This research work seeks to analyse Naga political movement under the National Socialist Council of Nagaland. The circumstances leading to the Shillong Accord, the enigmatic silence of A.Z. Phizo, the unresolved issues and the dimensions of the Naga political movement are highlighted with particular reference to the growth of Naga nationalism and the role of the NSCN.

This post-Shillong Accord period probably constitutes the most controversial part of Naga political history. The aftermath of the Accord has produced far-reaching consequences and brought about a complete change of the direction of the political movement. Thus, the research work seeks to analyse the emergence and the role of the NSCN in espousing national sentiments of the people as part of the Naga political movement. In defence of its stand this organisation has chalked out prospective plan of strengthening Naga unity with its anchorage on well coordinated strategy of operation. Hence, this research work covers exhaustively the NSCN set up, organizational frame and administration, ideology, programme, leadership and support base. The Thesis contain seven chapters:

Chapter One deals with the socio-political background of the Nagas in general which includes the origin, social and political organisation and the impact of colonial administration and christianity,

Chapter Two is devoted to an understanding of the conceptual framework against the background of Naga political issue. Ever since Naga declaration of independence on 14th August 1947 momentous developments had taken place affecting the destiny of
the Nagas. The movement that followed in the wake of independence declaration continued through different phases. The spread of violence, creation of statehood, army operations, maintenance of a fragile cease-fire, cleavage between a section of the Naga population and the armed nationalists had altogether cast a deep imprint on the psyche of the people.

Chapter Three deals with the controversial Shillong Accord of 1975 signed between the Government of India and the representatives of the Naga National Council and Federal Government of Nagaland. An attempt has been made to study the various circumstances leading to the signing of the Accord and to critically examine its effects on the Nagas in general and the movement in particular.

Chapter Four deals with the NSCN set up exhaustively, its organisational frame and administration, objectives, ideology, strategies, leadership and support base.

Chapter Five is devoted to the study of NSCN as a factor in Nagaland politics. An attempt has been made to understand and examine the attitude and perception of the state politicians and leaders.

Chapter Six deals with the Government of India's perception of the Naga political issue taking into account the policies adopted and followed from time to time. A critical analysis of Government of India's policy towards the Naga issue is also presented. The chapter also includes a study of international dimension of the
NSCN, particularly its international campaign and alleged involvement of some foreign powers.

Chapter Seven the concluding chapter embodies some of the major findings.

Methodology

The research work relied chiefly on primary sources covering NSCN literature such as NSCN manifesto, GPRN Constitution, leaflets, pamphlets, handouts and unpublished writings of prominent NSCN and NNC leaders. Relevant data was collected through written interview of top ranking NSCN leaders and also of the NNC leaders. The secondary sources of data for the purpose of research work covered published books, journals, newspaper reports, press notes, and Nagaland Legislative Assembly proceedings.

The scholar is grateful to the following libraries for letting him consult and utilize their facilities: Indo-Myanmar Research Centre - Patkai Christian College (Dimapur), North Eastern Hill University Library (Shillong), Indian Council of Social Science Research (Shillong), State Central Library (Shillong), North East Council library (Shillong), Rhino Library - Defence (Shillong), Jawaharlal Nehru University Library (Delhi), Nagaland state Legislative Assembly Library (Kohima).

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In the absence of the scholar, Tiakhala Shimray (my wife) was managing alone the whole domestic work with proficiency. I am proud of her and my children. Hence, this work is dedicated to their honour.

Awungshi Atai Shimray