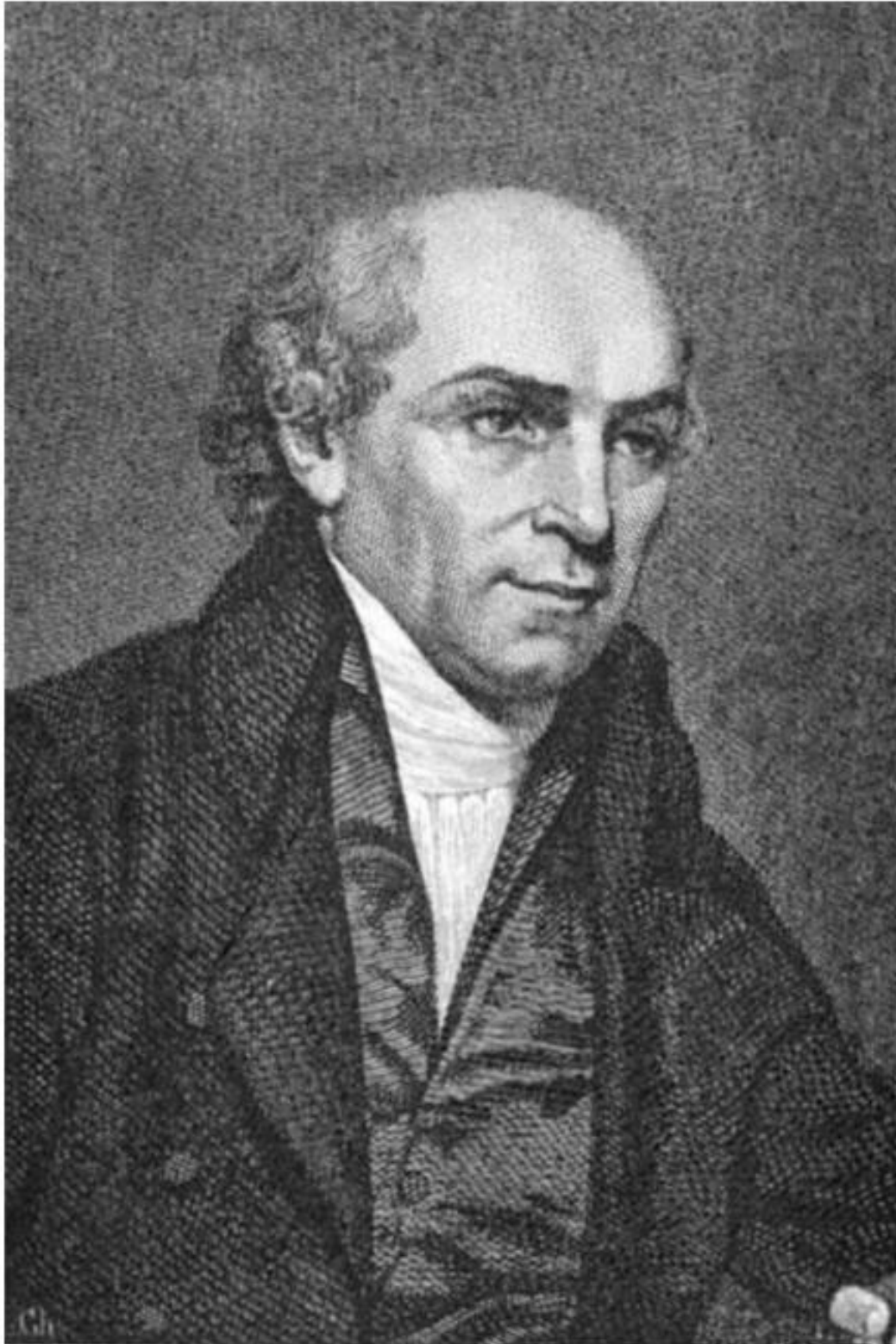
What happens when verbal communication dominates? And script do not exist? When words are passed down generations after generations, they tend to get interwoven with the story and sometimes get manipulated.



Origin and Migration

The Khasi language falls under the Mon-Khmer languages, which is a language family that is apart of the larger **Austroasiatic** tree.





1830s :

Introduction of Bengali script

by William Carey



1842- present
Intoduction of Latin Script
by Thomas Jones



Meghalaya

STATE OF ASSAM

Garo Hills

The Khasi Hills

Jaintia Hills

BANGLADESH

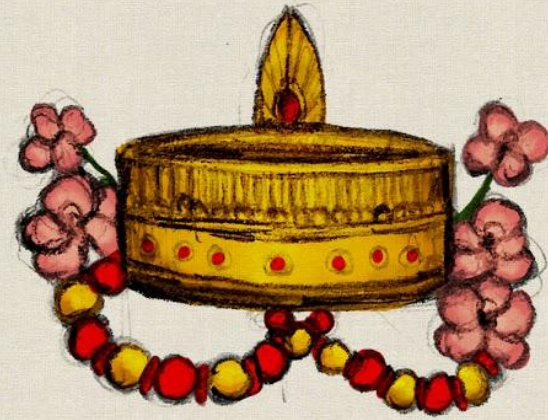
Shillong City

Nongstoin town

Jowai town

The Khasi State Formation

In the Khasi State formation or settlement, there are four levels in which the formation takes place.



1. "Kur"

A family of the same descendant constitute a clan called "Kur".



2. "Shnong"

And, a group of these kur forms a village or a colony or "Shnong".



3. "Raid"

A group of these colonies forms a political unit called "Raid".



4. "Hima"

Collectively, all the Raids form a Native State/ Provinces which is termed as "Hima" and is headed by a Ruler- Syiem.

