

## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis entitled, “**Human Rights Violation: A Study of Two States of North-East India; Assam and Manipur**”, has been prepared by me under the guidance of Dr. Maya Ghosh, (Retd.) Professor, Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal. No part of this thesis has formed the basis for the award of any degree or fellowship previously.

*Ananya Guha Roy*

Ananya Guha Roy  
Department of Political Science,  
University of North Bengal  
P.O. North Bengal University,  
Raja Rammohunpur,  
District Darjeeling,  
West Bengal, India,  
Pin: - 734013  
Date:- 28.09.2021

**Dr. Maya Ghosh**

**Professor (Retd)**

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

P.O. North Bengal University  
Dt. Darjeeling, (W.B.), Pin - 734013  
☎: (0353) 2776 349 (O)  
Cell - 9474379359  
E-mail: maya-datta@rediffmail.com

## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Smt. Ananya Guha Roy has submitted her thesis entitled, “**Human Rights Violation: A Study of Two States of North-East India; Assam and Manipur**”, under my supervision for the award of PhD degree as per New Ordinance of the University of North Bengal. She has carried out the work in the Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal. To the best of my knowledge, the work is original in nature.

*Maya Ghosh* 28.9.2021

**(Dr. Maya Ghosh)**

Department of Political Science,  
University of North Bengal,  
P.O. North Bengal University,  
Raja Rammohunpur, District Darjeeling,  
West Bengal, India, Pin-734013.












**Professor (Retd)**

Department of Political Science  
University of North Bengal

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Ananya Anba Ray  
28.09.2021

Maya Ghosh  
28.9.2021  
Professor (Retd)  
Department of Political Science  
University of North Bengal

## P R E F A C E

Of late, the question of human rights has received a great deal of attention. Today, violation of human rights is seriously taken note of by international bodies. It is in this backdrop that most countries have set up their own independent National Human Rights Commissions.

Human rights are those rights which are fundamental for living and for normal human existence. They are based on the concept that every man and woman, irrespective of caste, creed, colour, race and nationality is born with certain fundamental rights such as, right to live, speech, freedom, justice, etc. These rights are, therefore, enshrined in the constitution of the countries. The Universal Declaration of Human rights which UN adopted on 10th Dec. 1948 enumerates some of these basic rights of man. These are rights to live, liberty and security of person, right to freedom of speech, judicial remedy, freedom of movement, right to take part in the governance of one's country, etc. The second types of rights are economic and social rights. These are the right to work, right to live with dignity, right to rest and leisure, right to education, equal pay for equal work, right to equality, etc.

All governments should try to maintain these fundamental rights and see that all types of discrimination in this respect are rooted out. Protection and maintenance of human rights is a fundamental duty of every government. International organizations and watchdogs such as, UNO, International Human Rights Commission, etc., can play a vital role in ensuring the implementation of these basic rights. Countries, particularly the democratic countries, must stand together in this respect and take necessary persuasive and even coercive actions, to see that these fundamental human rights are adhered to by people, organizations and countries all over the world.

India played a crucial role in adopting UN General Assembly resolution declaring the right of the peoples to self-determination in 1960 (Resolution 1514 [XV] adopted on 14th, December 1960). Still India deliberately denied the inalienable right to self-determination of the people of Assam and Manipur. The draconian AFSPA was imposed and implemented on 11 September 1958 in Assam and Manipur and was amended in 1972 to extend to all other states of the North-east which were carved out of Assam under the North Eastern Area Reorganisation Act, 1971. Beset by armed secessionist movements

opposing integration with India in the post-colonial period, the entire region was declared as 'disturbed'.

The proposed study would not only explore the intensities and degree of violation of human rights of that region but have also compared the human rights situation of Assam and Manipur with the help of various parameters. It is believed that a comparison of patterns of human rights violations and human development may offer a better understanding of the complexities and available mechanisms to ensure ethnic harmony and overall human development. A comparative study of Assam and Manipur focuses on identifying their ethno-political problems and subsequently assessing the similarity or differences in approaches to conflict resolution and their effectiveness in securing ethnic coexistence. Moreover, the study looks at the entire situation through an impartial point of view. The activities of Assam Human Rights Commission and Manipur Human Rights Commission have also been scrutinized to examine the role of these bodies in ensuring provide human rights in those states. Hence the proposed study is a modest attempt to empirically explore the actual human rights situation in the two north eastern states: Assam and Manipur.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“Human Rights Violation: A Study of Two States of North-East India; Assam and Manipur” claims to be a comprehensive study regarding human rights and violation of human rights in the north eastern part of India. The study throws light on its different dimensions. It is a scholarly attempt to narrate various reasons, aspects and complexities behind the real situation of human rights in the north-eastern part of India in general and Assam and Manipur in particular. However the work will also inform common readers about the basic understanding of human rights.

Any piece of research is a result of many contributive efforts. So acknowledgement of help is a sincere and genuine recognition of gratitude to those who have helped the entire process of preparation and completion of this thesis. While completing the thesis I have received enormous help, assistance and co-operation from various institutions and individuals. I shall be failing in my duty if I do not deliver my appreciation for them.

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Ananya Guha Roy  
(Ananya Guha Roy)

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

- AGP – Asom Gana Parishad**
- AFSPA - Armed Forces Special Powers Act**
- AHRC – Assam Human Rights Commission**
- AASU - All Assam Students’ Union**
- BJP – Bharatiya Janata Party**
- BRICS – Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa**
- BSF - Border Security Force**
- CHT - Chittagong Hill Tract**
- EI- Employment Index**
- FREINDS - The Federation of Regional Indigenous Societies**
- GDI - Gender Development Index**
- GNP - Gross National Product**
- HPI - Human Poverty Index**
- HDR- Human Development Report**
- HHD - High Human Development**
- HDI - Human Development Index**
- HRC - Human Rights Committee**
- JAC - Joint Action Committee**
- KNO - Kuki National Organisation**
- KNA - Kuki National Army**
- KDF - Kuki Democratic Front**
- KYKL - Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup**
- KCP - Kangleipak Communist Party**
- LHD - Low Human Development**
- MHD - Medium Human Development**
- MPA - Manipur People’s Army**
- MU - Manipur University**
- MUSU - Manipur University Students’ Union**
- MUTA - Manipur University Teachers’ Association**
- MUSA - Manipur University Staff Association**
- MHRC – Manipur Human Rights Commission**

**MASS - Manab Adhikar Sangram Samiti**  
**NER - North Eastern Region**  
**NGO – Non-Governmental Organization**  
**NDFB - National Democratic Front of Bodoland**  
**NSDP – Net State Domestic Product**  
**NSCN-IM - Isak-Muivah faction of National Socialist Council of Nagaland**  
**NSCN-K - Khaplang faction of National Socialist Council of Nagaland**  
**NSDP - National Summary Data Page**  
**PCI - Per capita income**  
**PLA - People’s Liberation Army**  
**PREPAK - People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak**  
**PULF - People’s United Liberation Front**  
**RPF - Revolutionary People’s Front**  
**SoO - Suspension of Operations**  
**United Committee Manipur - UCM**  
**UNO – United Nations Organization**  
**UDHR - Universal Declaration of Human Rights**  
**UNDP - United Nations Development Programme**  
**ULFA – United Liberation Front of Assam**  
**UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme**  
**UNLF - United National Liberation Front**  
**WB - World Bank**  
**WRI - World Resource Institute**