



Christ In You

Ministering In Manipur

Reporting to You From India



A View of the Conference Center

What a joy to have participated in the Poumai Naga Baptist Association in northern Manipur. I was the only foreigner who attend this conference which meets every five years. It was a tremendous honor to be invited. The theme was "Amazing Grace." I spoke to the gathering of 3,500 people on Friday night and Saturday morning.



The Entrance to the Conference Center

There are over 80 churches in this tribe and on this occasion they gathered together for a time of spiritual renewal and fellowship. There was also a musical contest which was quite fascinating. You can see the program at [this link](#).

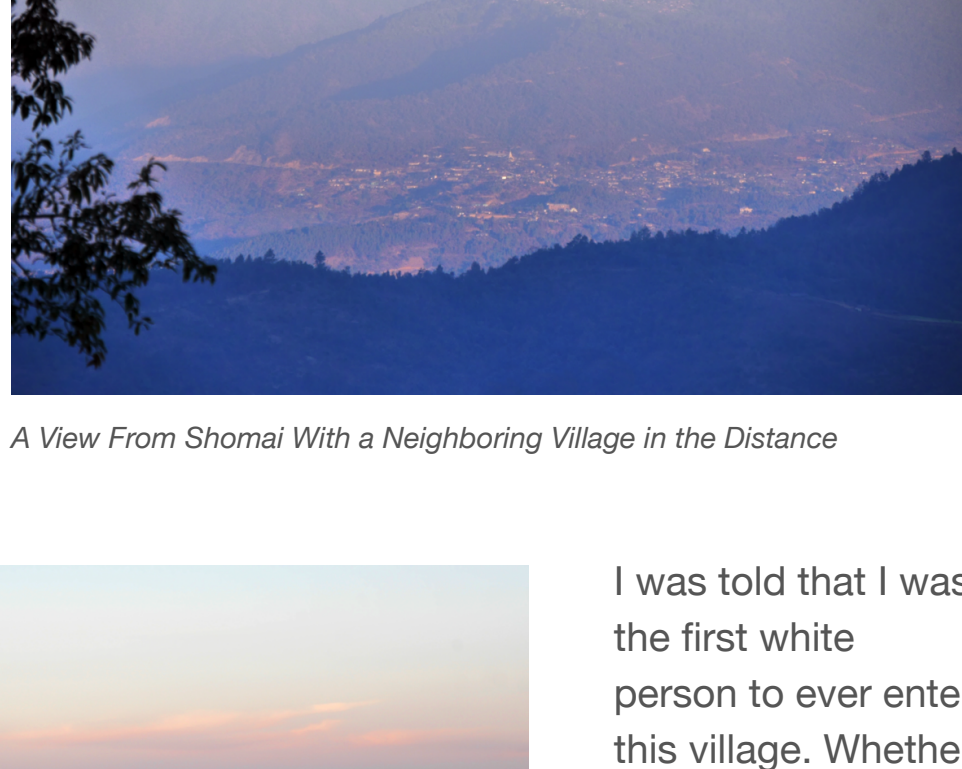


The Shomai Poumai Naga Baptist Church

The setting of the conference was high in the hills in a small village called Shomai. The villages are primitive, so I expected to sleep on a dirt floor or something of that nature. Instead I was amazed at what appeared to

be Shangri-La! The facilities were wonderful and had recently been constructed. The church is large and beautiful on top of a hill overlooking the other mountains. The food was distinctive but I found it delicious.

I must admit I was a bit fearful on the journey to the small village. The roads were narrow and as I looked out of the window there were deep chasms. A slight miscalculation of the driver would lead to our certain death!



A View From Shomai With a Neighboring Village in the Distance



Beautiful Naga Hills of Northern Manipur

I was told that I was the first white person to ever enter this village. Whether this is the case or not, it certainly is true that not many people would go there unless it was intentional. The roads are horrible and it is far off the beaten path.

Through the years *Christ in You* has helped the Christian native tribes in this area with emergency needs. It has been a joy to assist them, and now a real treat to be the only person outside of India to speak at this convocation and fellowship with these dear people.

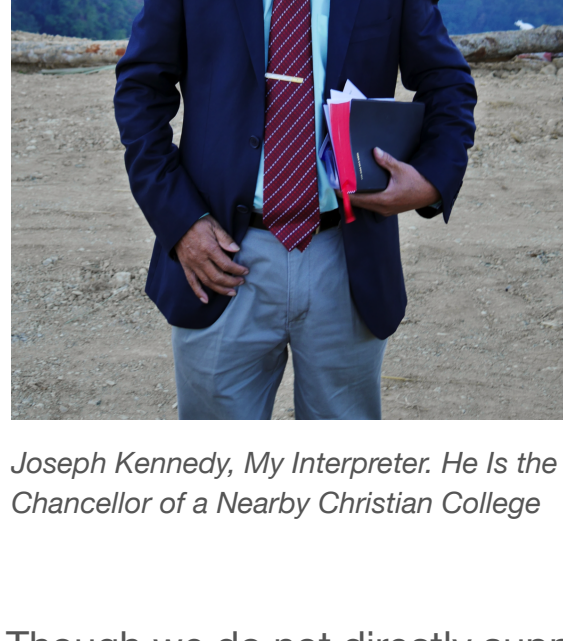
Each tribe has its own pattern of colors. Even within the tribe there is a great variety. You can see some of the photos I took during this event [here](#).



