

Shirui Lily Festival

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Shirui Lily Festival Latest News

The 2025 edition of the festival was held after a two-year gap, caused by ethnic violence between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities in Manipur.

About Shirui Lily Festival

- The **Shirui Lily Festival** is a **five-day cultural and ecological festival** held in the **Ukhrul district** of **Manipur**, which is dominated by the **Tangkhul Naga tribe**.
- The festival celebrates the **endemic Shirui Lily (*Lilium mackliniae*)**, a **rare, bluish-pink bell-shaped flower** found **only in the Shirui Hills**, about **18 km from Ukhrul town**.
- The flower was **discovered in 1946** by English botanist **Frank Kingdon-Ward** and won a **merit prize at the 1948 Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) show in London**.
- In **1989**, the **Manipur government declared Shirui Lily as the State Flower**, but it is now **endangered** due to **tourism pressures** and the **invasion of an exotic bamboo species**.

- The festival aims to **raise awareness** about the **ecological importance of the flower** and **promote conservation efforts**.

Shirui Lily Festival FAQs

Q1: What is the Shirui Lily Festival celebrated for?

Ans: It is celebrated to promote the conservation of the endangered Shirui Lily (*Lilium mackliniae*), a flower found only in the Shirui Hills of Manipur.

Q2: In which Indian state is the Shirui Lily Festival held?

Ans: It is held in the Ukhrul district of Manipur, Northeast India.

Q3: What is the unique feature of the Shirui Lily (*Lilium mackliniae*)?

Ans: Shirui Lily is endemic to Manipur and blooms only during the summer, generally between May and June.

Source: TH

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