



## Shirui Lily Festival

[Source:IE](#)

After a two-year hiatus due to ethnic conflict, **Manipur's Shirui Lily Festival returns in 2025**, symbolizing both a cultural revival and a cautious attempt at restoring inter-community movement and peace in the state.

- **Shirui Lily:** The Shirui Lily (*Lilium mackliniae*), **Manipur's State Flower**, is a rare pinkish-white bloom found only in the **Shirui Hills of Ukhrul district**.
  - It was discovered in 1946 by Dr. Frank Kingdon Ward, and was named after his wife, **Jean Macklin**. The flower received the Royal Horticultural Society's merit award in 1948.
  - It blooms from **April to June**, grows about a foot tall, and has a bell-shaped flower.
  - The Shirui Lily is endangered, with climate change, habitat loss, and invasive species like wild dwarf bamboo contributing to its decline.
- **Shirui Lily Festival:** First held in 2017, the festival is one of Manipur's two major tourism events (the other being the **Sangai Festival**).
  - The Shirui Lily Festival celebrates **ecotourism, Tangkhul Naga culture, and conservation**. It features music concerts, cultural performances, and other community events.



Read more: [Violence in Manipur](#)

