



# SIKKIM

THE LAND OF PRISTINE AND MYSTIC BEAUTY



Travel is to find better soul,it doesn't matter nature or being.

Pritiranjan Maharana  
Traveler



# SIKKIM

## Information on

capital : Gangtok  
Total : 7,096 km<sup>2</sup> (2,740 sq mi)  
Density: 91/km<sup>2</sup> (240/sq mi)  
ISO 3166 code : IN-SK  
Area Rnk : 29th  
Divided district : North Sikkim,  
South Sikkim, East Sikkim,  
West Sikkim

## Additional

Song: "music of simmim"  
Animal: Red panda  
Bird: Blood Pheasant  
Flower: Noble dendrobium  
Tree: Rhododendron  
languages: Nepali, Sikkimese,  
Hindi, Lepcha,  
Limbu, Sherpa, Tamang & others.

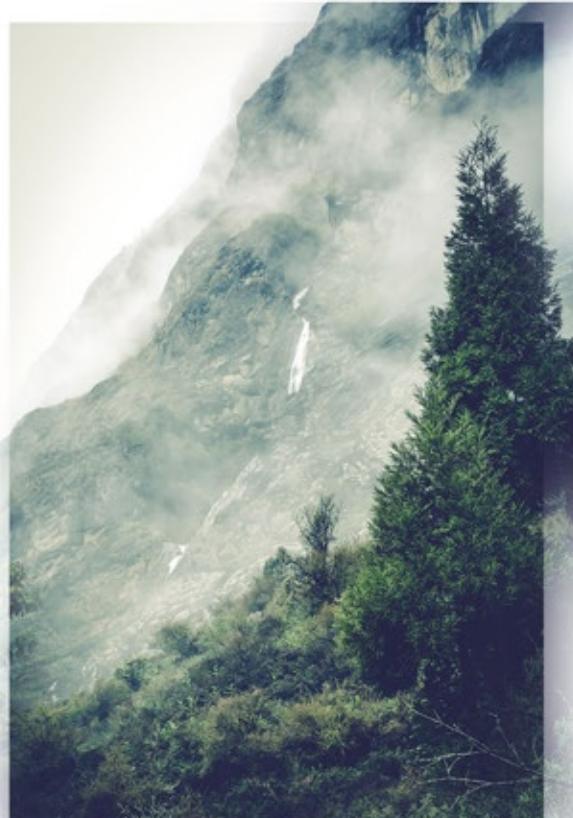
# SIKKIM

The land of pristine and mystic beauty

"Journey of a thousand miles begins with one step".

And this journey teaches you a lot about your destination. It helps you to take a journey into yourself.

when you stop, you have a reason and this is going to be the best one.



Sikkim is a state in northeast India, bordered by Bhutan, Tibet and Nepal. Part of the Himalayas, the area has a dramatic landscape that includes India's highest mountain, 8,586m Kangchenjunga.

The kingdom of Sikkim was founded on the silk road by the Namgyal dynasty in 17th century. It was ruled by a Buddhist priest-king known as the Chogyal. Once a vassal state of Qing China, it became a princely state of British India in 1890. A referendum in 1975 led to Sikkim joining India as its 22nd state.

Modern Sikkim is a multiethnic and multilingual Indian state. Sikkim has 11 official languages. Nestled in the Himalayan mountains, the state of Sikkim is characterised by mountainous terrain. Almost the entire state is hilly, with an elevation ranging from 280 mtrs to 8,586 mtrs.

# PEOPLE

Those who can make you smile



As like the nature the place is occupied by some of the best people in the world. I can say they love the nature and the nature loves them.

Sikkimese are the Indian peoples who inhabit the Indian state of Sikkim. The indigenous peoples of Sikkim consist of the Lepcha, migrating from Tibet, Bhutias, descendants of Buddhists who arrived from Tibet in the 15th century, who migrated from the Kham district of Tibet in the 14th century, and Indian Gorkhas (Nepali), descendants of Hindus who arrived from Nepal in the 19th century. The current population is approximately 13% Lepcha, 16% Limbu, 16% Bhutias and 51% Indian Gorkha.

