

## **SMT. KHUMANTHEM SUNDARI DEVI**

**Manipur State Kala Akademi Awardee, A-Grade Artist (AIR), Guest Faculty-MUC**

Nongpok Ingkhol, Pureiromba Leikai, Konung Mamang, Imphal East, Manipur - 795005

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Facebook Page: Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang – KSS

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Father's Name -	(L) KHUMANTHEM SHYAMKESHWOR SINGH
Mother's Name -	(L) KHUMANTHEM (o) GOMTI DEVI
Spouse's Name -	SOROKHAIBAM JOYCHANDRA SINGH
Date of Birth -	27 <sup>th</sup> September, 1967
Educational Qualification -	B.A. in Sociology

### **AWARDS :**

#### **STATE**

1. Manipur State Kala Akademi Award, 2010
2. Panthoibi Award, 2010
3. Manipur Shahitya Parishat : Kamlashana Rajkumari Ningshing Shengi Mana, 2018
4. Oja Hramot Literature Award, 2018
5. Heishnam Mangoljao Ningshing Kanglei Eshei Mana, 2019
6. Khamba-Thoibi Literature Award, 2023
7. Manipur Shahitya Parishat : Rani Kheradani (Alangbi) Devi Mana - 2023
8. Takhellambam Ongbi hamom Chaobiton Devi Freedom Fighter Memorial Award – 2024  
(Lifetime Achievement in Khongjom Parva)
9. Sangeet Bhushan Award, 2024

#### **NATIONAL**

1. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Award 2010
2. Brij Kadambri Award 2017
3. Mahatma Gandhi Iconic Peace Award 2024
4. Mother Teresa Social Reformer Award 2024
5. Swami Vivekananda Philosopher Award 2024
6. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Unity Award 2024
7. Netaji Subhas Chandra Nationalist Award 2024
8. Mother Teresa Book of India Pride 2025
9. National Excellence Achievers Award 2025

10. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Bharat Ratna Samman 2025
11. Rabindranath Tagore Hall of Fame Award 2025
12. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Nation Star Award 2025

### **INTERNATIONAL**

1. Kalakshetra Guru International Award 2014
2. B.R. Ambedkar International Specialist Award 2025
3. Biswakabi Rabindranath Tagore International Memoirist Award 2025
4. Gautam Budha International Religionist Award 2025
5. Mahatma Gandhi International Icon Award 2025
6. Swami Vivekananda International Pride Achievers Award 2025

### **ACHEIVEMENTS :**

1. A-Grade Artist, All India Radio (AIR) in Folk Music - Khongjom Parva.
2. DDK Approved Artist in Folk Music (Khongjom Parva).
3. Fellowship for 2010-2011 in the field of Folk Music (Khongjom Parva) under the Manipur State Kala Akademi.
4. Senior Fellowship for 2012-13 in the field of Folk Music (Folk/Traditional and Indigenous Arts) under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi.
5. Guru Shishya Parampara 2015-2016 under North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur.

### **ACHEIVEMENTS IN COMPETITION :**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Position in the Competition of Moirang kangleirol Khongjom Parva 1978, organised by Moirang Kanglei Eshei Association, Sega Lambi Khwairakpam Leikai, Imphal.
- Second Position with a gold medal on the festival of Khullang Eshei Phangnaba, organised by EPATHOUKOK Imphal, 1989.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Actor in All Manipur Shumang Leela Festival, organised by Manipur State Kala Akademi, Imphal, 1992.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Position in Khullang Eshei Music Competition 2017-18, organised by Mohan's Abhinaya Sanskratik Sansthan, Vrandavan, Mathura.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Position in Khullang Eshei, 2020, organised by Manipur State Shumang Leela Council.

