

## INDIA'S FIRST AND ONLY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S POLO TOURNAMENT

An International initiative to support, develop and promote Women's Polo in India.

Based in Manipur, the birthplace of modern polo, to create a home for Indian Women's Polo.

Bringing international women's polo from the USA, England, Australia and Kenya and reaching out to polo centers across India, from Jaipur and Hyderabad to Mumbai.





#### Inspired by:

## THE WOMEN POLO PLAYERS OF MANIPUR

Manipur leads the nation in producing sporting talent. Polo in Manipur is an egalitarian sport and about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the Indian women polo players come from Manipur.

- Many of the women players hail from the rural communities.
- Manipur fields 3 women's teams annually in local tournaments.
- Empowerment of women in Manipur is without parallel in India.







## **MILESTONES**

2012: Polo from Manipur to USA; APermanent Exhibit, International Museum of the Horse, Lexington KY, USA.

2013: Procurement of 200 acres for a pony preserve at the foot of the Pony Shrine in Heingang Village, Manipur.

2013: Initiates the designation of the Manipuri Pony as an Endangered Breed.

2013: Introduces Team USPA, and introduces goal handicap polo to Manipur; Manipur International Men's Polo.

2014: Introduces international polo tourism as Huntre! Adventures.

**2015**: Brings the Genghis Khan Polo Team from Ulan Bataar, Mongolia and Team USPA.

2015: Started women's polo coaching camp.

2016: Started Polo Yatra women's polo initiative with Team USPA Women in Imphal and Jaipur.

2017: Initiated Pony Preservation and Development Policy for Manipur that establishes a Pony Board.

2017: Polo Yatra in Jaipur, Hyderabad and Imphal with Team USPA Women and Hurlingham Polo Association UK.

**2018**: Polo Yatra in Imphal with Teams Australia, Indian Polo Association, Kenya, Manipur and USA.

2019: Polo Yatra in Imphal and Mumbai with with Teams Argentina, Canada, IPA, Kenya, Manipur and USA.



## **OUR POLO PARTNERS** Polo Yatra in India, 2016-2019

#### INDIAN POLO ASSOCIATION

- First Indian ladies polo team
- Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament, 2018, 2019

#### UNITED STATES POLO ASSOCIATION

With American International Polo Foundation

• Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament, 2016-2019

#### HURLINGHAM POLO ASSOCIATION

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament in 2017

#### **AUSTRALIA POLO FEDERATION**

• 3<sup>rd</sup> Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament, 2018

#### KENYA POLO ASSOCIATION

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament, 2018
- 4th Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament, 2019

#### ASOCIACIÓN ARGENTINA DE POLO

• 4th Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament, 2019

RAJASTHAN POLO CLUB Jaipur 2016

MUNDOTA FORT Jaipur 2017

NASR POLO Hyderabad 2017

AMATEUR RIDERS CLUB Mumbai 2019















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### POLO YATRA 2019-2020



## 5<sup>th</sup> MANIPUR STATEHOOD DAY WOMEN'S POLO TOURNAMENT 2020

January 17-21, Imphal

- Presented and Sponsored by Manipur Tourism
- Produced by Huntre! Equine
- Field League Tournament with 6 Teams
- 4 International Teams from 4 Continents
- 2 Domestic Teams
- Polo Tourism with partner Emma Horne Travel





## **OUR STATE SUPPORT**



#### INCREDIBLE INDIA! FOR WOMEN'S POLO

The Ministry of Tourism supported the participation of Team USA, Team Argentina, Team Canada, and Team Kenya in the 4th... in 2019.

#### PRESENTED BY MANIPUR TOURISM

Manipur Tourism of the Government of Manipur has been the founding sponsor and presenter of the annual Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament since 2016.







## THE BSE CUP

The BSE Cup was established as the winner's trophy for the Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament in 2018. The BSE Cup of traditional royal 'kaosel' design in bell metal comes with a cash award.







## **EDELWEISS MVP AWARD**

Anna Winslow-Palacios of Team USA receives the first Edelweiss MVP Award from VP Brian Lobo at the Los Polistas International Women's Polo Cup, Mahalaxmi Racecourse, Mumbai 2019