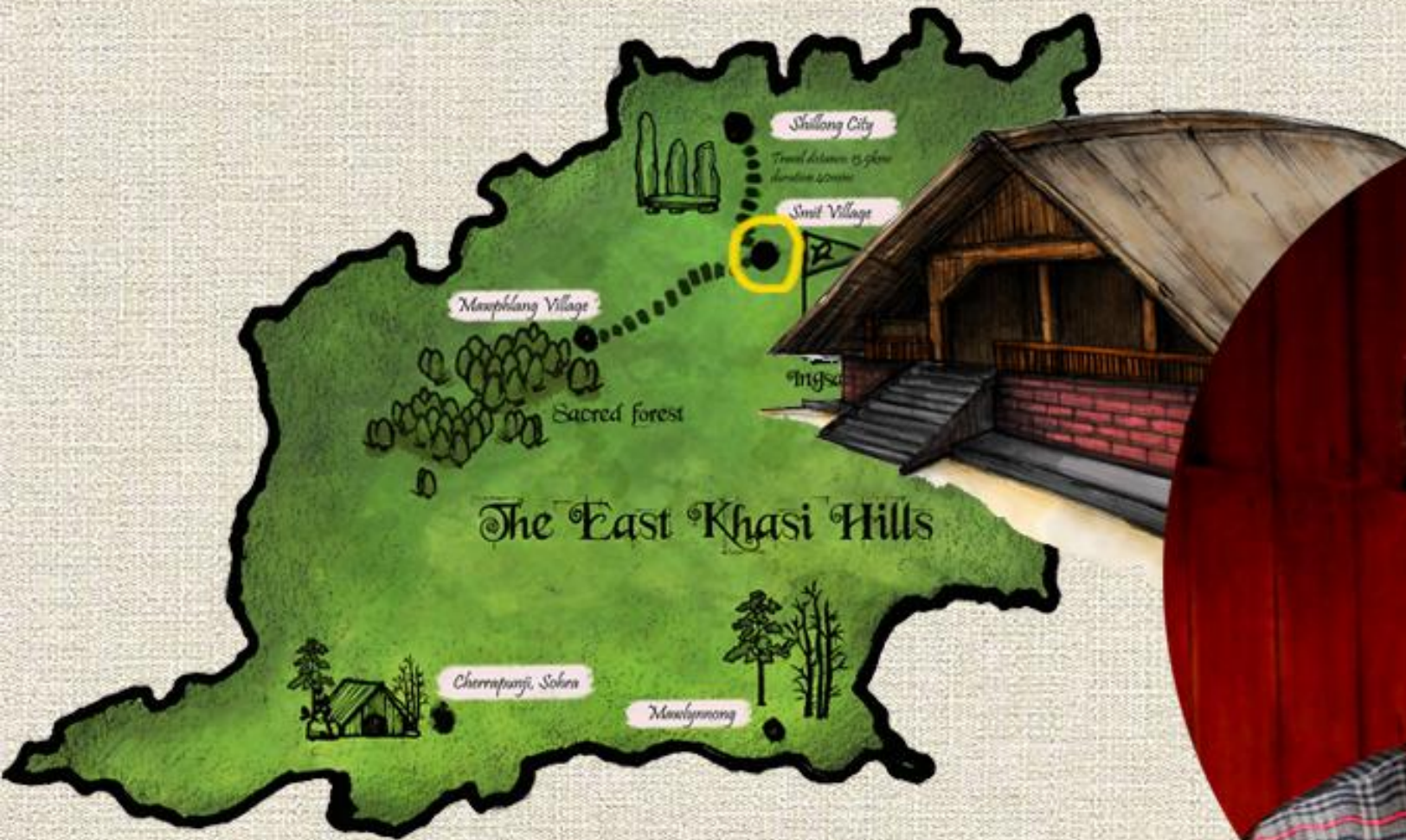


Hima Khyrim

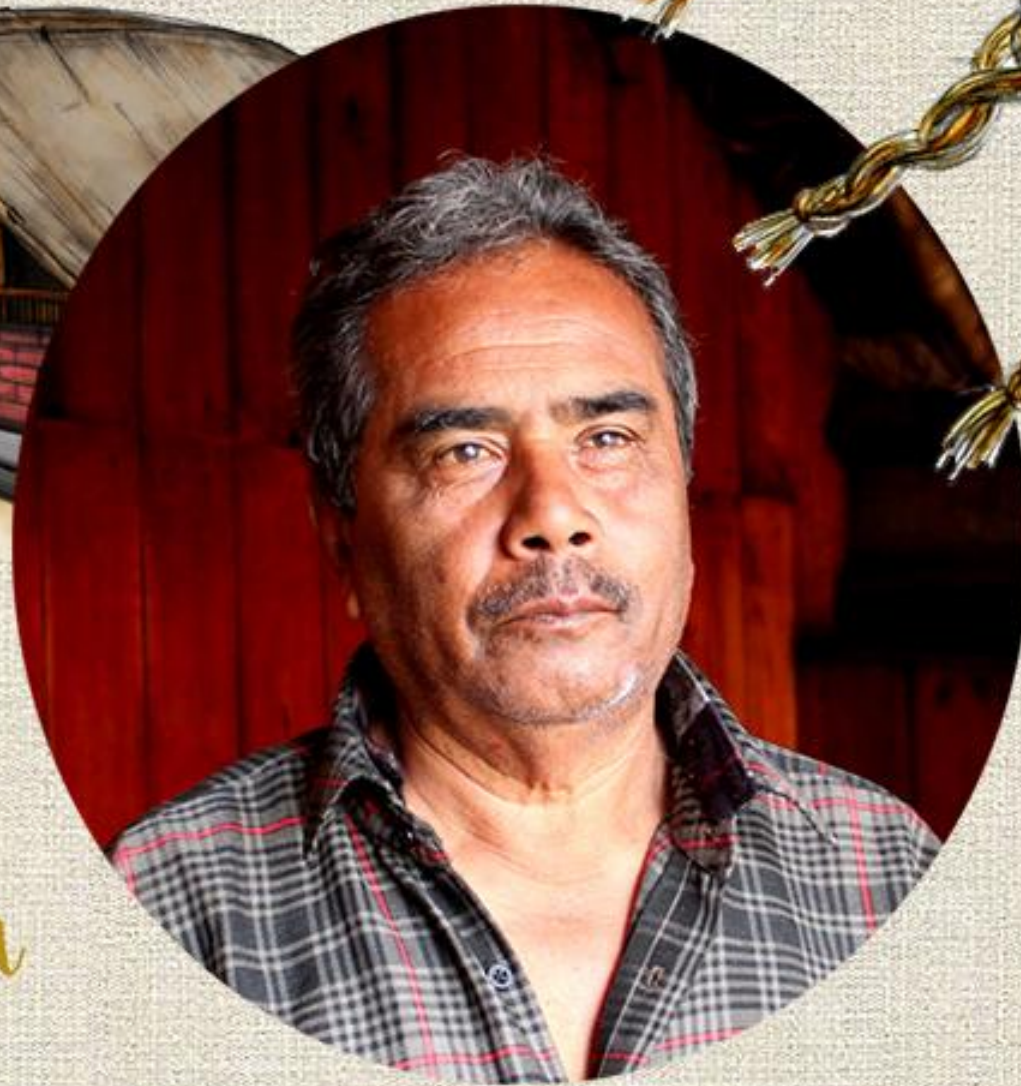
Chapter 2



Shillong to Smit 13.9 kms



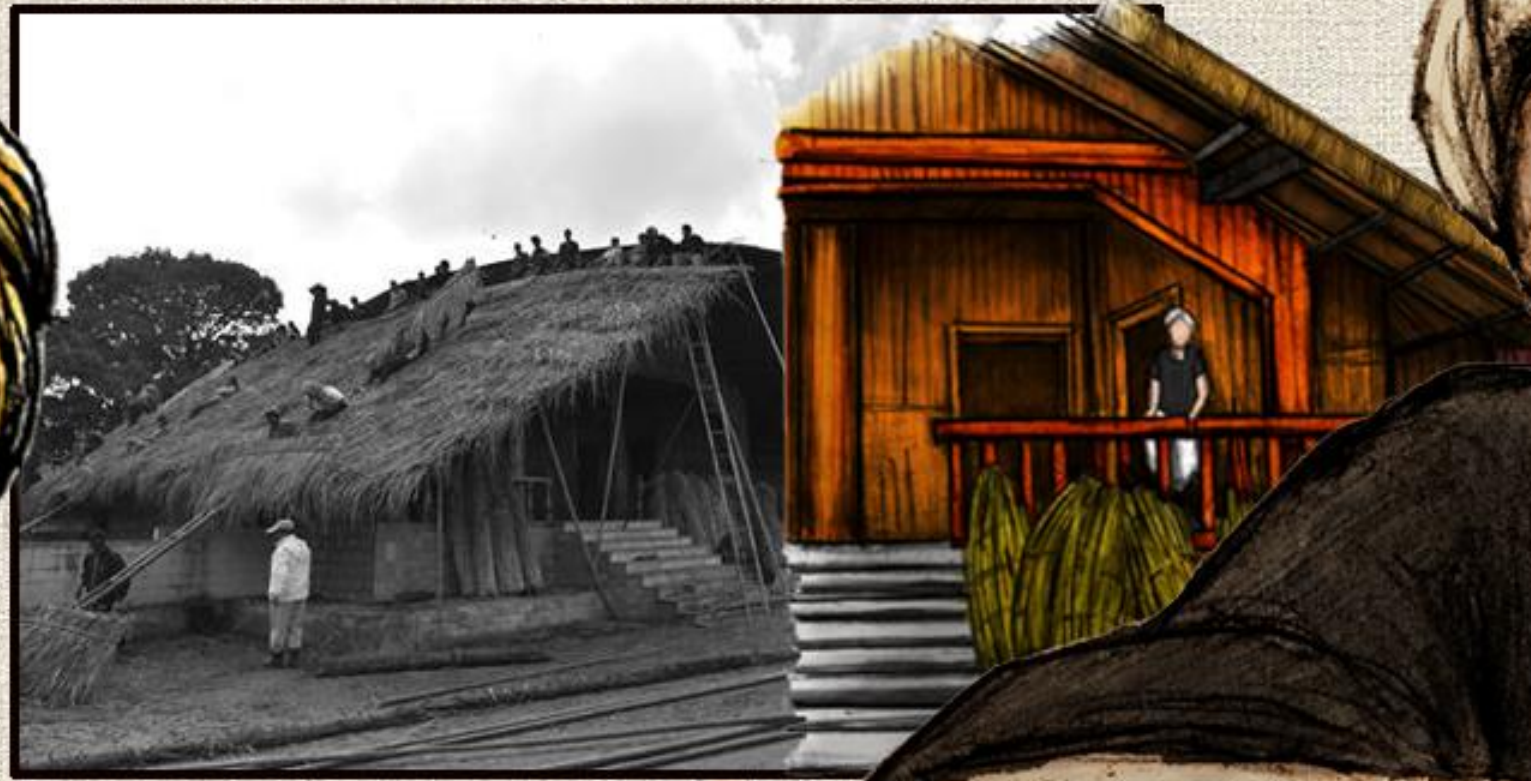
Hima Khyrim



Mr. A Diengdoh











Once they are brought in, these Thri are soaked in water overnight to soften them and they are easily obtained in a fiber form

The bamboo ringlets are made specially by locally skilled craftsmen known as “Duhalia” and they are sent to designated chiefs: “Ki Raid”.



The “ Duhalia” are a group of Musicians for the rituals of the festival.

The Duhalias are majorly from a village known as Wahkhen.

