

Challenges to the Natural Resource Management at the Shirui Village in Ukhrul district, Manipur

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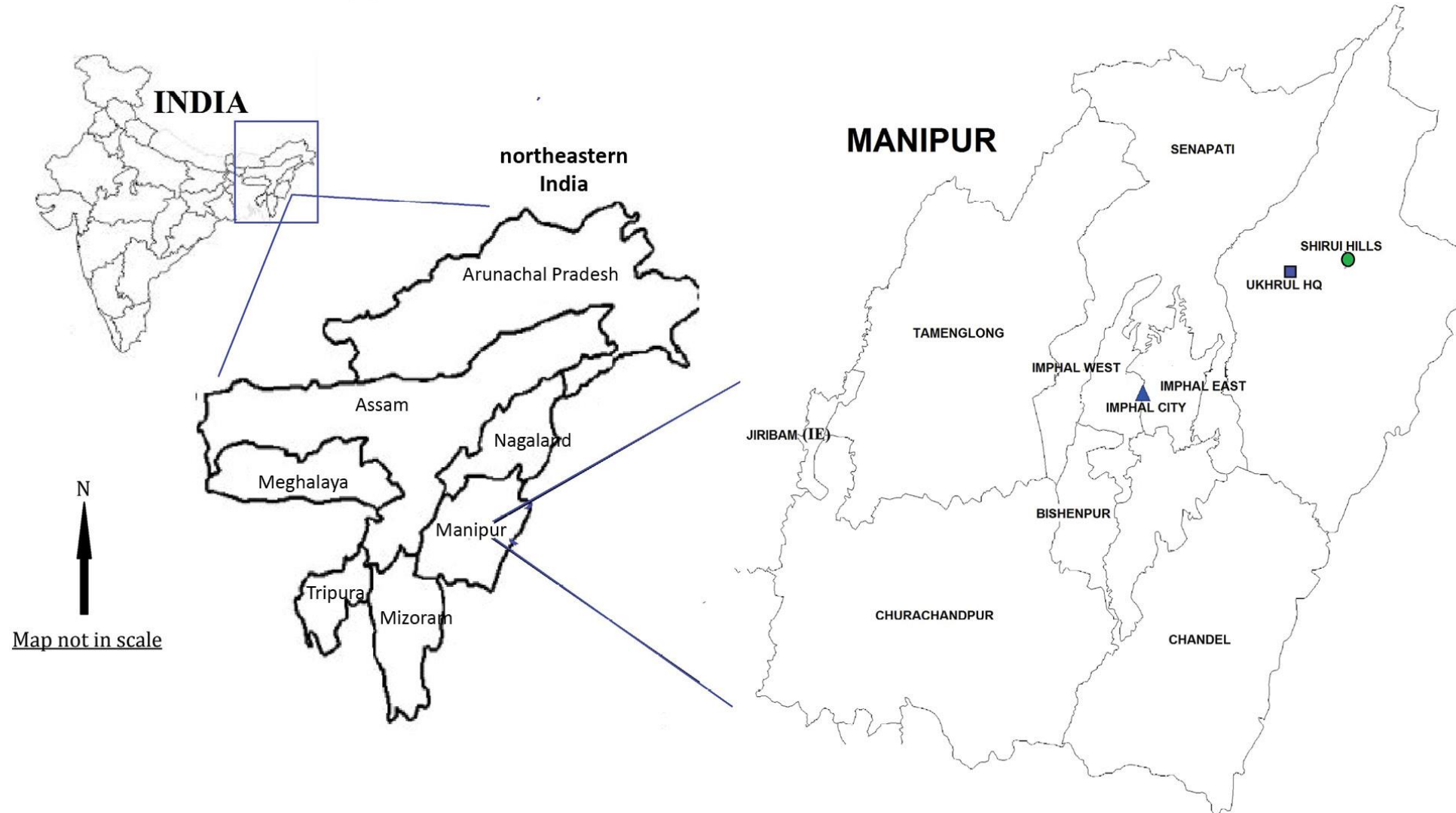
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Challenges to the Natural Resource Management at the Shirui Village in Ukhrul district, Manipur

- Overview of Presentation
 - Study Location
 - Scope of Study
 - Methodology and Data collection
 - About the Shirui Village and Shirui Kashong Hill
 - Challenges for NRM
 - Discussion-The dilemma of development

Study Location



Scope of Study

- Exploring challenges for NRM
 - The web of inter-linkage
 - Transition in village's agriculture economy
 - Forest and Water resources
 - Biodiversity Hotspot (*Lilium mackliniae* / Shirui Lilly)
 - The Dilemma of Development?

