Chapter 6

Conclusion

There is no proper and systematic documentation of documents and materials on Nagas of Nagaland as well as other parts of the Naga inhabited areas. Few studies carried out by Ganguli (1984), Ao (1999), Mongro (1999) have documented on Naga culture. Bibliographical studies on Naga literatures conducted by various workers and researchers are only a few, such as by Kumar (1974), Sen (1987), Aier (2005). Thus it is found that not many studies had been carried out on bibliographical aspect of Naga literatures. Therefore, on the basis of the present bibliographical study on Naga literatures written in Naga languages, the findings and suggestions are presented as follows:-

6.1 Findings

The present study reveals that:

1. The Ura Academy established by Tenyidie Literature Committee in 1971 is the oldest library which offered its services followed by Rev. Longri Kijung Library, established in 1977 by Ao Baptist Church Organisation.

2. The Ura Academy has the highest number of library collections in Naga languages followed by personal collection of literatures on Ao language.

3. Rev. Longri Kijung Library has the highest number of collections in Religion.

4. Though the libraries and department played an important role in preservation and documentation, yet the majority of the literatures were from the personal collections.

5. From the first decade i.e. 1949-1958 there is a gradual increase till the sixth decade i.e. 1999-2008 which indicates the growth in the publications of literatures on Naga language.

6. For the overall decade wise growth of Naga literatures:
i. The first decade with 8 literatures.
ii. The second decade with 23 literatures.
iii. The third decade with 24 literatures.
iv. The fourth decade with 52 literatures.
v. The fifth decade with 101 literatures.
vi. The sixth decade with 189 literatures.

7. Literatures on Naga languages consisting of 397 volumes were found to be distributed over 12 disciplines.

8. Literatures representing 12 disciplines were published in all the decades i.e. first to sixth decade.

i. The first decade is represented by 2 disciplines namely Religion and Customs.
ii. The second decade with 5 disciplines namely Religion, Customs, Folklore, Language and Literature.
iii. For third decade with 6 disciplines such as Dictionary, Religion, Customs, Folklore, Language, Literature.
iv. The fourth decade with 7 disciplines such as Dictionary, Religion, Customs, Folklore, Language, Literature and Biography.
vi. In the sixth decade literatures representing all the 12 disciplines were published namely Dictionary, Religion, Naga Polity, Customs, Folklore, Language, Health, Agriculture, Literature, History, Biography and Autobiography.

9. Discipline wise Naga literatures are as follows:

i. Dictionary is represented by 8 literatures.
ii. Religion showed 175 literatures.
iii. Naga Polity is represented by 7 literatures.
iv. Customs is represented by 50 literatures.
v. Folklore is represented by 38 literatures.
vi. Language with 30 literatures.
vii. Health with 4 literatures.
viii. Agriculture is indicated by 5 literatures.
ix. Literature with 56 literatures.
x. History with 6 literatures.
xi. Biography is represented by 15 literatures.
xii. Autobiography with 3 literatures.

10. For the distribution of different languages under 12 disciplines:

i. Ao language is represented by 11 disciplines with highest publication is indicated by Religion and the least were found to be from Health and Agriculture.

ii. Chokri language is represented by 2 disciplines. Maximum literatures publication is on Folklore and the least on Language.

iii. Kheza language is spread over 5 disciplines and highest publication is indicated by Religion and Language and the least on Dictionary, Customs and Folklore.

iv. Lotha language covers 6 disciplines and the highest number of literatures publication is indicated by Folklore and the least were on Dictionary and Literature.

v. Pochury language is represented by 5 disciplines, with the highest number of literatures is indicated by Religion and Language and the least were on Dictionary and Literature.

vi. Sema language covering 5 disciplines with Customs being the highest number of literatures published and the least is indicated by Language.

vii. Tenyidie language is spread over 9 disciplines with Religion indicating the highest number of publication and least on Dictionary, Health and Agriculture.

viii. Zeme language is spread over 6 disciplines and the highest number of publication is indicated by Religion and the least on Dictionary, Folklore, Language and Health.

11. The maximum number of literatures was published during the sixth decade.
12. The total collections of documents is spread over 12 disciplines with Religion indicating the highest number of literatures.

13. For the literatures published in various languages from the first to the sixth decades the maximum literatures were on Tenyidie language followed by Ao language.

14. In all the six decades there is increase in all the Naga literatures for all the 8 languages except for Zeme language which shows a declining trends. Only in the sixth decade there was growth of literatures in 2 languages which are Chokri and Kheza.

15. For the overall publications of literatures for the language wise from the first to sixth decades:
   i. In Ao language 151 literatures were published.
   ii. For Chokri language 3 literatures were published.
   iii. In Kheza language 7 literatures were published.
   iv. For Lotha language 12 literatures were published.
   v. In Pochury language 16 literatures were published.
   vi. For Sema language 21 literatures were published.
   vii. In Tenyidie language 171 literatures were published.
   viii. In Zeme language 16 literatures were published.

16. Non-Governmental Organisations have published the most number of literatures during the last six decades for the 7 languages except Sema language.

17. Government body started to publish the literatures only in the sixth decade.

18. Maximum number of literatures was published during the sixth decade by all the publishers.

19. For the publisher wise publication of literatures on different languages:
   i. Literatures on Ao language were published by 3 publishers.
   ii. Chokri literatures were published by only 1 publisher.
   iii. Kheza literatures consist of 2 publishers.
   iv. Lotha literatures are indicated by 3 publishers.
   v. Pochury literatures are published by 2 publishers.
vi. Serna literatures consist of 3 publishers.
vii. Tenyidie literatures were published by 3 by publishers.
viii. Zeme literatures consist of 4 publishers.