They are a group of 8 to 9 men, they sit outside the house, on the verandah of the Ing sad which is traditionally known as Tyngkong as they weave the Bamboo ringlets: Kyrwohs.



The task of making the bamboo ringlets is completed in one day.

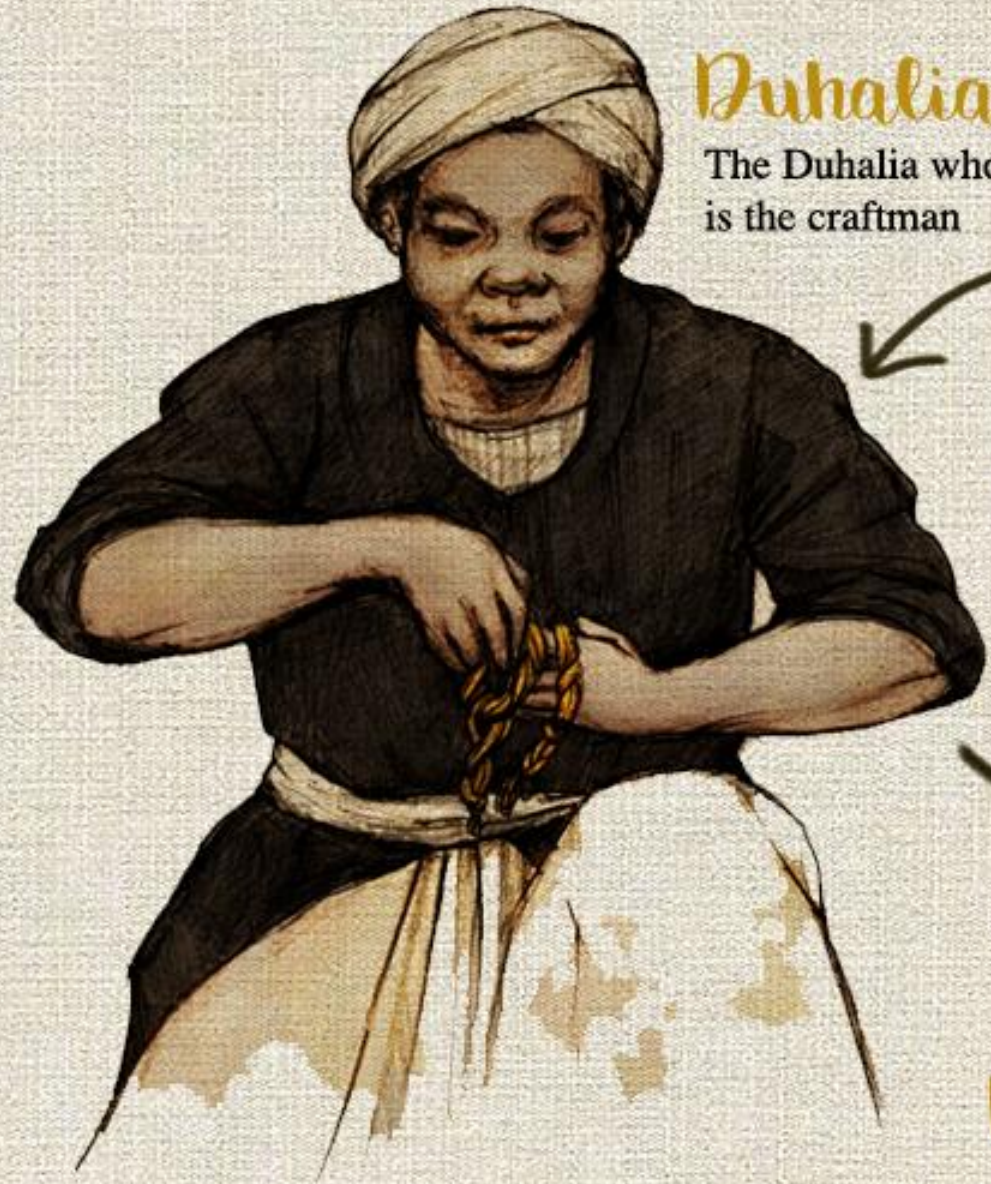
it carefully thought well in terms of length and width at the time of making.

They measure 2.5inches by 4 inches approximately, more or less.

When it is all done, the kyrwohs are sent to the different Raids of the Kingdom.

If it so happens that the Kyrwoh cannot be delivered on the same day, they can be delivered on the following day. But certain aspects of the kyrwoh changes.





