Professor Ajailiu Niumai

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BRIEF BACKGROUND

Ajailiu Niumai is a Professor of Sociology and former Head, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, University of Hyderabad, and Senior Research Associate, Department of Sociology, University of Johannesburg, South Africa (2023-25). She was a Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, West Virginia University, Morgantown, USA in October 2024. Earlier, she served as the Honorary Adjunct Professor, National Institute of Technology, Nagaland (2020-2023). Previously, she has served as Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology (2000-2010). She was one of the pioneers of the Centre for Women's Studies, UoH and served as its Joint Faculty from 2007-2014 and 2020-2021.

Ajailiu Niumai graduated from Delhi University's Miranda House (Sociology Honours) in 1995, completed her MA (1997), M.Phil (1999) and Ph.D (2008) in Sociology from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and Postdoc in Women's Studies from University of Iowa, Iowa city, USA (2014). She has visited several universities in the UK, Australia, USA, Austria, France, and Germany.

PUBLICATIONS (BOOKS)

1. *Gender, Law and Social Transformation in India* (With Abha Chauhan), Springer Nature, Singapore and Germany, (2022). ISBN: 978-981-19-8019-0, doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-19-8020-6_1
2. *Hundred Years of Sociology in India: Evolving Issues, Emerging Trends* (with Abha Chauhan and Tattwamasi Paltasingh), Springer Nature, Singapore, (forthcoming, April 2025).

EDITOR IN SPRINGER NATURE JOURNAL AND SAGE JOURNALS

- Editor of 'ANTYAJAA: Indian Journal of Women and Social Change,' Sage Publication (2024-2027).
- Guest Editor of Journal of Social and Economic Development, Springer Nature, Singapore and Germany (2023-2025).

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS/BOOK CHAPTERS

- Racism, Stereotyping and Exclusion: Experiences of Northeast Indians in Hyderabad", co-authored with Dr. M.N. Rajesh, in the Journal of Social & Economic Development, Springer Nature (SCOPUS), DOI https://doi.org/10.1007/s40847-024-00390-0, 1st November 2024.

- Social Inclusion of Converted Christians in Kerala: Study of a Christian Family Converted from Pulaya Community, Contemporary Voice of Dalit, Sage Journals, (eds) Mathew, J., Francis, J., Niumai, Ajailiu, Joseph M. K., & Thomas, N. R. (2023). 0(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X221147456
- Facets of Indian Freedom Fighter: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and North East India, published by DASHADISHI, a biennial Bengali journal based in Kolkata on 24th January 2023, Deyspublishing.com, ISSN Number 23203153.
- Stigma & Exclusion: Challenges of Re-Integration of Human Trafficked Survivors in Assam, (with Dr. M.N. Rajesh), 26 April – June, Vol 71, Issue 2, Sociological Bulletin, Sage Publication, 2022. Pages 289-304, DOI: 10.1177/00380229221081989, ISBN no. 380229. https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00380229221081989#:~:text=This%20article%20attempts%20to%20examine%20human%20trafficking%20in%20Assam%20from,propensity%20to%20be%20re%2Dtrafficked.
- Gender and Notions of Patriarchy: Analysis of Political Empowerment of Women Through Kudumbashree in Kottayam, Kerala, (With Jinu Francis), The Eastern Anthropologist, Vol. 74, No.4, October – December 2021, pp. 425 to 444, published by Serials Publications Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/361951313_GENDER_AND_NOTIONS_OF_PATRIARCHY_ANALYSIS_OF_POLITICAL_EMPOWERMENT_OF_WOMEN_THROUGH_KUDUMBASHREE_IN_KOTTAYAM_KERALA
- Untold Stories of Human Trafficked Survivors and Sex Workers in Manipur, Special Article in Economic & Political Weekly (EPW) on 10th July 2021, Vol. 56, Issue No 28, pp – 58-64. https://www.epw.in/journal/2021/28/special-articles/untold-stories-human-trafficked-survivors-and-sex.html
- Rani Gaidinliu – The Iconic Woman of North East India, Indian Journal of Gender Studies, Sage Publication, Vol 25, No.3, 2018. https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0971521518785666
- Unspoken Voices of Trafficked Women and Children in Manipur, Economic and Political Weekly (EPW) (Special Issue on REVIEW OF WOMEN'S STUDIES) on 5th November 2016, Vol. 1.1, Nos 44 & 45. https://www.epw.in/journal/2016/44-45/unspoken-voices-trafficked-women-and-children-manipur.html
- Indian Diaspora Philanthropy: A Sociological Perspective. 2011. Man in India - An International Journal of Anthropology, Vol. 91 No 1. January – March, pp 93-114, Brij Maharaj (eds), New Delhi, Serial Publications. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/260187504_Indian_Diaspora_Philanthropy_A_Sociological_Perspective_2011_Man_in_India_-_An_International_Journal_of_Anthropology_Vol_91_No_1_January_-_March_Brij_Maharaj_eds_New_Delhi_Serial_Publications
- Naga People's Movement For Human Rights in the Indian Journal of Human Rights, Volume 7, Numbers 1&2, January-December, 2003, Pages 177-184, Hyderabad, India.
- Development and Discontentment in South Asia: With Special reference to North East India" in the Himalayan Journal of Development and Democracy (HJDD), Volume 1, Number 1, Special Issue 2006, (ed) Alok K. Bohara & Mukti P. Upadhyay, published by Nepal Study Center, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 87131, USA.

