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POSOOWA

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**MISS NORTH EAST
NIBIR SHABNAM**



Nandini Fixes MISS NORTH EAST NIBIR SHABNAM

Let us learn to dream and love

“Who is the poorest in this world?”

“One who does not dream, one who does not love, is, alas, the poorest!”

This robust reply to the judge’s delicate, deciding question led Nibir Shabnam to the podium; she is now the Miss Amway North East! Beauty is in the eyes of Maini, the beholder and judge!! Beauty connoisseur Maini Mahanta, who edits the premier Assamese women’s monthly Nandini, is impeccable at recognizing splendor in photographs she picks up at her office. Twelve issues a year of the glossy monthly for the last eight years and it is clear that Maini upholds quality. Because cover-page discovery by Nandini invariably leads to wider approval, Nibir sought the Nandini pick with a selection of her best photographs. Maini Mahanta encouraged her. Nibir Shabnam’s cover photograph in a recent issue of the magazine after she won the Miss Amway North East award also validates besides the winner’s worth and audacity, an editor’s commitment to readers who seek her guidance and inspiration.

Maini has known her reader Nibir for several years. Nandini is a habit with Assam beauties; I mean the Assam girls who nurture beauty, the Assam women who cherish beauty as well as the Assam men attached to beauty. So Maini received a photograph of Nibir at an unspecified date and it was published, though not on the cover. Thus, Nibir defined her mission and eventually in December 2008, Maini was the proud witness to Nibir’s crowning. Maini Mahanta incidentally was one of the judges whose deciding question in the Amway Miss North East pageant at a jam packed Guwahati auditorium sprang this delightful surprise.

Nibir does not come from any elite segment of the society. After growing up in the small town of Jamugurihat in Sonitpur district, Nibir is now a student at Darrang College in Tezpur. Dance, acting and modeling have fascinated this girl from a tender age. Once she invited a photographer to take some glamour pictures and she sent them to the Assamese glossy. It was in the year 2001.

Beauty breeds envy and it annoys insecure guardians. Nibir too instantly drew aspersions for her foray into the realm of beauty. People around her castigated her demeanor and the ambition revealed in the Nandini pictures. However, she remained calm with steady support from her mother who faced unpleasant encounters of conservative, green-eyed people. Consequently, in 2003, Nibir found herself a student at Assam School of Drama in Guwahati although she was unable to complete her training. She then had a stint as an anchor in a private TV channel and at the same time hit the fashion ramp. In the quest for success and fame, regrettably



Nibir once missed a flight to Paris. She was selected to represent Assam in Femina Miss India 2006 and this required her to travel to Paris for the Grooming Round. Sadly, she did not possess a ready passport. Following this, the gifted beauty turned to VCD and Doordarshan to cultivate her acting prowess. Apart from her acting assignments, Nibir has in the meantime opened a book publishing house, I assume, in a bid to blend her beauty with brain.

Nibir’s road to beauty is a touching saga of decision, determination, inspiration and accomplishment. She drew her inspiration from Nandini, the glossy magazine dedicated to beauty. Nandini is a woman’s magazine—planned, visualized and edited by Maini Mahanta for the last eight years, redirecting the feminine worldview to the Assam’s nook and corner. An editor and an established author of Maini’s stature is unlike others of her kind who usually cultivate public awe by denying their fans easy access. Unconventionally, Maini Mahanta welcomes people from diverse spheres to address her with their aims and wishes. Nibir was just one of them when she came to the editor a few years before wearing the Miss North East crown in December last year.

The shared jubilation of Nibir and Maini, in the end, gently roars -

Let us learn to dream and love, it makes us beautiful.

By **Dhruva Saikia**, With inputs from Shruti Jain
Photo Courtesy: Maini Mahanta, editor, Nandini

You are cordially invited to attend
Assam 2009
to be held in beautiful Colorado Springs, Colorado
on
July 3 and July 4



Tarali Sarma, the national (India) award winning singer will entertain. Names of other entertainers are being finalized.

Please mark your calendar. Vacation in gorgeous Colorado before or after Assam 2009!