Duhalia

The Duhalia who is the craftsman



The Raids

The Lyngdoh of the Political commune who can decode the messages

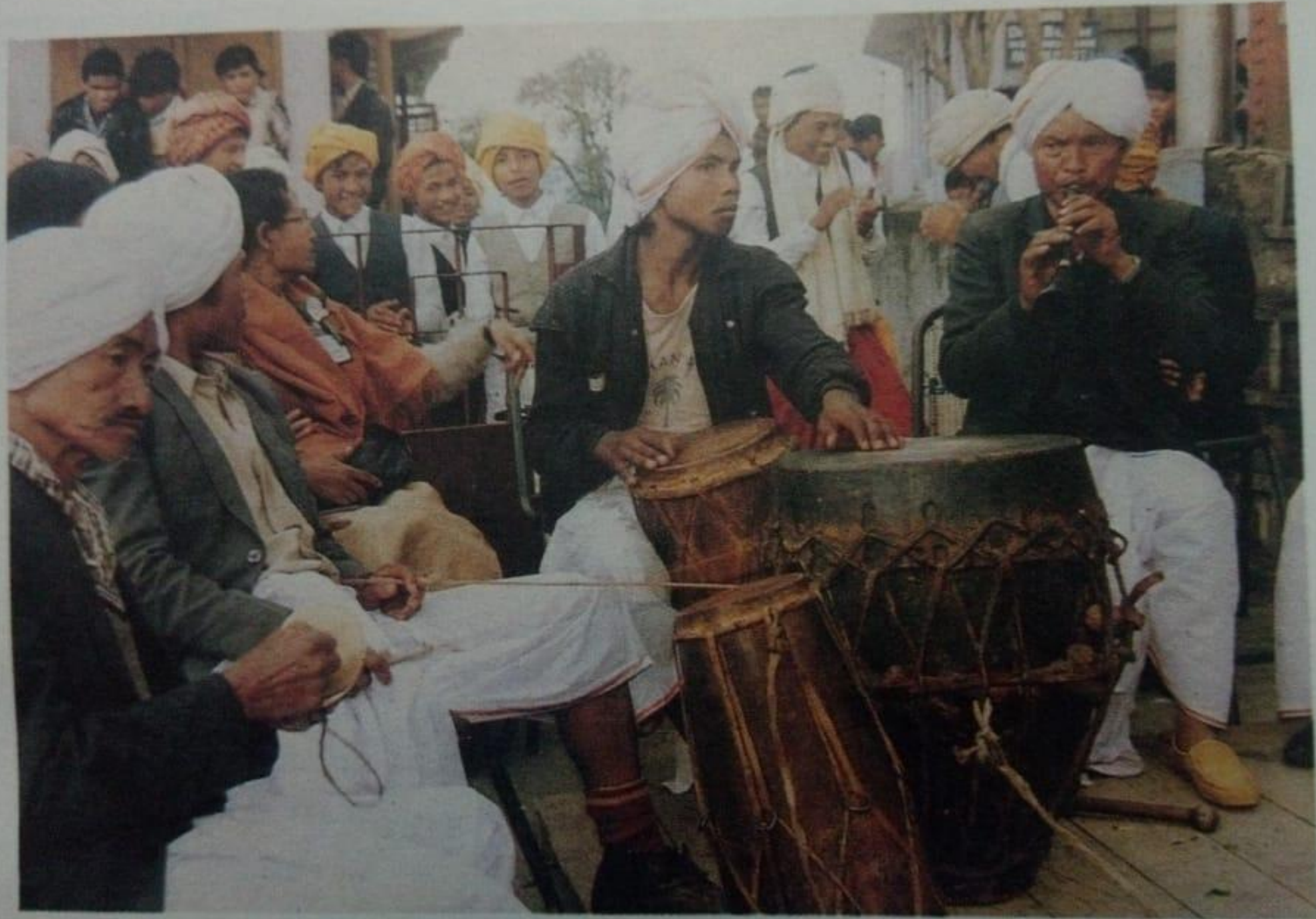
The Ingsad

This form of communication is shared only with the designated people of the province,



Kyrwoh

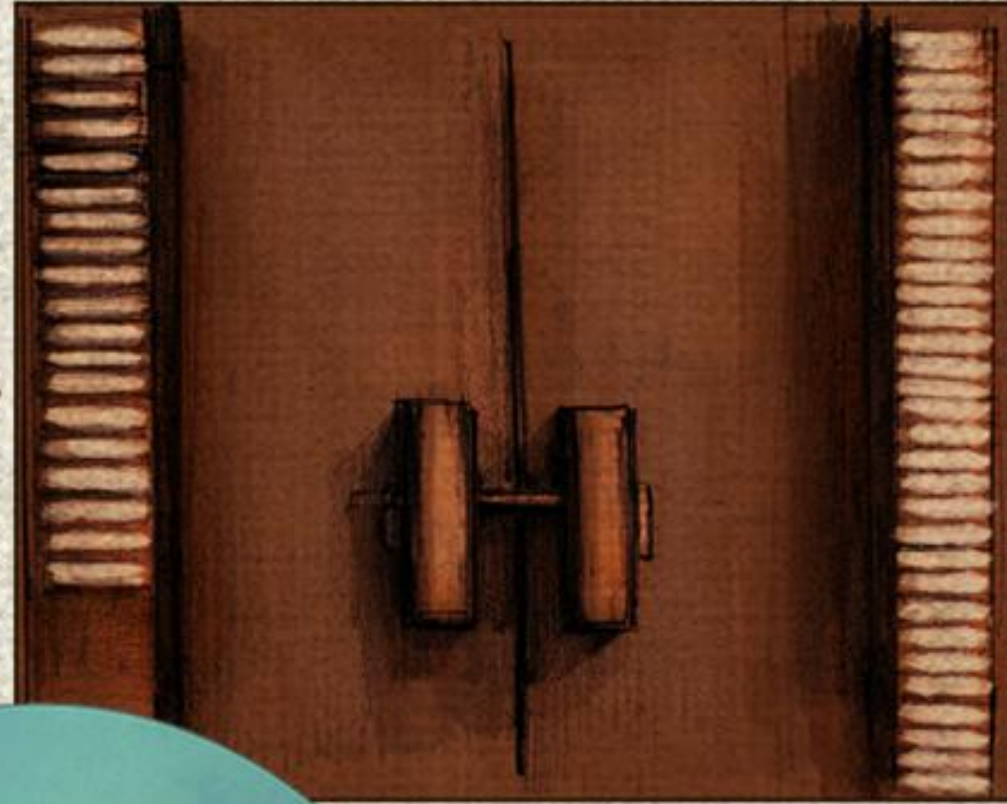
Kyrwoh holds the authenticity of the Ing Sad, Kingdom Khyrim. In a world of miscommunication and manipulation, the kyrwoh plays a vital role in keeping the message safe.



A SECTION OF TRADITIONAL MUSICIANS CALLED KI DUHALIA



The markings on right side of the door are the number of the goats which are offered from the Family of the House (Ingsad), that is the Ruling family of the Province itself.



On the left side of the door, the markings denotes the goats which are offered by the Raids (Political Commune of the province).



Purpose of the Kyrwoh



Pomblang Festival







The 3rd Day

Close to midnight,

- the bujai blang ceremony takes place at the verandah of the Ing sad called "Tyngkhong".

- It is performed by the Head Duha and the Head Syiem.

- And after midnight the distribution of the cooked sacrificed goats is done.



The 4th Day

In the evening the sacrifice to invoke divine blessings is performed by the high priests called lyngdoh Sohblei. This is called the Khatar sla sacrifice.

