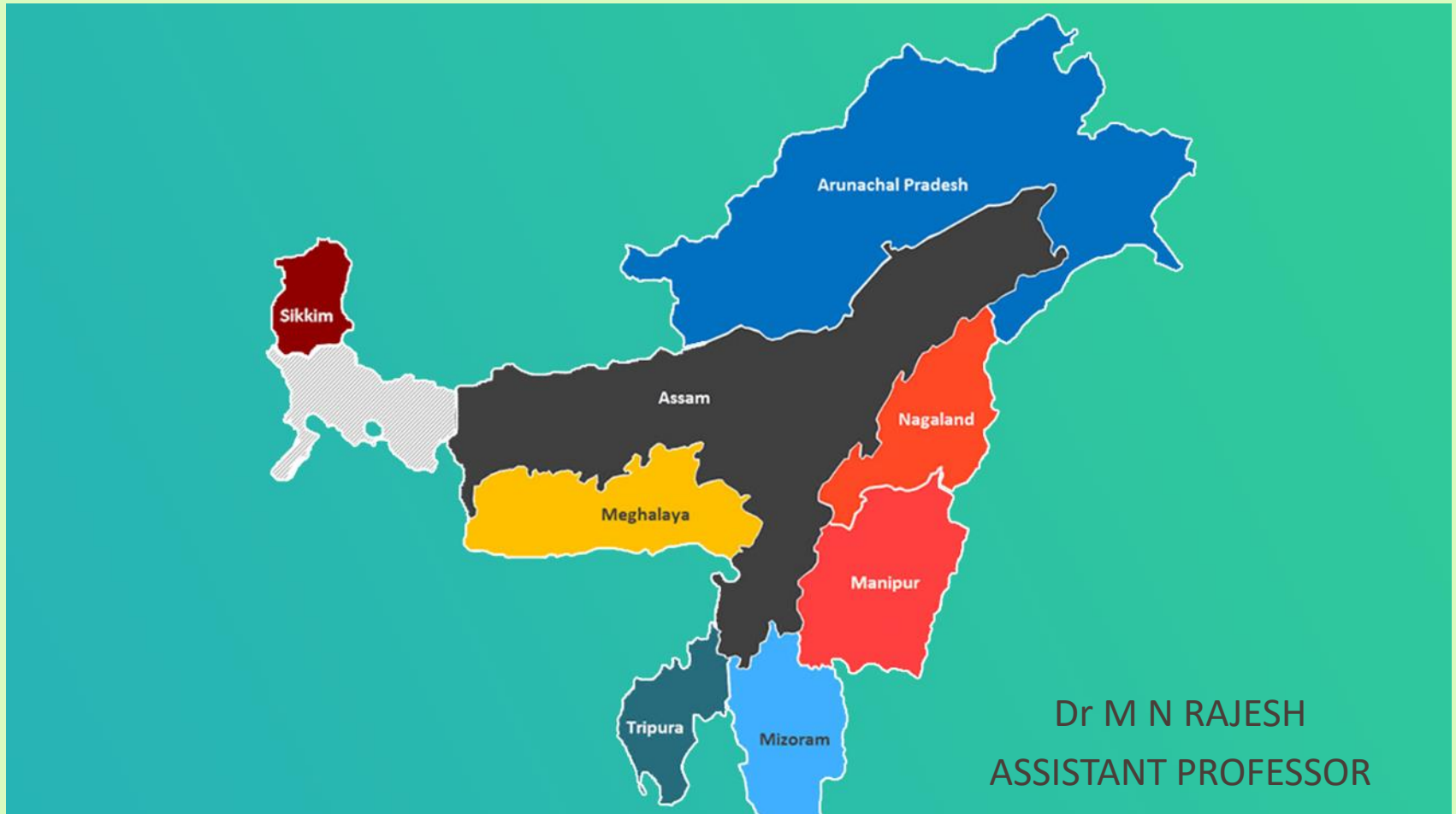


Historical Overview of Northeast India



Dr M N RAJESH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

7 Sisters and 1 Brother

The term "Seven Sisters" was coined by journalist Jyoti Prasad Saikia during a radio talk show in 1972.

