

Name of the Element: Sumang Lila of Meitei Community of Bangladesh
Name of Inventory: Pilot Inventory 1
Serial No: P1-D1-004

Brief Description: Secular theatre is mostly confined to themes that are not religious; it is performed in the secular or profane spheres. In these are *Sumang lila* (court yard theatre) and *Phampak lila* (stage drama). Sumang lila is very popular. Etymologically Sumang lila is the combination of "Shumang" (courtyard) and "[Lila](#)" (play or performance). It is performed in an area of 13×13 ft in the centre of any open space, in a very simple style without a raised stage, set design, or heavy props such as curtains, background scenery, and visual effects. It uses one table and two chairs, kept on one side of the performance space. Its claim as the "theatre of the masses" is underlined by the way it is performed in the middle of an audience that surrounds it, leaving one passage as entrance and exit.

Region: In the Districts of Sylhet Division in the North East of Bangladesh.

Note: This ICH is [shared](#) with India.

Photographs: Video: Consent:

Submitted by: Lubna Marium

Shadhona - A Center for Advancement of South Asian Culture

House 5, Road 27, Block J, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh

Tel: 8801713040814

Fax: 91-11-23385715

E-mail: kanchendzonga@gmail.com, Website: <http://www.shadhona.org>