

Prof. David R. Syiemlieh

Prof. David R. Syiemlieh studied in St. Edmund's College, Shillong, where he graduated with Honours in History (1974). He then pursued a Masters programme in History at the North-Eastern Hill University (1974-1976). In 1977 he went back to teach under-graduates in his alma mater before joining the Department of History, NEHU in 1979. He rose to become Professor of History. Concurrent with this position, he held at different times the offices of Dean Students' Welfare, Proctor, Director, College Development Council, and Head Department of History, NEHU. He was Controller of Examinations, NEHU (2008-2010). He officiated as Registrar of the University (2010). Prof. Syiemlieh was Pro-Vice-Chancellor, North-Eastern Hill University (2010-2011).

The President of India as Visitor, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, appointed Prof. David Syiemlieh, Vice-Chancellor of the University in September 2011. He assumed charge of the office on 5 October 2011. During his tenure at RGU, Prof. Syiemlieh put the University on track. The Convocation was held after a period of three years; statutory meeting required by the University were put in place and the administration was geared up to implement the XIth Plan and finalise the XIIth Plan document. Steps were also taken to initiate academic and examination reforms. RGU was host to a number of seminars and conferences. The University received in its campus a number of dignitaries including the US Ambassador to India and a delegation of European Ambassadors to India. Prof. Syiemlieh was given a warm send off by the students, staff and teachers of RGU.

Awarded an M.Phil in 1980 he continued research and was conferred the PhD in 1985. Prof. David Syiemlieh taught courses on capitalism and imperialism, modern Indian history and the history of Christianity in North East India. He successfully guided 14 scholars through the M.Phil and 8 scholars for the Ph.D degrees and has been mentor to many more scholars. He has received a number of prestigious academic fellowships including a Senior Fulbright Fellowship to Notre Dame University, USA; a Charles Wallace Grant for research in the UK and an Indo-France Cultural Exchange grant for research in Paris. Actively engaged in historical research he has published a number of books and papers on the history of the region. His more recent publications are *On the Edge of Empire: Four British Plans for North East India*, (Sage Publications, 2014) and *Layers of History: Essays on the Khasi-Jaintias*, Regency Publications, 2015). His research has enabled him to travel extensively in India and abroad. He has given lectures in different Universities in the US while on the Fulbright Fellowship. He has delivered lectures at the Centre for South Asian Studies, Cambridge University; Edinburgh University; Swansea University; Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi; Jawaharlal Nehru University and in the Universities and research institutions in North East India.

Prof. David R. Syiemlieh was President of the North East India History Association, 2010-2011, an association specializing on the history of North East India and built up with other long standing members of the Association. Former Honorary Director of the ICSSR-NERC, Shillong, he was Council Member for two terms of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi. He was also Council Member of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi. Prof. Syiemlieh was elected President of the Modern India Section, Indian History Congress and delivered his Address at the 73rd session - Mumbai University in December 2012. He attended

and made a presentation at the international conference ‘Enhancing the Efficiency of Civil Servants through Capacity Development of Civil Servants’, 11-12 September 2014 at Baku, Azerbaijan.

Prof. David R. Syiemlieh joined as Member, the Union Public Service Commission on 25 June 2012.