Map of Northeast India



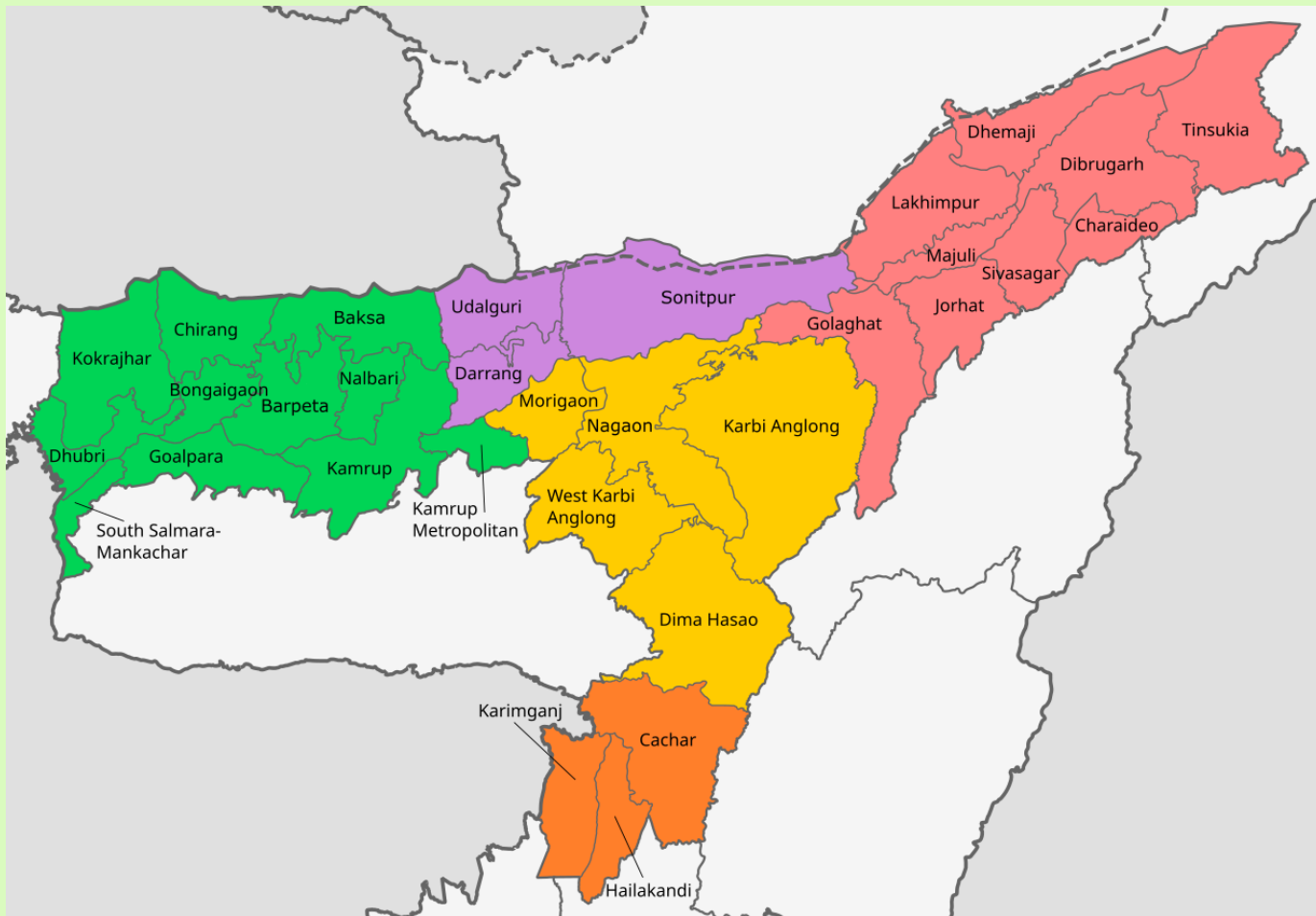
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- - Introduction to Northeast India
- - Overview Map of the Region
- - Historical Analyses by State:
 - - Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim
- - Zomia – Concept & Indigenous Groups

Introduction to Northeast India

- - Overview of the region's geography, diversity, and cultural significance
- - Map highlighting all eight states
- - Brief explanation of interwoven histories and tribal cultures

Assam

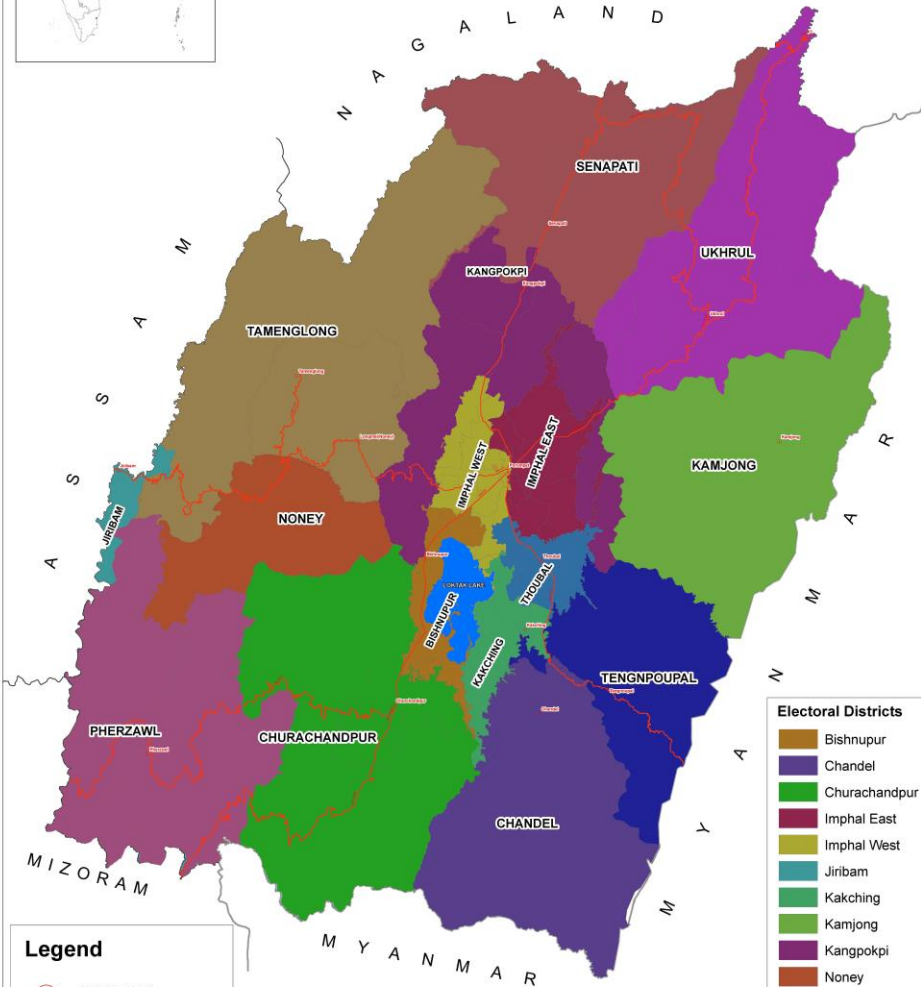
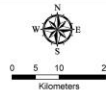


