

EXPOSURE TRIP REPORT

NONGTALANG COLLEGE



[Signature]
Attested by
Principal Nongtalang
College

FIELD TRIP TO AMLAMET, AMDOHKHA, AMTREN AND AMKHLEW
LIVING ROOT BRIDGES.
SPONSORED BY RUSA EQUITY INITIATIVE SCHEME, MEGHALAYA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to thank the Principal of Nongtalang College, Mr. Famous Syiem permission and approval for the Field Trip. I also would like to thank Shri. M. Lyngdoh (Headman of Nongtalang village and Resource Person), Shri. D. Myrchiang (Secretary of Nongtalang Village and Resource Person), Shri. Wanbor Padu (Resource Person), Shri. Somi Barch (Resource Person), Shri. Jubor Sing S. Nongrum (IQAC Coordinator), Shri. Glorystar Syiemlieh (Coordinator of Innovative Scheme and Programme), Shri. Firstborn Myrchiang (HOD of Department of Environmental Studies), Shri. Khanarata Buam (Cameraman), Shri. Ajoy Adhikari (HOD Department of Political Science), Kumari. Hakanibai Passah (Assistant professor of Department of Education), Kumari. Dengmin Rymbui (office staff), Smt. Aimondy Pohsnem (Assistant Librarian), Kumari. Elizabet Shylla (Assistant professor Department of Khasi), Shri. Arness Mannar (office Staff) and the students for their constant help and support which have contributed a lot in making the field trip a grand success. I again would like to thank RUSA for financial support without which the field trip would not have been possible. I also express my gratitude to all those who have helped us in making the trip a grand success.



INTRODUCTION

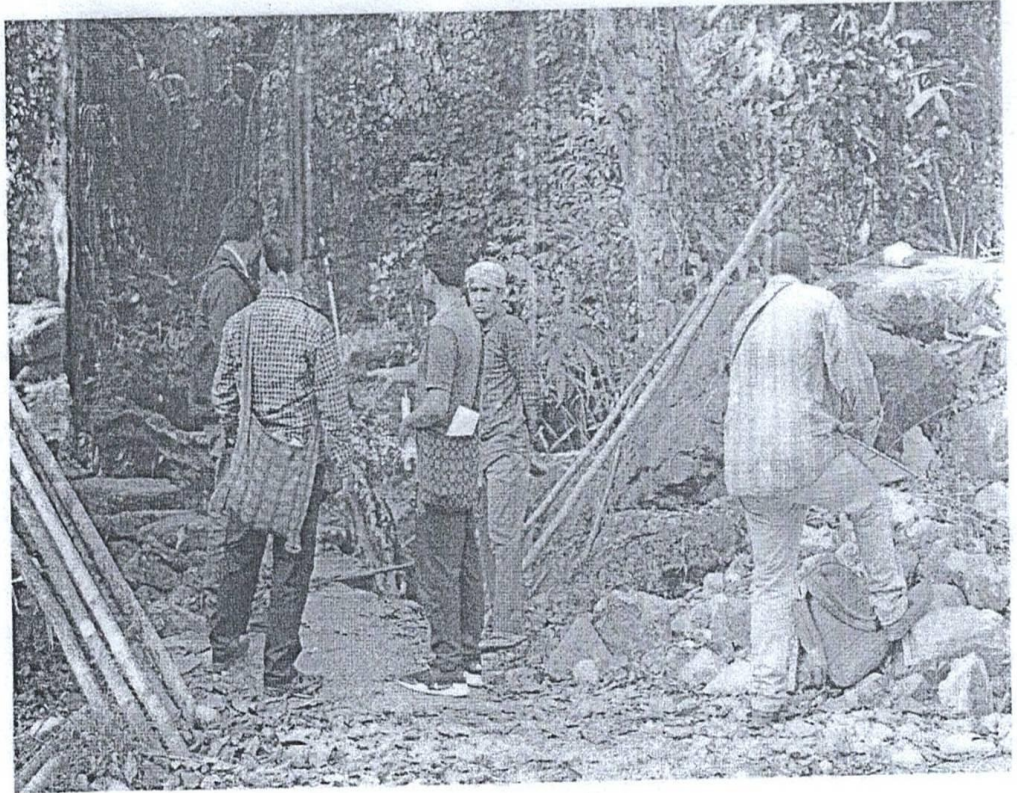
Nongtalang College organized a field trip to four living root bridges namely, Amlamet, Amdohkha, Amtren and Amkhlew on the 11th of December, 2020, under Equity Initiative programme sponsored by RUSA, Meghalaya.