### **BOOKS PUBLICATION :**

- Khongjom Parva Moirang Kangleirol Sheishak, Khamba Thoibi (Ahanba Sharuk), Published by Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang, Imphal on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE :**

- Guest Faculty of Department of Manipuri Folk & Traditional Music, Manipur University of Culture (MUC) since 2016.
- Instructor/Guru of Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang (KSS) since 2010.
- Senior Khongjom Parva Guru of Laihui since 2015.
- She had been giving Music lessons of Khongjom Parva to Youths since 1987.

## **WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS :**

- Ten Days Khongjom Parva Workshop 2013, organised by Dept. of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur.
- Traditional Manipuri Ballad and Opera Workshop 2013, organised by Laihui Imphal.
- 10 Days Cultural Appreciation Course from 10<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, Organised by Manipur State Museum, Department of Art & Culture Govt. of Manipur.
- 10 Days Workshop of Kangleirol Sheishak from 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 to 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, organised by Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang and sponsored by Department of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur.
- 30 Days Workshop of Kangleirol Sheishak from 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 to 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, organised by Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang and sponsored by North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- 10 Days Workshop of Khongjom Parva from 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 to 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2022, organised by Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang and sponsored by Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- 30 Days Workshop of Khongjom Parva from 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 to 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2023, organised by Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang and sponsored by Chief Minister's Artistesinggi Tengbang (CMAT), Department of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur.

## **PARTICIPATIONS IN NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS :**

- “Sangeet Natak Academy Festival” New Delhi 2008
- “Delhi International Arts Festival” at New Delhi 2008
- “Shrimati Indrani Jagjiban Ram Saman Padak” at New Delhi 2009
- “Commemoration of Major Chongtham Miya” at Nran Khamar Tripura 2010
- “Festival of Narrative Arts” at Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhavan, Hall-2, Tripura 2016
- “International Multi Lingual, Play Dance And Music Festival” at Vrandavan, Mathura 2018
- 25<sup>th</sup> International Theatre Festival of India (Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2024) organised by National School of Drama, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi at Imphal 2024.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Years of Bharat Rang Mahotsav (Viswa Jan Rang), International Theatre Festival of India organised by National School of Drama, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi at Imphal 2025.

## **PARTICIPATIONS IN STATE FESTIVALS :**

1. Festival of Khullang Eshei Phangnaba, organised by EPATHOUKOK Imphal, 1989.
2. All Manipur Shumang Leela Festival 1992, Organised By Manipur State Kala Academy, Imphal.
3. Festival of Narative Arts, organised by Theatre Centre Manipur in 2008,2009,2010,2011 & 2012.
4. Silver Jubilee Celebration,2009 Held From The 11<sup>th</sup> April To The 11<sup>th</sup> May,2009, organised by Performing Artistes Centre.
5. Custom and Traditional Celebration Day, organised by Custom and Traditional Observation Committee in 2010, 2012 & 2013.
6. Lainingthou Sanamahi Mera Chaoren Houba Organised By Lainingthou Sanamahi Temple Board, Imphal on 23 October,2010.
7. Narrative Arts Festival Of Manipur “Khongjom Parva” Organised By Urungpurel Museum and Heritage Research Centre,From 10<sup>th</sup> November To 9<sup>th</sup> December,2011.
8. Occupancy Observation Day, organised by Occupansy Observation Committee in 2012, 2013 & 2016
9. Culture Preservation Centres Maichou Ningshing Day organised by Culture Preservation Committee in 2012 & 2013.
10. 1<sup>st</sup> Foundation Day Event On 19<sup>th</sup> Febuary,2013 At The Manipur Press Clup, Imphal, Manipur Organised By North-East Biography Forum (NEBF).
11. Manipur Sangai Festival, Organised By Department Of Tourism Government of Manipur in 2014, 2015,2016,2017,2018 & 2023.
12. 3<sup>rd</sup> State Level Manipuri Folk Song & Music Festival, 2017 Organised By Sargam Performing Cum Musical Institute At Govt. Music College Auditorium, Palace Compound, Imphal.
13. 78<sup>th</sup> Observation Of Nupeelal Day to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 At BJP State Office, Nityaipat Chuthek, Imphal Organised By Mahila Morcha, BJP, Manipur Pradesh.
14. Observance of World Music Day, 2017 Held On 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2017 At Lamyamba Shanglen, Palace Compound Imphal Organised By All Manipur Music Association & Shri Shri Mukunda Dev Music College.
15. Shirui Lily Festival – 2018 held on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 At Ukhrul District, Manipur, organised by Department of Tourism Government of Manipur.
16. Khongjom Parva Festival, organised by EZCC, Kolkata and Dept. of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur held on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 at Kakching.
17. Festival of Traditional Performing Arts Form of Manipur, organised by the Chorus Repertory Theatre and EZCC, Kolkata held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2019.
18. Langbal Keithel, 2019, organised by DS Enterprises and Bony Enterprises at Hapta Kangjeibung, Imphal held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