History of Assam

- - Ancient Period:
 - - Early dynasties: Varmans, Kamarupa Kingdom (circa 350–1100 AD)
 - - Notable king: Bhaskara Varman (7th–8th century)
 - - Spread of Hindu/Buddhist traditions
 - - Key Communities: Assamese, Bodos, Rabhas, Karbis, Dimasas
- - Medieval Period:
 - - The Ahom Kingdom (Founded by Sukapha, 1228–1268 AD)
 - Role of Sankaradeva and spread of bhakti
 - - Resistance against Mughal invasions
- - Colonial Period:
 - - Treaty of Yandaboo (1826) and British colonial developments
- - Modern Period:
 - - Assamese nationalism, statehood movements, and the Assam Accord



MAP OF MANIPUR SHOWING ELECTORAL DISTRICTS



Legend

- District HQ
- National Highway
- State Boundary
- District_Boundary
- International Boundary

Electoral Districts

- Bishnupur
- Chandel
- Churachandpur
- Imphal East
- Imphal West
- Jiribam
- Kakching
- Kamjong
- Kangpokpi
- Noney
- Pherzawl
- Senapati
- Tamenglong
- Tengnoupal
- Thoubal
- Ukhrul

History of Manipur

- - Ancient Period:
 - - Ningthouja dynasty; early king Nongda Lairen Pakhangba
 - - Foundation of Meitei culture
- - Medieval Period:
 - - King Khagemba (circa 1597–1652 AD) repelling Mughal invasions
 - - king Pamheiba (Garib Nawaz) (1690-1750) patronised Vaishnavism
- - Colonial Period:
 - - Anglo-Manipur War (1891) and subsequent British influence
- - Modern Period:
 - - Post-independence dynamics; tensions between hill and valley communities
 - - Key Communities: Meitei, Kukis, and other tribal groups

History of Nagaland

- 16 major tribes
- - warrior traditions
- - Medieval Period:
 - - Introduction of Christianity via missionary work
- - Colonial Period:
 - - British incorporation of Naga Hills into colonial Assam
- - Modern Period:
 - - Rani Gaidinliu's resistance and emergence of political movements (e.g., NSCN)
 - - Key Tribes: Ao, Angami, Sema, Konyak, Lotha, Chakhesang

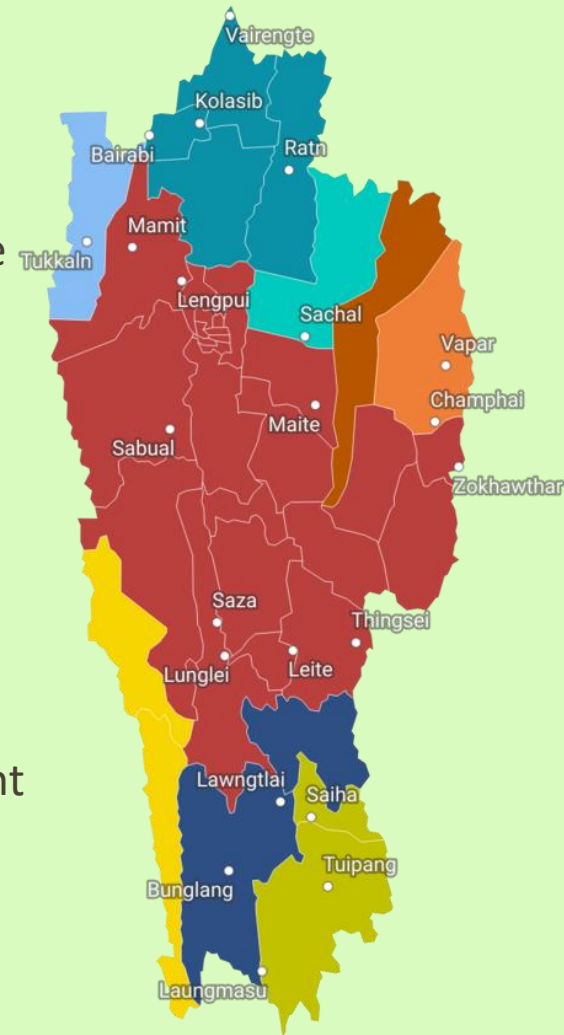
Districts of Mizoram (2021)



