

Pankaj Thapa is an Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English, Sikkim Government College at Tadong where he has been teaching for the past 33 years.

He did his schooling and graduation from St. Edmund's School, run by the Irish missionaries in Shillong, and his Masters in English from the North Eastern Hill University. He visited Sikkim in 1983, felt a karmic connection and stayed on. Soon after, he joined the Sikkim Government College as a Lecturer in English.

He enjoys teaching and often visits various universities and colleges to give guest lectures that range from Literature to his cartoons, which till recently, was his signature contribution in Sikkim Express. He was invited to the International World Book Fair at New Delhi in Feb 2015 to showcase and speak on his cartoons. The event was organised by the National Book Trust of India.

An avid fan of comics and graphic novels, Pankaj Thapa began sketching at an early age on his school text books. Since then he has done a graphic novel *The Boy Who Had A Dream* a nomadic folk tale from Tibet written by the Ven. Ringu Tulku Rimpoche, and published by Finhorn Press of Scotland. He illustrated Yishey Doma's *Legends of the Lepchas*, Kynpham Singh's *Stories Around the Hearth*, Uddipana Goswami's *Where we come from, where we are going* and is presently working on his friend Guru T Ladakhi's book of poems.

He has been a member of the Sahitya Academy, New Delhi, a judge for the Sikkim Academy of Fine Arts, various literary events and several Sikkim Beauty Pageants. He enjoys books and graphic novels, animation films and has an eclectic taste in music. He is a founder member of CONVERSE SIKKIM, the Annual Writer's Meet in Gangtok. During his spare time he enjoys organising informal musical events for friends and family.