

Curriculum Vitae Dr. Vijaylakshmi Brara

Personal Details:

Date of Birth:

15.10.1964

Marital Status:

Married

Phone: 8787331931, 9436034791

email: vbrara11@gmail.com

Permanent Address: c/o N Kotiswar Singh, Uripok Tourangbam Leikai, Imphal-795001, Manipur

Executive Summary

I am a sociologist, specializing in Sociological Theories, Cultural Studies and Gender Studies. Presently teaching post graduate courses on Sociology of Gender, Kinship systems and Sociology of North East India.

I was awarded PhD from CSSS, JNU and did my Masters from Delhi School of Economics, Department of Sociology, Delhi University. My thesis was published as a book by Oxford University Press, titled "Politics Society and Cosmology in India's North East in 1998, It is now a widely referred book by the students of sociology as well those interested in the North east India.

Presently I am working as Professor in department of Sociology, Royal Global School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Royal Global University, Guwahati, Assam since 4.3.2022. (Permanent position)

I was working as Associate Professor in Centre for Manipur Studies, Manipur University for about 12 years since 2009 till 1st May, 21 .

I have around 40 national and international publications to my credit.

I have successfully guided 3 PhDs so far.

I have given talks in various national and international seminars, conferences and webinars on issues of Gender, Feminism, Cultural Constructs, epistemological underpinnings and sociological understanding of current issues.

Prior to this I was the Gender and NGO coordinator in NERCORMP, an IFAD project in collaboration with NEC, GOI. I was in charge of 6 districts in three states of North East India and worked to build strong grass root institutions with gender equity in villages and village clusters.

I have collaborated with the National Commission for Women on various studies on scaling women's positioning. I have undertaken research projects such as studying Climate Change and Adaptation and its Impact on the gender relations, for Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and on the status of panchayat and other grass root institutions commissioned by Ministry of Panchayat Raj and several others.

I have also collaborated with the Institute of Social Science, New Delhi as well as IGNCAs on various studies.

I have over 30 years of research as well community-based experience in North-East India. I have conducted fieldwork-based research in all the eight north eastern Indian states on issues ranging from study of Indigenous Cultures, Women Empowerment, Gender Relations, Climate change, Local Institutions and Entrepreneurship among various tribes and communities. I have had a keen interest in making the knowledge systems relevant in understanding the global social dynamics.

My current research interest is in reformulating gender constructs and feminist theoretical tools through the social constructs of North-East India. I am trying to generate an epistemology of feminist theories embedded in the gender narratives of this region to create a wider understanding and acceptability in feminist literature.

The detailed resume is as hereunder.

Educational Qualification

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Doctor In Philosophy (Phd),

Thesis Entitled, '*Politics, Society, And Cosmology In A Theatre State: An Analysis Of Manipuri Kingdom In Ne India*', **1994**

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Masters In Philosophy (M.Phil),

Dissertation Entitled; *Text And Context: A Structural Analysis Of Hindi Vrata Kathas*, **1991**

Delhi School Of Economics,
Delhi University.

Post Graduation In Sociology (MA) ,**1987**

Miranda House,
Delhi University.

Graduation In Sociology Hons, (BA) Hons. **1985**

- Awarded JRF/NET : University Grants Commission Fellowship and NET: **1987**
- Life Member of the Indian Sociological Society, with membership no. LMI-1396 since **1992**.
- Life member of the Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS) with the membership number 18L0012.
- Member of North East Regional Committee under IAWS

Present Employment

Professor in department of Sociology, Royal Global School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Royal Global University, Guwahati, Assam since 4.3.2022. (Permanent position)

I teach Sociology of Gender, Kinship systems and Sociology of North East India to post graduate students

Last Employment Details

I worked in **Manipur University** as an **Associate Professor** on 02-03-2009 to 1.5.2021 as Permanent Faculty. I undertook research and guiding PhD candidates, on various facets of Manipur Society and its relationship with the rest of North-East India and South-East Asia

I have been teaching courses on:

- **Sociology of Gender**: Broadly Includes Gender theories, Gender in economy and politics, Developmental issues, House-Hold Dynamics, Area studies, Family and Marriage, Gender and Displacement, Gender and climate change and issues of Gender and Sexuality, and Policy initiatives

- **Sociology of Culture**: Broadly includes Theories on Culture, Definition of Culture, Symbolism, Area studies, Monographs etc.

I have guided 3 PhD candidates so far who have successfully defended their theses as detailed under. The PhD candidates needed to submit term papers, conduct fieldwork, submit book reviews, and qualify an internal exam. They were also required to submit 6 monthly progress reports and could submit their thesis after a minimum of three years.