Methodology and Data Collection

- Method
 - Open ended discussion
 - Better way for exploratory study in area which is unknown to scholar and in area, where you can be seen as outsider ([Shah, 2017](#)).
 - Issue in conflict zone / potential zone / earlier conflict zone
 - Seen as outsider, information gatherer for state
 - Example: Issue of land measurement / area, issue of Village Court, Women role in Village Administration.
 - Field stay (07 to 28 May 2017)

Methodology and Data Collection

- Data Collection Point
 - At Village
 - Headman
 - Ex-headman
 - Farmers
 - Paddy
 - Cabbage
 - Potato
 - Elder member of village
 - Both male and female
 - VA secretary and members
 - Secretary NaRM Group

Methodology and Data Collection

- Cont...
 - Manipur Government
 - Department of Economics and Statistics
 - Manipur Remote Sensing Application Centre
 - Manipur University
 - Library resources
 - Discussion with Professors at MU
 - NERCORMP Officials
- Selection of Village
 - Serendipity

About Shirui village

- About Shirui Village (*Ato and Aze*)
 - Inhabited by Tangkhul tribe
 - Governed by Village Administration (VA)
 - Two headmen (up and down village)
 - Two village court (VC)
 - Four hamlet of village
 - Mawontang (Mawon means better paddy from field): Upside
 - Kahortang (Kahor means light; the area or land with better light): Downside
 - Awontnag (Awon means locality of flower): lower North side
 - Leiyantang (Leiyen means area having leisure time and not much work): downside of National highway



About Shirui village

- Village Administration (VA)
 - 14 + 1 (secretary)
 - 2 clan
 - Pharat: 7 + 1 (Headman)=8 (from different sub-clan)
 - Shangh: 5 + 1 (Headman)=6 (from different subclan)
 - Two headmen work alternatively
 - Hereditary based
 - Nominated headman (if main headman is out)
 - No women representation

About Shirui Village

Village Court

- Chaired by two headmen alternatively
- 20/30 cases
 - 70-80 % land related
 - Rest money related
- Criminal cases
 - Shirui Youth Club and then to VC



Challenges for NRM

(Structural break in village economy)

- National Highway (150; from Imphal, Ukhrul to Nagaland, via Shirui; 1980s onward)
 - Access to better transport
 - Shaktiman for paddy transport from field
 - Access to outside market
 - Over period access to cheap rice; implication for paddy cultivation; Jhum
 - Paddy (wet) cultivation on terrace continues
 - Avenue of cultivation (like Maize, Potato)
 - Cart use stopped

Challenges for NRM

(Structural break in village economy)

- MGNREGA (2005 onward)
 - Increase in wage labor
 - Movement of labor out of terrace paddy cultivation
 - Increase in fallow land (both wet and dry; also showed in MARSAC details and Statistical handbook of District)
 - Skill option
 - Masonry
 - Carpenter work
 - Movement toward cash crop cultivation (mostly cabbage)
 - Better road inside village and transport
 - Implication for agriculture practice other than paddy (like cabbage)



Structural break in village economy

- Cabbage cultivation
 - Last 5/6 years (2010 onwards)
 - Better return (comparison to paddy)
 - Three crops (from Nov to July)
 - Jhum land
 - 3/4 year of cycle (in fertile land else 2 years)
 - Major reason of forest clearance



Structural break in village economy

- NEC-IFAD intervention
 - SHG formation
 - Rotating fund (INR 1 to 4 Lakh' four SHGs')
 - Interest of 2 percent
 - For piggery, poultry, seed purchase, basket making etc.
 - Also few farmer took for potato and cabbage cultivation
 - ~Jhum practice and forest resource
- Broke the money lender influence in village
 - Issues
 - Payment only after year end
 - If in between have to pay full amount

Structural break in village economy

- Issues of bank linkage and telecommunication facility
 - MGNRGEA
 - No bank in village
 - Nearest at Ukhrul town
 - Unemployment benefit
 - Direct benefit transfer
 - Better transparency (by stopping leakage)
 - Market information
 - Tourism
 - Shirui Lilly festival

Shiroi Kashong Hill

- *Lilium Mackliniae* - Shirui Lilly
 - Explored by Dr. Frank Kingdon Ward 1946
- Biology of it
 - Mountain Shadow area
 - 7 color in petal
 - Blooms in May/June
 - Gestation period (3+3 Year for full bloom)
- State flower
 - 1989
 - State Festival 2017
- Scope for National Park (By GoI)
 - Opposed
- Tourism
 - Opportunity
 - Challenge



Shiroi Kashong Hill

- The three rivers tributaries
 - Thoubal River (Khokthi Kongrei and Yangui Kong; South-Western): Ukhrul district and then to Imphal valley
 - Chindwin river (Ratik and Shang Kong; West and North): Flow to Nagaland and the to Myanmar
 - Nambalok river (Ngayaisari Kong; Eastern part): Myanmar
- Only source of water for Ukhrul district
 - Through gravity
 - Major tributary to Thoubal river basin

Shiroi Kashong Hill

- Issue of deforestation
 - Wood for heating
 - 2 to 3 truck (about 3 to 4000 kg of wood, family of three; based on stay of author at HH)
 - HH = 328
 - Cutting pine tree: loss of dense forest
 - Cabbage cultivation
 - Cash crop (Jhum Practice)
 - Loss of scrub / open forest
 - Wood for home construction
 - Oak tree
 - Dense forest



Discussion

- The Dilemma of Development

(in the background of structural shift in village economy, developmental intervention; tourism potential and, saving of endemic and endangered species)

- The dynamic agriculture practices
- Alternate livelihood options (agriculture, and allied activities)
- Tourism and biodiversity hotspot
 - The nature of commons and its challenges
 - Shirui village and role of surrounding nearby villages.
 - Role of State government
 - Role of GoI
- Biotic and Abiotic Pressure (Forest, Water and fragile habitat of Shirui Lilly)
 - Jhum practice
 - In future tourism potential (1982 to 2006:4.8 lakh; in May 2017: ~70,000, with in 8 days)
 - [A]Biotic pressure?

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!!!Comments!!!