## Market

Mahatma Gangdhi Marg  
Gangtok, East Sikkim

'Welcome to M.G. Marg, Spit and Litter Free Zone .One of the best market to buy things and spend time.



Aloo paratha



Chicken Phaley

## CUISINE

One of the very nicest things about life is the way we must regularly stop whatever it is we are doing and devote our attention to eating

~Luciano Pavarotti

Sikkimese cuisine is the traditional cuisine of Sikkim. It's a combination of Nepalese, Indian and Chinese cuisine.

You can find veg. or non. veg. food every where in the Sikkim.

### Rice & Dal

Boiled rice and lentil soup with vegetable tarkari.

### Gya thuk or Thukpa

A noodle based soup with vegetables or meat

### Momo

Stuffing minced meat, vegetables or cheese in flour dough.

### Sha Phaley

Bread stuffed with seasoned meat or vegetables.



## FLORA

all around sikkim

Sikkim is situated in an ecological hotspot of the lower Himalayas, one of only three among the ecoregions of India. The forested regions of the state exhibit a diverse range of fauna and flora. Owing to its altitudinal gradation, the state has a wide variety of plants, from tropical species to temperate, alpine and tundra ones, and is perhaps one of the few regions to exhibit such a diversity within such a small area. Nearly 81 per cent of the area of Sikkim comes under the administration of its forest department.

Sikkim is home to around 5,000 species of flowering plants, 515 rare orchids, 60 primula species, 36 rhododendron species, 11 oak varieties, 23 bamboo varieties, 16 conifer species, 362 types of ferns and ferns allies, 8 tree ferns, and over 900 medicinal plants. A variant of the Poinsettia, locally known as 'Christmas Flower', can be found in abundance in the mountainous state. The Noble Dendrobium is the official flower of Sikkim, while the rhododendron is the state tree.

Orchids, figs, laurel, bananas, sal trees and bamboo grow in the Himalayan subtropical broadleaf forests of the lower altitudes of Sikkim. In the temperate elevations above 1,500 metres (4,900 ft) there are Eastern Himalayan broadleaf forests, where oaks, chestnuts, maples, birches, alders, and magnolias grow in large numbers, as well as Himalayan subtropical pine forests, dominated by Chir pine. Alpine-type vegetation is typically found between an altitude of 3,500 to 5,000 metres (11,500 to 16,400 ft). In lower elevations are found juniper, pine, firs, cypresses and rhododendrons from the Eastern Himalayan subalpine conifer forests. Higher up are Eastern Himalayan alpine shrub and meadows, home to a broad variety of rhododendrons and wildflowers.





I want to see a moon shine that occupy a tiny space in my frame which  
varies with different location at different angle  
all around the world.

