

Chapter – 10

The contribution of A. Z. Phizo

A. Answer the given questions:

1. Describe the character of A. Z. Phizo.

Ans: Angami Zapu Phizo, the undisputed leader of the Naga national movement was a visionary, a man of strong determination, with a indomitable spirit and a sharp intelligence. These qualities remained as strong as ever even in the face of challenges. Whatever he had determined he would pursue it despite any hurdles in his path. A close associate remarked “Phizo does not count the cost, so long as he achieves what he aspires for”.

2. What did Phizo learn from the Thehu?

Ans: He learnt the history of his people, the unfaithfulness of the British, the struggles and suffering of Khonoma. More importantly, he learnt the important philosophy of his race, unquestioned respect for his elders, for abiding clan and family authority, a love of patience and a desire to perform well in all things.

3. What was Phizo’s vision for the Naga?

Ans: “To be a man among men, and to be a nation among nations”.

4. What was Phizo’s reason for collaborating with Subash Chandra Bose and the Japanese Imperial Army?

Ans: In 1944, during his stay in Burma, he came into contact with the leader of the Indian National Army (INA) Subash Chandra Bose and the Japanese Imperial Army. Subash Chandra Bose promised to recognize Naga Sovereignty depending on the outcome of the war, in exchange for his help. As result, Phizo collaborated with the to fight against the British imperialist in Nagaland. However, their attempt to drive out the British failed miserably. The fact that he helped the Japanese had nothing to do with pro- Japanese or anti- British sentiment. For Phizo, whether it was the British or the Japanese, he considered both as foreign powers and his sole aim was to liberate Nagaland from Foreign domination.

5. What happened to Phizo at Burma towards the end of WWII?

Ans: Because of his involvement with the Japanese army, Phizo was imprisoned at the close of the war in Insein prison at Rangoon jail. It was during this time that he suffered erysipelas in his face. His right face was paralyzed and deformed because he was denied treatment by the British.

6. Why was the Rainbow important to Phizo?

Ans: The rainbow was a like a covenant from God, a promise that God had emblazoned on the horizon to make Nagaland a beautiful country.

7. When did Phizo join the Naga club and as what?

Ans: In 1918 Phizo joined the Naga club and he became the secretary of the Naga club.

8. What was the task lying before the NNC, when Phizo was elected as its 4th President?

Ans: On December 11th, 1950, Phizo was elected as the 4th president of NNC. The task lying before the NNC was to protect Naga tradition, culture, custom, Naga democracy, Naga integration, to maintain the distinct Naga national identity and to build up the Naga Nation.

9. What do you learn from the referendum conducted at the initiative of Phizo from the lesson?

Ans: we learnt that Phizo became the key person in mobilizing the entire Naga tribes to further the Naga Cause.

10. What are the drawbacks Phizo faced at London when he tried to internationalize the Naga cause?

Ans: From London he tried to internationalize the Naga cause but his credentials were not fully recognized by the British Crown because he stood against them and sided with the Japanese during WWII.

11. What has Phizo's continual efforts for an independent Nagaland served to achieve at the end?

Ans: Though Phizo could not see his dream of establishing a free Naga Nation, he was able to achieve the monumental task of bringing the different Naga tribes under one identity. It was because of his relentless work that Nagas, as a people, came to be recognized by the world.

B. Tick the correct answer:

1. A.Z. Phizo admired the qualities of

- a. Self control obedience and subservience.
- b. Self control obedience but not subservience.**
- c. Self control patience and non-violence.

2. The ---- decided to send Phizo abroad to put forward the Naga cause before the United Nations.

- a. Naga club.
- b. The British Government.
- c. The Naga National Council (NNC).**

3. The Naga history till the arrival of Phizo as a leader was

- a. A group of hill tribes warring against each other.
- b. A continual struggle for identity and recognition.**
- c. A community influenced by the Indian culture and identity.

4. To assert the legitimate position of the Naga Nation, Phizo

- a. Declared Naga Independence on 14th August 1947.**
- b. He took a referendum by conducting a National Plebiscite.
- c. He went abroad to present the Naga cause before the United Nations.

C. Write the given statements as *True* or *False*:

- 1. Phizo helped the Japanese not because he had anti-British sentiments, but only to secure the sovereignty of Nagaland. **True.**
- 2. Subash Chandra Bose offered to recognize the sovereignty of Nagas in exchange for Phizo's help in fighting the British. **True.**
- 3. Phizo began his career as the secretary of the Naga Club. **True.**
- 4. After being released from jail in Burma, Phizo left for London to put forward the Naga cause before the United Nations. **False.**
- 5. As an NNC member Phizo succeeded in bringing all regions of Nagaland together as a single collective Nation. **True.**
- 6. Phizo's previous involvement with the Japanese worked against him when he went to London. **False.**
- 7. The result of the Plebiscite showed that majority of the Nagas wanted to join the Indian Republic. **False.**
- 8. Phizo's vision was to end any foreign domination of Nagaland. **True.**

Chapter – 11

Mehouvi-ii and Morusa

Exercise:

I. Answer the given questions:

1. When does the story of Mehouvi ii and Morusa take place?

Ans: This story took place during the head hunting period.

