

## Foreword

The current issue of the University Journal on ‘Northeast India Cultures’ attempts to create a broad understanding of some of the changes impacting the cultures and practices of the people in the region.

This Journal of the University has been conceived to offer ample opportunity to scholars and academicians to engage in research to uncover the sociological and philosophical underpinnings of the life and practices of the people of North-East India in their context. The region is rightly characterized as a ‘mega diversity zone’, not merely because of bio-diversity (immense as it is), but more so on account of its cultural diversity.

India’s North East India has attracted and continues to attract the attention of the world for its natural beauty. More importantly, this region is truly a mosaic of cultures in every sense of the word. It is time now to start unfolding to the rest of the world the richness, the vibrancy and the diversity of these largely tribal communities. The world needs to hear more about their joyful coexistence, and about the mutual respect and appreciation they have for one another’s traditions and practices.

The Journal offers an apt platform for scholars and researchers to study, compare and contrast the cultures of North-East India with the larger communities and cultures of the rest of the country. The uniqueness of the region, its peoples and cultures is often overshadowed by oft-repeated stories of violence and underdevelopment. It is the academic community that can bring about a change in this perspective. Every issue of the University Journal on ‘Northeast India Cultures’ helps to fashion this new image of the region.

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