

STUDY TOUR TO MAWPHLANG SACRED GROVES

DATE: 03.02.2024.

The annual study tour of the department for the sixth semester (batch 2021-2024) was organized on the 3rd of February 2024 to the Sacred Groves, Mawphlang. The tour was organized in line with the theme of the sixth semester syllabus on the History of North-East India. The students were accompanied by the faculties of the department, namely, Prof. D. Suting (HOD), Prof.B.K. Rymbai, Dr. Rynjah, Prof. R. Basaiawmoit and Sir. P. Nongbri. Forests forms an integral part of the Khasi traditions and beliefs. It is usually considered to be sacred and their preservation and protection becomes the foremost responsibility of the people. Such forest is the Mawphlang Sacred Groves situated in Mawphlang, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya.



This forest not only serves as a place of ritual importance but as the preserver of the flora and fauna of the region. Visitors are not allowed to take anything away from this forest, not even a pebble or a twig. This forest also serves as a place to old coronation and sacrificial sites This was where the Khasi kings and Lyngdohs(priests) had their meetings and new chiefs were anointed here. Therefore, such was the significance of this forest to the Khasis.



THE TOUR GUIDE EXPLAINING THE RELIGIOUS IMPORTANCE OF THE FOREST.

Another attraction which is of historical importance situated adjacent to the Mawphlang sacred is the David Scott Trek. This is one of the oldest trails in Meghalaya and it is named after David Scott, who was the first British administrator. This route was made for the administrative and trade network of the Khasi hills with the plains of Bangladesh. Today this trail is a popular trekking flanked on all sides by green lush mountains and rivers



DAVID SCOTT'S TRIAL.



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE FIELD TRIP TO
MAWPHLANG SACRED GROVES.