- Development and Discontentment in North East India: Perspective on India's Look East Policy, in the journal Alternative Perspectives: Economy, Polity, History & Culture, Vol 1, Issue 1V, July-September 2006, 16-25 pp, Centre for Alternative Discourse, Delhi.
- Racism Against North East Indian Women, in Economic & Political Weekly (Letter to the Editor), 10th June 2023, Volume 58, Issue No 23, ISSN (Print) - 0012-9976 | ISSN (Online) - 2349-8846.
  https://www.epw.in/journal/2023/23/letters/racism-against-north-east-indian-women.html

Chapters in books

- Naga Diaspora in the United States: Integration and Transnationlisation in (eds) Amba Pande and Camellia Tigua's book *MIGRATION AND THE RISE OF THE UNITED STATES*, 2024, Edinburg University Press, UK.
- Cultural and Structural Constraints Facing the Naga Women in North-East India: A Sociological Study, published by ROUTLEDGE in honour of Prof. Yogendra Singh in the volume on *CULTURE CHANGE IN INDIA: Intellectual Traditions, Institutions and Regions* (eds) Prof. B. K. Nagla, and Prof. Kameshwar Chaudhury, London, UK, Routledge, March 5, 2024, pp 277-290. ISBN 978-1-032-36128-4. DOI: 10.4324/9781032724300-18.
  https://www.researchgate.net/publication/381742959_Cultural_and_Structural_Constriants_Facing_the_Naga_Women_in_North_East_India
- Manipur's Diaspora in the United States: Mapping Cultural and Development Ties with Homeland in (ed) Ajaya Sahoo's ***Routledge Handbook of Asian Diaspora and Development***, Routledge publication, 2021.
  https://www.researchgate.net/publication/353371101_7_MANIPUR'S_DIASPORA_IN_THE_UNITED_STATES_Mapping_cultural_and_development_ties_with_homeland_Ajailiu_Niumai
- Gender and Human Rights in Manipur, in Anand Kumar and Pradeep Kumar Jena (ed) 'Gandhian Way in the Era of Globalisation,' Winshield Press, 231-243, Part-11, Chapter 12, New Delhi, 2016.
- Gender Among the Nagas of North East India, in Rekha Pande's (ed) 'Gender Lens: Women's Issues and Perspectives', Rawat Publishers, ISBN No 978-81-316-0628-5, pp. 346 – 376, Chapter 18, Jaipur and New Delhi, 2015.
- Globalization and Naga Women: A Sociological Perspective, in Arindam Borkataki and Neeta Sharma (eds) Women: Issues and Perspective, Chapter 11, Assam, Ajanta Press, Krantikal Prakashan, 2012.
- Look East Policy and Trafficking of Women in Manipur, in Arindam Borkatakiand Neeta Sharma (eds) Women: Issues and Perspective, Chapter 7, Assam, Ajanta Press, Krantikal Prakashan, 2012.
- Development and Discontentment in the North East: Perspective on India's Look East Policy, in Thingnam Kishan Singh (ed), Look East Policy and India's North East: Polemics and Perspectives, Chapter 3, New Delhi, Concept, 2009.
- Religion of the Liangmai Nagas in North East India in D. Murali Manohar (ed), Dalits and Religion, Chapter 4, Atlantic Publishers & Distributors 2009, Delhi. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/260188313_Religion_of_the_Liangmai_Nagas_in_North_East_India

