

Guite Chiefs

G. Zamzachin

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The GUiTE CHIEFS

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From the Editor 

I have given in this small book a bird's eye view of the Guite chiefs, their descendants and their ways of life. I have no doubt that my information may not be totally in line with other historians, as they say, 'Folktales related by siblings tend to be different'. Anyway, I am sure this book will provoke more knowledgeable writers to come up with more accurate and coherent works. That will be my highest reward in my attempt to bring out this book.

Najcebu
 Prof (Dr) G Zamzachin
 Head of Dept of Dermatology,
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PREFACE

Land and its people make an interesting study. As a child, I used to listen to fascinating stories of land and its people narrated by elders. Years passed by and I started looking for materials on history of the Guite dynasty. And the search goes on.

Guite dynasty is unique in that it has a continuous history of almost two thousand years. It was the principal dynasty that ruled for many centuries over a vast tract of land south of Moirang upto Tedim. Over the years, the people have developed a distinct culture and custom, language and a way of life. Today it is a part of the Paite tribe.

Any tribe or nation has its birth, followed by progressive evolution interspersed with ups and downs in the course of time. History is important. The past holds the secret of the present and the future, and vice versa. Any geo-political matter need the support of solid historical evidence. We can ignore history at our own peril.

Barring a few write-ups here and there, the history of the Guite people has been buried in time warp and tracing its history has been a daunting task. Thanks to the oral traditions and poetical lyrics, passed on from generation to generation, which have formed the main sources for this book, 'The Guite Chiefs'.

In compiling the book, I am fortunate to have met a great local historian and a genius in the person of H Lianzang. Even at the ripe age of 87 years, stories and songs of forefathers still pour from his mouth in the minutest details. I have relied heavily on his manuscripts and verbatim, literally copying from his papers. I am indeed grateful to him for granting me access to his works. I also express my gratitude to many resourceful individuals who readily provided materials and informations. Their names are acknowledged in the appropriate places inside the book. It may be said that I am treading in an uncharted territory. As such, I hope any shortcoming or loose ends will inspire others to pick up from where I left off. If the book prove to be a good read and of some use to the research scholars, I would humbly say, in Latin 'Opus exegii' (My life's work is done).

The Editor



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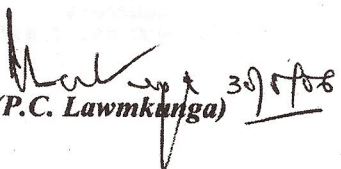
MESSAGE

I could hardly believe that a devoted medical doctor would ever have inclination and time to publish a book.

Hats off to Prof. (Dr) G. Zamzachin for his rare achievement in bringing out this precious book, titled "The Guite Chiefs". I had a glimpse of this work at its manuscript stage and found it interesting.

I sincerely appreciate his hard work to collect and compile the information to make such a book as this.

I am sure this book will be of immense help to general readers and research scholars.


(P.C. Lawmkunga) 30/8/08

Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Heading</i>	<i>Page</i>
1.	Early History	1
2.	Genealogy of the Guite	11
3.	Story of the Guite Chiefs	80
4.	Story of some Sukte Chiefs	153
5.	Story of some Sailo and Ralte Chiefs	169
6.	Some stories of the descendants of Songza, Zahong, Tohin and Hanghil	185
7.	Collection of Stories	191
	References	