- **PhD Guidance: 3**

Title of Thesis	Name of the Scholar	Date of submission	Date of award

Personal is Political: Biographical Accounts of Some select Manipuri Leaders	Mamta Lukram	July 31 st , 2015	July 27, 2016
2.Changing Dynamics of Shifting Agriculture: A Case Study of Kuki Tribes of Senapati district	Seiminlun Chongloi	January 28, 2019	January 1, 2020
3, Cult of Food: A Structural Understanding of the Culinary Habits of Meitei	Surekha Longjam	December 16, 2019	January 14, 2021

- **Research projects:**

Title of Completed Research Project	Sponsoring Authority	Date of Sanction	Date of Completion
Gender Analysis for the Climate Change Adaptation Project - North East India. To Conduct a Baseline gender Analysis of Three States of North east India- Sikkim, Meghalaya and Nagaland	GIZ	22.2.13	22.5.13
State of Panchayati Raj Report at State / UT level	NR Management Consultants, Commissioned by Ministry of Panchayati Raj	1.3.2011	8.6.2011

- **Consultancy**

Duration	Title	Terms of Reference
2016- 2017	Resource person to National Commission for Women, New Delhi,	Part of the Northeast Committee to prepare Report on Social, Political, and Economic Status of Women in the North East India, Manipur State, National Commission for Women, New Delhi. A sample size of 100 house-holds per district was decided to fill in the questioners regarding the general status, health, education, awareness of the women oriented government programmes etc.. In this context, I visited all the 9 districts of Manipur along with the research teams. This has been published as a report.
2012-2013	Principal Researcher in Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies Project (IPCS), New Delhi.	Developing a Framework For Regional Cooperation in Southern Asia, Principal Issue: Expanding Economic Activity Along the Sino- Indian Border Areas. It was a McMillan Project. My research areas were Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, India. I as principal researcher conducted ground field surveys in the border areas of Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh and took firsthand information on the problematic of border trade and to understand the future policy interventions. The project undertook an attempt in understanding from both sides of the border and hence it had scholars from China also working alongside. The other areas which were covered in India were Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir. It has culminated in a book by Sage by the same name.

- **Development of innovative pedagogy**

Organized National Seminars on “Culture and Society” 19-20 Feb, 2015, where issues such as Culture and Nationalism, challenges in customary laws etc came up with innovative pedagogy.

Seminar on Issues and Challenges in local Self-government 14-15 December, 2018, where I invited the local panchayat leaders including women and the autonomous district councils who gave ground realities to the academicians.

I also organized a roundtable on conservation of Manipuri Ponies 19th Jan, 2019, inviting international polo players urging the government to immediately put the plan into action towards this world renowned endangered breed.

- **Design of new curricula and courses**

Drafted undergraduate Sociology syllabus for Gauhati University for BA Sociology major course and BA Pass course in the year 2014

- **Content writer/subject matter expert for MOOCs SWAYAM**

- Theories of Gender** for UGC- Human Resource Development Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia as national resource centre in Gender/ women's studies for conducting Annual Refresher Course for all in service Higher education faculty using MOOC's through SWAYAM platform, September-October, 2019
- Masculinity/femininity: An Overview**, under the broad theme, *Constructing Gender* for UGC- Human Resource Development Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia as national resource centre in Gender/ women's studies for conducting Annual Refresher Course for all in service Higher education faculty using MOOC's through SWAYAM platform, July-August-2019

- **Contribution to development of e-content module (2014-2016) For EMRC, Manipur University**

1. Protection of child rights under the international law
2. Protection of child rights under criminal law of India
3. Protection of Women's rights under the international law
4. Protection of women's rights under the criminal law of India

- **Part of national Policy Document:**

Was made an Expert member of the sub-committee of the State Women's Commission, Manipur by the National Commission for Women to study the Social, Economic and Political Empowerment of Women in NE, 2014-2015

- **Select UGC sponsored Lectures given in Orientation/ Refresher Courses**

29th Dec. 2022 *Attempting to find new pathways in Feminism* Online refresher course in Gender Studies, A week long Refresher Course organized by The Human Resource Development Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia

29th Oct 2021 2 lectures on **i. The social construction of Transgender and ii. Theoretical bases to understand Gender** in Short Term Course on Gender and Development in the Era of 2020-2021 organised by UGC-Human Resource Development Centre Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore

24th Sept, 2021 *Transgender: Deconstructing the Binaries*, in online Refresher Course in Gender Studies organised by UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

17th Sept, 2021 *Pedagogy of Feminism*, as a special lecture invited by Sociology Department, Sikkim University, Sikkim

12th Dec 2020: *Gender Issues of Manipur*, National level Refresher Course on Refresher Course on Gender Studies organised by UGC-Human Resource Development Centre Gauhati University (webinar)

11th April 2018: *Ethnicity: Crack or Walls'* in connection with an Orientation Programme organized by Human Resource Development Centre, Manipur University

28th Feb 2017: *Gender Issues and Education*, by the Department of Teacher Education, Manipur University

