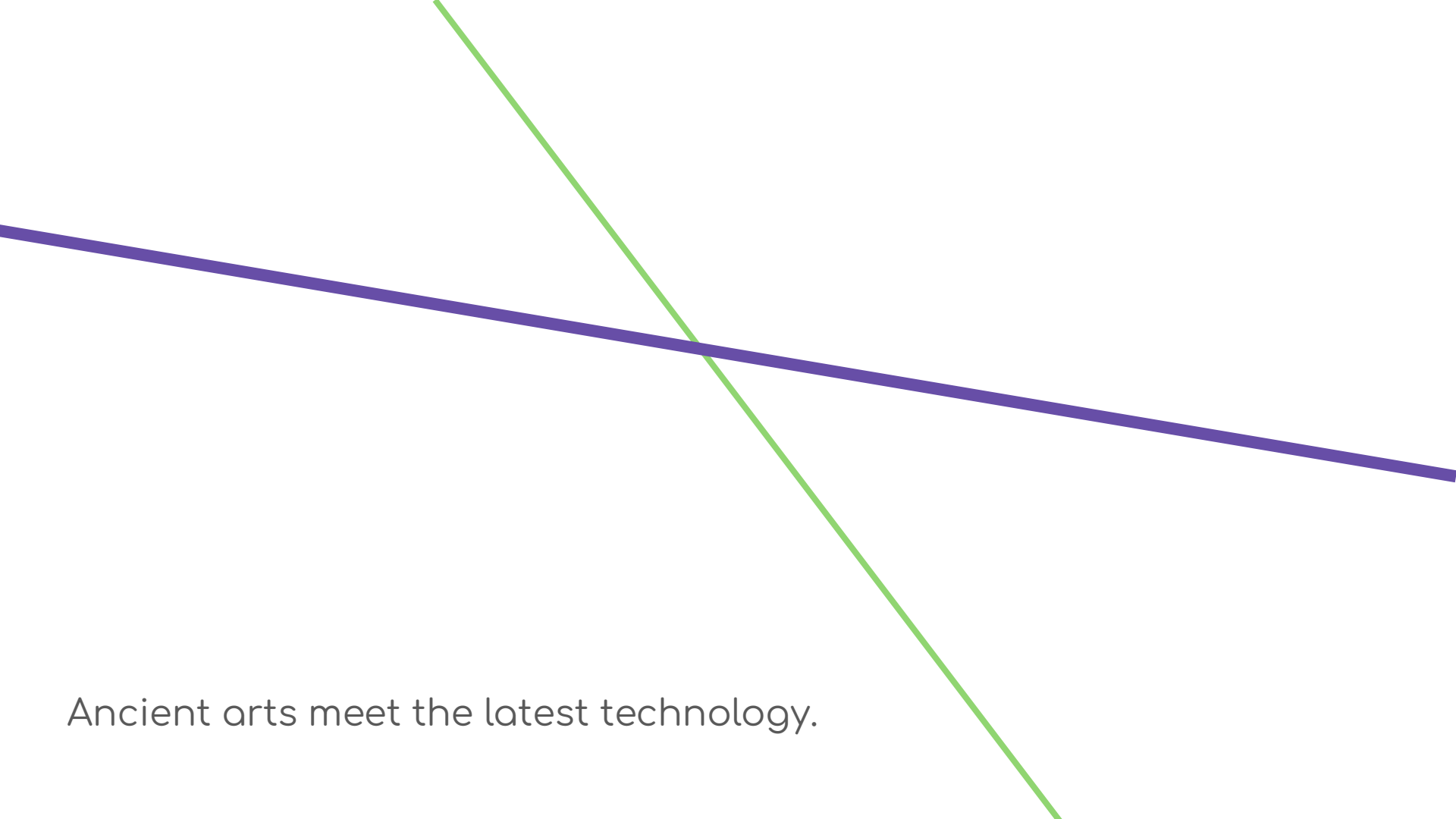


**TRIBAL ART MUSEUM**

Nagaland of India



Ancient arts meet the latest technology.