Hima Nongstoin

Chapter 3





Shillong to Nongstoin
Distance: 93.4kms

Mrs. Sweetymon Rynjah

- Ethnographer, Former Civil Servant, Author
and Folklorist

Book:
Inquisition:
Modes of reply.2018



Folktale



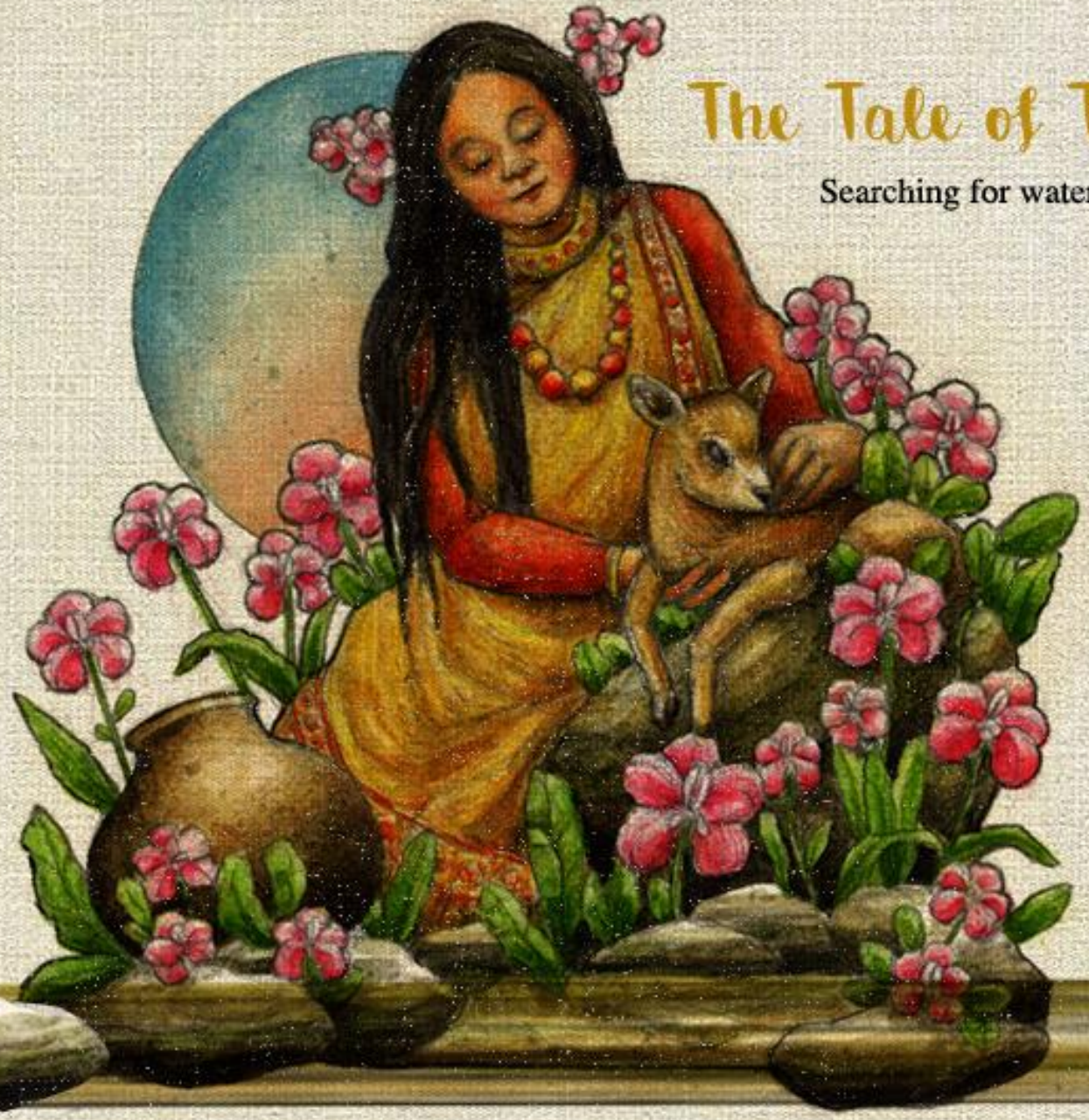
The Tale of Tankhong

Searching for water spring

"sortan"

Sor - Buck

Tan - derived from her name





STATE OF ASSAM

The West Khasi Hills

Kyllang Rock

Mairang

Nongstoin Town
93.4 kms from Shillong

Movement of the
Buck named

Jakrem Hot spring

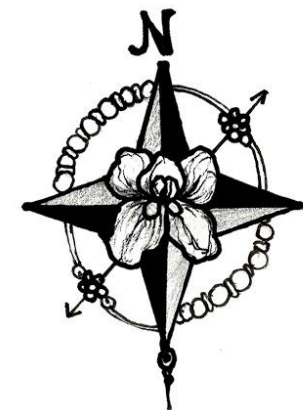
Mawkyrwat- Monoliths

Wah Blei River

Nongnah

Ranikor

BANGLADESH





Epilogue



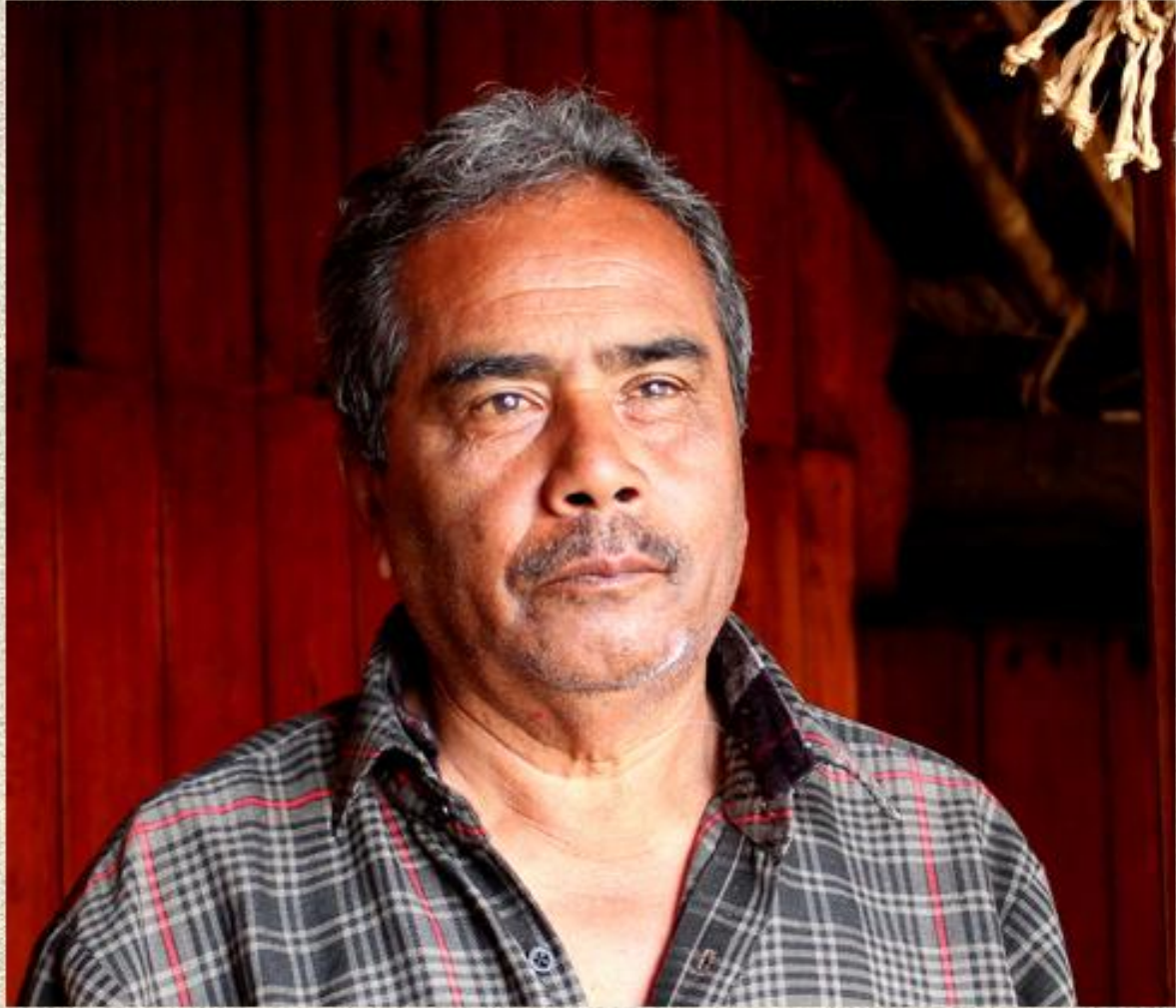
Work Process



Site visits:

Visiting places in the Khasi hills which caters to this form of practice and collecting data