19th July 2011: *How to Study Gender?* In Sensitisation programme on Gender Issues in Education for the Stakeholders in the Educational Set up, organised by NE Regional Institute of Education (NCERT), Shillong at Imphal

- 18th July 2011:** *Socialisation, Identity and Gender*, in Sensitisation programme on Gender Issues in Education for the Stakeholders in the Educational Set up, organised by NE Regional Institute of Education (NCERT), Shillong at Imphal
- 6th July 2011:** *Women and Land* in UGC Sponsored Orientation in Women's Studies, MU
- 2nd July 2011:** *Gender Identity* in UGC Sponsored Orientation in Women's Studies, MU
- 29th June 2011:** *Women: Natural Citizens or Cultural Constructs – The Dichotomy Continues* in UGC Sponsored Orientation in Women's Studies, MU
- 19th July 2010:** *Women Entrepreneurship- The IFAD Experience*, in a Training Programme for Women Entrepreneurs, organized by The Department of Commerce, Manipur University
- 25th Feb 2010:** *Understanding Gender*, during a two day workshop on Research Methodology organized by ICSSR – NERC and the Department of Political Science, Manipur University.
- 27th Nov 2009:** **2 lectures on Exclusion and Inclusion** in ICSSR School for Doctoral Scholars in Political Science
-
- 9-10 December, 2021:** Invited to chair a session on “Conceptual Issues” in the webinar on Gender and Society in Contemporary India, organised by Department of Sociology, Sankardev College, Shillong
- 1-15th Sept 2015:** Invited as a Visiting Professor in Centre for Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, JNU for a period of two weeks under CAS programme of the Centre.

□ **Appointed as external examiner to various PhD/M.Phil Thesis.** □

Peer reviewer for Journal of Asian Ethnicity, Sage

Publications (40)

- **Book (Single authored):** *Politics, Society and Cosmology in India's North East*, published by Oxford University Press in 1998. It is widely read book by the scholars studying the north east part of India as well as those interesting in Cultural Theories.
- **National report (Single Author):** “*Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in Manipur*”, commissioned and published by National Commission for Women, New Delhi, 2005.
- **International Report (Single Author):** *Gender Analysis Climate Change Adaptation in North east Region Sikkim, Meghalaya and Nagaland* for GIZ CCA Program, July 2013

□ **Research Papers/Articles in Journals**

- 1 *Unity in Diversity: Harmonization of Inter-Ethnic relations*, Man and Society: A Journal of North East Studies, ICSSR, vol. XVI, Summer 2019
- 2 *Poorvotarmein Mahila Sashaktikaran Ka Sach* (Hindi) Manav Adhikaar: Nayi Dishayen, Silver Jubilee edition of the Journal of National Human Rights Commission, Vol 15, 2018, ISSN No. 0973-7588
- 3 *Culture and Indigeneity: Women in Northeast India*, <http://www.insoso.org/e-journals/113-vol11-1-april-2017>, , Explorations, an e-journal of All India Sociological Society
- 4 *Gender and Displacement in North East India* in the Indian Journal of Secularism, A Journal of Centre for Study of Society and Secularism, Vol. 19, No.3, Oct-Nov,2015, ISSN No. 2277-5501
- 5 *Civil Society: A New Cliché. Context North East India* in the Journal Man and society: A Journal of North East Studies, Vol XI Winter 2014, ICSSR-NERC, Shillong. ISSN no. 2229-4058
- 6 *Two Women's Quest for Justice* in One India One People, December 2014, Vol 18/5, Mumbai. www.oneindiaonepeople.com
- 7 *Daughters of Soil: Recognizing Women Farmers of North East India* in the journal Ethics in Asia, April 2014 Vol 8 No. 2. ISSN No. 1997-2997, <http://www.ethicsinaction.asia/archive/2014-ethics-in-action/2014V8N2/2014V8N2P02>><<http://www.ethicsinaction.asia/archive/2014-ethics-in-action/2014V8N2>,

- 8 *Matri – Ideologies within Patriarchies* in the Journal *Man and society: A Journal of North East Studies*, Vol: IX. Winter 2012, ICSSR – NERC, Shillong. ISSN no. 2229-4058
- 9 *Women Collectivities and Matrilineality: Paradigms of Empowerment” in Social Change and Development*, A journal of OKD Institute of Social Change and Development, Vol VII, November 2010. ISSN No. 0975-4016
- 10 *Forgotten by Delhi, Manipur Survives*, Sunday Guardian, Week In Review, Delhi , 20. 06.2010
- 11 *Feminist Discourses in North east India”*, in *Eastern Quaterly*.Vol.4, Issue III and IV, October 2007- March 2008