The Conference Center

During the conference there was a display of traditional Poumai Naga dancing. Prior to conversion to Christ, these tribes were head hunters. The tradition of dancing, including war dancing, and tribal colors continues. Here's a [video clip](#) of traditional Poumai dancing that I recorded last Saturday:

[Click here for the video clip.](#)



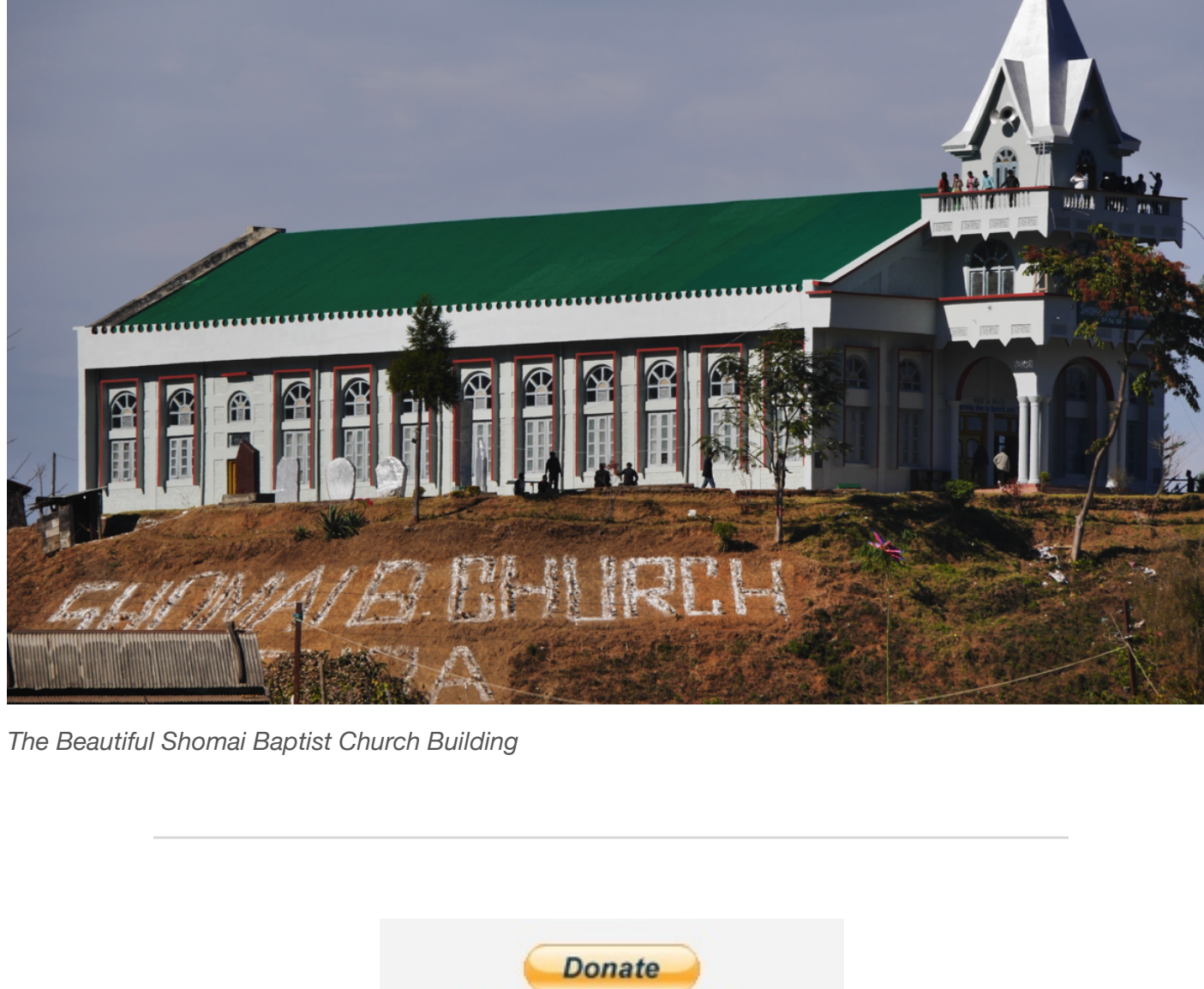
Joseph Kennedy, My Interpreter. He Is the Chancellor of a Nearby Christian College

Numerous ministries are underway, including Christian education, reaching out to a Nepalese settlement that has been in their midst for many years, and church planting. Most of the Nepal people are Hindus. The Nag Baptist associations are also involved in church planting and evangelism.

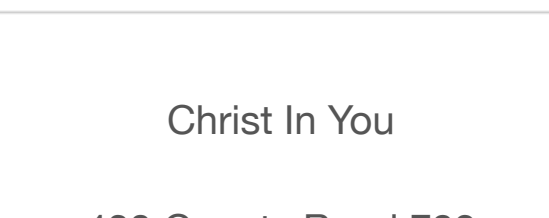
Though we do not directly support anyone in Manipur on an ongoing basis, we continue to encourage them from afar and occasionally help financially for emergencies.

Your reporter from India,

Paul Rains



The Beautiful Shomai Baptist Church Building



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