## MANIPUR CUP IN ARGENTINA



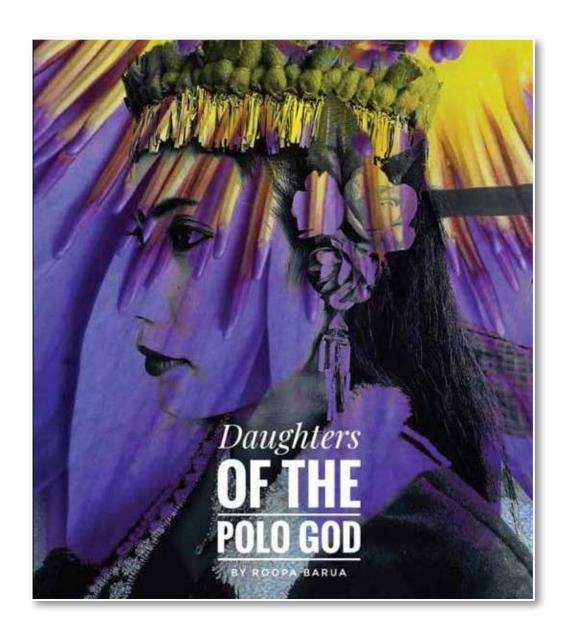
The Asociación Argentina de Polo (AAP) instituted Copa Manipur, a new ladies polo tournament in Argentina in 2018.

Thirteen lades polo teams from across Argentina competed in Buenos Aires to select the players for Team Argentina to come play in the 4th Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament in 2019.





## DAUGHTERS OF THE POLO GOD





**FESTIVAL** 

Roopa Barua's film on Manipuri women polo players and their encounters with international teams from the USA, Kenya and Australia has won a number of international and national awards including the Best Documentary at the UK Asian Film Festival 2019, the New York Indian Film Festival 2019, the Rajasthan International Film Festival 2019 and the Equus New York Film Festival 2018.

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# CONFERENCE ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE MANIPURI PONY





The preservation of the Manipuri Pony was the subject of "Conservation of the Manipuri Pony", a round table discussion with officials and players from USA, Argentina, Canada, and Kenya. It was organized by Huntre! Equine and the Centre for Manipur Studies of Manipur University.

## POLO YATRA Our Women's Polo Initiative

#### WHAT WE DO

Huntré! Equine LLP is a social enterprise that seeks to leverage the nexus of sports and cultural heritage by using strategies involving sports policy, events, arts and media, education, and infrastructure

The partnership's undertakings will use comparative advantages from international, national and regional practices, drawing upon the networks of its partners so as to create positive linkages between sports, culture, industry, commerce and education.

#### WHO WE ARE



L. Somi Roy Promoter, Huntre! Equine

**Work in Film:** Arecipient of the New America New Americans Award in 1994, Roy is a film and media curator who has organized exhibitions for Asia Society, Museum of Modern Art, Lincoln Center, Whitney Museum, and the Smithsonian, as well as the Gold Coast International Film Festival, the Asian American Film Festival of New York, the New York Indian Film Festival, and animation for the Atlanta Olympics and the International Women's Conference in Beijing.

Academia: Roy has taught at New York University and Manhattan Marymount College. He has written for The Smithsonian, Wide Angle, Artforum, International Documentary, the British Film Institute, The Drama Review, and Indian Express. He has given talks at the National Geographic Society, the Asia Society, and the Smithsonian Institution in the US; Cambridge University and the Royal Asiatic Society in England; and at Jawaharlal Nehru University, TISS in Mumbai, India International Centre in New Delhi, and Manipur University in India.

Presenting Manipur Internationally: Roy's NYC presentations for Manipuri culture include performance at the United Nations, Symphony Space and Japan Society; literature at New York Public Library; and film at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. He has also given talks on Manipur at Harvard University, Asia Society, University of Kentucky, and Bhutan. He established a collection of books on Manipur at Columbia University in 2015 to help include Manipur in the teaching of Indian Civilization at Barnard College in 2016. Founder of Imasi: The Maharaj Kumari Binodini Devi Foundation, Roy is a published translator of Binodini's works from the original Manipuri into English.

**Polo and Pony:** As part of his initiative spearheading the preservation of the endangered Manipuri Pony Roy installed a permanent exhibit on Manipuri polo at International Museum of the Horse in Kentucky in 2012. He spearheaded the establishment of a pony preserve and a preservation policy. As a corollary, Roy promotes international polo in India, notably Polo Yatra, the women's polo initiative.



Roopa Barua (Partner) is a writer and an award winning documentary filmmaker schooled at the New York Film Academy and UC Berkeley. Prior to her filmmaking career, she was a banker with Morgan Stanley in Boston and San Francisco with finance degrees from Boston University. Roopa is based in Mumbai.



Ed Armstrong (Adviser Partner) is a polo player and the Secretary and Treasurer of the American International Polo Foundation. He is on the International Committee of the United States Polo Association of which he was the Director of Clubs and Tournaments, and was the Coach Manager of Yale University Polo. He is based in Virginia and Massachusetts.



Cherian Mathai (Partner). is currently in his third start-up, dotSport LLC, a digital media and e-commerce enterprise providing sports content across multiple devices to a global audience. Prior to this, he co-founded .travel TLD, the Top Level Domain exclusively for travel industry and before that he co-founded fare1, the first ever Internet based aggregator and booking engine of consolidator airfares for travel agents. He is based in New York City.

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