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A Government of Manipur Undertaking

Manipur State Film Development Society

Regd. No. 680/M/SR/2015

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Imphal, the 15th November, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

SHORTER VERSION

MOIRANGTHEM NILAMANI GETS MSFDS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

15TH NOV 2023

Imphal: The prestigious **MSFDS Lifetime Achievement Award** for lasting and outstanding contributions to the field of Manipuri cinema was conferred to the Nonagenarian filmmaker and writer, Moirangthem Nilamani as part of the 15th Manipur State Film Awards (MSFA) 2023.

Nominated by prominent personalities, and recommended by a special selection committee chaired by the Commissioner (Art & Culture), the lifetime award carries a cash reward of Rs. 1 lakh, a bronze Maibi Memento, a citation, and a shawl.

Born on 15th January 1933, Moirangthem Nilamani Singh of Sagolband Salam Leikai, was trained as a lawyer. While pursuing his law degree in Bombay, he fell in love with the moving images and sound. His 'love affair' with the expressive art was to stay with him for a lifetime.

His first feature film 'Konjel' (1981) which was well received was scripted, produced, and directed by him. 'Paap' (1990) and Khamba Thoibi (1997) were his subsequent celluloid productions under the Anjana Films banner.

Besides making films, Nilamani wrote eloquently on Manipuri Cinema through local newspapers. He served as the president of the All-Manipur Film Producers.

Previous winners of the Lifetime Achievement Award are Aribam Syam Sharma, Lourembam Pishak Devi, O. Biramangol Singh, K. Tomba Singh, Yengkhom Roma Devi, Ksh. Rashi Devi, and Laimayum Banka Sharma.

Declaration of the winners of the 15th Manipur State Film Awards (MSFA) 2023 was made by Mongjam Joy Singh, IAS, Commissioner (Art & Culture), Government of Manipur, at the office of the Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS), accompanied by Chairmans of the Juries of all categories for the competition, namely, Feature Film, Non-Feature Film and Writings on Manipuri Cinema categories

Altogether, 43 (forty-three) awards were announced, each carrying respective cash awards, Bronze Mementos, and Citations. Out of these, 27 awards were given to the feature films category, 14 to non-feature which included music videos for the first time, and one award to writings on Manipur Cinema.

MSFDS would like to congratulate all the award winners of all categories of the 15th MSFA 2023, especially Moirangthem Nilamani for winning the MSFDS Lifetime Achievement.

Additionally, MSFDS acknowledges and regrets oversights detected in the results, and due corrections are issued:

Ojitbabu Ningthoujam's '**Eigi Nupi Tamnalai**' which swept the 15th MSFA 2023 with 7 awards in the feature film category, included the Best Special Effects Award. Earlier results mentioned special effect creator, Lairenlakpam Mohendro as the only winner. A review of the film's credit line reveals Khumbongmayum Ishomani Singh as the other co-special effect creator. Hence, the Best Special Effects Award will be shared between them.

Another oversight in the earlier declared results was detected while announcing the Best Music Director for the Song for the Feature film category. After due review, it was found that while the winner of the award was correctly announced as Nanao Sagolmang, the film for which he bagged the award should be '**Ashengba Eral**' not '**Apikpa Mahum**'

Lastly, the award for the Best Lyrics went to the music video '**Poppy Leirang**'. This video was directed by OC Meira and lyric was penned by Keke Wahengbam.

The inconvenience caused by the oversight is deeply regretted.

The following were the panel of Jurys: The Jury for the Feature Films Category were Laimayum Surjakanta Sharma (Chairperson), Ningombam Jadumani Singh, Dr. P. Birchandra Singh, Dr. K. Sobita Devi and Saterjit Thiyam. The Jury for the Non-Feature Films Category were Ms. Meenakumari Angom (Chairperson), Sonia Nepram, and R.K. Johnson. The Jury for Writing on Manipuri Cinema & Film Critic were Dr. Thokchom Ibohanbi (Chairperson), K. Sarojkumar Sharma and Omen Achom.