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# Nagaland



Nagaland is a state in northeastern India, bordering Myanmar. It is inhabited by 17 indigenous tribes, collectively known as the "Nagas."

## Scope

Government-registered Tribal Art and Textile Society (**TATM**) has historical tribal artefacts, which are extraordinary examples of tribal art and cultural heritage, in hand.

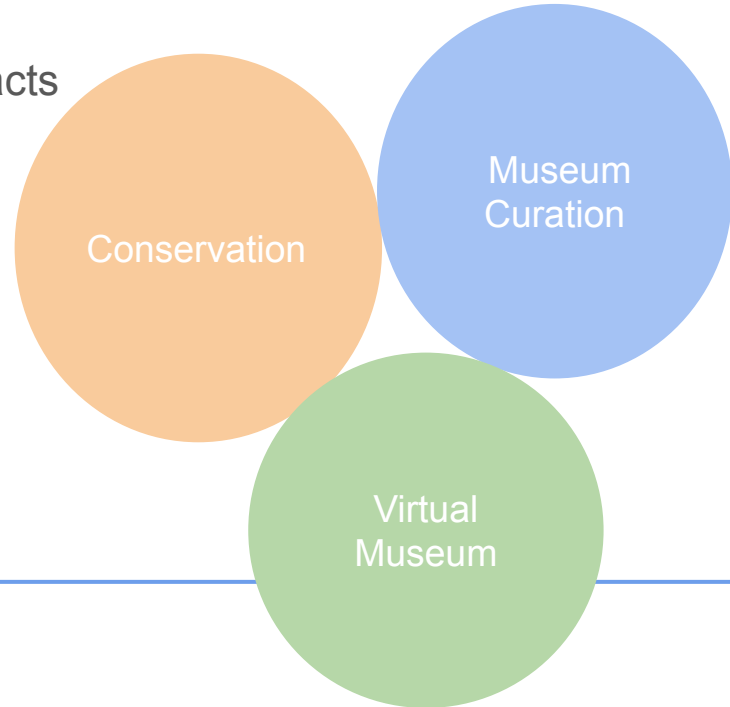
The artefacts are not well preserved, many of them are kept outdoors and are decaying because of pest attacks and humid climate.

**TATM** has started constructing a museum building, but the structure is left unfinished due to a lack of funds.

To save and protect cultural heritage, we have launched a conservation and museum curation project that consists of **3 sub-projects**: 1) conservation, 2) museum curation, and 3) virtual museum.

## Objectives

- Launch a conservation project to **protect world's tangible cultural heritage**
- Complete the museum building and curate the artefacts for **intangible cultural preservation**
- Create a virtual museum accessible world-wide for **cultural diversity awareness**



## Point of difference

- **Intercultural expertise**

The conservation, museum curation and virtual museum projects are managed by an international team of experts to bring in the latest techniques for a comprehensive and long-term heritage protection project.

## Point of difference

- **Authenticity and cultural sensitivity**

For the conservation and the museum curation projects only local materials and local labour will be used for a more authentic conservation and curation.

This way, the project will also contribute to the development of local economy.



## Point of difference

- **Phygital**

For the conservation of ancient artefacts and an ancient art form, the latest virtual reality technologies will be used

1. to bridge the physical world with the metaverse and extend the audience reach to promote cultural sensitivity awareness
2. to contribute to the digitalisation of the world's heritage and conservation studies

## Artefacts

Hundreds of wooden artefacts like sculptures, carved walls, ornamented gates, weapons, kings' and queens' furnitures, log drums, doors, textile, jewellery and metal artefacts

**Age of the objects:** 50 years +

**Origin:** The artefacts belong to Naga (locally known as Rhyu) tribes, mostly Konyak, Phom, Angami, Sumi, Ao, Sema but mostly to Konyak tribe famous for its head-hunting tradition.

