

EXPEDITION REPORT OF MAWNGAP VILLAGE



RI BUROM
TOURS & TRAVELS

Date of Expedition: May 27, 2026

Location: Mawngap Region, Meghalaya, India

Objective: To document travel logistics, map trekking trails, assess seasonal tourism potential for Ka Pachum Amkrem Waterfall, and record the oral histories of Old Nongkseh and Ka Kut U Khiaw.

1. Expedition Team & Logistics

Team Composition

The expedition was conducted by a team from RI BUROM TOURS AND TRAVEL AGENCY alongside local leader and guides:

- **Dakune Kiru Lamar** – Founder & Expedition Leader
- **Dakhroo Lang i Lamar** – Advisor & Co-Founder
- **Wanhii Challam** – Advisor & Chief Creative Officer
- **Daurupaya Bhoi** – Member
- **Dawroichuh Challam** – Member
- **Village Headman (Waheh Chnong)**
- **Local Guides (2)** – Trail & Terrain Navigators

Transit & Route Details

The expedition combined vehicular transit and pedestrian trail mapping.

<i>Segment</i>	<i>Mode of Transit</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Notes / Key Landmarks</i>
<i>Jowai to Amlarem to Mawngap</i>	Vehicular	2 hours 30 minutes	Main road transit connecting the hubs.
<i>Trailhead to Midpoint</i>	Foot Trek	45 minutes (One-Way)	Halfway point of the exploratory trail.
<i>Total Journey (to Waterfall)</i>	Combined	~4 hours	Total time required to reach Ka Pachum Amkrem waterfall viewpoint

2. Ka Pachum Amkrem Waterfall

The trail leading to the waterfall offers an immersive experience through Meghalaya's iconic green terrain and pristine atmosphere. The site displays two distinct seasonal personas, making it a versatile asset for year-round tourism:

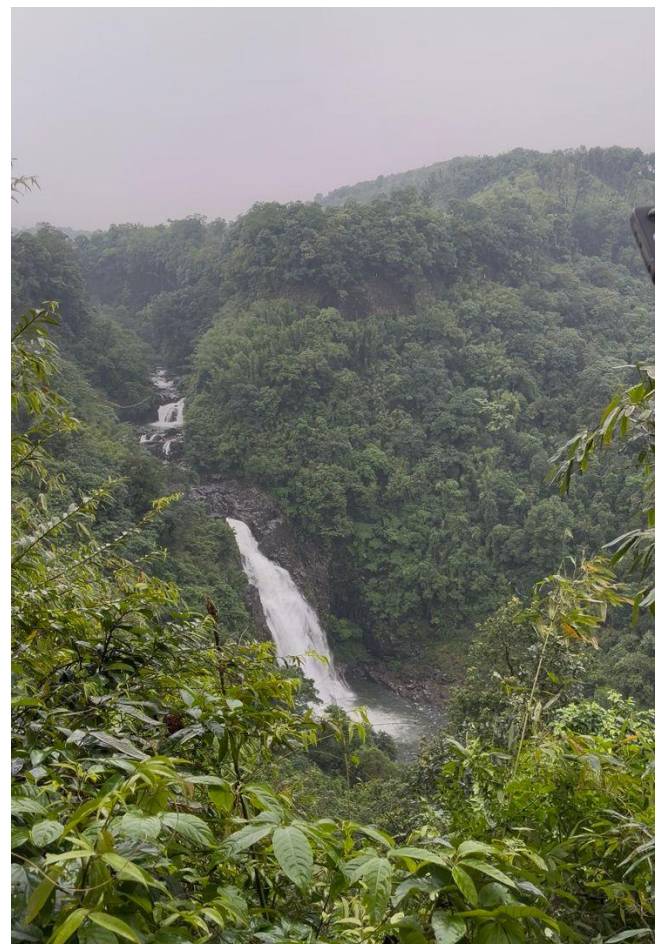
Monsoon & Summer Season

During rainy season, the waterfall transforms into a mighty, fierce force of nature. The roaring volume of water serves as a natural metaphor for resilience and a powerful comeback, attracting adventure travellers and ecotourists looking to witness the raw power of the region's river systems.

Winter Season

In sharp contrast, the winter months see the waterfall soften into a peaceful, gentle cascade. The water recedes to reveal beautiful riverbanks surrounded by blooming wild flowers. This creates a perfect, tranquil ambient vibe suited for:

- Family outings and picnics
- Leisure travellers looking to relax and chill
- Experiential nature photography
- Live open-air painting
- Camping



3. Historical Heritage Documentation

The cultural core of the Mawngap region is anchored by two powerful narratives of anti-colonial resistance. These sites collectively function as a walkthrough history, celebrating tribal identity, ancestral pride, and deep sentiments with the land.