- **Academic Film reviews published in International journal**

1. *Under the Palace Wall*. Directed by David MacDougal. 2014. 53 minutes. Colour. Distributed by Royal Anthropological Institute. DVD. *Urbanities*, Vol. 5 · No 1 · May 2015 © 2015 Urbanities, pp 138-139
2. *Cast in India*, 26 minutes, Produced by The Program in Culture and Media, Department of Anthropology, New York, Directed by Natasha Raheja in *Urbanities*, Vol. 5 · No 2 · November 2015 ISSN 2239-5725, pp 69-70

- **Chapters in edited books: (International editions)**

1. *Exploring the Cultural Proximity between North East India and South East Asia: The Manipur Experience*, in “Situating India’s Northeast in Bay of Bengal Regional Architecture”, edited by Anasua Chaudhury and Ambar Ghosh, GP-ORF Series (e-book), <https://www.orfonline.org/research/situating-indias-northeast-in-the-bay-of-bengal-regional-architecture/> Durham University and Willy, ISBN No. 978-93-90494-23-1, 2022
2. *Manipur: The Socio-Cultural Continuum* in the book, “North East India Through The Ages, edited by Rituparna Bhattacharya, 2022, Routledge UK, ISBN 9780367744311
3. *Universities as Gendered Institutions* in the book ‘The Idea of a University : Possibilities and Contestations’, edited by DV Kumar, 2021, Routledge, ISBN No. 9780367542887
4. *Idea of Justice in the Tribes of Manipur*, in the book, “Political thought in indic Civilization”, edited by Himanshu Roy, 2021, Sage, ISBN No 978-93-5479-4.
5. *Nepalis of Manipur through the Lens of ‘Cultural Collective’* in the book, ‘Nepali Diaspora’, edited by Prof. TB Subba, 2016, Routledge, Taylor and Frances group, ISBN no. 978-1-138-92226-6
6. *Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh: India’s Gateway to Southeast Asia* in the book ‘India, China and Sub-regional Connectivities in South Asia’, edited by D. Suba Chandran and Bhavna Singh, 2015 Sage Publication, ISBN No. 978-93-515-0327-9.
7. *We Strive for the Well-being of Our Society: The Indigenous Discourse of Women in Manipur* in ‘Unsettling Discourses: The Theory and Practice of Indigenous Studies’, Corporate Author: Cordillera Studies Center, University of the Philippines Baguio, 2014, published by Cordillera Studies Center, ISBN: 978-971-92720-5-2, Baguio City, Philippines
8. *The Good and the Evil: The Self and the Other* in the book *Construction of Evil in ‘North-East India: Myths, Narratives & Discourses’*. Edited by Prasenjit Biswas & C. Joshua Thomas, Sage Publication 978-81-321-0945-7
9. *Brushed under the Carpet : Inclusion and Exclusion in Manipur*. in the book ‘Inclusion and Exclusion in Local Governance: Field Studies of Rural India’, edited by BS Baviskar and George Mathew, 2009 published by Sage Publications 978-81-7829-860-3
10. *Paving the way for the All Inclusive Institutions: Some Livelihood Alternatives* in the book, ‘Livelihoods From Forestry in North East India’ by CIFOR, Indonesia, NERCORMP, India and NEHU, India