**Owner:** Tribal Art and Textile (TATM) Society (**EXHIBIT A**) and <sup>TM</sup> Private Collection (**EXHIBIT B**)

## Carved Walls and Gates



## Wooden Sculptures





## Jewelry



## Statues and Objects



# 1. Conservation

**Lead Conservateur:** Prof Henning Schulze - University of Lincoln

## Objectives

- Saving the artefacts from the borers and other pests
- Getting the artefacts repaired by the local when possible
- Cleaning the artefacts
- Treating the artefacts with protective materials against pests
- Treating the artefacts with protective materials against climate and ageing
- Creating an inventory of the artefacts and storing them until they will be exhibited in the museum


## 2. Museum Curation

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**Lead Curator:** Dr Isil E. Celik

### Objectives

- Completing the museum building that TATM has started with tribal material and labour
- Curating a display of the artefacts in the museum for the local audience

 Contributing to the cultural identity protection of tribal people who are cultural minorities in India and world-wide



# Unfinished Museum Building



# 3. Virtual Museum

**Lead Designer:** Dr Pierre-François Gérard

## Objectives:

- Turning the physical museum into a virtual museum  
Stand-alone downloadable VR platform (High-quality)&Web-based VR platform (Easy-access)
- Creating a digital archive of the artefacts

↳ Digitally storing the heritages in a re-printable format

↳ Expanding the international audience reach

Today many museums give virtual tours or gradually turn into virtual museums. The technological advancements in the field have paramount importance when it comes to cultural heritage museums for today it is possible to store world's heritages digitally using 3D Scanning and modeling techniques and reprint them in any part of the world any time using 3D printing techniques.





A Palmyra bust, with the 3D printed repair section being secured with magnets, <https://www.3dsourced.com/>



# Tribal Cultural Heritage

The modernization has been taking toll on tribal cultures. The globalization, homogenization, and pervading influence of capitalist culture are putting intense pressure on tribal people to fit in the conventional cultural frameworks.

Each human community has developed its own ways of living in relation with their surroundings in time. Distinct living traditions provide living communities with a ground to build a sense of continuity in time and are necessary components of cultural diversity and human creativity.

“The whole tribal society at present moment is going through the critical stage of transformation. Various modernizing forces have brought rapid transformation in their whole socio-cultural milieu. Cultural intermixture is on increase and this is sure to effect a perceptible change in the life style of tribes. Changes brought through modern and scientific attitudes are healthy sign for their development, but at the same time attention should be paid to preserve their traditional systems, which have immense value. The art and culture of tribes should be given new orientation and respectability in the overall scheme of cultural development. The best traits of both the tradition and modernity should be synthesized for their sustainable development. The tribal people have rich traditions, cultures and heritage with unique life style and customs. Till date, it is not being preserved. Today the rich cultural heritage of the tribes manifested in its folklore, costume, jewellery and lifestyle, is under serious threat, and may fade into oblivion. There is no authentic documentation of the traditional tribal lives, history and cultural heritage in India.” Dr. Vinay Kumar “*Preservation of Tribal Culture and Tradition: An Appraisal*” in *The Tribal Tribune Vol 6*.

## Project Team



### **Dr Isil E. Celik - Curator**

Dr Celik is a PhD in international collaboration in arts from Nagoya University, an academic and art curator specialised in non-mainstream art.



### **Prof Henning Schulze - Lead Conservateur**

Prof Schulze is a wooden artefact conservation specialist, a senior lecturer and programme leader of the University of Lincoln School of History and Heritage.

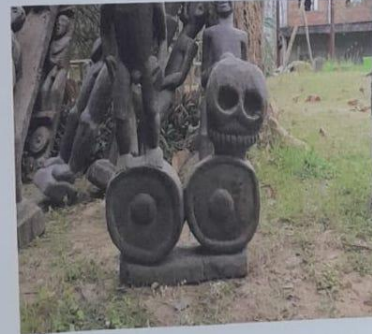
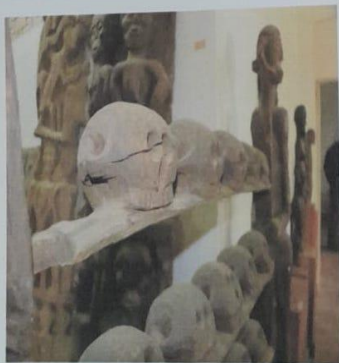


