

same time, the synod also stresses the need for centralisation of fund at the synod level to maintain the parity of stipend for all the pastors, ministers, and other permanent workers under the synod and to share the burden of the weaker section among the poorer and less developed area within the synod.

#### A. Tangram Presbytery, CHT Synod, Assam

##### 1. Location of the Presbytery

The Tangram Presbytery is located in the western part of the North Cachar Hills District of Assam, the area lying between Karbi Anglong district in the North and Cachar in the south. It is the presbytery that solely ministers to the spiritual needs of the Hrangkhoh people in this part of N.C. Hills. The Tangram Presbytery has its headquarters at Zion, in the west of Haflong town. It is easily reachable by car or autorickshaw from the market place of Haflong. With regard to the spelling of Hrangkhoh, several writers used Rangkhoh, Rangkhoh and Hrangkhoh. In spite of difference in spelling "Hrangkhoh" has been standardised in religious and secular writings as the most accepted form of spelling and is the recorded form in the government records.

Although there are few Zeme Naga villages alongside those of the Hrangkhohs in this belt of settlement, the Tangram Presbytery has its ecclesiastical jurisdiction only over the Hrangkhohs. The Hrangkhohs were among the first settlers in Haflong town. Dr. Tanmay Bhattacharjee observes, ".....The Hrangkhohs had their hamlets here in Haflong for a long time."<sup>12</sup> Similarly T.S. Hrangkhoh also writes, "According to some scholars and legends, the Hrangkhohs were perhaps the earliest inhabitants of

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<sup>12</sup> Dr. Tanmay Bhattacharjee, *From Gunjung to Haflong-The Story of the Head Quarters in 100 years of Haflong Centenary Commemorative Souvenir 1895-1995*, Haflong, 1995 p. 26