



মণিপুরৰ শাসনৰত্ন (মণি)  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)**  
Government of Manipur

**CLASS X**  
**ENGLISH COURSE BOOK**  
**UNIT II - GAMES AND SPORTS**  
**CHAPTER 4**  
**SAGOL KANGJEI**  
**(L. DAMODOR SINGH)**

**SOLUTIONS**

**EXERCISES**

**A. Complete the following sentences:-**

- i) According to 'Kangjeirol', the game originated during the reign of 'King Kangba' of Manipur.
- ii) Apart from being a popular game, *Sagol Kangjei* was used as subtle means of diplomacy, politics and palace intrigues.
- iii) The two *Bengali* words used in the *Sagol Kangjei* are the products of the historical encounters of the Manipuri Kings and princes with the Bengalis and Assamese living in Cachar.
- iv) *Govinda Chandra*, the *Cachar* king tried to take the favourite *Polo-Pony* of the Manipuri *Prince Marjit* which cost him dearly. Marjit vowed to avenge the insult.
- v) The present Manipuri territory of *Jiribam* may be cited as an indirect product of Marjit's pony war.
- vi) In olden days, there were no posts and goals were scored when the ball crossed the end line of the width of the field.
- vii) In modern days, crossing the way of player is a serious violation of rules.



**B. Answer the following questions in one sentence each:-**

- 1) How did the *King Nongda Lairen Pakhangba* use *Sagol Kangjei*?

**Ans:** *King Nongda Lairen Pakhangba* used *Sagol Kangjei* on the happy occasion of introducing his consort *Laisana* to his royal friends.

- 2) Who was the royal victim of polo as a means of palace intrigue?

**Ans:** '*King Labanya Chandra*' was the royal victim of polo as a means of palace intrigue.

- 3) Who introduced *Polo* to *England* in 1869?

**Ans:** *Sir Chandrakirti Singh* introduced *Polo* to *England* in 1869.

- 4) Who took *Polo* to *England* in 1869?

**Ans:** 10<sup>th</sup> Hussars at *Aldershot* took *Polo* to *England* in 1869.

- 5) Between which countries was the first international *Polo* match played?

**Ans:** It was played between *England* and *USA* in 1886.

- 6) Who standardized the number of *Polo* players to seven in a team?

**Ans:** '*King Khagemba*' standardized the number of *Polo* players to seven in a team.

- 7) Who is "*Hantre hunba*"?

**Ans:** '*Hantre hunba*' is an official who throws up the ball in the air with the cry "*Hantre*" in order to start the game and retreats speedily outside the field after the throw.

- 8) What is "*Sagol tuppa*"?

**Ans:** Crossing the '*right of way*' is called '*Sagol tuppa*'.

- 9) Which part of a body of *Polo* player protect by '*Khongyom*'?

**Ans:** '*Khongyom*' is the leg-guard which protects the shins and calves.

- 10) What was the duty of '*Sagol Senba hanjaba*'?

**Ans:** The supervision for the upkeep of the horse in the administrative hierarchy was the duty of '*Sagol Senba hanjaba*'.



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**C. Answer the following questions in about 30 words each:-**

- 1) What does *Manipuri Puya* say about *Sagol Kangjei*?

**Ans:** According to the *Manipuri Puya*, in the mythological age it was played by local gods like *Marjing*, *Thangjing* etc. belonging to the *Manipuri pantheon* who guarded the eight directions.

- 2) What are *King Khagemba's* contribution to the development of *Sagol Kangjei*?

**Ans:** During the reign of '*King Khagemba*', the number of player was standardized to *seven* on one side. The first four were superiors and matches were played amongst them. The last two '*panas*' could play between themselves.

- 3) Apart from being a popular game, how was *Sagol Kangjei* a means for the royalty?

**Ans:** It was a means for the royalty as it was used as a subtle means in diplomacy, politics and palace intrigues. It was a very handy tool for making friendship. *King Pakhangba* used the game of *Polo* as a diplomatic instrument in 33AD for sealing friendship.

- 4) What does the *Guinness book of record* say about *Polo*?

**Ans:** It says that *Polo* can be traced to origins in *Manipur* state, *India*, C .`3100 BC when it was played as "*Sagol Kangjei*".

- 5) How is *J.N.P Watson's* view contradicted?

**Ans:** *J.N.P Watson* was of the view that *Polo* was picked up from the *Chinese* by the *Tibetans*, who named it '*pulu*', their word for a ball; and it was most likely that, from *Tibet* the people of *Manipur* adopted the game.

- 6) How does Principality of the *Cachar* king become a fertile ground for *Meitei* infiltration and intrigue?

**Ans:** While *Prince Marjit* was cooling his heels at *Cachar*, *Govinda Chandra* tried to take the favourite *Polo-pony* of the *Manipuri Prince* which cost him dearly. When *Marjit* became the king of *Manipur*, he invaded *Cachar* and defeated *Govinda Chandra*. Thus, the Principality of the *Cachar* king became a fertile ground for *Meitei* infiltration and intrigues.



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7) What does *Lord Curzon* do relative to *Imphal Pologround*?

**Ans:** He made a measurement of the Imphal polo ground (also known as the '*Mapal Kanghjeibung*') found it to be **225 yards** in *length* and **110 yards** in *breadth*. In olden days there were no goal posts. Goals were scored when the ball crossed the end line of the width of the field.

8) Describe "*Pana Kangjei*"?

**Ans:** "*Pana Kangjei*" is the traditional form of *Polo*. There were *six 'panas'*. The first four were superior and matches were played amongst them. The last two "*Panas*" could play between themselves. When they were played by a combination of players from different teams it is called '*Chere Kare*'.

9) What are the functions of a '*Hantre Hunba*'?

**Ans:** He throws up the ball (*Kangdrum*) in the air with the cry '*Hantre*' and retreats speedily outside the field after the throw.

10) How Manipuri horsemanship play a very important role in the expansion and consolidation of the *Kingdom of Manipur*?

**Ans:** The expansion and consolidation of the *Kingdom of Manipur* depended on the use of the cavalry constituted by the *Meitei* people on horseback.

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