20. Incase of the place of publication it is found that the highest number of literatures was published from Kohima during the past six decades followed by Mokokchung and Dimapur.

21. Most of the literatures were published in the State from the fifth and sixth decades.

22. For Naga literatures published under different places:

i. Ao literatures have been published in 8 places. The highest number of publications with 111 comes from Mokokchung and Delhi is the least with 1 literature.

ii. Chokri literatures have been published in 1 place with 3 literatures from Kohima.

iii. Kheza literatures were published from 3 places with highest number of literatures from Kohima with 3 literatures and the least from Jorhat and Mysore with 2 literatures each.

iv. Lotha literatures were published from 3 places with Wokha indicating the highest with 5 literatures and the least number of literatures from Dimapur.

v. Pochury literatures were published from 5 places with Kohima having the highest number of publication with 8 literatures and the least from Dimapur with 1 literature.

vi. Serna indicates 5 places of publication with Dimapur publishing the highest number of publication with 13 literatures and the least from Mokokchung and Zunheboto with 1 literature each.

vii. Tenyidie literatures were published from 2 places with Kohima indicating the highest in terms of publication with 170 literatures and the least from Dimapur with 1 literature.

viii. Zeme literatures indicate 5 places of publications with Peren and Shillong publishing the highest number of literatures and the least from Bangalore with 1 literature.
6.2 Suggestions

On the basis of the findings from the study following suggestions are forwarded:

1. A high powered committee should be constituted in order to explore the avenues to further develop all the Naga literatures.

2. Strengthen the process of documentation and preservation.

3. Research activity on linguistic issues needs to be carried out.

4. Nagaland being a multilingual State equal importance should be given to all the languages.

5. Setting up of literary centres in all the administrative headquarters to promote the growth of Naga literatures.

6. Naga language should be introduced in the institutes of higher learning as a standard curriculum.

7. Writers and scholars in Naga languages should be supported in their endeavour by the government.

8. A minimum standard be maintained by all the Literary Committees involved in the development of Naga languages like spellings, grammars, etc.

9. Language teachers should be sent for specialized training to enhance the skill and knowledge at reputed institutes.

10. More programmes on Naga languages should be promoted through mass media such as radio and TV etc.

11. To cope with information explosion there is a need to arrange for well organized sectional bibliographic control and have a bibliographical centre.

12. A State depository centre to be created to receive the manuscripts and other forms of Naga literatures.

13. Important contributions or outstanding articles appearing in different publications to be compiled subject wise and published in a phase wise manner with proper publicity.

14. Adoption of mother tongue as a compulsory subject for all levels of schooling.
15. Important and rare literatures on Nagas can be digitized and also microfilmed for better preservation.

16. Library cooperation in respect of resource-sharing and inter-lending can also solve the problems of duplication, man power and fund constraints.

6.3 Conclusion

During the past decades the Christian missionaries have done much for the education and also promoting social services, however it is regretted that very little has been inborn in respect of creative Naga literatures. There is no denying the fact that the Nagas are romantic and poetic since they have in store a large number of oral poetry which dwells on many themes; songs of war and peace couplets, nature and love songs are numerous but it has not been properly channelized. Besides Naga literatures has made inroad in meeting the needs of the academic and religious literature but not much on other disciplines such as Health, Agriculture, Dictionaries and History etc. The publication of literatures was less as education was at its infancy as the State was in a transitional period of political movement. Also during the period (1950’s – 1960’s) most of the schools were burned down because of the political turmoil in the State. The schools and literary activities almost came to standstill. The first Christian missionaries had also not gone further in providing higher and quality education, but rather creating the first batch of literatures. It is for this reason that the need for creative literature is felt. The literature should be helpful not only in providing good knowledge but also in creating interest in the general readers in cultural heritage. Thus the development of the creative potential of the Naga languages is a better way of preserving and enriching the Naga culture than the pseudo modernisation which is being sought by getting into English alone. Important organisations such as Central Institute of Indian Languages and Nagaland Bhasha Parishad, Kohima has published useful materials such as phonetic readers, grammars, folklore, dictionaries, vocabularies etc. for the advancement of Naga languages and literatures.

The beginning of literary movement in Nagaland with special reference to Naga languages is a little more than a century old in, case of Tenyidie and Ao
languages. Literary activity is more active in the theological field. Development of other literature remains in an infancy stage. English was introduced to the Nagas over 100 years ago. Till this day English is the only international language known to the tribes of the State. The dictionaries and grammars of some of the languages in pre-independence days were written by the British administrators and Christian missionaries. Moreover the formal education of the Naga society gives maximum emphasis to English learning. Therefore, the indigenous languages of the Nagas are confined to a minimum status.

However the present study indicates that there is gradual growth of literatures on Naga language from the first to sixth decade of the 21st century as a result of introduction of Naga languages in the curriculum in the educational programme coupled with Naga writers coming forward to write more literatures on Naga languages.

**Scope for further study**

Comprehensive bibliographical research can be undertaken on source materials such as from monographs, articles, dissertations, reports, proceedings on published and unpublished documents on Nagaland and its tribes of pre and post-independence period.

Study on documentation of the publications would serve as an invaluable tool in providing bibliographical details for all the documents published in Naga languages and in tracing the intellectual outputs regardless of the forms, place of publications, etc. to ensure information access to all. Also the location of the documents in different libraries and information centres may be highlighted for research scholars and information seekers.

Further bibliographical study can be taken up on Naga literatures published in Naga languages on 16 recognised languages within Nagaland and other Naga inhabited areas in the neighbouring States. Bibliographical study on literatures published in any forms on Nagas both in Naga languages and English or any other languages prior to 1940’s can be taken up as these priceless documents are invaluable for community and for the future generation.