19. Nambol Bora Festival, 2020 & 2022, organised by Kanglei Eco-Tourism Development Association, Nambol held on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 & 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 at Nambol Higher Sec. School Play Ground.
20. 5 Day Cultural and Peace Camp, 2020, organised by Salaicha Apunba Luptil, Kangleipak held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at Yurembam Makha Leikai, Imphal West.
21. CWF Fest 2021 & 2<sup>nd</sup> CWF FEST 2022, organised by Cultural Workers and Activists Forum Manipur held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 at Changangei Ucheckon & 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 at Kanglei Mime Theatre, Langthabal Kunja, Imphal.
22. Festival of Narrative Arts, organised by Manipur State Shumang Leela Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 at Iboyaima Shumang Leela Shanglen.
23. 2<sup>nd</sup> Festival of Khongjom Parva, organised by Mamataz Manipuri Dance and Music Centre held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020 at Sagolband Khamnam Bazar, Soyam Leirak.
24. Kombirei Festival, 2021, organised by EPATHOUKOK held on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 at Lamphelpat.
25. The 77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Flag Hoisting Day, organised by Dept. of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur, North Eastern Council (NEC) & Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal held on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 at INA Martyr Memorial Complex, Moirang.
26. Observance of Khongjom Day, 2021, organised by Manipur State Kala Akademi held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2021 at Goura Govindajee Temple, Goura Nagar, Imphal East.
27. Grant Releasing Function of Tamna Season 0.2 “Hear the Unheard” organised by Tamna Sanggai Records on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2021 at Imphal Hotel.
28. Nungsibi Manipur Naatki Pukkei, organised by BJYM Manipur and Event by Tamna Sanggai Records on 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 at Imphal Hotel.
29. Nungsibi Manipur Naatki Pukkei, organised by Tamna Sanggai Records and Host by Nongthombam Ongbi Hiyainu, W/o Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister of Manipur on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 at Luwangshangbam, Imphal East, Manipur.
30. Opening Song on Honble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Manipur Visit – Mega Public Meeting, organised by BJP Manipur Pradesh on 22/02/2022 at Luwangshangbam Multi Sports Complex, Imphal East, Manipur.
31. Khongjom Day, 2022 & 2023 organised by Department of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2022 & 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023 at Khongjom Lampak, Thoubal District, Manipur.
32. Arangba Ari Anou Shinnaba Thou, organised by Andro Pana Loishang on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 at Andro Santhel Natural Park.
33. Observance of World Music Day, 2022 organised by Shri Shri Balmukunda Dev Music College, Palace Compound Imphal on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2022 at SSBD, Music College, Imphal.
34. 101<sup>st</sup> Birth Anniversary Celebration Thingom Kalachand Singh, Organised by Khuman Thingom Kalachand Singh Memorial Trust on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.
35. The Listener Festival of Orality, Organised by IMASI Foundation in collaboration with Sangeet Natak Akademi, UNESCO, Chorus, Manipur University, etc on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 at Chorus, Imphal.

