

LESSON 1



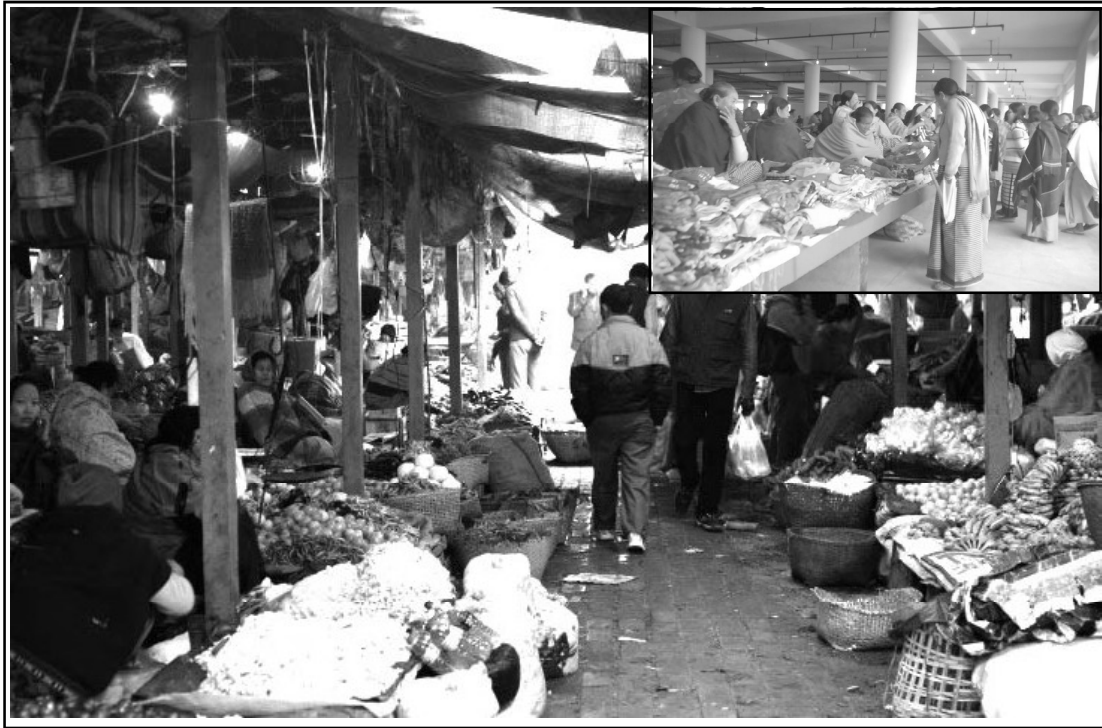
THE ENCHANTING SPOTS OF MANIPUR

Do you know that your state Manipur is one of the most beautiful and scenic places in India ? Would you like to know more about this enchanting land ? Then, read on.....

The lovely state of Manipur is in the North-Eastern corner of India. People who visited the state always feel the charm of the state. Lord Irwin described it as the ‘Switzerland of India’. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru called it ‘A Jewel of India’. The Japanese called it ‘A flower on a lofty height’. In fact, the lush green mountain ranges, surrounding a small valley presents a charming view. The beauty of Nature merges with the works of human beings. It is a land where the colourful people of the valley and the hills live together in the lap of Nature. The state is dotted with enchanting spots which charm visitors from far and near.

KHWAIRAMBAND MARKET

In the heart of the Imphal City there is the **Khwairamband Market**. There you will find the **Ima Market**, the only market in the world run by women only. From colourful handloom clothes to tasty vegetables and fish, a variety of things are available. There are household utensils, implements, fruits, cane and bamboo products. To the people of the world outside, it presents the manifold qualities of Manipuri women.



MANIPUR ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

A little away from the noise of the market, there is the Manipur Zoological Garden at Iroisemba. It is 6 km from Imphal on the Imphal-Kangchup Road. The garden is near the Iroisemba and Langol hill ranges, and on the northern side of Central Agricultural University. The garden has one of the rarest species of deer, the brow-antlered deer, the Sangai. Different species of animals and birds are in the zoo. Some of these are the hornbills, many variety of birds, Sangai, the dancing deer and a host of other wild animals. A favourite place of children is the enclosure for different types of monkeys.