AWARDS, HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

- Honoured as the "Distinguished Alumnae" by Miranda House, Delhi University on International Women's Day and 76th Foundation Day (8th March 2024) in New Delhi along with 74 other women achievers.
- UGC Raman Post-Doctoral Fellowship in USA under INDO-US Knowledge Initiatives in the Department of Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA (2013-2014).
- The Collaborative Arts and Research Translation for Humane Advancement awarded her 'First Fellow' grant in 2006, Iowa City, USA.
- Board of Governors, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru (2022-2025).
- Executive Council Member of the Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh (2022-2025).

MEMBER IN EDITORIAL BOARD

- Editorial Board Member of the Peer Reviewed journal Sociology Today - A Journal of Cotemporary Sociological Research (2018-2021) (http://sociologytoday.net/contact/)
- Editorial Advisory Board Member of Journal of Sociology (Peer Reviewed Journal), Jadavpur University Kolkata, ISBN no. 0976-5212 (2019 – 2022) and (2024-2027).
- Editorial Board Member of International Refereed Journal "The NEHU Journal", North-Eastern Hill University Publications, ISSN. 0972-8406, Indexed in the Guide to Indian Periodical Literature, Shillong Meghalaya (2020-2023).
- Editorial Board Member of the International Journal of Criminology and Sociology, published by Life Science Global, 2022-2025, SCOPUS listed.

MEMBER IN NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Member of the International Sociological Society (ISA), Spain.
- Life member of the Indian Sociological Society, New Delhi.
- Life member of the Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS), New Delhi.
- Life Member of Social Science and Humanities Association (SSHA), Rajasthan.
- Life Member of the Sociological Association of North Eastern India (SANEI), Assam.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER AND BOARD OF STUDIES (BOS)

- Member of Advisory Committee of the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), Pondicherry University, 2022-2023.
- Member, Board of Studies (BoS), Department of History, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad (UoH), 2023-2026.
- Member, Board of Studies (BoS), Department of Political Science, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad (UoH), 2020-2023.
- Member, Board of Studies (BoS), School of Tribal Legal Studies and Tribal Rights, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha 2021-2023.

- Member of Board of Studies (BoS) of the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), Banaras Hindu University, 2021-23.
- Member of Board of Studies (BoS), CSSEIP, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh 2021-24.
- Chairperson of Board of Studies (BoS), CSSEIP, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad 2020 – 2023.
- Member of Board of Studies (BoS) for Department of Women Education, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad from February 2018 – March 2021.
- Member of Board of Studies (BoS), School of Arts and Social Sciences, Maulana Azad Urdu National University (MANUU), Gachibowli, Hyderabad, 2017 – 2020.
- Member of Board of Studies (BoS) for Department of Women Education, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, 2012 - 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS, UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD (UoH)

2022-2025 : Assistant Director, Institute of Eminence (IoE), UoH.
2020-2021 : Chairperson, Internal Complaints Committee (Gender Sensitization Committee Against Sexual Harassment - GSCASH), UoH.
2019-2021 : Member, Internal Complaints Committee (GSCASH), UoH
2016-2018 : Member, Grievance Committee, UoH.
2011-2012 : Member of SC/ST Standing Committee, UoH.
2010-2011 : Member of Lyndoh's Review Committee, UoH.
2009-2011 : Warden of ladies Hostel-1, University of Hyderabad.
2009-2011 : Member of the Campus Basic Amenities Committee.
2009-2010 : Member of the UoH Housing (Quarters) Allotment Committee.
2003-2004 : Participated in Literacy Campaign Programme of the University in three locations in Hyderabad namely: Serilingampally, Hafeezpet, and Raidurg.
2002-2003 : Member of the SC/ST Admission Advisory Committee.
2001-2004 : Warden of Ladies Hostel-1, UoH.
2001-2004 : Member of the Central Discipline-Cum-Grievance Committee for Students, UoH.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS ORGANIZED:

