

Report of meeting with Chins in Northern Norway

24 January, 2013

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President, CCN

Introduction

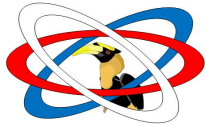
One of the primary objectives of the CCN as an organization is to enhance unity, collaboration and cooperation among the Chins in Norway. Therefore, it has long been set a priority for CCN to send its representatives to meet and speak with Chins across Norway especially those living in Northern part of Norway.

CCN executive meeting dated 10.11.2012, agenda decision No.8.1.d assigned me to travel to northern Norway and introduce the organization to the Chins there. The initial travel plan, which was before the end of 2012, was cancelled due to unforeseeable situations and therefore the visit was paid instead from the 18-20 Januar 13.

During the two days visit I met with most Chins living there and had an opportunity to take a short stop at locations where I had chance to speak and two overnight stops at two locations where I had close interaction with local Chins for more details of life and experiences in Norway. In this short report I will describe some of important facts of what I did during the assigned trip to northern Norway.

Travel plan

18 January 2013	07:30- 08:20 [Stavanger- Oslo] 08:55- 10:35 [Oslo- Evenes]	AIR
	11:00- 12:30 [Evenes - Harstad] 15:30- 16:30 [Harstad- Borkenes]	RENT CAR
	17:00- 21:00 (Meeting - NNCCF chairman & local Chins)	
19 January 2013	09:00- 12:00 [Borkenes- Melbu]	
13:00- 16:00 [Meeting]		
	16:30- 17:30 [Melbu- Sortland]	
	18:30- 20:00 [Sortland- Lødningen] 21:30- 23:00 [Lødningen- Harstad]	
20 January 2013	12:00- 13:00 [Harstad- Evernes]	
	15:00- 16:30 [Evernes-Oslo] 17:20- 18:30 [Oslo- Stavanger]	AIR



Meeting with Chins in Northern Norway

Date: 19 January 13

Location: Thang Ning Kee residence (Melbu)

Meeting attendees list:

1. Solomon
2. Benjamin
3. Kopa
4. Thawng Za Lian
5. Lian Tling
6. Joseph Thang
7. Thet Naing Oo
8. Thang Ta
9. Johan Dar Khuah
10. Bu Ling Dai
11. Tluang Hnin Thang
12. Thang Ling Kee

1- Joseph Thang prays to open the meeting.

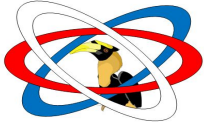
2- Thang Ling Kee introduces the attendees and holds a thankful note.

3- Peter Sang Lian Thang, on behalf of CCN introduces the organization by focussing on facts mentioned below:

- a) The background history and reason of CCN formation
- b) Aims and objectives
- c) Constitution
 - Membership
 - Procedures of electing EC representatives
- d) Budget & project (2012-14)
- e) CCN mission

4- Question and answer session)

- a) Does the CCN has social welfare programs (*chiattthat*) for those are in bad or good times? For example; in case of death among the Chin, any contribution or donation in the form of cash or wreath for the concerned family?



CHIN COMMUNITY IN NORWAY (CCN)

- b) Is the CCN affiliated with religious interests?
- c) Is it possible to help CCN without being registered as a member? How can we be part of your projects and programs?
- d) Who will pay; the CCN or local based members, for travel expense of elected CCN representatives in connection with the organization related meetings?
- e) Is the scope of CCN's project only covering inside Norway, or any other projects in other countries?
- f) Can the local CCN representatives in their own initiative arrange events like Chin National Day in their respective municipalities?

5- Suggestion and free discussion session

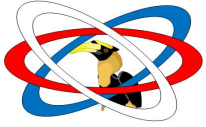
- a) Attendees suggest that as the CCN is an organization representing all Chins in Norway, it is important to include all Chins (tribes, townships and backgrounds) at the organisational structure level.

6- Decisions of agendas

Election of Northern Norway- CCN representatives

- a) According to the CCN constitution, it is possible to elect one CCN representative from an area (as collective) or a municipality (as an individual) where there are more than 25 Chins, and two CCN representatives from an area or a municipality where more than 50 Chins live. In Northern Norway, an estimated number of Chins is 100 (a hundred), therefore it is possible to elect two CCN representatives. As it is difficult to hold election straightaway, an alternative decision is made that two CCN representatives from Northern Norway would be elected within two weeks from today, and thereafter responsible persons are to inform names of the elected to the CCN accordingly.
- b) Norway Chin Directory (NCD)
A more detailed and proper explanation about the NCD project is made because there has been misunderstanding and concern about collecting name and address with some assuming that giving name and address would equate to being registered as member of an organization- such as CCN. Some even thought that their social security numbers (personnummer) is required for this. At the end of the discussion, all aunanimously agree that name and address list of Chins in Northern Norway would be collected and sent back to CCN within two weeks from today.

7- Tluang Hnin Thang closes the meeting with a closing prayer.



Conclusion

All in all, the trip was a success as a result of the initiatives of CCN and its travel allowance support and kind cooperation from local leaders in northern Norway. Such trip with similar objectives should be carried out more to other places in the future so that the CCN as an organization get more support from people within and the Chins in return could get supports from an organization. Although the trip was expensive, it is a worth and right decision to take from the part of CCN.