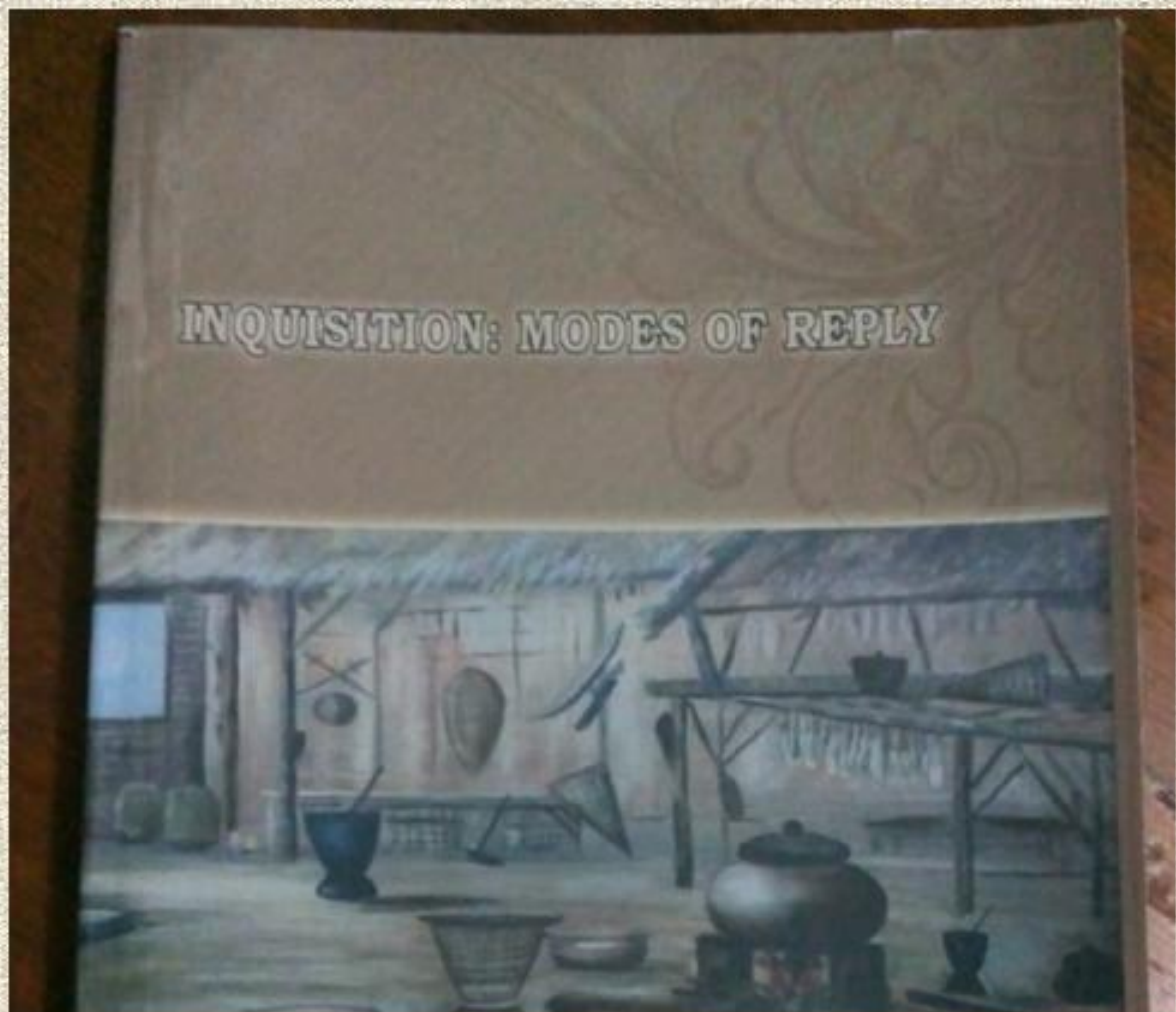
Work Process



The People:

Meeting and interviewing people who knows about this form of communication

Work Process



Books on this form of communication:

Books and papers suggested by the authors, ethnographers, archeologists and folklorists.

Work Process



The Content:

Analysing and writing the data collected.
Organising the information and
producing a narrative.

Work Process



Illustrations:

It takes place from Brainstorming, to Photo referencing, sketching, painting Visual storytelling .

Geographical Map studies.

Work Process



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Work Process



Illustrations:

It takes place from Brainstorming, to Photo referencing, sketching, painting Visual storytelling .

Geographical Map studies.

Work Process



Colour Scheme

Making water colour patches and scanning them to digitally colour correct and enhance the sketches.

Work Process



Colour Scheme

Getting Inspired by the Fabric : Ryndia.

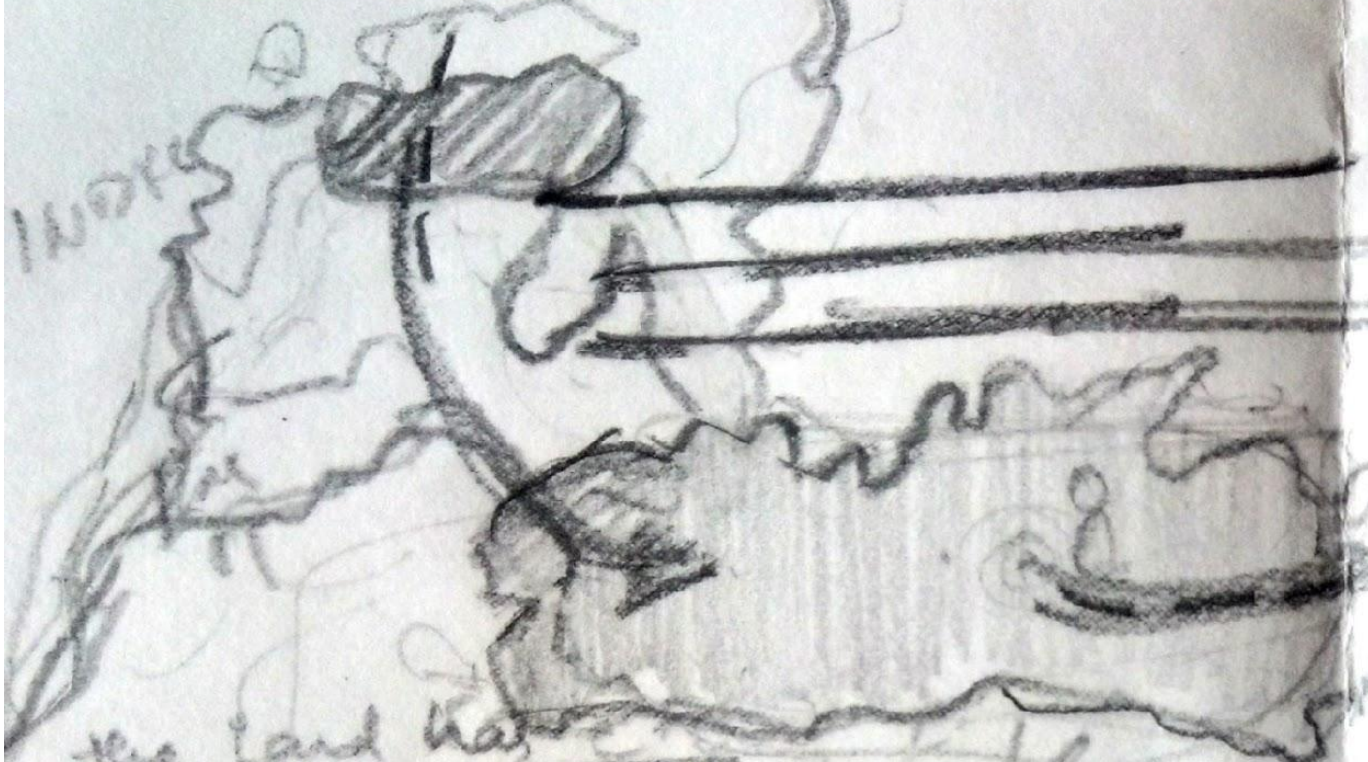
Work Process



Book Size: B5

B5 is a good and handy size for an illustrated information book. It is portable and is not too small as an A5 or Big as an A4.