The total number of participants is 67 and one bus was arranged for the trip. The bus departed from the college campus around 8:00 AM in the morning to pick up the students from Dawki, Lad Darrang, Lad Sohka to Nongtalang College. The bus arrived at the campus at 10:30 A.M. following it there was an inaugural speech given by the Principal of Nongtalang College and photo session. After the inaugural speech and photo session, the field started from Nontalang college by foot enroute towards the first living root bridge at Amlamet, which is at a distance of approximately 1.5 km.



College Students before the time of departure





Amlamet living root bridge

- b. Amdohkha living root bridge situated to the East of Amlamet living root bridge at an approximate distance of 500 metres. This bridge has been standing in its location since time immemorial. It was constructed and maintained by the three clans of the village namely, Pohchen, Myrchiang and Bareh. The bridge was constructed for the movement of goods and people to and fro.

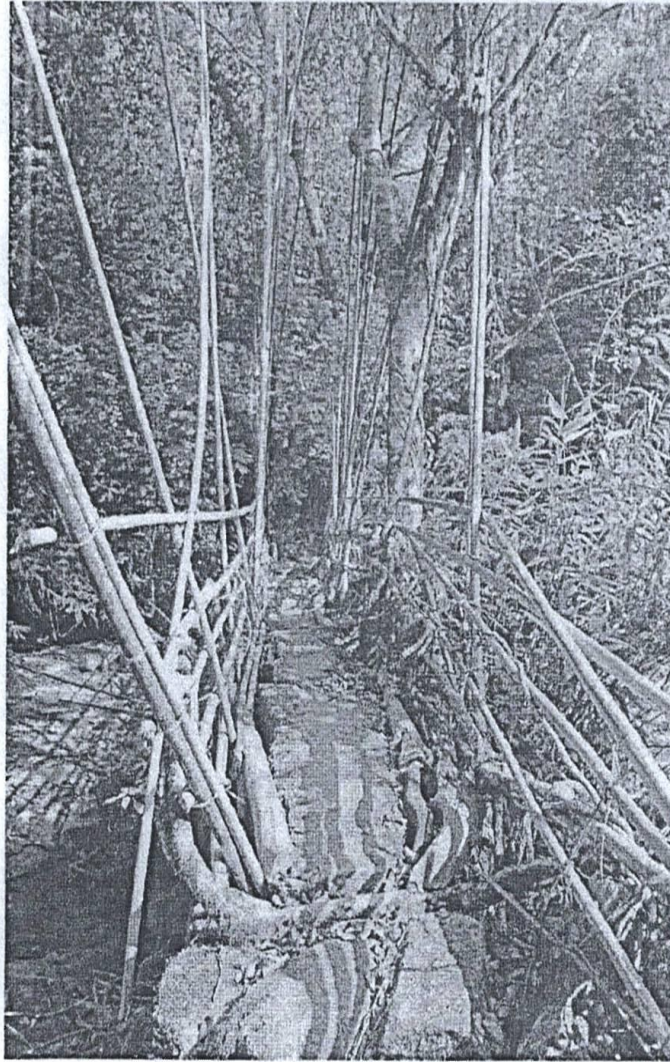
The bridge was constructed using locally available material such as roots of Indian rubber tree (*Ficus elastic*), bamboos, chiselled rocks, areca tree, fibre of local palm tree and etc. the bridges are built using only manual and physical labour by using only local tools and implements such hammer, chisels, dao, lever and etc.

The roots of the Indian rubber tree are used for making the bridge. The uniqueness of this living root bridge, is that the roots are made to grow faster and stronger through human intervention. To grow faster, longer and healthier, the locals made the roots to grow in hollow areca tree or bamboo filled with humus or top soil. By following this method, the roots are said to grow at the approximate rate of 15 feet in two or three months during the monsoon season.

In this particular bridge bamboos are used for fencing making it a unique from the others living root bridge of this region.

The total length of the bridge is 94 feet, 3.2 feet in width and 6.6 feet in depth. Just like Amlamet, this bridge is also supported by heap of rocks as pillar, the biggest measuring 10 feet in length, 1.6 feet in width and 1 foot in thickness.





Amdohkha living root bridge

- c. Amtren living root bridge situated to the East of Amdohkha living root bridge at an approximate distance of 800 metres. This bridge has been standing in its location since time immemorial. It was constructed and maintained by the three clans of the village namely, Pohchen, Myrchiang and Barih. The bridge was constructed for the movement of goods and people to and fro.

