

"When you go home, tell them of us: that for their tomorrow, we gave our today," reads an epitaph in the War Cemetery of Kohima. The blood-drenched battlefield of World War II and the ancient land of the *Angami Nagas*, **Kohima** today is known as the 'Land of Festivals'. Having burgeoning cultural events and exquisite natural experiences that attract several people around the world. The capital of the state of Nagaland is now a centre stage of contemporary art, international music, manga, anime and cosplay as well as one of the most promising cities in the list of upcoming smart cities in India.

How has this city with an intriguing history that has been enduring the cycles of conflicts of British colonialism, Christian missions, and political conflict which have resulted in sweeping cultural and political transformations evolved? How has the incursion of Western agents into Naga soil influenced and contributed to the westernization of Nagas and their culture?

The next episode of Cultural Capitals - Future legacies of the India's cities presented by **Live History India** and **Avid Learning** will explore multitudinous journeys of Kohima *Singer, Songwriter and Music Producer, Imcha Imchen*, *Advisor Task Force for Music & Arts (TaFMA) Government of Nagaland and Governor's Award winning Musician, Theja Meru* and Award-winning Dancer and Choreographer, **Lam Grace Touthang** who will be in conversation with *Co-Founder and Head of Research at Live History India Akshay Chavan*.

Together they will discuss the city's role as a thriving cultural corridor of our country, its enchanting heritage, its collaborative attempt to revitalise their traditional culture, fight for cultural appropriation as well as will trace its ambitious journey in becoming the next smart city of India.

Read more about the series below:

This series aims to spotlight India's cities and their legacy and contributions that have shaped the nation's heritage and continue to have tremendous contemporary influence and impact. Cities under the cultural microscope include Hyderabad, Pune, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Chandigarh and Lucknow. The highlight is on the particularities of each city's unique culture and heritage and how these aspects have changed and evolved, influencing their perceptions in the wider world. Varied perspectives on the cultural identity of these urbanscapes will be presented – as informed by history, hidden stories and local insights through diverse lenses. The conversations are focused on restoring, reinventing and reiterating the legacy of these great cities.

This episode will be the first session of the new iteration of Cultural Capitals - Future legacies of the India's Cities series will look at some of the up-and-coming cities of India that are intricately weaved into our country's rich cultural fabric.

Join us as we traverse through the enchanting city of Kohima to explore its natural beauty and ethnic diversity!

Date: Thursday 18th November 2021

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (IST)

Format: Live session on Zoom

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RSVP: www.avidlearning.in

#CULTURALCAPITALS



Popularly known as 'Land of Festivals' Kohima is a centre stage of contemporary art, international music offering burgeoning cultural experiences that attract several people around the world. Join us for the next of Cultural Capitals - Future legacies of the India's cities will explore multitudinous journeys of capital city of Nagaland and discuss city's role as a thriving cultural corridor of our country, its enchanting heritage, their collaborative attempt to revitalise their traditional culture, fight for cultural appropriation as well as will trace its ambitious journey in becoming the next smart city of India.

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Lam Grace Touthang



Co-Founder and Head of Research at Live History India
Akshay Chavan

THU, 18 NOVEMBER | 6.00-7.30 PM (IST) | REG: www.avidlearning.in

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More About Speakers

Imcha Imchen is a singer-songwriter and music producer from Nagaland based in Mumbai. He explored and developed his passion for music from a very young age, experimenting with covers and originals till he released his debut music video “Moving On” at the tender age of 18. Soon after he released “Sinner”, ‘Melody” and “Spare My Heart” landed a spot in Apple Music’s ‘The 100 Best Songs of 2020. The list also features world-renowned artists like Billie Eilish and Ariana Grande. This is the first instance of an artist from Nagaland to find their name on this list. He also got the opportunity to get in his first international collab with the lodge an Florida based artist for She’s a walking temptation (Remix)

Theja Meru Advisor Task Force for Music & Arts (TaFMA) Government of Nagaland. Recipient of Governor’s Awards for Excellence in Music, Alumnus of International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), Alumnus of Discover Israel Program - Government of Israel.

Lam Grace Touthang is a Freelance Dancer, dance instructor, Choreographer and a content creator from Kohima. Recently, she won the first prize in the Global Dance Visual Competition (Solo category) organised by World of Dance and was also in Top 6 at Indian Hip Hop Dance Championship (Navi Mumbai and Goa) .This self taught dancer is a ‘popping’ and ‘hip-hop’ specialist. She manages a dance festival in Nagaland called Nagaland Dance Fiesta.

Akshay Chavan is Co-Founder and Head of Research at Live History India (www.livehistoryindia.com), India’s largest digital platform on history and culture. A graduate of Lancaster University Management School (LUMS) in IT Management and Organizational Change, Chavan went on to pursue a decade-long career in digital media and marketing, before returning to his first love – history. He co-founded Live History India with senior journalist Mini Menon, to take Indian history to a wider audience in a digital, new-age format. Chavan has a special interest in researching the Princely States of India, and has written several papers and articles for various publications. He is also co-author of the book Quirky History: The Swan Car of Nabha & Other Unusual Stories From History (Harper Collins, 2020).

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