

PRESS RELEASE



Biate Community Celebrates Nul Ding Kut Festival with Fervour

Nul Ding Kut Festival, which is an annual festival observed by the Biate Community was celebrated today the 12th January, 2025 at Saipung, Lamzol, East Jaintia Hills District.



The programme was organized by the Biate Cultural Organization of Meghalaya (BCOM) and was graced by the presence of Sutnga -Saipung MLA, Smti. Santa Mary Shylla as Chief Guest in the presence of Sub- Divisional Officer (SDO)-Sadar, East Jaintia Hills District, Shri. Manish Kumar, IAS, Saipung-Nongkhlieh MDC, Shri. Lalwilliam Theite, Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), East Jaintia Hills District, Shri. S. Paslein, MPS, Biate Community Organization Meghalaya (BCOM) office bearers, Traditional Heads, members of Civil Society Organizations and others.



The celebration was enlivened with vibrant traditional dances, melodious folk songs and sharing of folk stories reflecting the cultural heritage, unity and gratitude of the community.



Nul Ding Kut, meaning "Festival of Renewal of life" is one of the most significant and cherished festivals of the Biate Tribe. Celebrated at the completion of the agricultural cycle, the festival expresses deep gratitude for nature's abundance and the blessings of a successful harvest.



Beyond celebration, Nul Ding Kut represents a conscious and collective effort to revive, preserve and promote the rich cultural heritage of the Biate community. The festival serves as a vital platform for the expression, documentation and transmission of traditional values, customs and artistic practices.

Through traditional dances, folk songs, indigenous music and cultural performances, Nul Ding Kut highlights the distinct cultural identity of the Biate people. It plays a crucial role in inter-generational knowledge transfer, enabling elders and cultural practitioners to guide and educate younger members of the community.



The festival also showcases traditional crafts such as bamboo work, weaving and indigenous handicrafts, skills largely preserved by women artisans. These practices not only sustain cultural continuity but also empower younger generations to reconnect with their roots in an era of rapid modernization.