1. Convenor of the International Conference on Indian Diaspora Women and Patriarchy: Questions on Inclusion, Cultural Identity and Violence, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), UoH**,** 18-19th December 2023.
2. Convenor of the National Workshop (hybrid mode) on Liangmai Nagas and Cognate Tribes in North East India: Origin, Identity Formation, Issues and Challenges, organised by CSSEIP, UoH, 1st – 2nd August 2023.
3. Co-Coordinator of the International Interdisciplinary Series of Conferences on 'Gender and Indian Diaspora in the 21st Century', under the "The Global Indian Diasporas: Literary, Cultural and Socio-Economic Perspectives in the 21st Century" organized by the Centre for Indian Diaspora, Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar, 23rd to 25th February 2023.
4. Co-Convenor of the two-day National Webinar on "Environment and Health: Challenges for Sustainable Development in India" on 24-26th, March 2022, organised

with Prof. Raja Mohan Rao, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, sponsored by ICSSR, Southern Zone, Hyderabad, Telangana.

5. Co-Convenor of the two-day international webinar on "Addressing Gender Inequality & Social Inclusion", organised by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, Manipur University and Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, University of Hyderabad, from 22-23rd December 2021.
6. Convenor of the Online Seven Day International Research Methodology Workshop organised by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, University of Hyderabad in collaboration with the Indian Council of Social Science Research-Southern Regional Centre (SRC-ICSSR) from 8th – 14th March 2021.
7. Convenor of the Online "Gender Sensitisation Programme" in the University of Hyderabad (UoH) on 27th January 2021, organised by Internal Complaints Committee (Gender Sensitisation Committee & Sexual Harassment), UoH.
8. Co-Convenor of National Webinar on 'Migration, Indian Diaspora, Marginalised Communities and COVID-19', jointly organized by RC-04 Migration & Diaspora Studies of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) and Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), University of Hyderabad on 18th July 2020.
9. Convenor of the National Symposium on Anti-Human Trafficking 2020 jointly organized by Red Rope Movement (NGO), Andhra Pradesh Women Commission and Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), University of Hyderabad on 30th July 2020.
10. Advisory Board Member of the World Congress on Women in 2019. www.worldwomencongress.com
11. Coordinator of the International Workshop on Women Sexual Health: Menstruation on 20th February 2017 held in Conference Hall, School of Management, organized by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), University of Hyderabad in collaboration with the Eye Foundation of America, West Virginia, USA and S M Sehgal Foundation, Gurgaon/Des Moines, Iowa, USA in Hyderabad.
12. Coordinator of the National Seminar on Discoursing the Shifts of the Naga Society in North-East India from 14th to 15th October 2016 organized by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP) in collaboration with Naga Research Student's Forum, University of Hyderabad.
13. Coordinator of The 2nd South India International Conference on "Inspiring Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship for Poverty Eradication and Climate Change Mitigation," organized by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, University of Hyderabad in collaboration with India Development Coalition of America (IDCA), Willowbrook (Chicago), Illinois, USA from 6-7 February 2015 at C.V. Raman Auditorium, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India.
14. Organizing Committee Member of the Women's World Congress at University of Hyderabad, 2014.
15. Coordinator of the UGC Sponsored Management of Skills Enhancement Module Workshop for Women Managers in Higher Education, organized by Centre for Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad from Oct 29th-3rd Nov 2012 at Conference Hall, School of Management Studies, University of Hyderabad.
16. Organizing Committee member of the One Day College Debate on 'NRI Marriages' on 6th Oct 2012 at C.V Raman Auditorium organized by Centre for Indian Diaspora and Centre for Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad & Ministry of Overseas Indian affairs, New Delhi, sponsored it.