<http://www.assam2009.org>

Utilizing Our Resources - Joan of Arc

Lately, I have been wondering how we can survive tough times- times like now. Times are not tough in terms of law and order (at least in the West), but in economic terms. Like never before in my lifetime at least, there is a premium on innovation and risk taking. Many who did not innovate have gone belly-up already or are doomed for the chopping block. One should not give to pessimism; one should not bury one's head in the sand in ostrich-like Manner. Let me call a spade a spade. Even in the US, or perhaps especially in the US, schools, welfare programs and the like are going to face enormous difficulties - in light of lower tax revenue and increased competition.

However, most of us are quite well off - and better placed than those before us. We are well off in terms of the education we have, the improved health and social networks we have. This is despite the facts that Stanford Business School laid off 49 staffers; Harvard lost \$10 billion (30% of its endowment); Citibank, Bank of America, GM (world's largest company by revenue), and a host of who's-whos have been hard hit. Thus, it is time

when no one knows anything any better than you and me.

Like in *SlumDog Millionaire*, the 2009 Oscar Best Picture, now there is a chance that the underdog might be taken seriously or at least will have a chance of being heard - when the mighty have lost their voices. People in far-flung places do not have the social networks that can propel them while competing with those better placed than them. But, now are the times as were seen during French-British wars, where a 17 year-old peasant girl offered to lead the war-weary defeatist French army —and was accepted as the leader of France!!! They had no option. She led them to victory. All Joans of Arc may not be victorious but in troubled times fortune favors the brave. She was killed later due to palace intrigue -at age 19.

The much-maligned Marwari community in India succeeded only as long as they took risks - financial risks in areas of which they knew little of -such as sugar and textile mills. A close family friend died a pauper at age 60 after leading a life of luxury - I only met him once at my first

five star meal - at his expense. He had a hosiery mill, lived in a palatial part of Mumbai, but was wiped out when he could not adapt to changing times. His and my families are from the same ancestral village as I am and his family helped my great grand father escape the searing drought in arid Thar Desert to go to East India. His family later moved their business to Mumbai. Family businesses are still going strong in many parts of the world, but it is individual achievements and innovations that lead to societal improvements. Low cost companies are doing brisk business as my IT roommate tells me.

As costs of salaries in the major Indian metros have soared up to 60-70% of that of the USA - due to high-lutin lifestyle and soaring land prices, it would make business sense to seek out suppliers in lower cost places like Orissa, Chandigarh, Guwahati, Raipur, Kohima, etc. Who will take the risk? Who will lure those seeking lower healthcare costs and college education expenses - as student loans dry up and insurance companies raise premiums? Who will ride the tsunami wave at 500mph to get ahead?

By Umesh Sharma Washington DC

Bonmayuri Performs Xattriya in Omaha



The Hindu Temple in Omaha, Nebraska, organized a Nriyotsav festival of Indian classical dances at the Lewis and Clark Middle School on February 28, 2009. The organizers invited well-known dancers of various dance forms: Odissi, Kathak, Kuchipudi, Bharatnatyam, Mohiniattam and Xattriya from around the United States.

The performers were Janhabi Behera of California (Odissi), Prasanna Kasthuri of Missouri (Kathak), Jyoti Chintalapudi of Georgia (Kuchipudi), Jyothsna Sainath and Viswa Natya Niketam of Nebraska (Bharatnatyam), Smitha Rajan of Missouri (Mohinattam) and Bonmayuri Kalita of Colorado (Xattriya). Bonmayuri's performance was based on the famous

Guru Bhatima "Joyo Guru Xonkoro Xorbo Gunakoro" (Praise Guru Sankara, the Embodiment of All Virtues) in which the dance movements depict the radiance and beauty of Sankardeva.

Bonmayuri, 5th from left standing

Samar Gogoi, Omaha

Gomdhar Konwar

An Unsung Hero

A couple of days ago, an old journalist friend of mine called me from Assam. It has been ages since I last spoke with him.

The first thought that came to me on hearing his voice was, "He either wants to come to the US or needs money for his NGO!"

But he asked, "Do you know much about Gomdhar Konwar?"

My cynical mind presumed, "This Konwar must be his friend or a relative who needs help!"

