The thought of doing a Ph.D. thesis on the Nagas crept into my mind after joining the Jawaharlal Nehru University. The Nagas' way of living, their ethnic culture, traditions, customs and usages which definitely differ from those of the plains people gave me an impetus to study in depth the origin of the Nagas, their past life and more so their relations with the British during the British rule in India. The anti-Indian activities of the Nagas which does not only pose a danger and threat to the territorial integrity of the country, but also created law and order problem in Nagaland, made me firm enough to find out the reasons of the unrest and uprising of the Nagas.

That is why when I got the opportunity to choose the area of my research for the Ph.D. programme, I readily took up on the topic - "Naga Movement and Political Modernization", for my thesis.

The British administrators, philologists, anthropologists and Western Christian Missionaries, who happened to come over to the Naga Hills, simply described the Nagas' religious beliefs, their social practices and customary life only to a limited capacity followed by a spark of proselytization process. Theses, produced by
certain scholars, academicians, no doubt, contain some valuable informations but these theses too do not present a coherent picture of the Naga politics during and after the British, that is the post-Independent era.

In the course of my research to complete my 'Thesis', I do not only studied, observed and analysed the historical facts available in scattered written documents but also met and interviewed a number of Naga elderly villagers, politicians, retired soldiers, government servants, teachers and students etc. and discussed with them and understood their viewpoints which ultimately enabled me to present a coherent political and democratic culture of the Naga society in a fresh and innovative manner.

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