17. Organizing Secretary of RC 10 'Gender Studies' of the Indian Sociological Society National Seminar on Law, Gender and Social Transformation in India from 17 – 18 September 2012, organized and hosted by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy in collaboration with Centre for Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad (UoH).
18. Coordinator of the National Workshop/Seminar on Discourse on Social Exclusion from Interdisciplinary Perspective from 30th to 31st January 2012, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), UoH, funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.
19. Coordinator of the UGC Capacity Building of Women Managers in Higher Education (Sensitivity/Awareness/Motivation) Workshop from 4-8 October 2010, in the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, UoH.
20. Coordinator of the Workshop on NGOs and Development: Voices from the Field, at the New Seminar Hall, School of Social Sciences, Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, 23rd March, 2002, India.
21. Joint Coordinator in a one-day workshop on Emerging issues and trends in Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) organized by the Placement Guidance and Advisory Bureau of the University on 16th April, 2004 at New Seminar Hall, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad, India.

RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN

1. Research Project on Liangmai Naga Tribe in the Globalised World, funded by Institute of Eminence (IoE), University of Hyderabad, Dec 2022 to Mar 2024.
2. Research Programme on Issues in North East India: Contemporary Debates, funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, 2017-2019.
3. Research Project on Women's Sexual Health: A Study of Feminine Hygiene in Hyderabad, funded by Eye Foundation of America, West Virginia, USA and S M Sehgal Foundation, Gurgaon, India/Des Moines, Iowa, USA from 1st August 2016 to 31st July 2017.
4. Major Research Project on Trafficking of Women in Andhra Pradesh and Manipur, funded by UGC, New Delhi from 1st July 2012 to 30th July 2014.
5. Research project on A Sociological Study of Girl Child in Hyderabad, funded by Centre for Women's Studies, 1st Jan - 31st March 2010, University of Hyderabad.
6. Research project on Liangmai Naga in the 21st Century, April 2006 - April 2007, UPE Project under North East Studies, Department of Political Science, University of Hyderabad.
7. Research project on A study of two selected NGOs in Manipur, 2003 funded by SAP-UGC, Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad.

SUPERVISOR OF Ph.D CANDIDATES

- Nine Ph.D. students have successfully obtained their doctoral degrees.
- Currently, five Ph.D. students are engaged in research under her supervision.
- HRD Supervisory Panel Member/Co-Supervisor for Ms. Tatum Rose Street, a Ph.D. candidate at The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (since 2023).
- Five of her doctorate students have joined various universities and colleges as faculty.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE SOCIETY

Professor Ajailiu Niumai's academic work actively champions inclusivity, diversity, and collaboration with various institutions both in India and abroad. She often uses action research and has been invited by the NGO/CSW Forum in New York, which is integral to supporting the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW) process, as well as the National Commission for Women in New Delhi. In these forums, she shared her ideas and research findings on critical issues such as sex trafficking, feminine hygiene, and climate change.

She has rescued and re-integrated some women and girls from Manipur and Nagaland in Hyderabad who were victims of sex trafficking and rape. She collaborated with the local police, NGOs and a few community leaders. In May 2017, she met with the Chief Minister of Manipur and firmly urged him to establish a Committee to combat Human Trafficking, recognizing that Manipur has become a vital source and transit point for national and international cross-border human trafficking. She has taken a stand by calling on prominent Liangmai Naga youth leaders and village council members to actively raise awareness about human trafficking in Northeast India. She insists that parents must investigate the institutions to which their daughters are sent for education and work in urban areas. Her advocacy has successfully reached numerous families, effectively preventing girls and women from falling victim to trafficking. Additionally, she advocates for girl child's education and has compelled Liangmai Naga village council members in Jalukie, Peren district, Nagaland to incorporate women into their decision-making processes, recognizing the essential role of women's voices in these critical discussions.

HER WORK FEATURED IN MEDIA AND HINDI CINEMA

She has been featured in numerous media outlets, including The Times of India, The Deccan Chronicle, Telangana Today, United News of India, and Hindi Cinema (an animated film by JVD Films and sponsored by National Film Development Corporation, New Delhi on India's freedom fighter 'Rani Gaidinliu' based on her published article by Sage Journals). This film was screened at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa on 25th Nov 2024.