Scout



The Land
3 major tribes



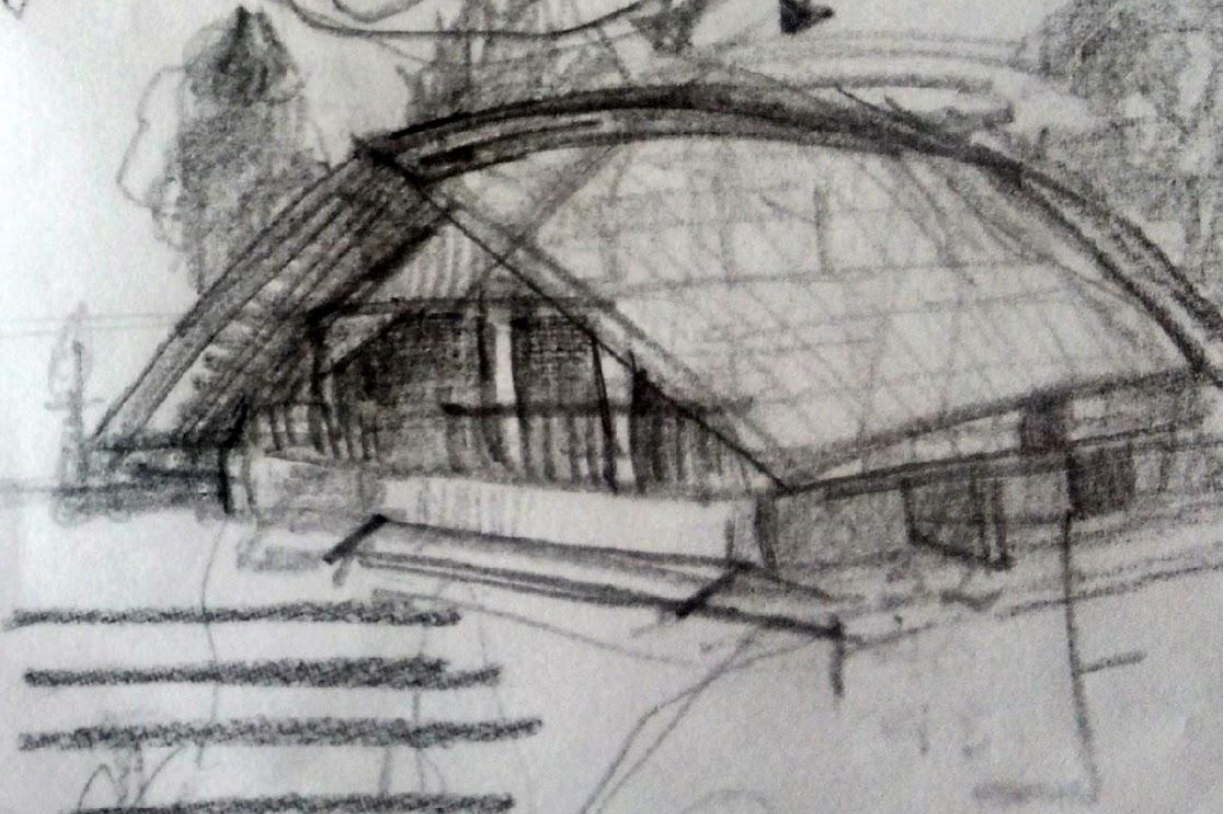
Koro

Khai

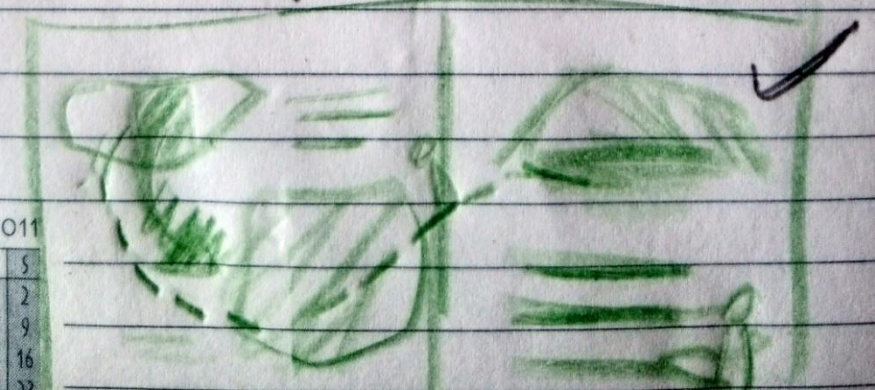
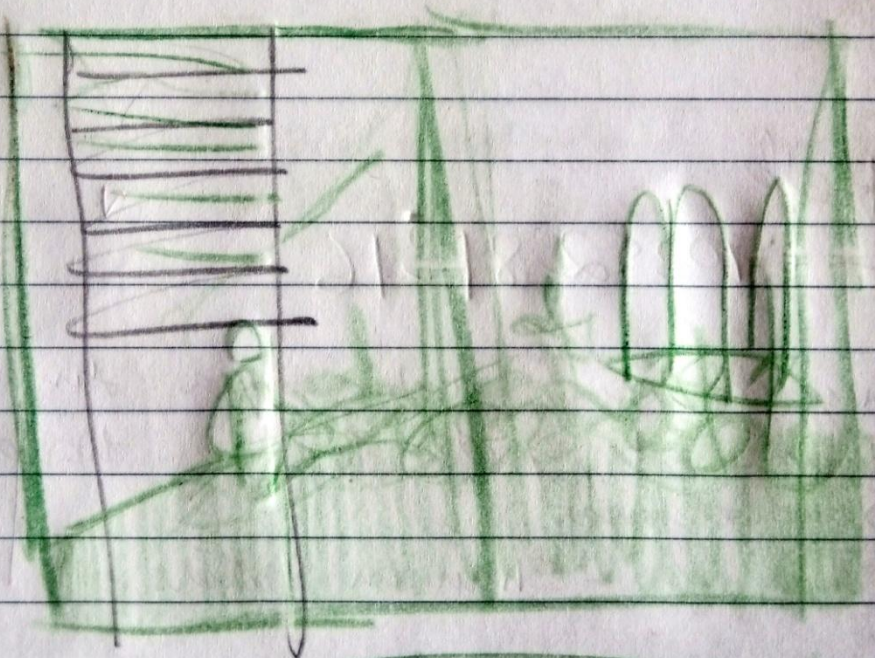
Juda



The Koro
Tribe -
Hua -

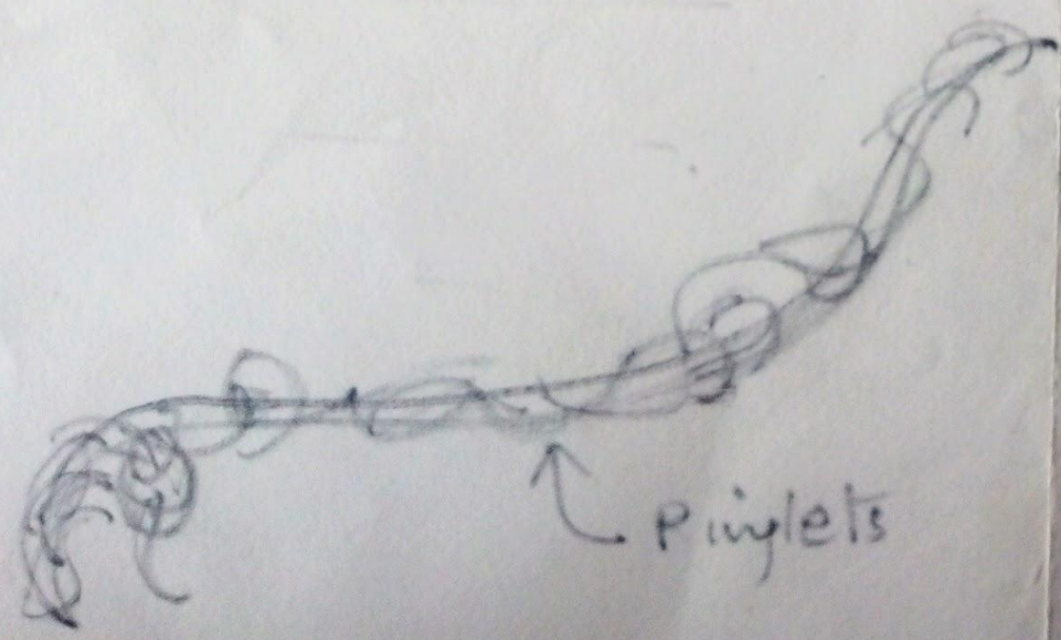


2000



The Ruylets of INEST Khan Hills
The Ruylets.

What it carries



Chapter



Hima Khyrim



The Province Of Khyrim



The Sacred House called Ingsad is situated at Smit, a village which is about 11kms away from the capital Shillong. Smit is the capital of the Hima or Province of Khyrim.