MAIBAM LOKPA CHING

In the south, 17 km from Imphal on the Tiddim Road is the Maibam Lokpa Ching. It is under the title, **India Peace Memorial**. It is the place where the Japanese Army had a fierce battle with the Allied Army during the Second World War. Though it is not a big spot, the little Memorial on the side of the beautiful hillock – **Maibam Lokpa Ching**, is a serene spot for tourists.

MOIRANG

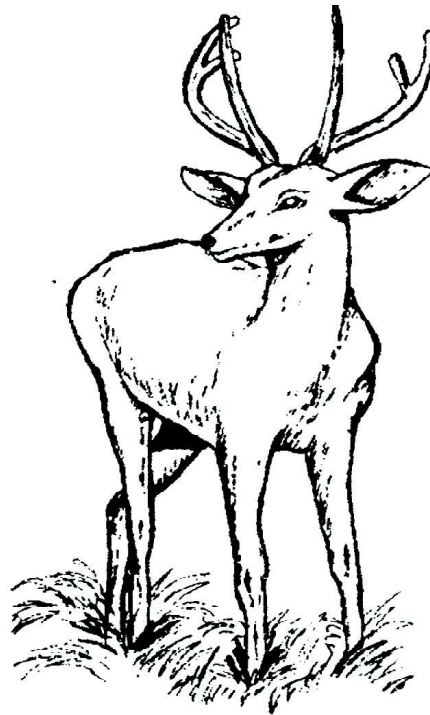
Further south, 45 km from Imphal is Moirang. The ancient temple of **Thangjing** is located here. The graceful dance called the Khamba Thoibi dance originated from here. The **I.N.A Museum** is located at this place.



The Indian National Army under Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose hoisted its flag here on April 14, 1944. Once you look out of the market, you will see the beautiful scenery of Loktak Lake with small floating islands in its water.

KEIBUL LAMJAO NATIONAL PARK

Further south, 53 km from Imphal lies the **Keibul Lamjao National Park**. This is the only floating National Park in the world. This is the natural habitat of Sangai, the brow-antlered deer also known as the dancing deer.



UKHRUL

Let us go to the other side. There is the highest hill station of the state, Ukhul. The world famous **Sirui Lily** grows here on the

Sirui hills. The Khangkhui lime caves are tourist spots. During Christmas, Ukhrul is a beautiful town where nature and men show their festive appearances.