History of Mizoram

Chakma, Lushai, Paite, Paite-Lushai, Poi, Riang, Lakher, Hmar, Lushai, Sachal, Vairengte, Kolasib, Bairabi, Ratn, Mamit, Tukkahn, Lengpui, Sachal, Vapar, Champhai, Zokhawthar, Sabual, Maite, Saza, Thingsei, Lunglei, Leite, Lawngtlai, Saiha, Tuipang, Bunglang, Laungmasu

- - Ancient Period:
 - - Migration from Burma; settlement in the Lushai Hills
- - Medieval Period:
 - - Introduction of Christianity and modern education by missionaries
- - Colonial Period:
 - - British annexation of the Lushai Hills
- - Modern Period:
 - - Insurgency led by the Mizo National Front and the Mizoram Peace Accord (1986)
 - - Key Tribes: Lusei, Hmar, Paite, Lai



Meghalaya



History of Meghalaya

- - Matrilineal societies of Khasi, Garo, and Jaintia tribes
- - Medieval Period:
 - - Preservation of sacred groves and indigenous conservation practices
- - Colonial Period:
 - - Annexation by the British; integration into Assam
- - Modern Period:
 - - State formation in 1972; ongoing cultural preservation
 - - Key Communities: Khasi, Garo, Jaintia

STATE OF TRIPURA

Tripura



History of Tripura

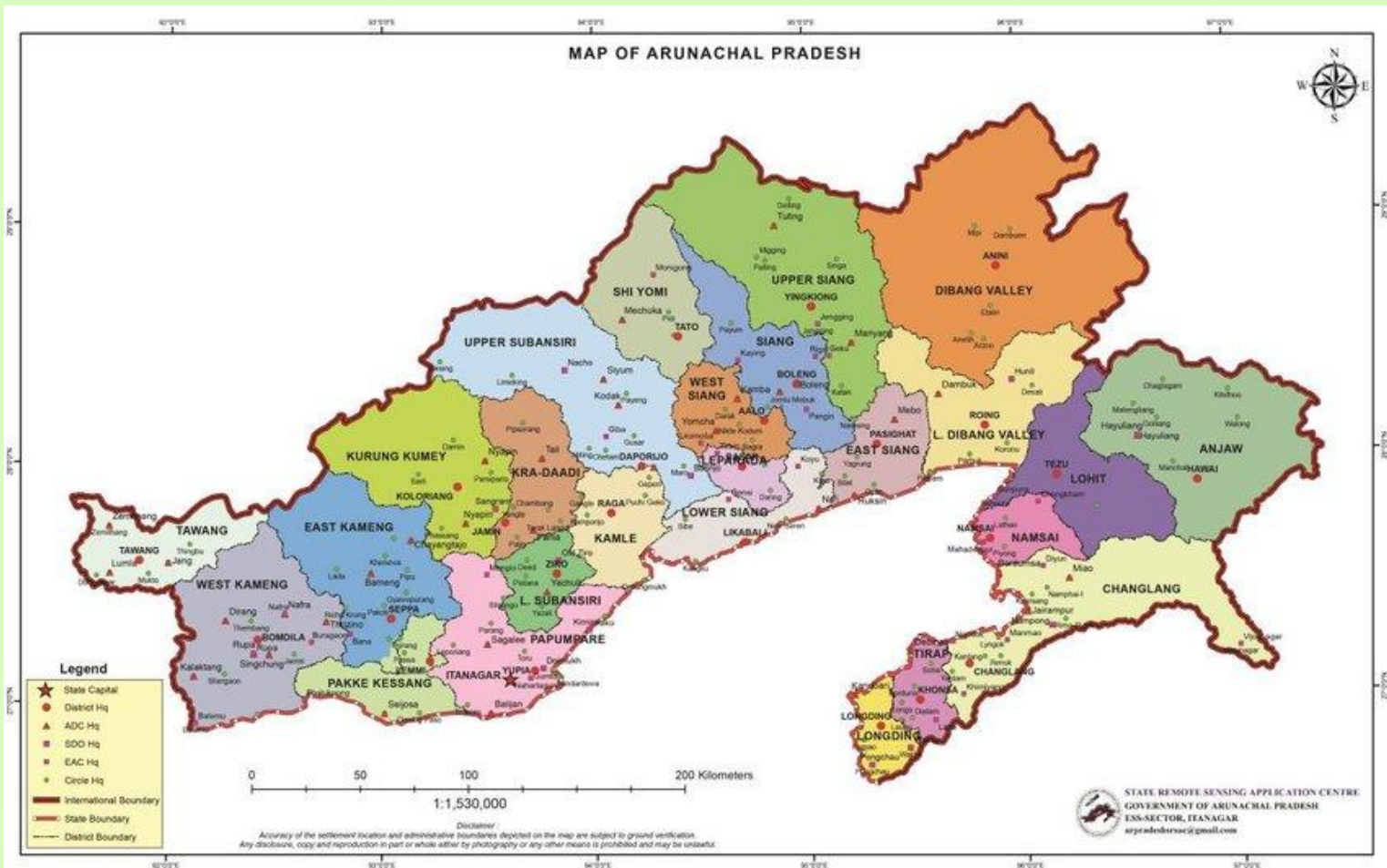
- - Ancient Period:
 - - Tripuri kings blending Hindu and tribal traditions
- - Medieval Period:
 - - Maintained relative independence with regional trade links
- - Colonial Period:
 - - Functioned as a princely state under British suzerainty
- - Modern Period:
 - - Impact of post-partition border shifts and tribal tensions
 - - Key Communities: Tripuri, Reang, Jamatia, Chakma