He did not wait for my reply and ranted, "I know you don't know about him. The sad part is that the majority of the people of Assam does not know about him."

I was little irritated, hence replied rather harshly, "Yes, you are right. I don't know him. But is there a reason that I should know him?"

He did not seem to mind my rebuke, and simply asked, "Do you know that the first revolt against the British in the Indian sub-continent happened in Assam? And it happened in 1828, much before the famous revolt of 1857. Are you aware of the fact that a person from Assam and not Mangal Pandey might soon be declared as the first martyr of Indian freedom struggle against the British?"

I was intrigued and was hooked, "Was your friend Gomdhar Konwar involved?"

With a light laugh, he responded, "Yeah, Gomdhar Konwar started the Revolt of 1828 against the British. As you know, the British annexed Assam after the treaty of Yandaboo. Earlier they had promised that they would let Assam regain freedom and would go away after chasing away the Burmese, but they later did an about-turn and brought Assam under their rule. They tried by money, power and force to bring everybody under them and succeeded to an extent. But a large number of freedom loving people refused to see them as their rulers. Under the leadership of Gomdhar Konwar, a family member of the deposed Ahom king, the disgruntled people formed a rebel force. The rebels declared him as the King of



Signing of the Treaty of Yandaboo, 24 February 1826

Photo: <http://www2.yanaboo.com:881/yandaboo.html>

Assam and asked the British to leave Assam."

He sighed and continued, "But the British were not the ones to be scared easily, and they unleashed their force to subdue the people of Assam. The rebel force led by Dhananjoy Borgohain met the larger and better-equipped British force at Mariani, Jorhat. The rebels were mercilessly massacred and many were arrested. Gomdhar Konwar was arrested too and was supposedly shipped off to the Andamans. But nobody really knows what happened to him, and many believe that he was killed immediately after being arrested."

I was silent for some time and then added, "It's really sad that a large majority of the people of Assam or India really does not know about this episode."

"Yeah that's right. But Gomadhar Konwar might finally get his much-deserved place in Indian History! All this might happen due to the efforts of the 200 Year Birth Centenary Committee of Gomadhar Konwar. There are plans to hold a national-level seminar to highlight the sacrifices and contributions of Konwar in particular and early freedom fighters from Assam. The rich history of freedom struggle that happened much before the revolt of 1857 might receive the attention that has eluded it for such a long time."

"The committee is organizing a three-day program at Nakachari, the place where Gomadhar established his independent kingdom, starting March 20, 2009" he said excitedly.

"A manuscript written by Mokham Baruah in Tai language was recovered in 2006 from Deodhai Gaon, Amguri, Sibsagar.

Baruah was a companion of Konwar and recorded everything that happened during the struggle. So we might know more about Gomdhar Konwar, as there are plans to publish the manuscript in three languages – Tai, English and Assamese."

"I am happy about the fact that people will come to know about all these unsung heroes," he added happily.

I was ashamed of my cynical thoughts about him and his act of phoning me after such a long time, but I still was not sure why he called me after ages.

So I asked hesitantly, "So how can I help? Do you want me to send some money to the committee or any other person involved in this endeavor? I can mail the money to you."

"Oh, no; it's not about money. People have contributed and the committee will get money from the government too. By the way, I am not involved with the endeavor," he replied.

"So, how can I help?"

"Write about him. Tell people about him. Let everybody know that unsung heroes like him exist in our part of the world."

Saying so he put his phone down.

Kaushik Phukan, Seattle

Ghanashyam Goswami Memorial Award to Devojoyoti Borah

Jorhat-based computer scientist and author Devojoyoti Borah has been chosen for the Ghanashyam Goswami Memorial Award for 2008. The award carries a citation and Rs 10,000 in cash for notable contributions to the field of science in the Assam. The award was instituted by the Ghanashyam Goswami Memorial Trust in 2001. The award was presented to Borah at a function held at Hatiyekhowa High School in Golaghat district on March 20, 2009.