The bridge was constructed using locally available material such as roots of Indian rubber tree (*Ficus elastica*), bamboos, chiselled rocks, areca tree, fibre of local palm tree and etc. the bridges are built using only manual and physical labour by using only local tools and implements such hammer, chisels, dao, lever and etc.

The roots of the Indian rubber tree (*Ficus elastica*) are used for making the bridge. The uniqueness of this living root bridge, is that the roots are made to grow faster and stronger with human intervention. To grow faster, longer and healthier, the locals made the roots to grow in hollow areca tree or bamboo filled with humus or top soil. By following this method, the roots are said to grow at the approximate rate of 15 feet in two or three months during the monsoon season.

Unlike the other two living root bridge, Amtren is a hanging living root bridge constructed over a gorge.



The total length of the bridge is 33 feet, 11 feet in depth. The width of the bridge at the entrance is 5 feet, 2 feet in the middle and 5 feet at the exit.

According to one architect and researcher, Sanjeev Shankar, people should not be allowed to walk across the bridge wearing hard sole foot wear. The reason behind this is that the hard sole might damage the roots affecting its vitality and its growth.

Amtren living root bridge requires immediate attention in term of nourishment using the age old technique, unique to this region.



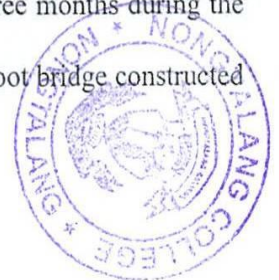
Amtren living root bridge

- d. Amkhlew living root bridge situated to the East of Amtren living root bridge at an approximate distance of 200 metres. This bridge has been standing in its location since time immemorial. It was constructed and maintained by the three clans of the village namely, Pohchen, Myrchiang and Bareh. The bridge was constructed for the movement of goods and people to and fro.

The bridge was constructed using locally available material such as roots of Indian rubber tree (*Ficus elastica*), bamboos, chiselled rocks, areca tree, fibre of local palm tree and etc. the bridges are built using only manual and physical labour by using only local tools and implements such hammer, chisels, dao, lever and etc.

The roots of the Indian rubber tree (*Ficus elastica*) are used for making the bridge. The uniqueness of this living root bridge, is that the roots are made to grow faster and stronger through human intervention. To grow faster, longer and healthier, the locals made the roots to grow in hollow areca tree or bamboo filled with humus or top soil. By following this method, the roots are said to grow at the approximate rate of 15 feet in two or three months during the monsoon season.

Unlike the other two living root bridge, Amkhlew is a hanging living root bridge constructed over a gorge.



The total length of the bridge is 45 feet, The width is 4 feet and the depth is 7.5 feet. This living root bridge is highly vulnerable due to human activities such as, extraction of latex and cutting of the roots. There are several cut marks in the roots suggesting human activities affecting the vitality and growth of the roots. The Amkhlew living root bridge requires immediate attention for its conservation.



Amkhlew living root bridge

From Amkhlew, the participants travel towards the Nontalang College permanent campus located to the North of Amkhlew at an approximate distance of 3 kms. At the permanent campus, lunch was provided to all the participants followed by a vote of thanks given by Shri. Jubor Sing S. Nongrum followed by a photo session.





Permanent campus Nongtalang College

The trip was an eye opener to all the participants about the beauty and the potential of these bridges as sources of learning, employment and income generation. In the field of learning the bridges have the potential to provide researchers and scholars on the sustainability, coexistence with nature and the cost effective method of building bridges. However, to achieve the necessary goals mentioned, the bridge need immediate attention and measures for its conservation.



IN BLOCK LETTERS

FIELD TRIP ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date: 11th December 2020