History of Sikkim

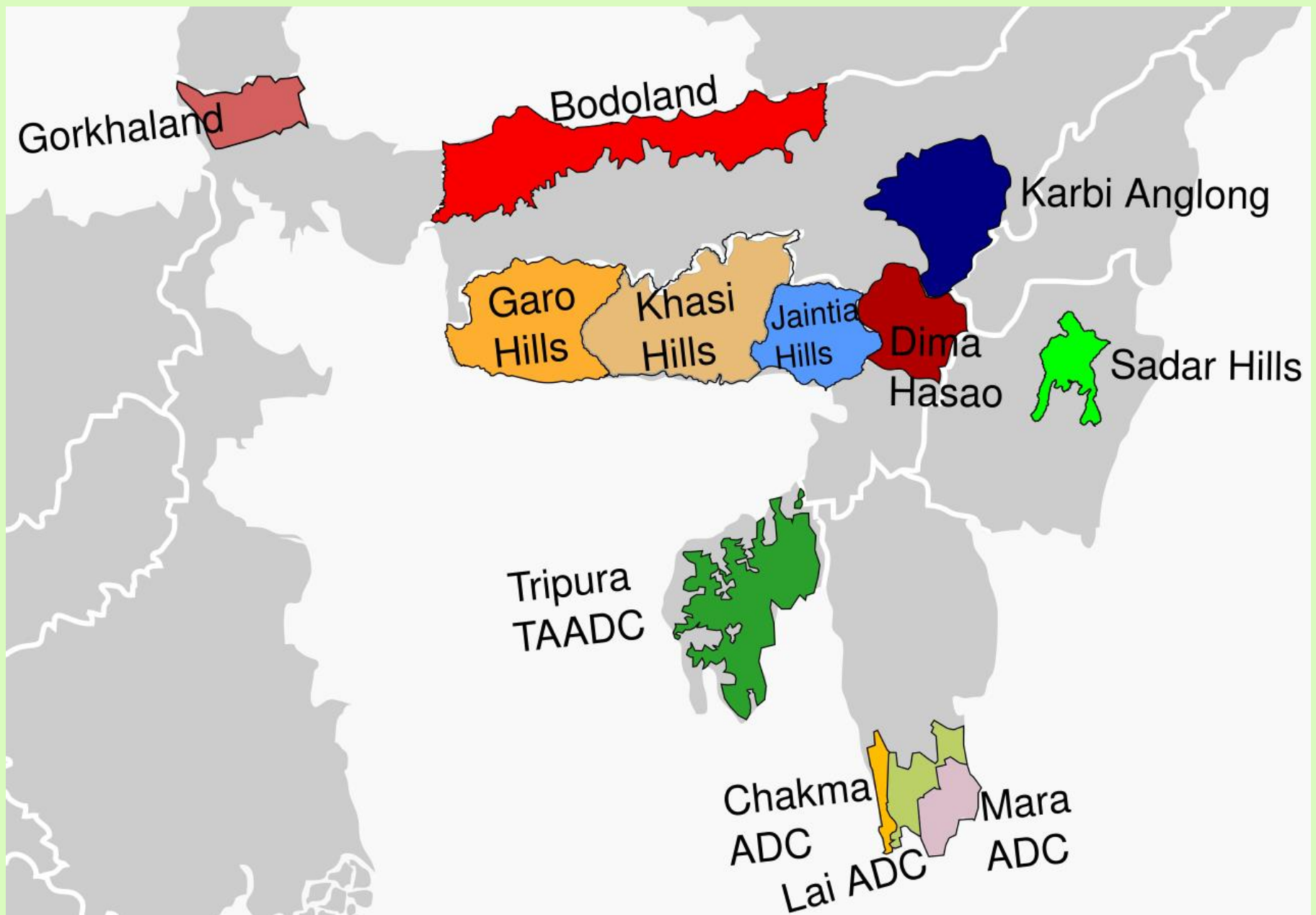
- - Ancient Period:
 - - Early Lepcha settlements and Tibetan Buddhist influences
- - Medieval Period:
 - - The Namgyal dynasty established in the 17th century
 - - Notable ruler: King Phuntsog Namgyal
- - Colonial Period:
 - - British protectorate status
- - Modern Period:
 - - Merger with India in 1975 via referendum
 - - Key Communities: Lepcha, Bhutia, Nepali

Arunachal Pradesh



History of Arunachal Pradesh

- Inhabitation by tribal groups such as Monpa, Adi, and Nyishi
- - Medieval Period:
 - - The Posa System: A system of frontier diplomacy and trade
- - Colonial Period:
 - - Largely autonomous under British rule
- - Modern Period:
 - - Integration into India; strategic border challenges (e.g., 1962 Sino-Indian conflict)
 - - Key Communities: Monpa, Adi, Nyishi, Tagin, Apatani, Galo



Zomia – The Highlands Beyond State Control

- - Overview of James C. Scott's concept of Zomia
- - Stateless societies, autonomy, and cultural resilience
- - How parts of Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh fit into this concept
- - Key Indigenous Groups: Naga tribes, Khasi, Garo, Monpa