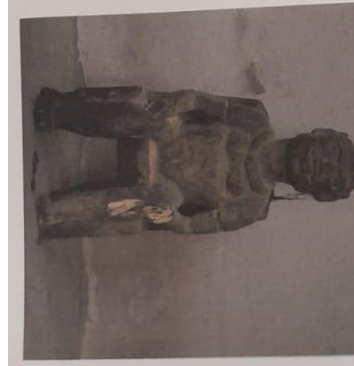
### **Dr Pierre-François Gérard - 3D Designer**

Dr Pierre-François is a PhD in computing from Goldsmith University of London, an architect and an 3D visualiser.

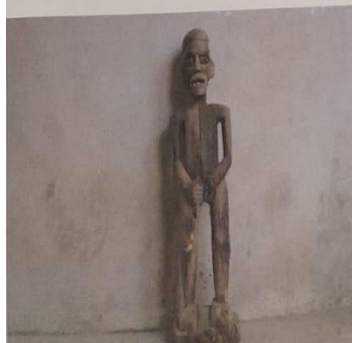
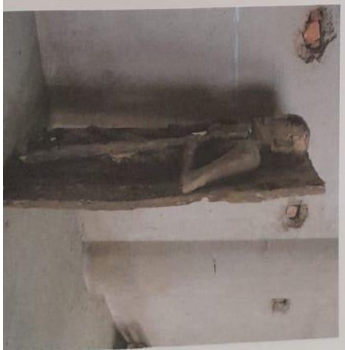
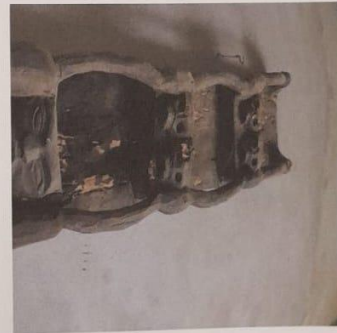
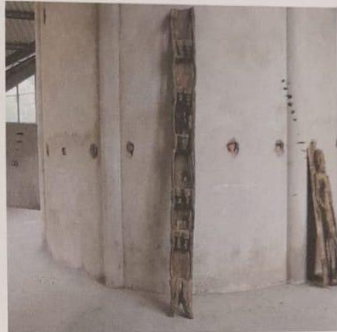
# Exhibit A

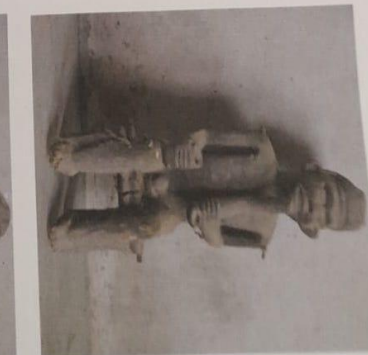
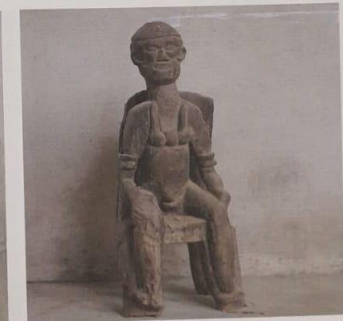
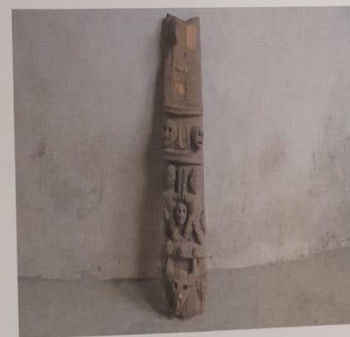
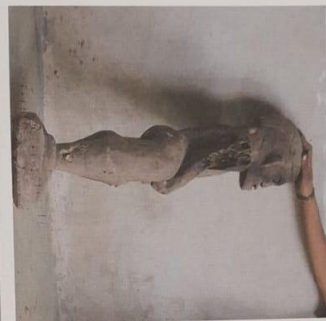
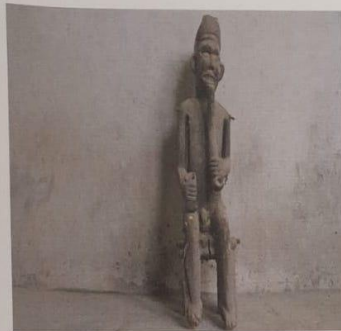