Pritiranjan Maharana  
Traveler

# Visiting places in SIKKIM



North Sikkim

South Sikkim

East Sikkim

West Sikkim

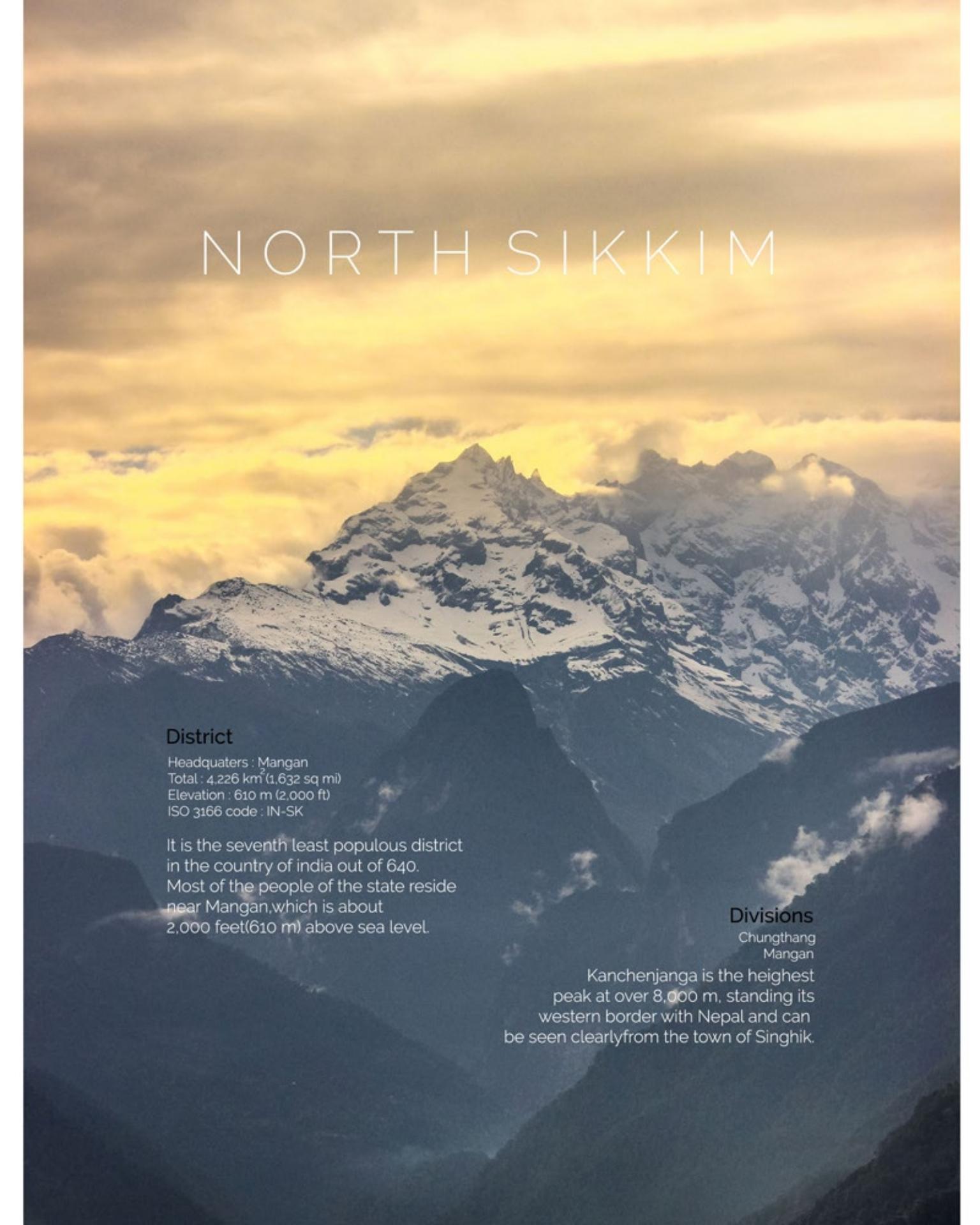
# SIKKIM

NOT TO SCALE



Map of Sikkim  
showing places of tourist interest

# NORTH SIKKIM



## District

Headquarters : Mangan  
Total : 4,226 km<sup>2</sup> (1,632 sq mi)  
Elevation : 610 m (2,000 ft)  
ISO 3166 code : IN-SK

It is the seventh least populous district in the country of India out of 640. Most of the people of the state reside near Mangan, which is about 2,000 feet (610 m) above sea level.

## Divisions

Chunthang  
Mangan

Kanchenjanga is the highest peak at over 8,000 m, standing its western border with Nepal and can be seen clearly from the town of Singhik.

## A passage to Lachung

The most common phrase I feel about the way that it's not a challenge to pass, it's a way to feel the silence in the loneliness, the smile in the calmness.

The waving of hand from an unknown face and a walk beside the flowing waterfalls force you to stay with it. If you ever want to listen your insists and have the courage to follow the lonely way then you are in the right place, though you are not alone in the ride due to lots of beautiful faces turns for you and for a little bit of time they are being to be a part of the specific moment which you are going to live.

Just keep in mind forget everything, forget who you are, where you from and just live it, don't see it but visualize it. The aroma of the sight never put you to sleep; it always attracts you to capture its elegance and ethnicity.

While riding most of the time you are in confusion due to the eagerness of knowing the adventure which you are following but I garneted that it holds your eyes upon the scenic serenity and undivided causality and slower movements.

And if you are following your footsteps then you are in the way of one of the attractive, precious and magical path of the lonely planet.

