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The ethnic problems of the Reangs had attracted me because I had the opportunity to see them arriving in the district of Hailakandi of Assam in 1997. Hailakandi, being my native district, I felt their agony intimately when I witnessed it. The Reangs are almost a forgotten tribe left in the hills and forests of Mizoram. When the exodus of the Reangs started and their ordeals came to the knowledge of the people, an urgent need was felt in the academic circle to study their ethnic problem from its roots.

The study took me to various places of Mizoram and Tripura. It is an experience to be preserved in the mind forever. It was like an expedition in an unknown land for me when I visited the remote villages of Mizoram where the Reangs once lived in strength. Most of the Reang inhabited villages are located in the western part of Mizoram, particularly in the Mamit district. These villages are widely spread over in a mountainous region but the Reang population generally prefer the hill slopes on the banks of streams. My forays into the relief camps of Tripura is particularly educative for me as the relief camps give the best of ideas of a displaced people who are fiercely combative and bear their harsh experiences with fortitude. The plight of the people really hurts me.

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Borna Bhattacharjee
(BORNALI BHATTACHARJEE)