2. Why did Morusa stand out among the others?

Ans: He was a well build man; a muscular beauty at his prime. He was a legendary warrior of his village.

3. Why was Mehouvi ii famous?

Ans: She was a beautiful lady with a gentle soul, who won the hearts of everyone she met.

4. Why did Mehouvi ii and her family regard Morusa as a good match for her?

Ans: Morusa's reputation preceding him stood in good stead for him for Mehouvi- ii.

5. How was Morusa planning to impress his bride when she came to his home?

Ans: Morusa grew restless as his wedding day grew nearer. He kept feeling that he had to impress his bride when she comes to his home; after all he was the famous warrior of his time. He decided that there was nothing like a newly taken head to impress his bride and her entourage.

6. What captivated Morusa as he stood near the river?

Ans: A taken – head adorned with such tresses would make a stunning trophy. Thus with a warrior's instinct, he swiftly went over and beheaded the young woman. And soon he was on his way with his prized trophy.

7. How did Mehouvi- ii die?

Ans: Mehouvi -ii fell prey to Morusa, the lone head-hunter who had wandered into her village territory. She was beheaded by her own betrothed.

8. Why was Morusa horrified upon hearing about the circumstances under which Mehouvi - ii had died?

Ans: When the circumstances under which she died were shared, Morusa was horrified. It sounded too familiar to him. He at once knew that it was he, who had taken her life. Filled with self- disgust and regret, Morusa rued the day he never became a head- hunter.

9. What do you learn about head – hunting from the story? Explain it in your own words.

Ans: Head hunting from the story teaches us a lesson that head hunting is a quest for vain glory. And Morusa's story came to be told through the generations as a lesson, not to seek glory through bloodshed.

II. Tick the correct answer:

Find sentences from the story which convey the following meanings:

(a) Morusa is better looking than an average man.

Ans: He was a well build man; a muscular beauty at his prime.

(b) Too many people had told Morusa about Mehouvi-ii's beauty.

Ans: Morusa had already heard too much about this famed lady and had made up his mind to ask for her hand.

(c) Morusa's head – hunting achievements had already been heard by Mehouvi-ii's family.

Ans: Morusa's reputation preceding him stood in good stead for him when his people met Mehouvi-ii's family.

(d) Mehouvi-ii's hair had attracted Morusa.

Ans: Her hair was sight to behold long and lustrous, Morusa had never seen any hair so captivating before.

(e) A reward was being offered to anyone who could bring Morusa's head to his enemies.

Ans: He could not risk his life and travel far, as too many enemies wanted his head.

Chapter – 13

Love of a Mother

Exercise:

I. Answer the given questions:

1. What were the challenges the mother had to face in order to reach Death's door?

Ans: The challenges that mother faced were she pleaded the night to show her the way to death, she hug the thorny bush, crossed the lake, yanked her whole hair to the old woman etc.

2. What did the mother sacrifice for her son?

Ans: The mother sacrificed whatever was possible in order to get back her son from death.

3. Why did the Thorny Bush want a hug?

Ans: the thorny bush wanted a hug as people avoided touching it.

4. The mother said, "I could because I am a mother!" what does this line tell us about mothers?

Ans: the mother height of sacrifice can never be compared to anything in this world. Her motherly love for her children is bigger than any problems and difficulties in life.

5. The story has a lot of supernatural elements in it. Mention them in brief.

Ans: some of the supernatural elements mention in the lesson are- the tombs of the dead, death, night etc.

II. Tick the correct answer:

1. The old woman guards-

- a. The Lake.
- b. The thorny Bush.
- c. The Tombs of the dead.**

2. Who said this, "How did you reach my abode?"

- a. Night.
- b. Lake.
- c. Death.**

3. Who asked the mother to sing lullabies?

- a. Night.**
- b. Lake.
- c. Death.

4. -----wanted a hug because everyone avoided touching it.

- a. The Thorny Bush.**
- b. Death.
- c. The old woman.

5. The land of mortals means-

- a. The world where human beings live.
- b. The supernatural world of spirits.**
- c. A world you see in dreams.

6. The mother was following death because

- a. She had died and was going to the world of the dead.
- b. She wanted to meet Death to ask for her son's life back.**
- c. She wanted death to spare her from dying.