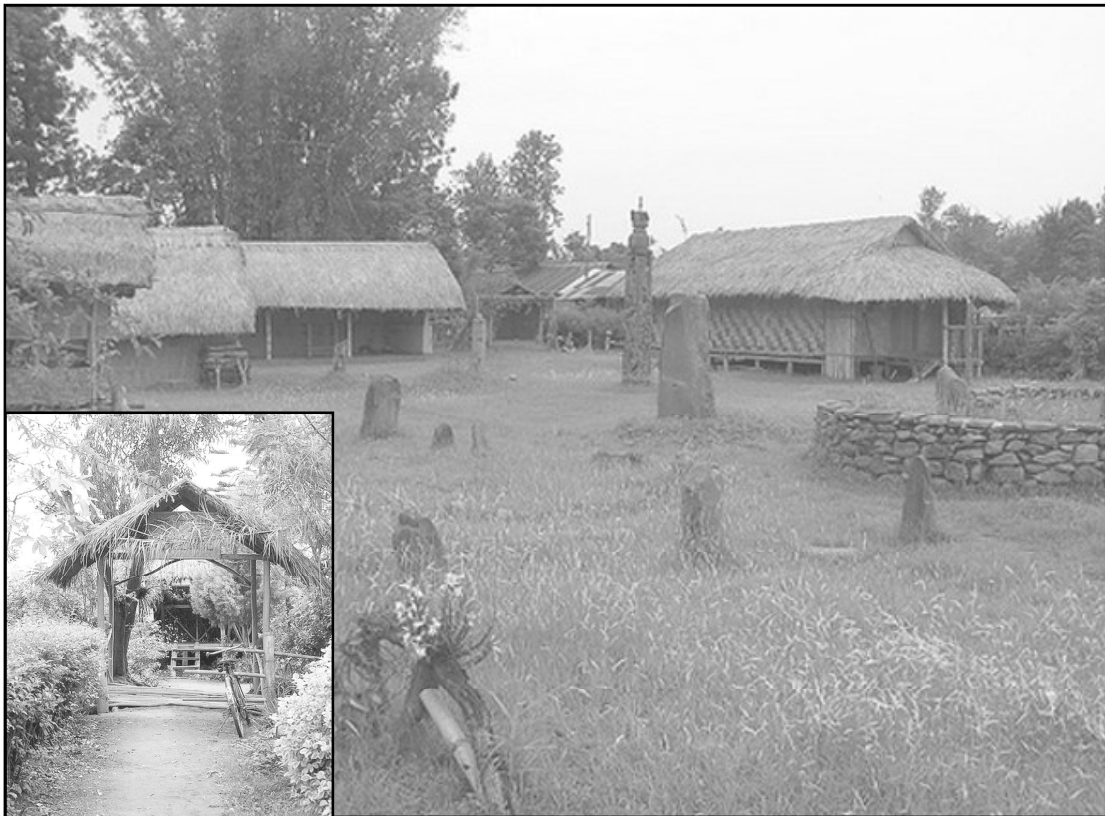
DZUKO VALLEY



Nature shows its beauty though man can't enjoy all of them. Dzuko valley is proud of the Dzuko Lily. But communication facility has not been fully developed.

ANDRO

The ancient Scheduled Caste village of Andro lies 27 km from Imphal in the east. The place is famous for the fire maintained here for years. It is believed to be sacred fire. Now a cultural complex has been established by the Mutua Museum.



THARON CAVE

One cannot forget Tharon Village in Tamenglong. There is a wonderful cave here. Its entrance is small but it becomes wider in the interior . On one side there is only one hole but on the other side there are multiple holes.

SUANGPHA CAVE

It is in the Churachandpur District of Manipur near Suangpha village. The entrance is small and its exit is near Kamkeilon village.

MOREH

No account of Manipur will be complete without Moreh. It is on the Indo-Myanmar border, 110 km from Imphal. The opening of Moreh as a trade-centre is regarded as the opening of the Eastern Gate of India. It has become an important commercial centre in the North-East.

There are many more enchanting places. The War cemeteries, Shree Shree Govindaji Temple, Shahid Minar, Nupilal Complex, the conical Vishnu temple, Loukoipat, Sekta Orchidarium, Kaina, Khongjom War Memorial and a host of others are there. Nature has been kind to bless Manipur with beautiful spots. No one can miss the historical ***Kangla*** in the heart of Imphal. Different communities of both the valley and the hills have been living together for years in this

beautiful land. Mrs. St. Clair Grimwood, better known as Mrs. Grimwood, wrote in her book *‘My Three Years in Manipur’*: “Manipur is a pretty place, more beautiful than many of the show places of the world; beautiful in its habitable parts, but more beautiful in those tracts covered with forest jungle.”

Glossary

enchancing	– delightful
charm	– please
merged	– combined, joined
dotted	– covered with a number of dots, spots
<i>Ima</i>	– Manipuri word meaning mother (woman)
rarest	– not often found
graceful	– showing a pleasing beauty of form
haunt	– a place often visited
gleaming	– soft light

Comprehension

1. *Answer the following questions :*

- (i) How did Lord Irwin describe Manipur ?
- (ii) Who called Manipur 'A Jewel of India' ?
- (iii) What is the name of Manipur given by the Japanese ?
- (iv) Why is there a memorial at Maibam Lokpa Ching ?
- (v) Why is there an INA Museum at Moirang ?
- (vi) What is the cave found at Tamenglong ?
- (vii) What are the specialities of Moirang ?
- (viii) Describe the view of Loktak as seen from Sendra Tourist-Home.
- (ix) Describe Suangpha cave.
- (x) Why is Manipur an enchanting place ?
- (xi) What are the enchanting spots in the southern side of Imphal ?

2. EXERCISE IN LANGUAGE

Look at these sentences:

- (i) Chaoba is tall.
- (ii) Chaoba is taller than Amu.
- (iii) Chaoba is the tallest of all.

The word “tall” represents the positive degree, ‘taller’ is the comparative degree and ‘tallest’ is the superlative degree. Now, give the words in comparative and superlative degrees of the following words

Old, sweet, heavy, rare, fierce

[Try to frame sentences using the words]