

The history of the Kuki in Manipur

By IASToppers | 2022-03-02 17:40:00



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Recently, all insurgent groups associated with the Kuki tribes in Manipur said they will vote for one particular political party.



[Ref: India Netzone]

Kukis:

- The Kukis are an ethnic group which **include multiple tribes**, native to the Mizo Hills.
- They originally **inhabited the North-Eastern states** of India such as Manipur, Mizoram and Assam; parts of Myanmar, and Sylhet district and Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh.
- The **term 'Kuki'** was given by the **British and Bengalis of India**, though the group is descended from the Zo.
- Some fifty tribes of Kuki peoples in India are **recognised as scheduled tribes**, based on the dialect spoken by that particular Kuki community as well as their region of origin.
 - The Chin people of Myanmar and the Mizo people of Mizoram are kindred tribes of the Kukis.

Kukis in Manipur:

- In Manipur, the various Kuki tribes, living mainly in the hills, currently make up **30% of the total 28.5 lakh population of the State.**

Festivals:

- **Mim Kut** is the main festival of the Kuki tribe.

Culture:

The culture of Kukis include:

- **Sawm:** A community centre for boys
- **Lawm:** An institution in which boys and girls engaged in social activities

Governance:

- With regard to governance, **Semang (cabinet)** is the annual assembly of a Kuki village community.

Religion:

- The **majority** of Kukis are now **Christians**, with most belonging to Protestant denominations, especially Baptist.