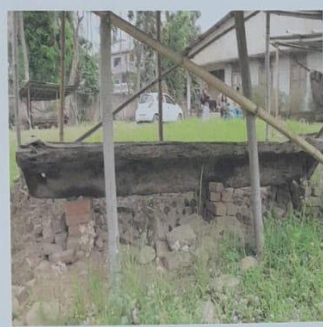


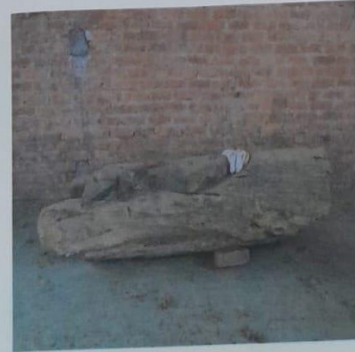
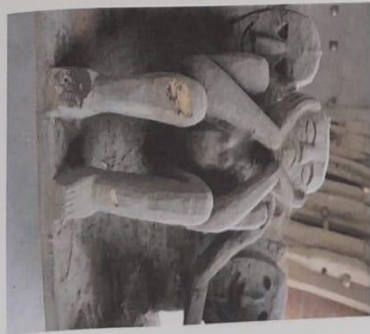
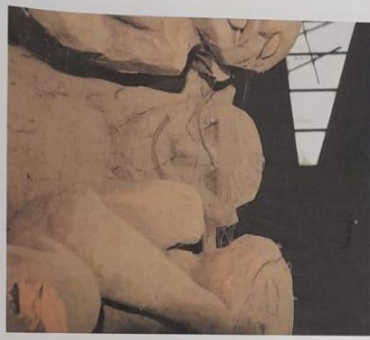




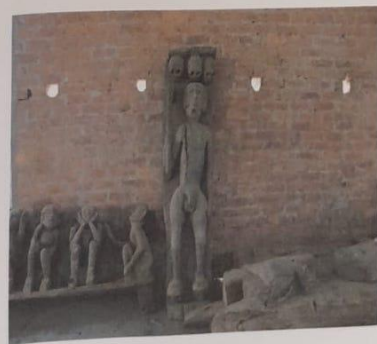
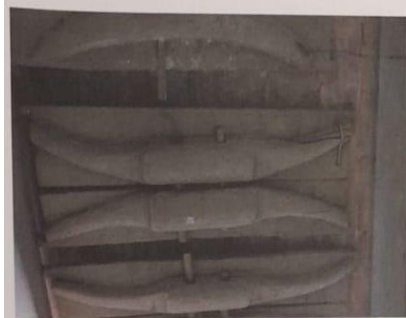
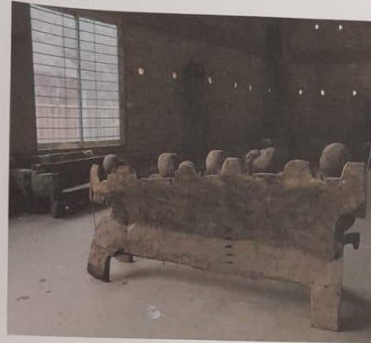


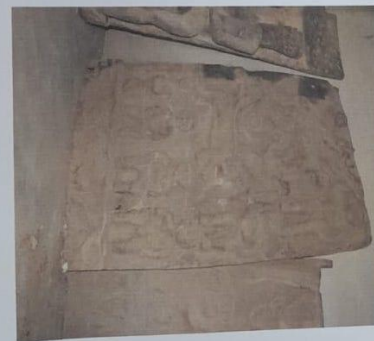
















Thank you.