Borah has 10 books to his credit. These are 1. Byaktigoto computuror purnanga byabहारik path, 2. DTP operatoror purnanga byabहारik hatputhi, 3. Xokolore babe internet, 4. Graphics designaror byabहारik hatputhi, 5. e-kotha, 6. i-kotha, 7. net-or oliye goliye 8. Xachitra Xankari quiz xambhar, 9. Unika quiz samahar, 10. Quiz protiyogitar quiz.

He regularly writes in the Dainik Janambhumi, the Amar Asom, the Janambhumi (weekly), Adinor



Xombad, Dainik Batori, Mahekiya Keriya Guide, Natun Awiskar, Adhar, Xamikshan, Prantik, etc.

Buljit Buragohain, IIT-Guwahati

Kaushik Phukan's Third Book Published

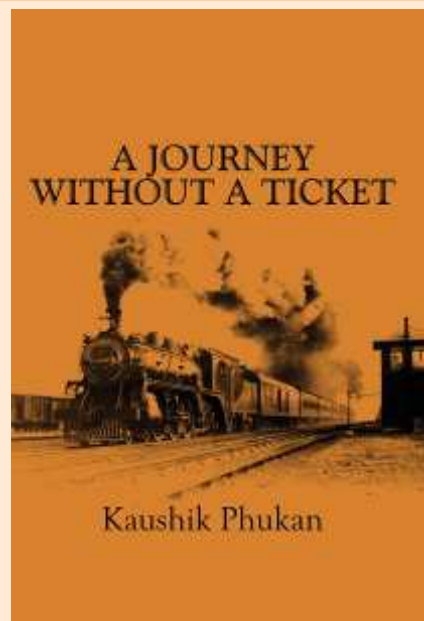
Kaushik Phukan's third novel, *A Journey Without a Ticket*, will be published by Publish America on 16th of April, 2009. It will be available in bookstores in US and Europe.

The book is based on life stories of people the author has met in his numerous train journeys. Most stories are true, although they have been sprinkled with fictional and imaginary characters and incidents. The story starts with the author running to catch a long-distance train. He is able board the train, but pretty soon he realizes that in his hurry, he forgot to bring his

ticket and wallet with. The book is a live recollection of the people he meets, the scenes he sees and the thoughts that run through his mind. Each character has story to say. Each incident that he tells is an ironic and sarcastic reflection of contemporary society in Assam and India.

His previous books *The Brahmaputra (Silent Screams by the River)* and *Meera* have been acclaimed by readers. All three of his books can be purchased directed from Publish America at www.publishamerica.com.

Vavani Sarma, Seattle



"Secret Killings of Assam", A Human Rights Document

In the late 1990s, after an attempt at a peace process with the banned ULFA had fallen through, a series of 'secret' killings had taken place in Assam, the targets being relatives of ULFA leaders and cadre. The allegation was that a band of 'secret killers' backed by the state government was targeting these innocent people, their only crime being relatives of insurgents, to put pressure of ULFA to come forward for negotiations. The Justice K N Saikia Commission, set up by the government to probe into the killings after two other similar commissions fell through, gave a voluminous report on the series of killings after a long inquiry. Like the reports of many such other inquiry commissions across the

country, this report too has not been acted upon. This book is a compilation of the most famous and the most horrific cases of secret killings, sieved from the witness accounts contained in the Saikia Commission report. The effort by three journalists from Assam – Mrinal Talukdar (UNI-Guwahati), Utpal Borpujari (Deccan Herald-New Delhi) and Kaushik Deka (India Today-New Delhi) – is to bring, in a comprehensive manner, the nature of the incidents to the outside world which more or less remains oblivious to this sordid series of political killings, victims of which were innocent citizens.

Utpal Borpujari, New Delhi





Paradise Unexplored

Welcome to the “Abode of Cloud”, Meghalaya. Let me take you on a trip to the wettest place on earth...yes, you guessed it right...Cherrapunjee.

Cherrapunjee, locally and officially known as Sohra, is 56 kms from Shillong, and a “must see” destination for all tourists. Apart from being the record holder for the heaviest rainfall, it was the headquarters of the Khasi/Jaintia province during British rule, which was later, moved to Shillong in 1864, due to the inconvenience caused by excessive rain during the monsoon months.