- **Chapters in edited books: national**

1. *Caste, Tribe and Reservation in Manipur: A Critique* in the book 'Towards Social Justice', edited by Thomas C. Joshua and Kakoti Padmakshi, ICSSR-NERC and Pentagon Press, New Delhi, 2018, ISBN 978-93-86618-44-3
2. *Home Coming of Sorts* in the book 'Absences, Silences and the Margin: A Mosaic of Voices on the Indian Diaspora', edited by Asir Raj, Mukhopadhyaya SC, Nadarajah M, Yathumahi Publications, Chennai, 2018
3. *Parallel Legal Systems in Manipur*, working paper, Published by Centre for Manipur Studies, Manipur University, March 2016
4. *Koireng: A Hero and Manipuri Nationalism* in the book 'Koireng' Bir Tikendrajit and Little Known Fighters Against Raj – Figures from Manipur', edited by Sanjoy Hazarika and M. Amarjet Singh, published by Global Book Organisation, Delhi, 2016 ISBN No. 978-93-80570-88-4
5. *Sisterhood: Feminist Paradigms of North East India and South East Asia* in the book 'India's North East and Asiatic South East: Beyond Borders', Edited by Rashpal Malhotra and Such Singh Gill, Published by Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh, 2015, ISBN No. 978-81-85835-74-8
6. *Social Change and Development* in the book 'Social Change and Development: Emerging issues in the North East India', edited by DV Kumar, published by Rawat Publications, Jaipur, 2012, ISBN No. 978-81-316-0486
7. *Peace Activists – Also marginalised?* In the Book 'Dimensions of Conflict in NE India', edited by H.Sudhir, Sunmarg Publishers, New Delhi, 2012, ISBN No 819230479-5
8. *Their Bodies and Their Souls: The Meira Paibis of Manipur*, in 'Sustainability and Ownership in People Centred Advocacy in South Asia, A Resource Book', edited by Sehjo Singh, Prasanna Invally and Shirish Kavadi, published by National Centre for Advocacy Studies, (NCAS), Pune, 2011
9. *Nongpok Thong Hangba – Towards Cultural Collectives: Manipur and South East Asia*, in the book 'Conflicts in North East India: Internal and External Effects', Edited by Sanjoy Hazarika and VR Raghvan, Vij Books India Limited, New Delhi, 2011, ISBN No. 978-93-81411-12-4
10. *The Manipur Women and the Changing World*, in the book 'North East India: Selected Regional Issues', edited by Amar Yumnam, Akanksha Publishing house and Manipur University, 2011, ISBN No. 978-81-8370-308-6
11. *Performance: The Gendered Space in Manipur*, in the book, 'The Peripheral Centre: Voices from India's North East', edited by Preeti Gill, published by Zubaan, New Delhi, 2010
12. *Use of Land for Economic Development: Role of Democratic Institutions in Senapati and Ukhrul Districts*, in the book, 'Tribalism and the Tragedy of the Commons: Land Identity and Development', edited by Ch. Priyoranjan Singh for ICSSR- NERC and published by Akanksha Publishing House, New Delhi, 2009
13. *Women in peace: But are they in dialogue* in the book 'Peace in Dialogue: Reflections on North East India' published by ICSSR, Shillong, 2008
14. *Religious Movements and Cultural Synthesis in Manipur* in the book, 'Globalization and the Changing Scenario of Cultural Interaction', edited by N.Joykumar Singh, Centre for Manipur Studies and Akanksha Publishing House, 2007
15. *The Seen and the Unseen: Sociological Dimensions to Violence Against Women in Manipur*; published in the book; 'Violence Against Women in North East India'; edited by H. Sudhir and Jubita Hajarimayum, published by Akanksha Publishing House, New Delhi, 2005
16. *Breaking The Myth : The Social Status Of Meitei Women*: published in the book; 'Changing Women's Status in India: Focus on the North East', edited by Walter Fernandes and Sanjay Barbora, published by North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati, 2002.

1.

1. Select Invited Lectures/ Paper Presentations in Conferences/Seminars

□ International

33rd June, 2022: Gave a plenary talk on *Need to Understand the Cultural Dynamics in the Act East Policy*, in an International Conference on India's Act East Policy and Indo-Pacific Developments: Problems and Prospects for North East India, Organised by The Royal Centre for Act East Policy Studies, Royal Global University, Guwahati

- March 5-6, 2021:** Presented a paper on *Cultural Proximity: Manipur and South east Asia*, in the session on Proximity to Connectivity: Importance of India's Northeast in BIMSTEC of the international webinar titled 'Exploring connectivity in the Bay of Bengal region: Importance of India's northeast', organised by Observer Research Foundation, Kolkata in collaboration with Consulate General of Japan, Kolkata and Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi .
- Feb 23- 27, 2021:** *Reading Women Reading Indigenous* in IV ISA Forum of Sociology, Brazil (Online Session), organised by International Sociological Association
- Nov 27, 2020:** Paper presented, *Indigenous Women and Development* in International Seminar on Indigenous People, Development and Inclusion: Gender Perspective Session Lead: Gender Thematic Group (Moderated Panel Discussion 75, webinar series by Asian Development Bank Asia- Pacific on Indigenous Peoples and Development
- Nov 21, 2020:** Presented a talk on *Ethnicity: Geo-linguistic or socio-cultural? Identity politics of Meitei and Bishnupriya communities in Bangladesh* organized by Consortium for ICH-pedia, Bangladesh, headed by Shadhona, a UNESCO ICH Committee accredited NGO (webinar)
- Nov 20-22, 2020:** Presented a paper on *Rethinking Development Processes* in BANTULA: International Conference on Culture-based Research, organised by National Commission For Culture And The Arts Philippine Cultural Education Program (webinar).
- 1-2, 2019:** Presentation on *The Gendered Approach to Climate Change: A Study from North East India*, in International level CONFERENCE on Enhancing Quality of Urban Life Through Research, Education and Technology, organised by Kotebe Metropolitan University, Adis Ababa, Ethiopia
- March 8, 2018:** Presented a paper, “*Manipur Kingdom: Rise of Hinduism and the Resistance of Khongnangthaba*”, on in the Annual international conference of India International Society for Eighteen Century Studies (IISES), organised by School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi.
- March 7-8, 2018:** Talked on, “*The Carriers of the Indomitable Spirit: The Manipuri Women Diaspora*”, in the International Conference on “Migration, Diaspora and Nation Building Opportunities and Challenges”, organised by Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.
- Sept 28-29, 2016:** Presented a paper, “*The Status of women: Burmese and Manipur Contestations*”, in the International Conference on , “ North East India- Myanmar: Ethnic and Cultural linkages, organised by IGNSA, New Delhi and Manipur University, in Imphal, Manipur
- Jan 7-9 2016:** Gave a presentation on, *Home Coming of Sorts* in the international conference on Absences, Silences and the Margin: Restructuring Indian Diaspora Studies, organised by Manonmaniam Sundarnar University, Department Of Sociology Abishekapatti, Tirunelveli Tamil Nadu, India in Kanyakumari, India
- May 27-28, 2015:** “*Need to Include Sexuality in Development Discourse*”, In International Seminar on Deprivation, Marginalisation and Social Exclusion in the North Eastern States of India organized by Centre for social exclusion and inclusion and policy initiatives, Manipur University.
- Feb 4-6, 2015:** “*The Gender Narratives: An Attempt to Bring Out a South East Asian Feminist Paradigm*”, in international conference on Reimagining India’s North East: Narratives, Networks and Negotiations’, organized by CENES & PR, Jamia Millia Islamia
- June 6-7, 2014:** “*Sisterhood: Feminist Paradigms of North East India and South East Asia*”, in International Conference on “India’s North-east and Asiatic South-east: Beyond Borders, organized by Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) in NEHU, Shillong
- June 25-28, 2013:** “*We strive for the well-being of our society: The indigenous discourse of women in Manipur*”, Indigenous Studies Workshop (ISW) and International Seminar Workshop on

