

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Content	Page No.
Abstract	i
Declaration	ii
Certificate	iii
Acknowledgements	iv-v
Table of Contents	vi-viii
List of Table	ix
List of Figure	x
CHAPTER 1	1-11
INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Statement of the Problem	1
1.2 Aims and Objectives of the Study	4
1.3 Method & Methodology	5
1.4 Chapterization	6
1.5 Review of Literature	7
1.6 Observations	9
1.7 Inferences	11
CHAPTER 2	12-48
THE MOTHER AND THE WIFE	
2.0 Introduction	12
2.1 Role and social status of Mothers and Wives in traditional China	13
2.2 Selected Chinese Folktales	20
2.2.1 The Origin of Opium Smoking	20
2.2.2 The Faithful Lady Meng	21
2.2.3 The Water Mother	23
2.1.4 Two Mothers and A Child	24
2.2.5 Husband and Wife in this Life and in the Life to come	26
2.3 Role and social status of Mothers and Wives in traditional Khasi Society	28
2.3.1 The Waterfall of Ka Likai	32
2.3.2 Hunting the Stag Lapalang	33
2.3.3 The Legend of U Raitong, The Khasi Orpheus	35
2.3.4 U Ramhah	35
2.4 Comparative Analysis	36
2.5 Observations and Inferences	45
CHAPTER 3	49-85
THE SISTER AND THE DAUGHTER	
3.0 Introduction	49
3.1 Role and social status of Sisters and Daughters in traditional Chinese Society	49
3.2 Selected Chinese Folktales	58
3.2.1 Faithful Even in Death	58
3.2.2 The Amazing Adventure of a Scholar	59
3.2.3 The Witch's Daughter	61
3.2.4 The Empress of Heaven	63

3.2.5	Mulan Fights in The Guise of a Male Soldier	64
3.2.6	The Twin Sisters and The Magic of Malan Flower	66
3.3	Role and Social Status of Sisters and Daughters in Traditional Khasi Society	68
3.4	Selected Khasi Folktales	70
3.4.1	The Tiger and the Monkeys	70
3.4.2	The Goddess Ka Ngot and Ka Iam	71
3.4.3	What Caused the Shadows on the Moon	72
3.4.4	U Ksuid Tynjang	73
3.5	Comparative Analysis	75
3.6	Observations and Inferences	82
CHAPTER 4		86-110
THE WISE OLD WOMAN		
4.1	Introduction	86
4.1.1	Mentor and Guide	86
4.1.2	Bestower of Gifts and Magical Powers	86
4.1.3	Catalyst to Transform	87
4.1.4	Keeper of Ancient Lore and Traditions	87
4.2	Role and social status of Old Women in traditional Chinese society	88
4.2.1	Filial piety and family responsibilities	88
4.2.2	Elders	88
4.2.3	Ancestral worship and rituals	88
4.2.4	Matchmaker and Advisor	89
4.2.5	Cultural activities and storytelling	89
4.3	Selected Chinese Folktales	89
4.3.1	The Old Woman and the Tiger	90
4.3.2	The Old Lady Meng	91
4.3.3	The Old Woman who lost her Dumplings	92
4.4	Role and social status of elderly women in traditional Khasi Society	94
4.4.1	Matrilineal System	94
4.4.2	Khasi Kinship System	94
4.4.3	Economic Contribution	94
4.4.4	Community Leader	95
4.4.5	Custodians of Culture	95
4.5	Selected Khasi Folktales	95
4.5.1	Ka Sohlyngkew, the Wise Old Woman	96
4.5.2	Ka Lawei-Lyngdoh	97
4.5.3	Ka Nongthymmai (The Wise Grandmother)	98
4.6	Comparative Analysis	99
4.7	Observations and Inferences	106
4.7.1	Cultural Context	108
4.7.2	Characterization of Wise Old Women	109
4.7.3	Themes and Lessons	109
4.7.4	Narrative Structure	110
CHAPTER 5		111-140
ANGELS, TEMPTRESSES AND BEYOND		
5.1	Introduction	111
5.2	Role of Angels and Temptresses in Chinese Folktales	113

5.3	Selected Chinese Folktales	115
5.3.1	The Cowherd and The Weaver Girl	115
5.3.2	The White Snake	117
5.3.3	The Peach Blossom Spring	117
5.3.4	<i>Nüwa</i> and the Creation of Humans	119
5.3.5	Miaoshan the Filial Daughter	120
5.4	Role of Angels and the Temptresses in Khasi Folktales	121
5.5	Selected Khasi Folktales	123
5.5.1	What Causes the Shadows on The Moon	123
5.5.2	How the Peacock got his Beautiful Feathers	124
5.5.3	The Legend of Ka Lidakha	126
5.5.4	Ren and the River Nymph	127
5.6	Comparative analysis	129
5.7	Observations and Inferences	136
5.7.1	Cultural Context	138
5.7.2	Characterization of Angels and Temptresses	139
5.7.3	Themes and Lessons	139
5.7.4	Narrative Structure	140
CHAPTER 6		141-149
CONCLUSION		
WORKS CITED		150-157
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS		158