Site A: The Lost Village of Nongkseh (Old Mawngap)

Step off the standard tourist trail and walk 30 minutes into the deep woods to uncover the ghost village of Nongkseh. Before the modern village of Mawngap existed, this was a thriving ancestral home. Everything changed when the British arrived and imposed the Khajna - a forced land tax that directly insulted the tribal identity and sovereignty of the elders.

The villagers refused to bow. A fierce rebellion erupted, ending in a fatal clash with the British tax collectors. In retaliation, the British Empire marched its army into these hills. Though the villagers fought with legendary bravery, they were ultimately outgunned by superior imperial weaponry, forcing the community to relocate to modern-day Mawngap. Today, the moss-covered remains of Old Nongkseh stand as a living open-air museum—a silent, powerful testament to tribal identity, ancestral pride, and an unbreakable bond with the land.

Site B: Ka Kut U Khiaw (The End of U Khiaw)

Situated on the rugged ridges overlooking the valley, this site serves as a monument to a legendary local freedom fighter who rose during the Nongkseh rebellion.

High on the ridges overlooking the valley lies Ka Kut U Khiaw - literally translating to 'The End of U Khiaw.' Here, a single local warrior stood against an entire empire.

Refusing to surrender after the fall of Nongkseh, U Khiaw utilized the ultimate home-ground advantage. He single-handedly engineered a brilliant defensive trench system around the hill, packing it with hidden spike traps. Positioning himself strategically on the heights, he drew the invading British forces into his gauntlet, raining down lethal arrows from above. Dozens of imperial troops fell into his traps.

Outnumbered but fiercely defiant, U Khiaw fought to his absolute last breath, meeting his heroic end on this very ground. Ka Kut U Khiaw isn't just a viewpoint; it is a monument to the fierce, independent spirit of the hills. When the wind howls through the trenches today, it carries the echo of a warrior who chose to die free rather than live conquered.

4. Points Discussed and Approved

The expedition team and the Village Headman achieved mutual alignment on the foundational framework required to operationalize the location for immediate, regulated tourism:

- **Destination Opening:** The village territory and its historical trails are now officially declared open for tourist footfall.
- **Guide Remuneration:** Pricing structures and daily wages for local guides will be managed and set directly by the agency to ensure fair, standardized compensation.
- **Entry Fees:** The entry fee structure for incoming travellers will be determined, collected, and managed by the Village Authority for local community funds.
- **Logistics & Infrastructure:** Designated parking areas will be allocated and maintained by the village to accommodate tourist vehicles cleanly.
- **Exclusive Access:** The village grants special access privileges to the agency to conduct tours, manage trail safety, and showcase the heritage sites.

5. Further Discussion Points and Way Forward

To successfully transform Mawngap into a premier **Tourism Model Village**, the following action items and capital investments are scheduled for immediate evaluation:

Financials & Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- Finalize the exact per-trek and full-day pricing tiers for local guides in collaboration with village representatives.
- Establish the specific ticket pricing for the entry gates and coordinate a smooth profit-sharing or maintenance system between the agency and the village council.

Asset & Infrastructure Investments

To elevate the site to an experiential destination, a phased investment plan will target major outdoor activities:

- **Water Safety:** Purchase a fleet of high-grade life jackets to facilitate safe swimming and waterside activities at Ka Pachum Amkrem Waterfall.
- **Camping Infrastructure:** Invest in durable, all-weather tents and camping gear to set up premium riverside or ridge-line overnight stays.

- **Homestay Development:** Create a design framework for villagers to build traditional properties into cozy, authentic homestays, opening up sustainable hospitality revenue streams.

Marketing & Promotional Activities

- Launch an aggressive promotional campaign targeted at eco-travelers, heritage enthusiasts, and adventure clubs across Northeast India.
- Develop visual marketing assets (cinematic trail trailers, photography lookbooks, and digital maps) leveraging the creative direction of the Chief Creative Officer to pitch to tour operators.

Comprehensive Circuit Packaging

- Build an all-inclusive tour package that seamlessly links the Mawngap heritage walk (Old Nongkseh + Ka Kut U Khiaw), the Ka Pachum Amkrem Waterfall trek, and existing tourist routes connecting the Jowai and Amlarem hubs.

Visits of Ka Kut U Kiaw and Nongkseh Remains Sites.



Dakune Kiru Lamar

Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Ri Burom T&T Agency



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Advisor and Co-Founder

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