The average rainfall is 12,000 mm a year and the record for a single day was 2455



mm recorded in 1974 confirming it as the “Wettest place on Earth”.

Let the pictures explain the journey and beauty of this place.



The journey from Shillong towards Cherrapunjee is through the narrow, serpentine roads with valleys and gorges on either side. You can experience the splendid beauty of nature from a height of 1500 metres above the sea level.

As you drive, you see roaring waterfalls leaping into the deep gorges, including the famous Nohsngithiang falls, which is certainly an unforgettable visual treat.

For all adventure lovers, there are provisions for trekking on these deep gorges, and believe me, the experience is breathtaking.



You can also wash yourself or even take a bath in the clear fresh water to refresh yourself but be careful, the water is real chilly.

The trip cannot be over unless you explore the beautiful caves. Some of the caves are accessible and the walks through them are just amazing. You can also see stalactites formations in the caves.

There are numerous other enchanting and unexplored beauties in Cherrapunjee like the living root bridge, many waterfalls, a Meteorological Observatory, the Ramakrishna Mission Museum, First Presbyterian Church, David Scott Memorial, Thangkharang Park etc.

No matter how much I write or how many pictures I insert here, the real beauty of nature is to be felt and it is here in Cherrapunjee.



Kaushik Bijoy Sarma, Chennai

Letters to the Editor

Continued frm page 9..

The British came up with the “Third Proposal to Partition India” in July 1947, known as “Mountbatten Plan”. In fact, it was July 12, 1947 that the Parliament of UK enacted “Indian Independence Act” and India was partitioned on August 14-15, 1947.

With love to all,

Himendra Borthakur, Boston
March 17, 2009

Re: “A Need for Expanding Engineering Education Facilities in Assam for Economic Growth and Human Development”

First of all many thanks for such amazing in-depth research into the topic. I agree with you that we need more colleges to further the cause of Assam, but the only problem I have with this have you ever considered the current state of the present colleges. I don’t know much about JEC and NIT Silchar, but I myself being a 2006 graduate from AEC know very well about the dearth of teachers and lab facility that our college is facing at present, more so my department (Electronics and Telecommunication) and even in Computer Science and Engineering. The positions are

lying vacant and in spite of repeated reminders to the Directorate of Technical Education and even to the Education Minister tangible results are not to be seen. Add to this the fact that the yearly intake of the department had been increased to 60 from what was previously 30. Did anyone even have the audacity to carry an impact analysis before doing this? Do the people who took this decision know how many of the computers in the lab are working? What is the faculty strength? So if the educated and sensible people of Assam keep pushing for new engineering college without first trying to bring to standard what we already have in hand, does it auger well for us?

Pranjal Pr. Saikia, Guwahati
March 15, 2009

RhythmsOfNortheast.com

to be Launched in April



My name is Dhritiman Deori and I'm a musician/audio engineer based in Delhi. I'm writing to you because I'm presently doing a cultural preservation project on Northeast India that your magazine might be interested in covering. It is a completely first of its kind experimental project, but is also a very important one.

I started Project 'Rhythm of Northeast' in August 2008 with the aim of creating a database in audio-visual format of all the existing folk instruments of the various ethnic communities of the whole Northeastern region of India comprising eight states. It's a step towards preserving our rich cultural heritage and also creating awareness amongst the young generation. What I'm doing at present is to travel all across the Northeastern region with a mobile recording studio and cameras, identify the various folk instruments of different tribes, record the music and sounds on location and also take photographs. Material from the entire journey will then be uploaded onto www.rhythmofnortheast.com which to the best of my knowledge will be the first website to be dedicated totally to the folk music of the region. The website will contain audio samples of folk instruments, folk music, photographs of instruments and photographs in general, videos, and articles. We believe this archive will act as a source of knowledge not only for students, but for musicians, artists, scholars, and researchers as well.

The website will be launched officially in the first part of April with the content collected so far. I'm being assisted by two other sound engineers in the entire project and we are likely to complete our journey by September this year. We also plan to



organize workshops and meetings in colleges and other educational institutions of the region from April on the need of cultural preservation and also to involve the youth in the process. The project has been funded by Panos South Asia.