Indigenous Studies, Organised by University of Philippines and Tebtebba Foundation, Manila, Philippines

- Jan 6-9, 2013:** “*Displaced Identity*”, paper presented an International Conference on Contested Spaces and Cartographic Challenges, the 14th conference of the International Association for Studies in Forced Migration in Plenary Session III, “Conflict, Gender and Displacement with a special focus on India’s North East”, organised by CRG and IASFM 14.
- Sept 10-14, 2012:** “*Women Entrepreneurs in Manipur: Their Institutions and their Enterprise*” in the Seminar on Issues of Legitimacy: Entrepreneur Culture, Corporate Responsibility and Urban Development, Organised by IUAES Commission on Urban Anthropology, Naples Italy.
- Aug 17-18, 2012:** “*Our Women’s Quest for Justice: Is it a South East Asian Trajectory*”? Paper presented in an International Conference on India and her Neighbours: Revisiting Relations with Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Maldives, organised by JAIR, supported by The Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, GOI and MAKAISS, Kolkata
- March 12, 2012:** Presented paper, *Bir Tikendrajit Singh and the Manipur’s Struggle for Identity with specific look at the Eastern Gate* in the international seminar on Little known Fighters against the Raj, organised by Centre for North East Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi
- arch 25-27, 2011:** Presentation on *Their Bodies Their Souls: Meira Paibis of Manipur*, in South Asian Regional Workshop on Sustainability and Ownership, Organised by National Centre for Advocacy Studies, Kathmandu
- June 9-11, 2011:** Paper, *Consensus Governance: Recalling Iroquois Confederacy* in the international seminar on Development, Conflict and Democratic Governance: India’s Experience in North east, organised by ICSSR-NERC an Council for Social Development, New Delhi
- Nov 28-30, 2011:** Paper, *Nepalis of Manipur from the Perspective of Cultural Collective*, in the international Seminar, Nepali Diaspora in the Globalised Context, organised by Anthropology Department, NEHU
- Dec 8-12, 2010:** Presentation on *Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh: India’s Gateway to Southeast Asia* in International Seminar on Developing Frameworks for Regional Cooperation in Southern China, organised by Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, new Delhi, in Chengdu, China.
- **National**
- 22nd Dec. 2022, **Explorations Within**, paper presented in a session of RC 10 in the All India Sociological Conference, held between 20th to 22nd Dec, 2022 in USTM, Meghalaya
- 21st Dec. 2022 Chaired a session of RC 10 in the All India Sociological Conference, held between 20th to 22nd Dec, 2022 in USTM, Meghalaya
- 19th Dec, 2022 Invited as panelist in the panel discussion on [Domestic Violence and Abuse: Challenges and Responses](#), as part of the series [The State of Gender Equality – #GenderGaps](#) organized by [MPRI Impact and Policy Research Institute](#), New Delhi!
- 23 September, 2022 Invited to chair a session on *Memory, Memorialization, and Commemoration* in a seminar organized by NESRC on , National seminar ‘Conflict and Coping in North East India: The Role of Memory’, in Guwahati
- 12th October, 2022, Invited to give an interdisciplinary talk on *Need to bring Pedagogy of Feminism* in Department of English, Royal Global University
- 8th March, 2022: Gave a talk on *Women’s Collectivity and Indigeneity with a focus on North East India*, to commemorate women’s day, organised by Sociology and Political Science Departments, Royal Global University