Sunzu Bachaspatimayum,
Secretary, MSFDS

LONGER VERSION

MOIRANGTHEM NILAMANI GETS MSFDS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 15TH NOV 2023

Imphal: The **MSFDS' Lifetime Achievement Award** for 2023 was conferred to the Nonagenarian filmmaker and writer, Moirangthem Nilamani for his lasting and outstanding contribution in the field of Manipuri cinema. Nominated by

prominent personalities, and recommended by a special selection committee chaired by the Commissioner (Art & Culture), the prestigious award carries a cash award of Rs. 1 lakh, a bronze Maibi Memento, a Citation, and a shawl.

Born on 15th January 1933, Moirangthem Nilamani Singh of Sagolband Salam Leikai, was trained as a lawyer. While pursuing Law Degree in Bombay, he falls in love with moving images and sound. The love affair with the expressive art was to stay with him for a lifetime. His first feature film 'Konjel' (1981), which he scripted, produced and directed was well received. 'Paap' (1990) and Khamba Thoibi (1997) were his sequent celluloid productions under the Anjana Films banner. Besides making films, Nilamani wrote eloquently on Manipuri Cinema and on issues that matter through local newspapers. He served as the president of the All-Manipur Film Producers.

Previous winners of the Lifetime Achievement Award are Aribam Syam Sharma, Lourembam Pishak Devi, O. Biramangol Singh, K. Tomba Singh, Yengkhom Roma Devi, Ksh. Rashi Devi, and Laimayum Banka Sharma.

The announcement came during the declaration of winners of the 15th Manipur State Film Awards (MSFA) 2023 made by Mongjam Joy Singh, IAS, Commissioner (Art & Culture), Government of Manipur, along with the Chairmans of the juries of all categories, at the office of the Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS).

Altogether, 43 (forty-three) awards were announced, each carrying respective cash awards, Bronze Mementos, and Citations. Out of these, 27 awards were given to the feature films category, 14 to non-feature that included music videos for the first time, and one award to writings on Manipur Cinema.

Ojitbabu Ningthoujam's '**Eigi Nupi Tamnalai**' swept the film awards in the feature film category, clinching 7 awards, including Best Feature Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay (Original), Best Choreography, Best Editing, Best Special Effects and Best Lyrics. Special Effect Creators of the film Lairenlakpam Mohendro and Khumbongmayum Ishomani Singh are to share the Best Special Effects Awards.

'**Tharoi Ahambagi Mahao**' directed by Homeshwori Devi Khoibam received three awards including the 'Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment, Best Female Actor for Ithoi Oinam who played the lead character, and the Best Location Sound award.

Director OC Meira's '**Ashengba Eral**' bagged three awards, including, Best Child Artist Award for Baby Lamngangbi Laishram, Best Female Playback Singer award for Thongam Loijingkhombi, and the Best Music Director (Song) for Nanao Sagolmang.

The award for Best Music Director for background score went to Tena HD for the film '**Khullaksha**'. The same film also won the Best Cinematography award for Tarun Wang and the Best Female Supporting Actor award for Melory Wahengbm.

'**Akangba Nachom**' bagged the Best Sound Design award for Inaocha Khundrakpam and the famed actor Diya Khwairakpam won the Best Male Supporting Actor for the same film.

Best Make-up Artiste award was awarded to Monjaobi for the film '**Apikpa Mahum**' while popular singer Sorri Senjam, bagged the Best Male Playback Singer for the film 'Taxi da Thoibi'

'**Samadon**' a film directed by debutant film director, Inaocha Khundrakpam bagged the Best Debut Film of a Director Award as well as the Best Male Actor award for Kshetrimayum Daya. 'Samadon' also received the 'Special Jury' award.

The 'Best Film in Dialects Other Than Meiteilon' award went to the Tangkhul feature film, '**I Hanunghaoga**' (Let Me Return). Directed by Seema KS Awungshi and produced by Meipung Productions, the Tangkhul film also bagged the Best Direction Award for Seema KS Awungshi in the feature film category.