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Signature
1	Smt. ELIEME POHSNEM	CL - B.A. III Sem	E. Pohnem.
2	" SANSUMA MYRCHIANS	CL - B.A. 3 rd sem	S. Myrchiang
3	" RUPAYA BAREH	CL - B.A. 3 rd Sem	R. Bareh.
4	" JOSHNA NONGLAMIN	CL - XII	J. Nonglamin
5	Shri - ANCHLANG POHCHEH	CL - XII	A. Pohcheh
6	" - MALDENI POHCHEH	CL - B.A. 3 rd sem	M. Pohcheh
7	" - DAWAKI POHCHEH	CL - XI	D. Pohcheh
8	Smt - DIWANKHAR POHTI	CL - XII	D. Pakti
9	" - JELLY NONGLAMIN	CL - XII	J. Nonglamin
10	" AGIRA L. GIRI	CL - XII	A. L. Giri
11	" MERIAM PADU	CL - BA. 1 st Sem	M. Padu
12	Shri Reebok Lang Tongper.	CL - XII	R. Tongper
13	Smt. EUSEBIA MANAR	CL - XII	E. Manar
14	" DOHMON POHLYNJAR	CL - BA. 1 st Sem	D. Pohnjar
15	" TIRCHA BAREH	CL - BA 1 st Sem	T. Bareh
16	Shri. REEBOK LANG TONGPER	CL - XI	R. Tongper.
17	Bunawan Gayang	CL BA 5 th sem	B. Gayang
18	ADIELBERT LAMIN	CL - XI	A. Lamin
19	LUSON PATRO	CL - XI	L. Patro
20	RITON PATRO	CL - XI	R. Patro
21	IAWBS PADU	CL - BA 1 st Sem	I. Padu
22	JALANG MON PADU	CL - BA. 1 st Sem	J. Padu
23	Peroly PADU	CL - XII	P. Padu
24	Balarisong Padu	CL - XII	B. Padu
25	Sandhyana Padu	CL - BA 1 st Sem	S. Padu
26	Serobia Myrchiang	CL - BA 1 st sem	S. Myrchiang



FIELD TRIP ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date: 11th December 2020

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Signature
26	Dimanlang Padu	CL - VII	D. Badr
27	Dafica Andri Samara	CL - 1 st sem	Lanara
28	Lody mon myrchiang	CL - 5 th sem	L. myrchiang
29	Philomena Pohmen	CL - "	P. Pohmen
30	Evandikemi Pohmen	CL - "	E. Pohmen
31	Bodaya kmen Pohmen	CL - 11	B. Pohmen
32	Ferlin Tongper	CL - 5 th sem	F. Tongper
33	Sinobia myrchiang	CL - 1 st sem	S. myrchiang
34	Krisba Gashuga	CL - 1 st sem	Krasuga
35	Rosemitin tyrua	CL - 1 st sem	R. Tyrua
36	Rikami Rynksai	CL - 5 th sem	R. Rynksai
37	Riong Riong	CL - XII	R. Sunary
38	Barbara Rymbai	CL - XII	B. Rymbai
39	Saralyne Rymbai	CL - XII	S. Rymbai
40	Takmenlang Lamin Sadeu	CL - 3 rd semester	Tamin
41	Plisha Rynksai	CL - 3 rd semester	P. Rynksai
42	Synshashok Rynksai	CL - XII	S. Rynksai
43	Rebecca Rynksai	CL - 1 st semester	R. Rynksai
44	Augustine Tyosong	CL - XII	A. Tyosong
45	Fernando Myrchiang	CL - 1 st sem	Fernando
46	Rafael Pahl	CL - XII	Rafael
47	Janus pohmen	CL - XI	J. pohmen
48	Pynkhat pohmen	CL - XII	P. pohmen
49	Kitbok lay Samara	CL - XI	K. Samara
50	Moxi Tangsang	CL - XI	M. Tangsang
51	Deiborami Tariang	CL - XI	D. Tariang



FIELD TRIP ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date: 11th December 2020

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Signature
52	Ibawisha Suhiga	CI - XII	Suhiga
53	Kami pohmen	CI - XI	K. pohmen



(Teachers + Resource person)

FIELD TRIP ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date: 11th December 2020

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Signature
1	Jabor sing s Nongram	IQAC Co-ordinator	Jabor
2	Gloystar Srimelch	Coordinator Innovative Scheme and programme	Gloystar
3	First Born Myrthiang	Asst. Prof. Edu Dept.	Myrthiang
4	M Lyngdon	Headman & Resource Person	Lyngdon
5	Kanbor Padu	Resource Person	Kanbor
6	Somi Kerek	Resource Person	Somi
7	De. Myrthiang	Resource Person	De.
8	Khoratala Buam	Camera man	Khoratala
9	Ajoyker, Aaliken	Head Dept. of Pst. Sec	Ajoyker
10	Hakanbar Passah	Asst. Prof. Edu Dept.	Passah
11	Dengmin Rymbin	Staff	Rymbin
12	Kimbody Pokenem	Staff	Pokenem
13	Elizabeth Shylla	Asst. Prof. Khs. Dept.	Shylla