36. Narrative Art Festival in Memory of Oja Naba Wareppa, Organised by Manipur State Shumang Leela Council & Theatre Mirror Imphal, Manipur on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at Iboyaima Shumang Leela Shanglen, Palace Compound, Imphal.
37. Celebration of “World Music Day 2024” Organised by Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2024 at JNMDA Mandop.
38. Akashvani Patriotic Music Festival 2024 (Sheithakholni Ningjabagi), Organised by Akashvani Imphal on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 at Akashvani Imphal Auditorium.
39. National Program of Regional Folk & Light Music, Organised by Akashvani Delhi, 2025.
40. 10 Days Workshop of Hindustani Classical & Manipuri Folk Music and Lecture cum Demonstration Concert, Organised by Lalit Kala Sangam, Imphal on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at SIKA Building, Loklaobung, Imphal.

### **ACHEIVEMENT BY STUDENTS :**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Students</b>	<b>Achievements</b>
1.	Toijam Aruna Devi	Approve Artiste of All India Radio (AIR)
2.	Thokchom Budha Singh	Approve Artiste of All India Radio (AIR), Junior Scholarship holder under Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India., Junior Fellowship of Manipur State Kala Akademi.
3.	Heikham Abenao Devi	CCRT, Young Talent Scholarship holder for the year 2023-24.
4.	Ningombam Medhapati Devi	Approve Artiste of All India Radio (AIR)
5.	Ningombam NingthemTomthin Meitei	Child Artist of All India Radio
6.	Thokchom Lansana Chanu	Approve Artiste of All India Radio (AIR), Young Talent Artistes Awardee of NCZCC

**Summary :**

Smt. Khumanthem Sundari Devi, an Eminent Khongjom Parva Singer & Cultural Icon of Manipur, was born in 1967 at Brahmapur Mange Makhong, Lalji Lakpa Leikai, Imphal. With a career spanning over four decades, she has mesmerized audiences with her enchanting voice, captivating performances, and dedication to preserving Manipur's cultural heritage. Under the nurturing guidance of Khongjom Parva legends, Heisnam Mangoljao Singh and Nameirakpam Ibeni Devi, Smt. Khumanthem Sundari Devi honed her craft, refining her skills and absorbing the rich traditions of this ancient narrative art form. She further trained under the guidance of the revered Guru Shri Leimapokpam Yaima, P. Kamdebo Singh, Sh. Chito Singh, Th. Ibochou Singh and Shri Modhu Singh. Smt. Khumanthem Sundari Devi honed her skills in the ancient art of Pena-Khullang Eshei, Khubak Eshei, Nata Sankirtana and Bengoli Bashok. A recipient of numerous awards, including the Manipur State Kala Akademi Award, National Excellence Acheivers Award, Mahatma Gandhi International Icon Award etc., Smt. Khumanthem Sundari Devi has been recognized for her exemplary contributions to Khongjom Parva. She has performed at prestigious festivals, including the Sangeet Natak Academy Festival and Delhi International Arts Festival, and has represented Manipur in various national and international events. A dedicated mentor, Smt. Khumanthem Sundari Devi founded the "Kanglei Sheishaklon Shindamshang" institute in 2010, nurturing a new generation of Khongjom Parva artists. Her book, "Khongjom Parva Moirang Kangleirol Sheishak, Khamba Thoibi (Ahanba Sharuk)," is a testament to her commitment to preserving Manipuri culture. Her contributions have been recognized with the prestigious "Manipur Shahitya Parishad : Rani Kheradani (Alangbi) Devi Mana – 2023" award.

Smt. Khumanthem Sundari Devi achievements extend beyond her performances and awards. She has been a driving force in promoting Manipuri culture, inspiring countless individuals to embrace their roots. Her legacy is a shining example of dedication, passion, and excellence, making her a true icon in the world of Khongjom Parva.