Another surprise winner was 'The Best Costume Design' given to Gaisinlu Rongmei Naga for the Rongmei film, '**Siang**'. Tangkhul female Actor, Angel Shimrah who played the lead role in the Tangkhul feature film, '**Ngavei**' (The Gateway) received the 'Special Jury Mention' Award for her acting prowess in the feature film category.

In the non-feature film category, 'Iron Women of Manipur' produced & and directed by Haobam Paban Kumar bagged altogether 4 awards, including Best Film in Sports/Issues etc, Best Cinematography, Best Audiography, and Best Editing.

Famed Manipuri Filmmaker, Aribam Syam Sharma who entered the competition with his documentary film on Khumanthem Prakash Singh by the same name, bagged the Best Biography/Art & Culture Film award. Chongtham Kamala took the Best Voice-Over/Narration award for the same film while Bobby Wahengbam bagged the Special Jury Award for his film, '**Padma Shri Wareppa Naba: Rituals to Mainstream**', the renowned theatre personality.

The Best Short Film award was given to Khwairakpam Bishwamittra's Eewai which also won the Best Music Director in the non-feature category. Bishwamittra also received the Best Direction award for the film.

In an attempt to professionalize productions of Music Videos in the State, MSFDS has, for the first time, instituted awards for Music Videos in the Non-Feature categories. Altogether 4 awards were given to Music Videos with '**Lairaba**' directed by popular filmmaker actor, Gurumayum Bonney Sharma and produced Likla Band, taking the Best Music Video award. Popular singer, Arbin Soibam received the Best Male Playback Singer for Music Video for 'Lairaba'. Trending folk singer, Pinky Saikhom received the Best Female Playback Singer for the Music Video '**Thajagi Macha Morambee**'. The Best Lyrics for Music Video was bagged by Keke Wahengbam for the Music Video, '**Poppy Leirang**', directed by OC Meira.

Whereas there was no entry for Best Writing on Cinema this time, the Best Film Critic Award went to Rajmani Ayekpam.

The Jury members for the Feature films were Laimayum Surjakanta Sharma (Chairperson), Ningombam Jadumani Singh, Dr. P. Birchandra Singh, Dr. K. Sobita Devi and Saterjit Thiyam. The jury for the non-feature films were Ms. Meenakumari Angom (Chairperson), Sonia Nepram and R.K. Johnson. While the jury for Writing on Manipuri Cinema & Film Critic were Dr. Thokchom Ibohanbi (Chairperson), K. Sarojkumar Sharma and Omen Achom.

Sunzu Bachaspatimayum, Secretary, MSFDS

UPDATED RESULTS OF 15TH MANIPUR STATE FILM AWARDS 2023 ARE PROVIDED BELOW:



15th MANIPUR STATE FILM AWARD 2023 RESULTS

RESULTS (UPDATED)

15th Nov 2023

- I **THE MSFDS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT** AWARD goes to:
MOIRANGTHEM NILAMANI SINGH
- II **BEST FILM CRITIC** goes to
RAJMANI AYEKPAM
- III **RESULTS FOR THE FEATURE FILM CATEGORY**

<i>SL</i>	<i>CATEGORY OF AWARDS</i>	<i>NAME</i>
1	Best Feature Film	EIGI NUPI TAMNALAI Producer: Chandam Yaima Devi Director: Ningthoujam Ojitbabu
2	Best Debut Film for a Director	SAMADON Director: Inaocha Khundrakpam