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# NORTH SIKKIM



## A way to Zero Point

From Lachung to Yumthang Valley

It's all well and good giving advice on various bits and pieces, but sometimes what you really need is a person account of an experience to bring something life. You can enjoy the places searching from Google's map, but what about the places



which are not in there?

I can just tell you don't fall asleep in the way, because you can have lot to enjoy. So have a browse through the eyes and experience these amazing things and capture it in your mind. Who knows the next story is going to be told by you!!



# NORTH SIKKIM

## The Valley of Flowers



### Chungthang

elevation of 1,790 meters

It is situated at the confluence of the Lachen and Lachung rivers, which combine to form Teesta River. Located at the distance of 95 k.m from Gangtok.

### Lachung

elevation of 2,700 meters

Lachung has been described as the "most picturesque village of sikkim". Most of the Lachung's inhabitants are Lepcha and Tibetan descent.



Yumthang Meadow  
near Yumthang Valley

Only place to take rest  
for the traveler Going for  
Zero point this is the main  
stoppage area.

# NORTH SIKKIM



## Yumthang Valley

11,693 feet



### Yumthang Valley

elevation of 3,564 meters above sea level

The valley is a grazing pasture surrounded by the Himalayan mountains. It is popularly known as "Valley of Flowers". Yumthang is closed between December and March due to heavy snowfall.



The serene and tranquil air of the valley can not be described in words. A single visit can leave the visitor in an enchanted state of mind. Enjoy every bit of seconds when you are there, try to smell the clean air which feels you the excitement of life.

## Zero point

15300 feet



### Zero Point

altitude of 15300 ft above sea level

East sikkim is full of beautiful places, visiting towards North sikkim near Dikchu-Mangan highway you can find the place.



### Yumthang Meadow

elevation of 11,693 ft (3,564 meters)

Before moving forward to the zero point have a rest near the local shops of the Yumthang. Taste the coffee or tea and rent some warm clothes to go towards the zero point. It's necessary.



# EAST SIKKIM

The gorgeous forest wonderland

## Gangtok

altitude of 1700m(5577 ft)

Gangtok is a municipality, the capital and the largest town of the Indian state of Sikkim. It is the most visited place in Sikkim and the center most spot for tourism.

## Pakyong

altitude of 1700m(5577 ft)

The name Pakyong comes from the Lepcha word "pa yong" meaning "bamboo of the bow". As a common practise of the Lepcha's to name a place after the essential items found at the place.

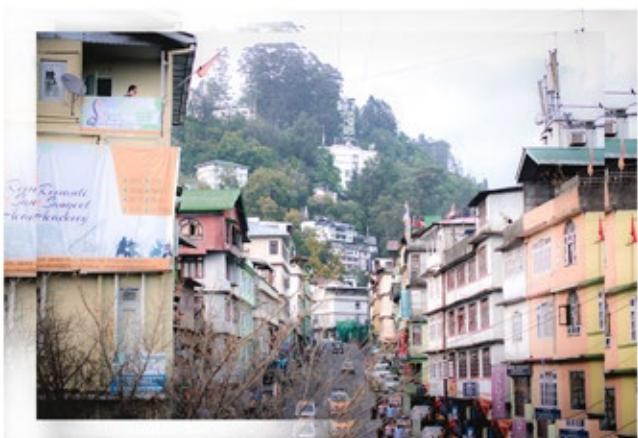
## Rongli

altitude of 5200ft

It lies on the Rangpo River about 117 km by road south of the Gangtok. Covering an area of 218.35 kms, as of the 2011 Rongli holds with a total population of 27,741.

# GANGTOK

## The gorgeous forest wonderland



Gangtok is a municipality, the capital and the largest town of the Indian state of Sikkim. Gangtok is located in the eastern Himalayan range, at an elevation of 1,650 m (5,410 ft). The town's population of 100,000 belongs to different ethnicities such as Nepali, Lepchas and Bhutia. Nestled within higher peaks of the Himalaya and enjoying a year-round mild temperate climate, Gangtok is at the centre of Sikkim's tourism industry.

Walking in the road you can find the best experience of knowing the beauty of the place. Enjoy the rain and the weather with cup of tea, which will bring you back to the foot step that you have once followed.