Zomia

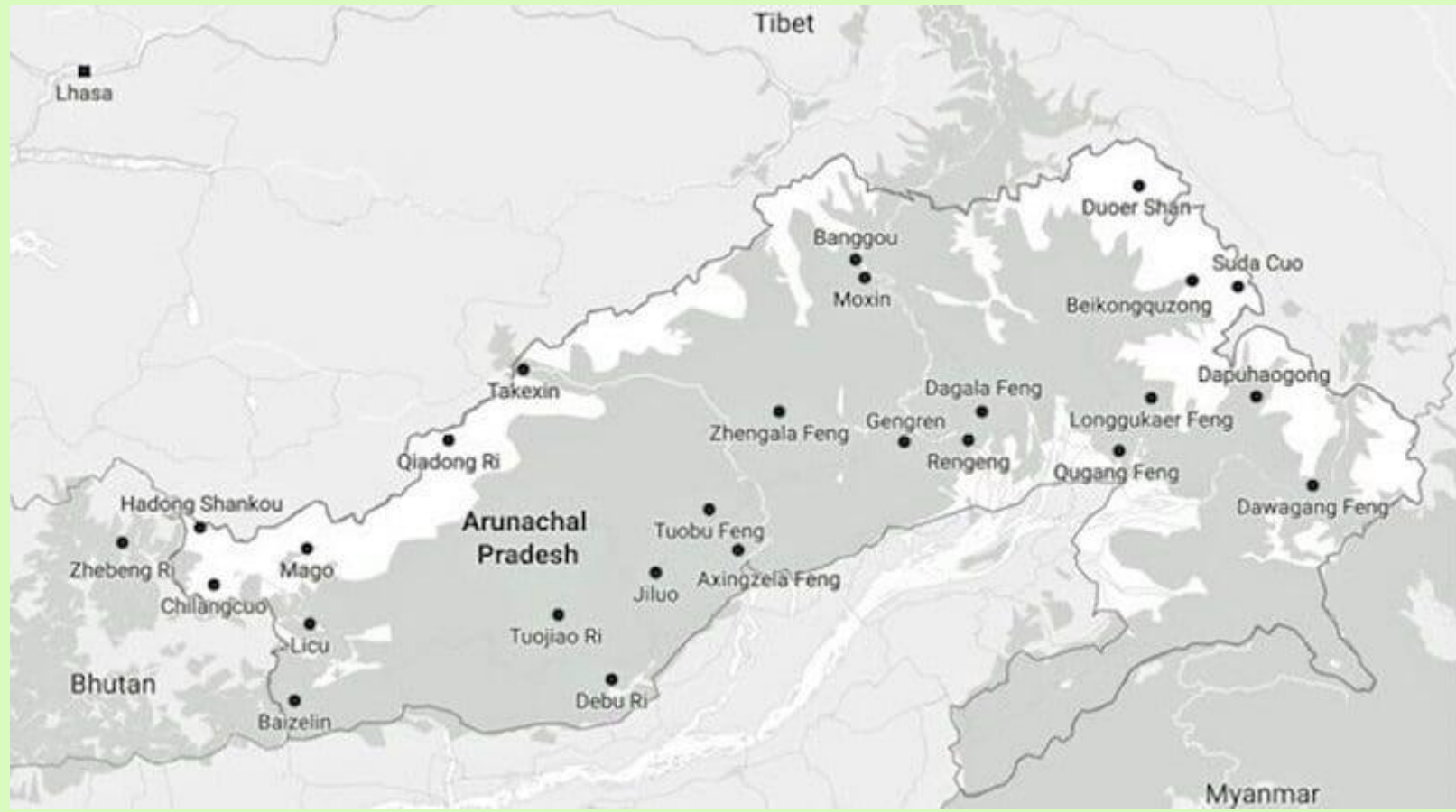


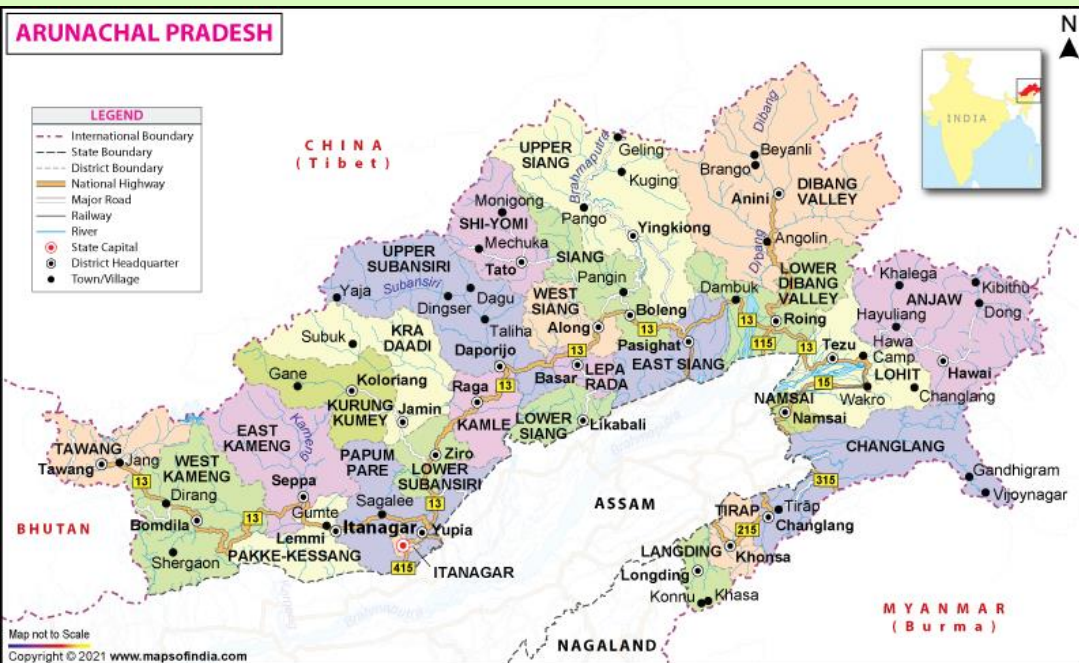
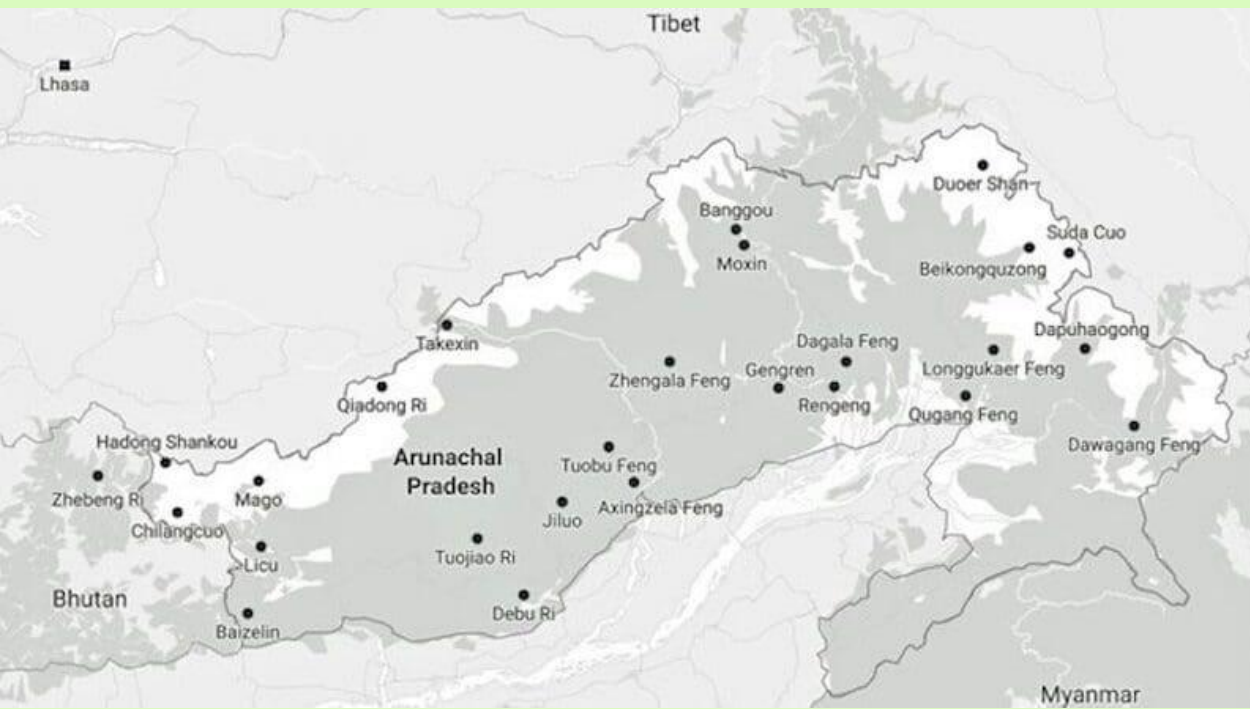
References & Further Reading

- - James C. Scott, *The Art of Not Being Governed* (2009)
- - S. L. Baruah, *Assam: A Historical Introduction*
- - S. K. Choudhury, *The Ahom Kingdom*
- - Articles from *Journal of Northeast Indian Studies*
- - Ethnographic studies on tribal histories