3	Best Popular film providing wholesome entertainment	THAROI AHAMBAGI MAHAO Producer: Ranjit Ningthouja Director: Homeshwori Devi Khoibam
4	Best Film in dialects other than Meiteilon	I HANUNGHAGO (LET ME RETURN) (Tangkhul dialect) Producer: Meipung Production Director: Seema KS Awungshi
5	Best Direction	NINGTHOUJAM OJITBABU For the film: Eigi Nupi Tamnalai
6	Best Art Direction	SEEMA KS AWUNGSHI For the film: I Hanunghaoga (Let me Return)
7	Best Screenplay a) Best Screenplay (original)	NINTHOJJAM OJITBABU For the film: Eigi Nupi Tamnalai
8	Best Actor (Male)	KSHETRIMAYUM DAYA For the film: Samadon
9	Best Actor (Female)	ITHOI OINAM For the film: Tharoi Ahambagi Mahao
10	Best Supporting Actor (Male)	DIYA KHWAIRAKPAM for the film: Akangba Nachom
11	Best Supporting Actor (Female)	MELORY WAHENGBAM For the film: Khullaksha
12	Best Child Artiste	Baby LAMNGANGBI LAISHRAM For the film: Ashengba Eral
13	Best Cinematography	TARUNG WANG For the film: Khullaksha
14	Best Audiography a) Location Sound Recordist	TARUNG WANG For the film: Tharoi Ahambagi Mahao
15	Best Audiography b) Sound Designer	INAOCHA KHUNDRAPAM For the film: Akangba Nachom
16	Best Choreography	BABYCHA SALAM For the film: Eigi Nupi Tamnalai
17	Best Editing	KHUNDRAPAM SANJIT For the film: Eigi Nupi Tamnalai
18	Best Special Effects	1) LAIRENLAKPAM MOHENDRO 2) KHUMBONGMAYUM ISHOMANI SINGH For the film: Eigi Nupi Tamnalai
19	Best Makeup Artiste	MONJA OBI

		For the film: Apikpa Mahum
20	Best Costume Design	GAISINLU RONGMEI NAGA For the film: Siang (The Curse)
21	Best Music Direction a. Song	NANAO SAGOLMANG For the film: Ashengba Eral
22	Best Music Direction b. Background Score	TENAO HD For the film: Khullaksha
23	Best Lyrist	NINGTHOUJAM OJITBABU For the film: Eigi Nupi Tamnalai
24	Best Male Playback Singer	SORRI SENJAM For the film: Taxi da Thoibi
25	Best Female Playback Singer	THONGAM LOIJINGKHOMBI For the film: Ashengba Eral
26	Special Jury Award	SAMADON Producer: Rajkumari Lakshmibai Devi Director: Inaocha Khundrakpam
27	Special Jury Mention	ANGEL SHIMRAH For the film Ngavei

IV RESULTS FOR THE NON-FEATURE FILM CATEGORY

SL	AWARD	WINNER
1	Best Film in Sports/Issues etc.	IRON WOMEN OF MANIPUR Producer: Haobam Paban Kumar Director: Haobam Paban Kumar
2	Best Biographical/Art & Culture Film	KHUMANTHEM PRAKASH SINGH Producer: Sreenivasarao K Director: Aribam Syam Sharma
3	Best Short Film	EEWAI Producer: Thingbaijam Samir Singh Director: Bishwamittra Khwairakpam
4	Best Direction	BISHWAMITTRA KHWAIRAKPAM For the Film: Eewai
5	Best Cinematography	SAIKHOM RATAN For the film: Iron Women of Manipur
6	Best Editing	SANKHAJIT BISWAS For the film: Iron Women of Manipur
7	Best Audiography	LAISHRAM DEVAKUMAR MEITEI For the film: Iron Women of Manipur

8	Best Voice-Over/Narration	CHONGTHAM KAMALA For the Film: Khumanthem Prakash Singh
9	Best Music Director	MICHAEL NGANGOM For the film: Eewai
10	Best Music Video	LAIRABA Producer: Likla Band Director: Gurumayum Bonney Sharma
11	Best lyrics (Music Video)	KEKE WAHENGAM For the Music Video: Poppy Leirang
12	Best Music Video Playback Singer (Male)	ARBIN SOIBAM For the Music Video: Lairaba
13	Best Music Video Playback Singer (Female)	PINKY SAIKHOM For the Music Video: Thajagi Macha Morambee
14	Special Jury Award	BOBBY WAHENGAM For the film: Padma Shri Wareppa Naba

(Sunzu Bachaspatimayum)
Secretary, MSFDS