Ringlets

The Bamboo Ringlets

When it is all done, the kyrwohs are sent to the different Raids of the Kingdom. The Raids that are the political commune are subdivided into Lyngdoh Raid, Raid Basan who are at the top and the sordar, That raid are the branches from the primary Raid. In most cases, the designated chiefs: the Raids come and collect the Kyrwoh on the same day in which they were made while in other cases they are sent through designated and entrusted messengers. If it so happens that the Kyrwoh cannot be delivered on the same day, they can be delivered on the following day. But certain aspects of the kyrwoh changes, the Duhalia changes the length and width of the kyrwoh, though the size may alter (as the time and day changed) but the content remains the same.





The Folk Tale

The Bamboo Ringlets

One day, a maiden named Tankhong was on her way to a village called Nongjri of West Khasi Hills. On her journey, she was thirsty and was searching for a spring. Finally, she found a well. As she was carrying the water, she saw a beautiful doe giving birth to baby buck. She was taken by surprise and accidentally dropped her pot. The sound terrified the mother and she ran leaving her newborn baby behind. The newborn baby was left unattended and unloved. Tankhong was moved with pity and carried it in her arms. She promised to take care of it and raise it like her child. She named him "Sortan". "Sor which means "Buck" and "Tan" was derived from her name "Tan-Khong". But when Sortan came of age, he left her and joined the wild animals in the forest. This made her very depressed and she longed to see Sortan again. She narrated her sad story to King Rangnoh and he saw how much it had affected her.

The Folk Tale

The Bamboo Ringlets

On hearing her story, Rangnoh felt ashamed of the event, and he gathered his men and his two hounds and made a search for the buck, Sortan. He made a prayer to the keeper of the Forests (Shang Kmiang) and started his hunt. Sortan in fear left the place and travelled to 12 regions of West Khasi hills. The king and his men with the two hounds too did not rest and went to all the 12 areas in search of Sortan. From Nongstoin to Nongjri, to River Wah Blei and southern parts of Ranikor. One of the areas were Sortan finally rested was called "The Lubasier" which was a land inhabited by The Hajong and The Diko Tribe. When Sortan reached here, he was met with an unfortunate fate and was killed by the Hajongs and the Dikos.

Later on, the two hounds of Rangnoh were loitering around the area in search of Sortan. They captured and tied the two hounds as they understood that the buck was someone else's hunt. Soon Rangnoh and his men arrived at their village. He asked them about Sortan and the two hounds. The Hajongs and the Dikos lied and swore that they haven't seen any animal around their area.



Mario Pathaw



I'm learning so much about our culture n traditions through your exceptional work of Art 😊.. keep it going Mario Pathaw you're truly gifted 🙏

Like · Reply · 4w



1



Write a comment...





Mario Pathaw

22 April

Folktales from West Khasi Hills:

A maiden named Tankhong, King named Rangnoh and a buck named Sor-tan.

Ka Khana na West Khasi Hills:

Ka Thei Tankhong, U Syiem Rangnoh bad uwei u Sier ba la nam ia U " U Sor-tan".

Love

Comment

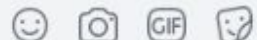
Share

Beautiful. Nice that someone is collecting such stories, if possible please write them also.

Like · Reply · 5w

Mario Pathaw replied · 1 Reply

Write a comment...



Pathaw

Shared on timeline

West Khasi Hills:
Tankhong, King named Rangnoh and Sor-tan.
West Khasi Hills:
U Syiem Rangnoh bad uwei u Sier ba la nam ia U " U Sor-tan".

Add location

Edit

41 comments

3 shares

Comment

Share

Comments

Kaur Good that you work on God bless

5w

Prinderjit Kaur replied · 2 replies

adwar Too good, Mario

5w

Mario Pathaw replied · 1 reply

Write a comment...



INSTANT GAMES

GAMES YOUR FRIENDS PLAY

YOUR PAGES

Pascal Mario's Pathaw

CONTACTS

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Sam Dhr

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Mac Steve

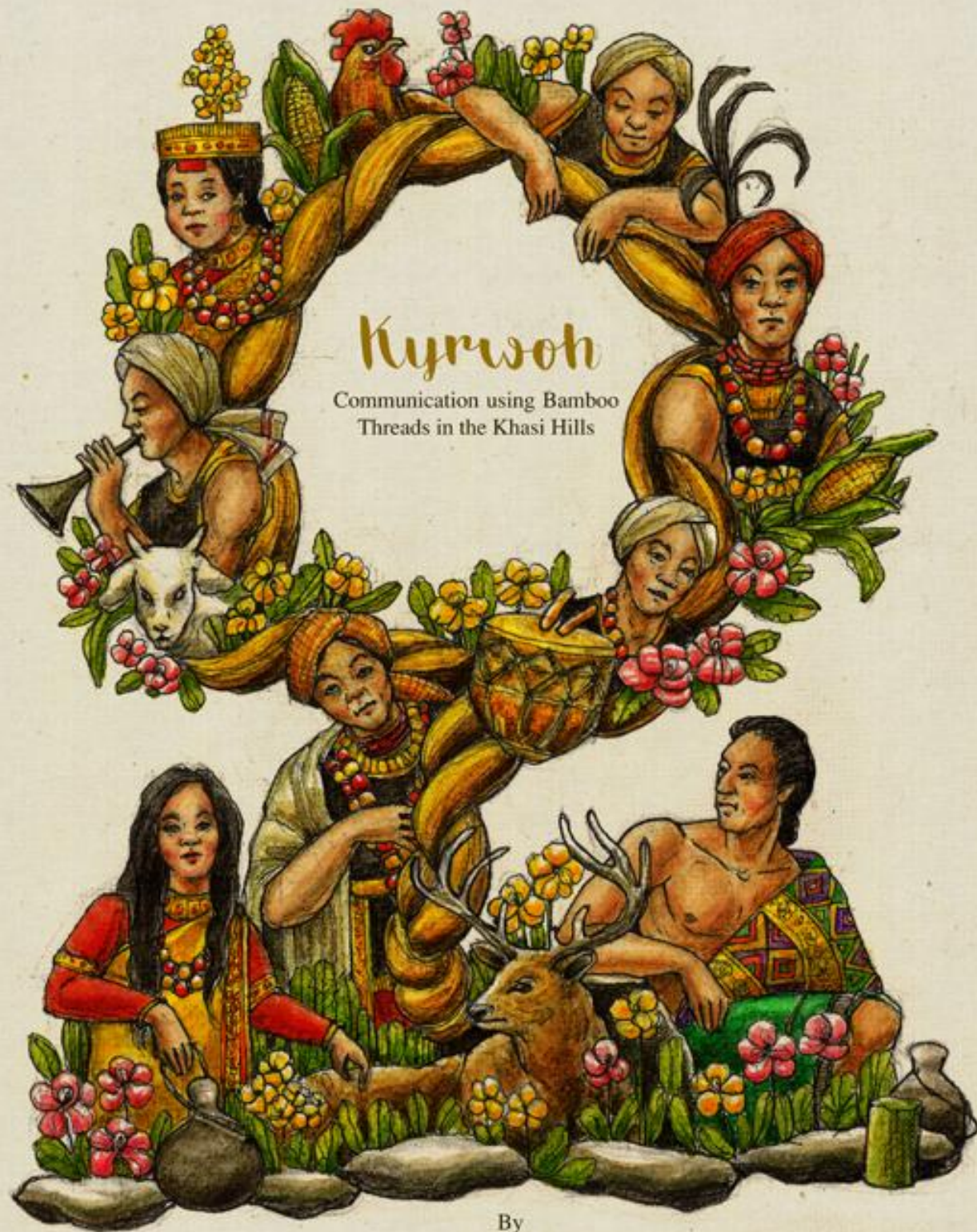
Alfons Shangpliang

Nimesh Pilla

Nongrum Vianney B

GROUP CONVERSATIONS

Baphira Badapkupa



Kyrwoh

Communication using Bamboo
Threads in the Khasi Hills

By
Pascal Mario Kmenlang Pathaw

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Mariadon Pathaw
Marcuse Pathaw