- 8th Feb, 2022: Online lecture series, *Gender Issues with Focus on North East India*, organised by Women's Studies Centre, Tripura University
- Sept. 17, 2021: Invited to give a lecture on *Theories of Feminism* by Department of Sociology, Sikkim University (online)
- Sept 3, 2020: Gave a talk on *Impact of COVID-19: A Holistic Analysis* in XISS, Ranchi, Jharkhand (online)
- Aug 25, 2020: Gave a talk on *Gender During Covid IX: Perspective from North East India*, in webinar organised by Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS)
- July 10, 2020: Gave a talk on *Indian Cultural Harmony in Relation to Manipur: Seeing Knowing and the Gaze and Reimagining* in the Webinar on Cultural aspects of Manipur & Madhya Pradesh, organised under the scheme, "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, Government of India by Govt. Nirbhay Singh Patel Science College, Indore
- Dec 27-29, 2019: Gave a talk on *De-Development: Cultural Contours of North East India* in the 1st Plenary on Development Contours in India: Perspective from the Margins in the 45th ISS Conference, Kerala University
- Jan 27-31, 2019: *Idea of Streetva*, in a national seminar on Indic Thought: Exploring the Indianness. Organised by NMML and Department of Political Science, Goa University
- Nov 2-3, 2018: Presented a paper on *The Role of the Meira Paibis in various movements in Manipur*, in National Seminar on *The Role of Women in Peace Processes*, Organised by North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC), Guwahati.
- Oct 3-4, 2018: Presented a paper, *Fault lines: The 'Othering' dynamics and Time to look Within* in the national conference on Globalisation and its implications for the North East India, organised by NMML, Delhi and Political Science department, Mizoram University.
- March 14, 2018: Presented a talk on, "*Challenges of Politics and Policies*", on in a conference on, "State Politics in India, with special emphasis on North east India, organised by Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi and Pol. Sc. Dept, NEHU
- Feb3,, 2018: Gave a lecture on, "*Sociological Underpinnings of Marriage and Maintenance*" in the "Fourth Regional Conference on Sensitisation of Family Courts Matters", organised by the High Court of Madras and Tamil Nadu state Judicial Academy in Chennai.
- Nov 19-20, 2017: Talked on, "*Nation, Identity, Tradition and the List Goes On*", in the national seminar on, "Changing World of Tribal Women", organised by Indian Association of Women's Studies in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.
- Nov 9-10, 2017: Gave a presentation on, "*Gender and Development*", in the Session, "Community Institutions, Participatory Planning and Convergence" in the, "Eastern Himalayas Trans-Regional Workshop on, "Learning and Sharing from Best Practices of Community-led sustainable livelihood development initiatives in North East India, organised by North East Council (NEC), Shillong.
- Sept 21-22, 2017: Presented a paper on *Caste, Tribe and Reservation in Manipur: A Critique*, in National Seminar on Towards Social Justice: Impact of Positive Discrimination on Marginalised Communities with Special reference to Scheduled Caste Groups in India, organised by ICSSR-NERC, Shillong
- Aug 29, 2017: Gave a talk on, "*Understanding Nupimanbee (Transgender) and the need of friendly environment in the Hospital*", in the sensitisation programme on transgender with the health providers of District Hospital, Bishnupur, Manipur .
- July 21-23, 2017: Gave a lecture on, "*Perceptions and Reality: The Women of North East India*" in the National conference on, "Human Rights, Issues, Perspectives and Realities in the United World School of Law, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- April 6-7, 2017: Key note Address, "*Why there is violence against Women*", in the National seminar on "Violence Against Women", organised by Women's Studies Centre, Tripura University.
- March 29, 2017: Panel speaker on *Caste, Tribe and Ethnicity* in the National Workshop and Orientation Programme

on Rethinking Marginality-Conjunctions and Contradictions, organised by Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata

- Feb 20-21, 2017: Paper, "***The Trust Deficit: A Possible Way Out***" in the National seminar on, "North East India Since 1947: Society, Polity and Economy With Special Reference to the State of Manipur", organised by OKD, Guwahati and Manipur University, Imphal
- Feb 16-17, 2017: Invited Speaker on "***The ' High Status' of Women***" at the National conference on, " Many Positionalities: Re-interrogating Gender in Narratives from North East India" organised by the English department, Shivaji college, Delhi University, New Delhi
- Dec 8-10, 2016: Deliberated on the, "***The Subaltern: The Greatness of Manipur***" in the one day brainstorming on , " The Greatness of North East India – A Land of Beauty and Wonder", organised by ICSSR-NERC, Shillong
- Sept 8, 2015: "***Meira Paibi Movement in Manipur: Is the Ground Shifting?***" A talk in Centre for Women's Studies, JNU
- March 17-18, 2015: Key note address: "***Gender and displacement***" in the national seminar by the same name organized by Department of Women's Studies, Guahati University and IAWS
- March 5-6, 2012: ***Women's Land Rights: a Basic Human Rights Issue*** in the national Seminar , Women's rights as Human Rights, Organised by Women's Studies Centre, Tripura University.
- April 26-27, 2011: ***Matri- Ideologies within Patriarchies*** in the National Seminar on Feminization of Culture, Organized by AITS, RGU and ICSSR, NERC
- Dec 14-15, 2010: ***Land and Women in North East India***, in the national workshop on Land Administration in North Eastern States: Distances Covered and Challenges Ahead, organised by Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in NIRD Guwahati
- July 26-27, 2010: Paper on ***Nonpok Thong Hangba***, in a workshop on The Conflicts in North East: Internal and External Effects, organised by Centre for Security Analysis, Chennai, Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research and Delhi Policy Group, in Habitat Centre, New Delhi
- Sept 15, 2010: ***Women's Voices in Negotiating for Peace***, in a seminar, Manipur: The Way Forward, organized by Administrative Reforms Department, Government of Manipur.
- Nov 18-19, 2009: ***Civil Society: a new cliché? Context North East India***¹ in National seminar on Voluntary Sector, Civil-Society and Social Transformation in India, organised by Dept of Sociology, NEHU, Shillong
- Nov16-17, 2009: ***Violent Manifestations of the Other*** in National seminar on Politics of Boundary Maintenance: Inclusion and Exclusion Dynamics in North East India, IAS Shimla
- Feb 12-13, 2010: ***Gender Issues in Forced Migration*** in a two day workshop on, ' New issues in Studies on Forced Migration with Special Reference to east and North east," Organized by Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla and Calcutta Research Group, in Guwahati.
- March 30-April 1, 2009: Paper on ***The Good and the Evil: The Self and the Other*** in National Seminar on The Construction of the Idea of Evil, organised by IAS and ICSSR-NERC, at Kohima
- March 13-15, 2009: ***Women Collectives and Matrilineality: Paradigms of Empowerment***, in National Seminar on women in traditional institutions and world views, CMS, MU and CSSS JNU, New Delhi.

❖ (For lack of space only papers from 2009 are included)

Other Work Experience

1. Gender and NGO Coordinator - 2006 to 2009

NERCORMP/IFAD/DoNER/NEC- GOI, Shillong, Meghalaya,

India

I was in charge of organising village level institutions; SHGs (Self Help Groups) and NaRMGs (Natural Resource Management groups), through the coordination of local NGOs of the six districts of the three states of North East India, Meghalaya, Assam and Manipur. I needed to build on their entrepreneurship through ground level planning, inviting experts for training on various enterprises, Gender Sensitisation workshops in the villages. Within my tenure we had built a band of women entrepreneurs, which were then documented and published by NERCORMP titled, "Women entrepreneurs of NERCORMP". I also coordinated livelihood issues in relation to agriculture and forests. There were extensive field visits involving staying, mingling, building trust and holding workshops. I also coordinated with National Commission for women and the respective state commissions for women. I undertook periodic assessment studies, Data collection and Documentation.

2. Research Officer – 1999 to 2004

Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi, India

This organisation works exclusively on grass root elected bodies called the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India. I was in charge of the north east region of India and did a detailed study of the Status of Panchayats in North East India. This involved visiting the village level bodies of the five states which has PRIs. I also documented the levels of exclusions in terms of women, tribal and the lower castes. It was part of an all India study conducted by 12 sociologists. This later came out in print published by Sage, "Inclusion and Exclusions in Local Governance: Field Studies from Rural India. I also represented the Institute in some international conferences in Delhi and Bangladesh.

3. Project Associate- 2004 (Short term) 2 months

Indian Institute of Management, Lughnow, India

It was an assessment study of North East Region Non Lapsable Common Pool of Resources (NLCPR) Projects under Department of North East Region, Government of India in Manipur. This involved the construction of schools, roads and other infrastructure in North East India.

4. Research Advisor – 2004 (short term) 2 months

National Commission for Women, (NCW), New Delhi, India

It was part of an all India research on the, "Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in Manipur". It was a two month research through government records and some sample village studies. It was later published by the NCW.

5. Project Associate – 2004 (Short Term) 1 month

Planning Commission, Government of India

Researched and contributed a chapter on "Gender and Development" in the **Manipur State Human Development Report**

6. Principal Researcher – 1996 (6 Months)

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi, India

Collected stories from the villagers residing around the Loktak Lake, in Manipur. It is the largest fresh water lake in Asia. The research culminated as a document on "Cosmo- genesis of Loktak Lake".

Referees

Prof RK Jain (PhD Supervisor) ph. 9899418439 email: ravij1937@gmail.com
(Retd) Sociology Professor CSSS, SSS, JNU
Block 'B', Palam Vihar, Gurgaon, 122017

Prof. TB Subba (retd) ph. 9002008637 email: tsubba.shg@gmail.com
Department of Anthropology
North East Hill University, (NEHU) Shillong, Meghalaya



(Dr. Vijaylakshmi Brara)

