

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

Traditional homes (tukuls) during the rainy season in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan. Traditional homes (tukuls) during the rainy season in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan.

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network & Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace.

MWGSN & NEIWIP believes in the human right of every woman, man, youth and child to peace. War and violence result in the systemic and sweeping denial of civil and political rights, along with economic, social, and cultural rights as scarce resources are expended on weapons and preparation for war. Whats more, the aftermath of wars can be destructive and devastating on the lives of the people that are constantly exploited and assaulted. Our work continues and we resolutely stand by our belief that enduring peace will be attained only when all human rights are fulfilled. We continue our journey in ensuring that the human rights of all persons to peace is inextricably linked to all other human rights - rights that are universal, indivisible, interconnected and interdependent.

In our first issues of 2026, we shared articles and stories covering three key issues related to our work. This is followed by important news from Northeast India where MWGSN and NEIWIP have been working for the past 15 years.

NEIWIP

Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace

NORTHEAST INDIA WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (NEIWIP)

Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace (NEIWIP) is a network of women organizations that are working for peace in the northeast region of India. Northeast India comprising of the eight states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim is facing the onslaught of multiple armed conflicts since the late 1940s. A level of militarization has engulfed India's Northeast under the garb of insurgency and counter-insurgency. And in the process women are assaulted, humiliated, raped and murdered during conflicts which are not of their making.

NEIWIP brings together women from all over Northeast states to strategize an action plan to strategise an action plan for building peace, providing justice and political rights in the region ruptured by years of conflict.

NEWS FROM GLOBAL

Crossing thresholds: nonviolence became my resistance calling for a new social contract with Binalakshmi Nepram

Source: PodBean, Jan 14, 2026

In this episode of Crossing Thresholds, Maurice Bloem speaks with Binalakshmi Nepram, an Indigenous scholar, poet, and peacebuilder from Manipur in Northeast India... [read more>>](#)

War is not Human Nature: How Violence is Manufactured for Power & Profit.

Source: elephantjournal.com

This story is repeated so often that it begins to feel like common sense. Yet when examined honestly through anthropology, psychology, history, and lived experience... [read more>>](#)

Amazon Biosphere Reserves Project

Source: unesco.org

The Amazon Biosphere Reserves Project seeks to halt the degradation of forest areas, conserve biodiversity and ecosystems, and support alternative livelihoods for communities and Indigenous peoples... [read more>>](#)

Binalakshmi Nepram: Engineering Peace, Creating History

Source: globalissues.org, January 27, 2026

It was Christmas eve: some two decades ago, Binalakshmi Nepram was a witness to the killing of a 27-year-old. In utter disbelief, she saw a group of three men dragging the victim from his workshop... [read more>>](#)

Pacific island Bougainville rejects Chinese partner for mine that will fund independence

Source: reuters.com, January 30, 2026

The Pacific island of Bougainville has rejected a partnership with Chinese miner CMOG (603993.SS), opens new tab to reopen a gold and copper mine... [read more>>](#)

NEWS FROM NORTHEAST INDIA

ASSAM

Assam's six indigenous communities renew demand for ST status ahead of 2026 polls

Source: Northeast Now, 9 January 2026

Janagostiya Mahasabha, Assam - an umbrella body representing six indigenous communities - on Thursday reiterated its long-pending demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status... [read more>>](#)

Indigenous groups sign Guwahati Declaration against large-scale energy projects in Northeast India

Source: Northeast Now, 30 January 2026

With the goal of protecting the rights of the people and their resources, over 15 peoples' organizations from different states of Northeastern India came together in Guwahati to sign the Guwahati Declaration at a people's convention on Energy Policy in Northeast India... [read more>>](#)

MANIPUR

Hundreds of Manipur IDPs protest in Imphal over delay in rehabilitation

Source: Northeast Now, 12 January 2026

Amid tight security, hundreds of people, mostly internally displaced persons (IDPs), on Monday took to the streets of Imphal city and attempted to storm the gate of Lok Bhavan (formerly Raj Bhavan)... [read more>>](#)

NSO Myanmar hails UNTC stand on indigenous rights

Source: The Sangai Express / Mungchan Zimik, 24 January 2026

The Naga Students' Organization (NSO), Myanmar, has hailed the decision of the United Tangshang Naga Council (UTNC) to abstain from participating in the recently concluded Pangsau Pass International Festival (PIIF)... [read more>>](#)

Manipur govt says IDP resettlement progressing, targets March 2026 completion

Source: Northeast Now, 29 January 2026

The Manipur government on Thursday said it is steadily progressing with the resettlement of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) across the state... [read more>>](#)

NAGALAND

How Nagaland Defies Religious Violence with Interfaith Harmony

Source: Northeast Now, 29 January 2026

Last December, as the Christmas season drew nearer, we saw attacks on its celebrations and assaults on some Christians in some States including Assam's Nalbari district... [read more>>](#)

TRIPURA

Tripura: Pradyot Debbarma urges indigenous unity for 'Tiprasa Rule' ahead of TTAADC polls

Source: Northeast Now, 21 January 2026

Tipra Motha founder Pradyot Kishore Debbarma on Wednesday called for unity among indigenous communities ahead of the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) elections, scheduled for April... [read more>>](#)

Tripura's Climate Crisis: Why Disaster Management Needs Urgent Rethinking

Source: Northeast Now, 28 January 2026

In 2024, heavy floods submerged large parts of Tripura, disrupting lives and livelihoods, affecting critical infrastructure, and bringing life to a standstill in several parts of the state... [read more>>](#)

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