

Commission on Human Rights
Sub Commission on The Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.
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21- 25 July, 2003
ITEM 6b



ZO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Respected Chairman and Indigenous representatives,

I have to express my heart-felt gratitude for having this opportunity to high light the plight of my people consequent upon Racial Discrimination reflecting to Zo race.

The ZO country known by the colonizer as "Chin Lushei " inhabited areas, in the South Asia, comprising from the western sides of the Chindwin river of the present Burma in the east to the Bay of Bengal and Bengal(now Bangladesh) in the west, inclusive of ~~southern~~ Manipur Hills, Assam Hills and Tripura in the north and north west up to some part of Arakan hills in the south.

The colonizer, even after their final invasion, known by them as Chin Lushei expedition, 1888-1890 though occupied the ZO country, but without annexing it to the British-India. They rather kept separated applying Acts and Regulations which were not separated within India (Ref: Govt of India Act.1935, Sec 262, 311(1) and the then British India Notification or proclamation of then Governor General of Bengal)

Thus, during World war II, the ZO Chiefs of about 300 in numbers declared war separately to oppose any invaders against Allied Forces, on 3rd April, 1942, whereupon . Major McCall the then Superintendent of Lushei Hills, the representative of the King George VI and Allied forces had too proclaimed that the ZO Chiefs were not mere friends of the British but brothers since they had declared war in their favour and had promised further that if they were victorious in the war, they would not leave them nor neglect them.

But, in spite of the maiden promised, the colonizer left them, might be sooner then they had expected, and the same divisions of ZO country with the ZO indigenous people there in, that had been created during colonization still ~~there~~ remains, un-rectified. that had effected the ZO race so much, by becoming minorities control bartering them as if they were ~~more~~ chattels and pawns in a game.

The ZO country was acquired by the then three provincial administrative divisions and become three sovereign States and separate nationalities. The ZO race, therefore, has become obliterated in the history of ZO indigenous peoples. Thus the ZO indigenous peoples are oppressed and suppressed and racial discriminated in their respective abode, and their nationality have also been arbitrarily deprived of: against the Universal Declaration of Human rights Article (15).

That, now, different sections of the ZO peoples are bound to struggle for their social, political and economic reasons by raising arms and also to submit resolutions after resolution or papers even to different forums or world bodies in spite of their being dis-organized. How long will the world community silent against this contradictory maxim in respect of the Zo Indigenous peoples.

I would appeal to your honour and to expert members that the only right\$ step for solving the crucial problem of racial discrimination in this area is the rights of Self-determination on peaceful means under the suspicions of the United Nations.
Thank you Mr. Chairman for your kind attention.

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Secretary
ZO Human Rights Global Networks