



Jhanji Hemnath Sarma College
Jhanji, Sivasagar, Assam

Socio-cultural Assimilation in Northeast

India and Southeast Asia

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Socio-cultural Assimilation in Northeast India and Southeast Asia: A collection of invited articles and select edited research papers presented in the international seminar on **Socio-cultural Assimilation in Northeast India and Southeast Asia** held on 30th April & 1st May 2018 organised by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Jhanji Hemnath Sarma College, Sivasagar, Assam.

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Message

It gives me immense pleasure that the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Jhanji Hemnath Sarma College, Sivasagar is going to publish a book entitled, 'Socio-cultural Assimilation in Northeast India and Southeast Asia' as proceeding volume of selected papers of International Seminar which will be held on 30th April & 1st May 2018. This kind of academic work will encourage the teachers, researchers and students community. I extended my hearty thanks to the editorial board for this work.

Dr. Manjit Gogoi
Principal,
Jhanji Hemnath Sarma College, Sivasagar

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Our heartfelt gratefulness goes to all participants and paper presenters who made the seminar successful. This book is the result of their contribution.

We are grateful to all the collaborating and institutions and organisations for their infinite support and encouragement.

We are thankful to our friends from the media for their support. We take this opportunity to thank the teaching and non-teaching staff of this college for their infinite help and support in the seminar. We are extremely thankful towards all students of our college. We thank everyone associated with the publication of this book, but whose names we could not mention here from the core of our heart.

Bidyadhar Boruah
Dr. Akashjyoti Saikia
Basanta Handique
Dr. Santana Dutta

Preface

Southeast Asia or Southern Asia, a sub-region of Asia, consists of two geographic regions located at the south of China, East of India, west of New Guinea, and North of Australia. These are – (a) Mainland Southeast Asia, comprising Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar and West Malaysia and (b) Maritime Southeast Asia, comprising Indonesia, east Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, East Timor, Brunei and three independencies, viz., Christmas Island, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Northeast India or North Eastern Region of India (NER) is the easternmost region of India comprising of eight states, viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

The NER has strong ties with Southeast Asia in terms of culture and heritage. It is rare and very interesting to find cultural practices of one community being performed by another in a different nation. For instance, different festivals celebrated in both of the regions have striking similarities. One of the reasons for this similarity between the two regions is migration. Tai Ahoms, Tai Khamyang etc. people presently inhabiting in Assam migrated from Southeast Asia during the 13th century. The Tai language also entered Northeast India (the then Kamrupa) with these migrations. Remarkable similarities are also observed in food habits, dress and ornaments of these groups of people with Southeast Asian nations.

Immense prospects lie ahead for cultural, economic and educational exchange between Southeast Asia and Northeast India. Cultural ties between the regions may be made stronger and more productive. A two-day International Seminar on “Socio-cultural Assimilation in Northeast India and Southeast Asia” was organised by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Jhanji Hemnath Sarma College, Sivasagar, Assam, India in collaboration with UGC approved Gandian Studies Centre, of this college; Assam College Principals’ Council, Assam; Institute of Tai Studies and Research, Moranhat, Assam and Krishak Nyas, Gaurisagar, Sivasagar, Assam on 30 April and 01 May, 2018 with the main objective to bring to the fore ground the strong association between Northeast India and Southeast Asia, on which both regions may capitalise to create a flourishing and synergetic tourist and trade economy. This book is a collection of some peer reviewed and edited research papers presented in the seminar published in the form of articles. We believe that this book will help in the understanding of the strong cultural ties and the socio-cultural assimilation in the regions for a bright socio-economic cooperation ahead.

Bidyadhar Boruah
Dr. Akashjyoti Saikia
Basanta Handique
Dr. Santana Dutta

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