

Re-thinking Christianity in Naga Society: Indigenization of Christianity and Naga Christianity as a Naga Indigenous Framework

Loina Shohe*

Abstract

In this paper, we will argue that Naga Christians of Nagaland, India, have indigenized Christianity. Contrary to popular narratives that with Christianity the indigenous people who converted to Christianity abandoned their indigenous religions and culture; we will argue that the Nagas have not compromised their native identity nor discontinued their religious beliefs and practices. That the Nagas have embraced Christianity within an indigenous framework and thus continues to have expressions of Naga indigenous religious traditions and cultural heritage. The paper will attempt to present Naga Christianity as a conceptual tool, it will examine the indigenization of Christianity in context of beliefs and practices and cultural continuities.

Keywords: Naga Christianity, Indigenous Religions, Culture, Nagas.