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UGC NET Paper 2

Manipuri · ꯃꯤꯇꯩꯂꯣꯟ (035)

Complete revision notes — all 10 units

10 units | Tables & formulas | Key revision points

01 The Manipuri (Meiteilon) Language
02 Old Manipuri Literature: Puyas
03 Vaishnavite Period
04 Khamba–Thoibi and the Epic Tradition
05 Modern Prose and Novel
06 Poetry
07 Drama and Theatre
08 Culture and Festivals
09 Grammar
10 Folk Literature and Criticism

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Edition: November 2026

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How to use these notes

- Read one unit at a time, then test yourself with its key revision points.
- Make your own short notes on topics you find difficult.
- Units follow the main areas of the official syllabus — the exact unit list can change between sessions.
- Always check the latest syllabus and notices on the official UGC NET portal: **ugcnet.nta.ac.in**.

UNIT 01

The Manipuri (Meiteilon) Language

Language family, status and scripts.

- Manipuri / Meiteilon (ꯃꯤꯇꯩꯂꯣꯟ) — Tibeto-Burman language; official language of Manipur.
- Recognised by the Sahitya Akademi; added to the Eighth Schedule by the 71st Amendment (1992).
- Scripts — Meitei Mayek (ꯃꯤꯇꯩ ꯃꯌꯦꯛ), revived and now official; Bengali script used from the 18th century.

★ Key revision points

- Family — Tibeto-Burman.
- Eighth Schedule — 1992.
- 71st Amendment — Eighth Schedule.
- Scripts — Meitei Mayek and Bengali.

UNIT 02

Old Manipuri Literature: Puyas

Ancient texts in archaic Meiteilon.

- Puya (ꯄꯨ꯬ꯡꯩ) — old manuscripts on genealogy, religion, rituals and history.
- *Cheitharol Kumbaba* — royal chronicle of Manipur.
- *Ougri* and *Numit Kappa* — among the oldest literary texts.

★ Key revision points

- Puya — old manuscripts.
- *Cheitharol Kumbaba* — royal chronicle.
- *Numit Kappa* — early text.
- *Ougri* — ancient song.

UNIT 03

Vaishnavite Period

Hindu influence from the 18th century.

- King Garibniwaz (Pamheiba) adopted Vaishnavism; Bengali script came into wide use.
- Translations and retellings of the Ramayana and Mahabharata into Manipuri.
- Ras Lila and Manipuri classical dance developed under King Bhagyachandra.

★ Key revision points

- Garibniwaz — Vaishnavism.
- Bhagyachandra — Ras Lila.
- Bengali script — 18th century.
- Epic retellings — Ramayana, Mahabharata.

UNIT 04

Khamba–Thoibi and the Epic Tradition

Manipur's great love epic.

- *Khamba Thoibi* — Moirang legend of Khamba and Princess Thoibi.
- Hijam Anganghal — *Khamba Thoibi Sheireng* (epic poem, 1940).
- Moirang Kangleirol — cycle of Moirang legends.

★ Key revision points

- *Khamba Thoibi* — Moirang legend.
- *Khamba Thoibi Sheireng* — Hijam Anganghal.
- Moirang Kangleirol — legend cycle.
- Epic poem — 1940.

UNIT 05

Modern Prose and Novel

Beginning of modern Manipuri writing.

Writer	Work / contribution
Lamabam Kamal	*Madhabi* (1930) — first Manipuri novel
Khwairakpam Chaoba	Novels and essays; one of the 'trinity' of modern Manipuri literature
Hijam Anganghal	Poet, novelist and playwright
Binodini (M. K. Binodini Devi)	Novelist; *Boro Saheb Ongbi Sanatombi*

★ Key revision points

- First novel — *Madhabi* (1930).
- Lamabam Kamal — *Madhabi*.
- Chaoba — modern prose.
- Binodini — novelist.

UNIT 06

Poetry

From romantic to modern poetry.

- Early modern poets — Lamabam Kamal, Hijam Irabot (also a political leader), Chaoba.
- Modern poets — Thangjam Ibopishak, Yumlembam Ibomcha, Robin S. Ngangom (in English).
- Themes — love, nature, violence, identity and protest.

★ Key revision points

- Hijam Irabot — poet and leader.
- Thangjam Ibopishak — modern poet.
- Identity and protest — themes.
- Lamabam Kamal — poet too.

UNIT 07

Drama and Theatre

From Sumang Leela to modern stage.

- Sumang Leela — courtyard folk theatre; men traditionally play women's roles.
- Modern theatre — Ratan Thiyam (Chorus Repertory Theatre), Heisnam Kanhailal (Kalakshetra Manipur).
- Plays draw on myth, war and Manipur's history.

★ Key revision points

- Sumang Leela — courtyard theatre.
- Chorus Repertory Theatre — Ratan Thiyam.
- Kalakshetra Manipur — Kanhailal.
- Myth — common source.

UNIT 08

Culture and Festivals

Cultural context of Manipuri literature.

- Lai Haraoba — festival to please the traditional deities (Umang Lai); Sanamahism.
- Nupi Lan (Women's War) — 1904 and 1939.
- Manipuri dance — one of India's classical dances; Pung Cholom (drum dance).

★ Key revision points

- Lai Haraoba — Umang Lai festival.
- Nupi Lan — 1904, 1939.
- Pung Cholom — drum dance.
- Sanamahism — traditional faith.

UNIT 09

Grammar

Main features of Manipuri grammar.

- Tonal language; verb-final word order (SOV).
- Agglutinative — meaning built with suffixes; no grammatical gender.
- Meitei Mayek letters are named after parts of the body (e.g. ꯀꯣꯛ *kok* — head).

★ Key revision points

- Tonal language.
- SOV word order.
- No grammatical gender.
- Letters named after body parts.

UNIT 10

Folk Literature and Criticism

Oral tradition and literary study.

- Folk songs — Khunung Eshei, Lai Haraoba songs; ballads; Pena (string instrument) singing.
- Folk tales and proverbs; legend of Khamba–Thoibi.
- Criticism — Indian and Western theory applied to Manipuri; studies of modernism and identity.

★ Key revision points

- Khunung Eshei — folk songs.
- Pena — traditional instrument.
- Ballads — oral tradition.
- Criticism — modernism, identity.

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