The precise meaning of the name Gangtok is unclear, though the most popular meaning is 'hill top'. I just say go there and become a part of it even if for a little bit of time.



## Banjhakri Waterfalls

Gangtok

4 km from Gangtok

About 15 minutes drive from  
Gangtok lies the Banjhakri falls and park.

## Bakthang Waterfalls

Gangtok

Walking along the road from  
M.G Marg one can find  
Bakthang waterfalls. It's a small  
waterfall but capture you with  
its beauty.

## Seven Sister Waterfalls

Gangtok

You can visit to the place  
in your way to the trip for Lachen or Lachung

# EAST SIKKIM

The gorgeous forest wonderland

## Mountain View

Near Dikchu Bridge

East sikkim is full of beautiful places, visiting towards North sikkim near Dikchu-Mangan highway you can find the place.



## Butterfly Waterfall

Tintek,Gangtok

The local inhabitants of sikkim consider some of the waterfalls to be sacred. Since they fall from high altitudes and are perennial in nature, these waterfalls are also conducive for setting up hydro power projects. Sikkim holds many waterfalls, one of the accessible waterfall is butterfly waterfall.

When looking at the fall i remembered something, written by Munia Khan

"Don't feel sad for your tears as rocks never regret the waterfalls".



Build under the direction of Changchub Dorje, 12th Karmapa Lama in the mid 1700s. Rumtek served as the main seat of the karma Kagyu lineage in Sikkim for some time.

Dharmachakra Centre, is a gompa located in East Sikkim near the capital Gangtok. It is a focal point for the sectarian tensions of Tibetan Buddhism that characterize the Karma controversy.



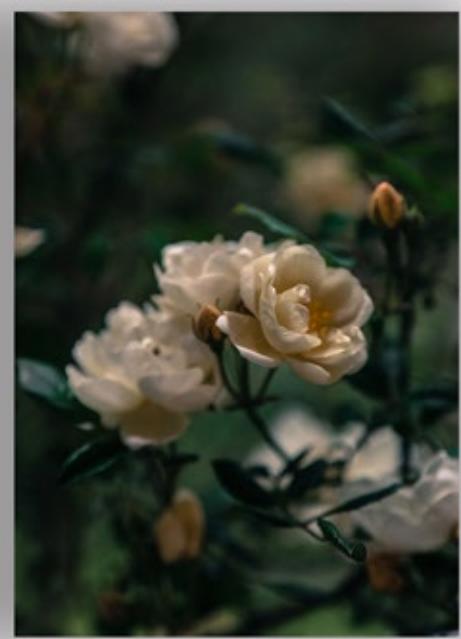
# GANGTOK

## Rumtek Monastery



# EAST SIKKIM

Flower Exhibition Center Gangtok



'Are you busy? ', She asked. And in a juggling voice, I answered No! This can be more interesting If my eyes can't open at the right time. The dream ended... Huh!!

But I remembered one thing,

Oh not that girl, that was the background.

I have a good understanding about the comparison of foreground and background, I suppose.

The comparison is distinct and clear. For the first time I amazed by the view and made a mind to Search it. It looks difficult but I know what I have to search.

Oh don't think much, I already have browsed this place the day before .It's in my mind!! "Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass,

It's about learning to dance in the rain".

And don't forget the rain can vanish quickly. So in time get ready to dance.

The highest all-weather road is within us. This entire journey is to realize that. Be a freak is sometime More than good, you can never realize where the freakiness come out in time.

Ahh!

The taste is different, the rain, the smell, the tea cup and the surroundings.

Off course!!

Dream about fairy tales is not a good idea for those who dream with the sound of air and imagine with the dancing figures in nowhere.

Oh! It's difficult to explain. I know only dreams can understand it better.

Rolling the pencil and mapping the diagrams for the journey, I never thought it is going to be syntactically mesmeric and statuesque. It's not only about the journey, it all about the moments that creates to think about the next. Some moments you experience while travelling end up completely blowing you away, in ways you would never have expected. They stay with you forever, and years later you still smile at the fond memories.

Pritiranjan Maharana

Traveler