Given the political unrest and separatist violence across the region Project 'Rhythm of Northeast' is a desire to bind the 8 sisters together through music and help us in moving forward to a better tomorrow. It

would be really great if you can help us publicizing the project and be a part of it.



Dhritiman Deori

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www.dhritionline.com

www.rhythmofnortheast.com

Letters to the Editor

Re: "The Condition of Surya Pahar - a Neglected Archaeological Site"

The NGO named ATMA (Appropriate Technology Mission of Assam) is taking remarkable initiatives to preserve, maintain and upgrade the historic monuments of Assam. The endeavor is highly appreciated. We should not ruin our heritage sites and collectively brainstorm to renovate all these as tourism destinations without disturbing the surrounding ecology. Assam Tourism is also preparing better policies to preserve and maintain all the monuments by engaging local communities.

A. Medhi, Numaligarh
March 2, 2009

Join Global Bihu 2009

Be a part of Rongali Bihu Celebration this year with your near and dear ones. Wherever you are this April 2009, please take out your handycam and record your Rongali Bihu celebration. Transfer your video file to our FTP server in Guwahati. Your video will be shown at the **Global Bihu Celebration 2009** - a mega Rongali Bihu Xanmilan to be held in Guwahati on May 3rd, 2009 with a 10,000+ audience on the ground. The event will be broadcast live on the 3 satellite TV channels of Assam as well as on the Internet.

Please email **Babul Gogoi** - babulgogoi@hotmail.com or call: +91-9957411935 for assistance. Website: www.assam.org/bihu

Assam Association felicitates three eminent sons of Assam

Assam Association, Delhi felicitated three great sons of Assam in a graceful function at Srimanta Sankaradeva Bhawan. The function coincided with the inauguration of the recently completed Auditorium of the Association, located at Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi. Three eminent persons are Dr Ramesh Deka- who is appointed Director in AIIMS, Mr. Hari Shankar Brahma- who has been appointed as Secretary to the Government of India and Mr Anjan Gogoi, who has been promoted to Air Marshal in the Indian Airforce.

President Sri Atul Chandra Barua welcomed the guests and informed demise of eminent poet, musician and lyricist Sri Bhabendranath Barthakur. The meeting condoled the death of Sri Barthakur and stood in silence to pray for the departed soul. He then introduced the eminent sons of Assam Dr Ramesh Deka, Mr. Hari Shankar Brahma and Mr Anjan Gogoi to the members. After a brief introduction, the personalities were felicitated by the Association.

Dr Ramesh Deka has recently taken over as the Director of AIIMS, the topmost Medical



Institution in India. Dr Deka did MBBS from GMC, after ISc from Cotton College; and later did MS from AIIMS. He also did higher studies from USA. He was head of ENT department and Dean of Studies, before being appointed Director of the prestigious. Dr Deka described his journey to the topmost Medical position in the country. He is world famous for conducting more than 200 cochlear implant surgeries.

Mr H S Brahma, IAS was born in Gosaigaon of Kokrajhar district. He did schooling from Don Bosco School, Guwahati and graduated from St Edmund's College, Shillong. He

joined IAS in 1975 and belongs to the Andhra Pradesh cadre. He is currently serving as Head of National Disaster Management Authority. Mr Brahma, in his acceptance speech told frankly that this is the first time he has been honoured publicly for his achievements and that too by his own people. He proudly declared that Assamese people have come to be known in India for their frankness, diligence and work ethics. It's only a matter of time that they will shine in all spheres of national activities. He mentioned that they are one of the best professionals in the world.

Mr Anjan Gogoi, who is son of former Chief Minister of Assam late Sri Keshab Gogoi, is from the first batch of Goalpara Sainik School. He is the second person to become Air Marshal after Mr Pankaj Borbora, who is the C-in-C of Western Command. Mr Gogoi has the chance to go to the top of the Indian Air Force.

The meeting ended with a round of applause for the achievers, whom the new generation can look upon as role models. Earlier a Borgeet composed by Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva was rendered by Smt Devina Saikia. Mr Bhabananda Borbayan, guru of the Sattriya School accompanied on 'khol'.