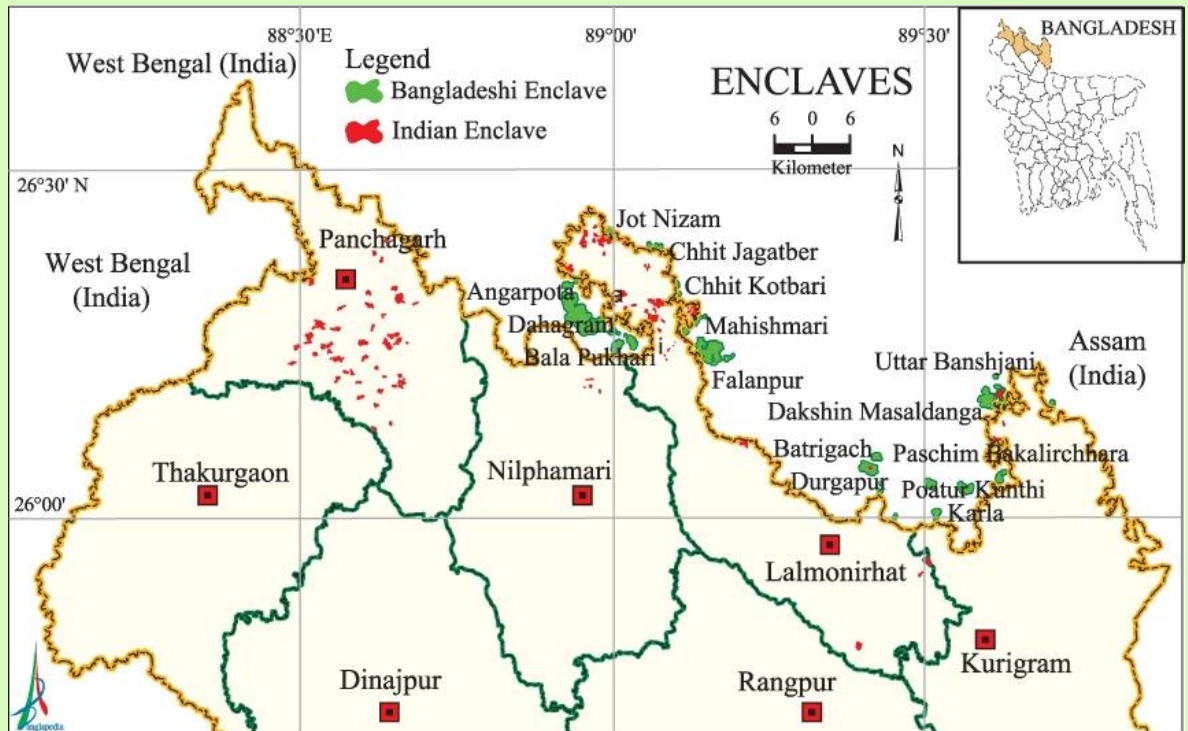
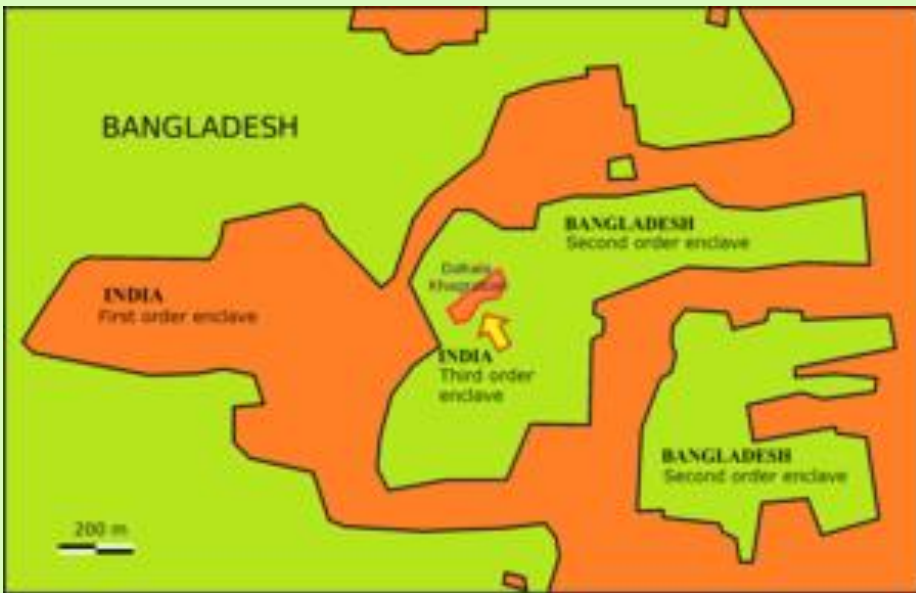
India and Myanmar share a 1,643 km border along four northeastern states







Chitmahal



Cultural Aspects of Northeast India

- - Rich traditions in dance, music, and folklore
- - Influence of Tibetan, Southeast Asian, and Indian cultures
- - Role of festivals like Bihu, Hornbill, Losar, and Chapchar Kut

Economic Aspects

- - Predominantly agrarian economies
- - Role of tea, oil, and handicrafts
- - Border trade with Myanmar, China, and Bangladesh

Religious Landscape

- - Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, and indigenous faiths
- - Influence of Vaishnavism in Assam, Theravada Buddhism in Arunachal & Mizoram

Colonial Influence & Resistance

- - British annexation and indirect rule
- - Movements led by figures like Rani Gaidinliu and U Tirot Singh

Post-Independence Political Movements

- - State reorganization and demands for autonomy
- - Insurgencies and peace accords

Environmental & Ecological Significance

- - Biodiversity hotspots: Kaziranga, Nokrek, Namdapha
- - Conservation efforts and traditional ecological knowledge

Challenges in the Region

- - Political unrest, border disputes, and insurgency
- - Connectivity and infrastructural development

Recent Developments & Policies

- - Act East Policy and infrastructural projects
- - Government initiatives for tourism and education

Future Prospects

- - Economic growth potential through trade and tourism
- - Preservation of indigenous heritage alongside modernization

Final Thoughts & Open Discussion

- - Reflection on the historical evolution and resilience of the region
- - Invitation for questions and discussions