

G. K. GHOSH  
SHUKLA GHOSH  
FABLES AND FOLK TALES  
OF  
MANIPUR



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# FABLES AND FOLK-TALES OF MANIPUR

G. K. GHOSH  
SHUKLA GHOSH



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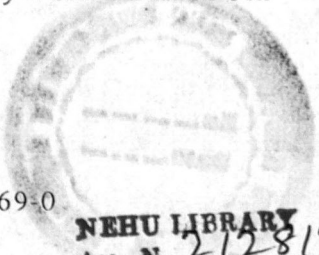
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*Dedicated to*  
**KH. IRABOT SINGH**  
and  
**PAONA BRAJBASI**

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Imphal valley is dominated by Meithei - the dominant group. They are, however, intermingled with other seven tribes such as Marang, Ningthouja, Khamei, Lawng Nangla etc., traditionally ruled by a Kuki dynasty belonging to Ningthouja group. Next to them are, too, Leks who are in one opinion, one of the break away fraction of Meithei; in another opinion a separate group who had their principality with present Kanchipur near Imphal as the capital with geographical region upto Kakching, while a third version states they were created due to mixture of Chinese prisoners of war, Meithei who were sent out to far flung places as war-brothers and few tribes. The third group - Bishnapriyas, who are Indo-Aryan fraction of Manipur. Panglengs are muslims of Manipur.

Trips of various ethnic origins living in the hills. They may be divided broadly into three distinct groups such as Naga groups (Having close resemblance with Meithei and Leks), Old Kuki groups and New Kuki groups.

Then Manipur is a beautiful land where many old arts of human ways enriched the culture and traditions. Its folk songs flourished well later but its foundation was given by various folk songs. These folk-pieces were beautifully reflected the present and in soul with wonderful atmosphere, social teachings, as well as social problems and their solutions.

## INTRODUCTION

Manipur, the land of "Mani" or gem was often referred to as "Subarna-Bhu" or land of gold in many ancient Indian scriptures. People of Manipur however preferred to call their land as Methei Laipak or the land of Meithei or often as Kangleipak or the Royal Land.

Manipur is the home land of many ethnic groups while most of them belonging to Tibeto-Burman sub-group of Sino-Tibetan group. However, according to place of settlement, the land may be divided into two geographical regions such as Imphal valley and hill Manipur surrounding the beautiful valley.

Imphal valley is dominated by Meithei—the dominating group of people of Manipur. They are, however, mixture of seven tribes such as Moirang, Ningthouja, Khumal, Looang Ngangba etc., traditionally ruled by a Royal family belonging to Ningthouja group. Next to them are, the Lois who are in one opinion, one of the break away fraction of Meithei, in another opinion a separate group who had their principality with present Kanchipur near Imphal as the capital with geographical region upto Kakching, while a third version believe they were created due to mixture of Chinese prisoners of war, Meithei who were sent out to far flung places as punishment and few tribes. The third group—Bishnupriyas, who are Indo-Aryan fraction of Manipur. Panggens are muslims of Manipur.

Tribes of various ethnic origins living on the hill. They may be divided broadly into three distinct groups such as Naga groups (Having close resemblance with Meithei and Lois), Old Kuki groups and New Kuki groups.

Thus Manipur is a beautiful land where many streams of human waves enriched the culture and traditions. Its literature flourished well later but its foundation was given by various folk stories. These folk-tales were beautifully depicted, that grew from the soil with wonderful aroma giving moral teachings, answers to social problems and so on.

Book gives a number of folk stories of various people of Manipur. It is hoped, it shall not only be entertaining to various readers irrespective of their age but also give intimate knowledge on various tribes of Manipur. This shall also enrich the cultural heritage of India.

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26th January '96

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Manipur, the land of gem was known as Subarna Bhu or land of gold during epic era. Its beauty attracted mighty Pandavas during era of Mahabharata. The culture of Manipur is basically folk in nature, and it had doned many glitters to literary map of India. The land belongs to wonderful Meitheis and Bishnupriyas in valleys, talented Lois at foot hill and colourful tribes on the hills. The Tradition and culture of any civilisation reflects well in their folk tales which was preserved by the people form generation to generation reflecting culture, environment and social structure of various era. In this book ninety folk tales has been compiled collected from various sources. The book shall be useful for research scholars, anthropologists besides of courses everyone young and old for pleasure reading.

Price : 175.00

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