Manoj Kr Das, New Delhi

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for the issue of Posoowa. My best wishes are always with Posoowa. I am currently working at the GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Uttarkhand as a research scholar, and am currently engaged in human-wildlife conflict issues in high altitude areas of Western Arunachal Pradesh. I am also engaged in doctoral research in the same topic. Please let me know in what way people like me can contribute to it.

Regards,
Kripal Mazumdar, Uttarkhand
March 17, 2009

Posowar bhupen hazarika songkhya bixex akarxoniya hoise. moloi pothuwa babe apunak antarik dhanyabad.

Dhruvajjit Saikia, Guwahati
March 17, 2009

The February 2009 Special Issue of Posoowa on Bhupen Hazarika was verily a grand success. I personally thank everybody — Jugal of Colorado Springs, Manoj and Babul from Delhi, Ankur from Dallas, Ganesh

from Fargo, Kaushik from Seattle, Rini and Sanchayita from London, Satyam from Ames, Umesh from Washington DC who deserve all the credit for for this success.

I appeal to all of them to consider taking out an issue of "Posoowa" to felicitate Gopinath Bardoloi, "Gopinath of Assam" who stopped partition of India in May, 1946, at a time when all the leaders of India, excepting Mahatma Gandhi, were supporting to partition India into different territorial Groups. Mahatma Gandhi was absolutely isolated in this craze for power of Nehru and his cohorts.

At that time Gopinath stood alone. In March 1946, he identified territorial grouping as a clandestine prelude to partition India (which happened one year later in 1947) — with support of Mahatma Gandhi, "Gopinath of Assam" stopped the partition of India in May 1946. Nehru was very angry at Gopinath at that time. His sister Vijaylaxmi publicly went into tantrums. Nehru gave his most infamous statement "Assam must sacrifice for the greater cause of India" in order to bring in partition of India, because he was not ready

for any delay in becoming the Prime Minister. Sir Patrick Lawrence, the leader of the British Cabinet Mission referred Gopinath as the "Stubborn man from Assam." Calcutta newspapers supported Gopinath, declaring him as the "Lion from Assam". Some newspapers fondly depicted Assam as a Rhino ready to charge!!

By the way, failing to partition India in May 1946, Jinnah brought in the great Calcutta rioting on August 16, 17 & 18, 1946. After two months, in October 1946, Sarat Bose and Suhrawardy came up with the "Second Proposal to Partition India" to create independent Bengal.

In spite of great effort of Sarat Chandra Bose to partition India so as to carve out an "Independent Bengal" in October-November 1946, the "Second Proposal" was not accepted by the British.

Now, Dr. Sugata Bose, grandson of Sarat Bose, is blaming Mahatma Gandhi for partitioning India. Dr. Sugata Bose is a professor at Harvard University.

Continued on page 7..

Visit www.Assam.org and its sister sites:
www.Guwahati.com, www.Shillong.com
www.Bihu.in, www.ClassAmigo.com, www.Melahi.com



Posoowa is published monthly. Ganesh Bora, on behalf of Assam Society of America, has published this issue of Posoowa. The editors are Ankur Bora (Texas), Babul Gogoi (New Delhi, India), Ganesh Bora (Fargo, North Dakota), Jugal Kalita (Colorado Springs, Colorado, Editor-in-Chief), Kaushik Phukan (Seattle, Washington), Manoj Kumar Das (New Delhi), Rini Kakati (London, UK), Sanchayita Sharma (London, UK), Satyam Bhuyan (Ames, Iowa) and Umesh Sharma (College Park, Washington D.C).

ASA Executive Committee: President: Dr. Ganesh Bora, Fargo, ND; Past President: Mr. Dhruba Das, Coatesville, PA; Vice President: Dr. Samar Jyoti Bhuyan, Phoenix, AZ; General Secretary: Mr. Utpal Borah, Glenmoore, PA. Executive Members: Mr. Kedar Bhuyan, Mays Landing, NJ, Dr. Nilakshi Phukan, Raleigh, NC, Ms. Bornali Talukdar, Omaha, NE, Mr. Arindam Barkataky, Orlando, FL, Mr. Probal Tahbaldar, Kendall Park, NJ.

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