

# TENSION AND CONFLICT IN NORTH EAST INDIA

B.B. KUMAR

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# Tension And Conflict

In

## North-East India



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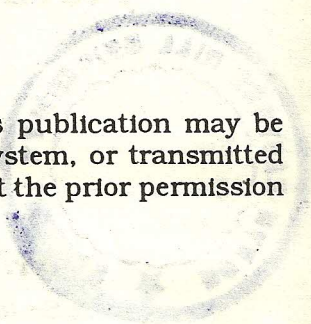
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## Preface

The tension and conflict in North-East India is due to the intersection of diverse social, political and economic forces. The strong-hold of colonial history, Indology, anthropology on our elite, creating obsessions, the real and imaginary grievances in the name of identity crisis have contributed to the present situation.

The paper on "Language Politics" by Professor V.V. Rao was published in the Thinker edited by me. The papers on "Autonomy movement in Naga Hills District" by Prof. S.K. Barpujari were presented in a seminar organised by me at Tuensang. These papers come under the parameter of the theme and are included in the present volume.

I shall feel rewarded if the book contributes to the generation of positive thinking on tension and conflict in the region.

**B. B. Kumar**

## **Acknowledgements**

The author gratefully acknowledge the help rendered by Professor V. V. Rao and Professor S. K. Barapujari for their papers included in this volume.

The North-Eastern part of India comprises of the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. These states have been the focus of attention for their unique cultural setting located as they are in one corner of the sub-continent away from the central mainstream, both geographically and culturally. Within itself these states provide a rich tapestry of cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversities comprising of both tribal and non-tribal populations. These states, studied as they have been by colonial administrators, mostly have been mis-represented as more exotic and divergent from the mainstream of Indian culture, than they really are.

Most of the British authors writing about the North-East have wrongly emphasized the conflict situation between the mainland Indian culture and that of the North-East. They have also misrepresented the internal cultural diversities of this region. The author feels that the reality of the North-East situation has not yet been brought out in right perspective. The earlier studies have failed to view the North-East situation in Indian perspective and to evolve from micro-level studies to a macro level of analysis.

For this reason the picture regarding the North-East remains hazy. This book attempts to get an insider's view of the region and to highlight the actualities of the situation of tension and conflict existing therein, specifically in view of the post independence political culture.

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He remained associated with a large number of academic and voluntary bodies from time to time, such as Founder Secretary, Nagaland Bhasha Parishad; Thinkers Forum, Nagaland Council for Social Service, Nagaland; Founder President, Educational Society of Nagaland and All Nagaland Govt. College Teachers Associations; Vice president, Family Planning Association of India, Nagaland branch & member of its National Council; Vice-President, Indian Council of Social Service Nagaland branch; Member, Governing body, Nagaland Peace Centre & North East India Council of Social Science Research, Shillong; Member, Academic Council, College Developmental Council, Exam Committee and Board of Undergraduate Studies (Chemistry) NEHU, Shillong; Chairman, Board of Hindi Studies and Member, Board of Studies for Science for Rural Development, Gandhigram Rural University (Tamil Nadu); etc.

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