**Message from the President**

"Rebuild Nepal! To save the lost at any cost.” This is the theme of our NASeA/ANMA Convention 2015. By all reasons, current issue of Shangri-La is being devoted in the literature of earthquake disaster in Nepal. Even after this issue, we will be encouraging Nepalese earthquake disaster related literature because whole world is shocked emotionally for Nepal and its vicinity. Thus, Again, NASeA is really excited to bring out third issue of second year’s publication “Shangri-La”

Again, we got lot of positive and encouraging comments on the last issue as well by our audiences. Every piece of literature was highly appreciated.

**Shangri-La** is aiming to publish literatures that will promote our Nepalese languages, heritage, culture, and its preservation in North America, and beyond. Many have commented very positively to see its growth and expansion to the Nepalese world. Thus, we really appreciate to all contributors for providing us their valuable literatures, advertisements as well as helping us to publish this very first issue of Shangri-La. Also, we also express our gratitude a lot to the Publication Committee as chaired by Dr. Dilip Panthee with his fellow members as they worked tirelessly to make this project successful. Let us thank the Publication Committee members as they deserve our appreciations.

**Let’s Make NASeA/ANMA Joint Convention a Grand Success**

"Help us Rebuild Nepal! Save the lost at any cost"

**NASeA / ANMA JOINT CONVENTION 2015**

Greensboro, Highpoint North Carolina
September 4 - September 6.

Hosted By: Triad Nepalese Community Center(TNCC)
Earthquake Disaster in Nepal 2015: Response of Nepali Community Overseas

Nepal is in the earthquake-prone zone. It was claimed by Seismologists for a long time that we may get a great magnitude of earthquake in Nepal but the exact timing was unknown as it could not be predicted in any parts of the world with the existing technology. The current earthquake, with a magnitude of 7.8 on the Richter scale, on April 25, 2015 struck Nepal with an epicenter of Barpak, Gorkha which occurred about 82 years after a similar magnitude 8.3 earthquake in Nepal in 1934, which affected about 25% of Kathmandu at that time and killed about 17,000 people throughout the country. Before that another mega earthquake had struck Nepal in 1833 which epicenter was in Rasuwasadhi with a magnitude of 8.3 Richter scale. About 700 years ago in 1255, there was yet another mega earthquake of 8.3 Richter scale with an epicenter east of Kathmandu, which caused significant human casualties. This one caused the collapse of several houses, temples, administrative buildings and even a palace in Kathmandu. King Manadev could not survive in his palace when it collapsed. There were also more earthquakes notable in size in 1344 and 1505, which caused significant damage in Nepal. The 1344 earthquake was almost at the same location as the current (2015 earthquake) whereas that of 1255 was in east of Kathmandu and that of 1934 was north of Kathmandu, otherwise the cycle is repeating in certain time period. There are numerous smaller earthquakes, which are not in records but these can be mapped throughout the country now. A few to name are more recent one in 1990, which was epicentered in Kathmandu. Later on, there was one more with an epicenter in Achham, and Darchula, which caused significant property damage. However, these were not of this magnitude. Message is that Nepal is already in an earthquake prone zone for a long time; it’s just a matter of time before it strikes the region again.

When it strikes the country and causes the loss of life and properties, it touches the hearts of million of Nepali and Nepal loving people living throughout the world as the news spreads. We became speechless when we heard the news of this devastation on the morning of April 25. We thought of our loved ones and lovely country first. We could not think of why Mother Nature was so cruel as to destroy the natural beauty of our country by destroying the natural architecht and its religious and cultural heritage. Its people were already under a man-made disaster for more than ten years, with yet another natural devastation, can they really afford yet another disaster to rebuild it? These were the questions in the beginning when we were reading the news on this devastation in Nepal. However, as time passed by we realized that we must rebuild it no matter what; we will rebounce and build a better place to live in. Our connection is emotional with our soil and its climate, temples, and centers of cultural heritage no matter where we live. We started collecting resources from our capacities at different levels and provided support in terms of money, supplies, food, medicine, and shelter. First and foremost, we decided to provide support through the Prime Minister Relief Fund since the government represents the nation. Since the nation was wounded at this time, we want to provide some relief to the nation through the government so that there is some sense of relief----. At least, we took the initiatives although it was small in amount; we started making some contribution to the nation. Whenever our nation is in need, no matter wherever we are, we are ready to do whatever we can; it could be financial help or technical help or any kind of help. It is understandable that most of us were unable to be there in Nepal physically, however, emotionally, there was hardly anybody who did not show any solidarity to support the nation. Several individuals managed time to go to Nepal and provided help right from rescue and relief operations towards rebuilding; the process is still going on. This process will continue for the next several years. We encourage everyone to participate in this process and show solidarity to our countrymen!
It is our pleasure to inform you that the Atlanta Nepali School awarded an appreciation certificate to our four outstanding school volunteers during the Nepalese Association in Georgia (NAG)’s Nepali New Year celebration program on Saturday, April 11, 2015. The outstanding volunteers were Iccha Bastola, Depika Pahari, Jenisha Tiwari, and Pranaya Rana. The appreciation certificates were presented by NASeA Election committee 2015 chair-commissioner and school adviser, Dr. Prahlad Pant and the school chair, Ambika Lohani Sharma.

The school volunteer, Iccha Bastola, is the head teacher and school board member. She has been serving as a Nepali language, dance, and extra activities volunteer teacher since the school reopened. Depika Pahari and Jenisha Tiwari are serving as the helping teachers to teach the Nepali language and dance to the school children. They have also been volunteering since the school reopened. Pranaya Rana provided logistics support in the initial period of the school and he also donated $150.00 dollars cash to the school by selling his music album.

During the cultural program, the school students sang the Nepali and American national anthems. One of our students Prisha Sharma sang a solo with the song, “Chaubandi ma patuki badya chhain….” In the program, there were about three hundred-fifty Georgian Nepali present.

In the program, school chair- Ambika Lohani acknowledged former school teams chairs: Srijana Khatiwada and Sangita Dongal; current school board members: Shusma Barakot, Sarita Bhandari, Bidya Gurung; advisers; parents; and all the volunteers. She requested all the Georgia residence to bring their children to the school and give their children the opportunity to learn the Nepali language and cultural activities.

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Scholarship Committee Activity Report

Prahlad & Bindu Pant Scholarship Award
Awarded on the basis of student’s financial needs
Managed by Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASeA)

1. Beginning in 2013, an annual $2,000 (Two Thousand US Dollars) scholarship award has been established by Dr. Prahlad and Bindu Pant. This award is managed and coordinated by Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASeA).
2. This scholarship is awarded annually to one student on the basis of the financial needs of the student and not on the basis of merit.
3. The scholarship award is open to any freshman or sophomore undergraduate student of Nepali origin (one or both parents from Nepal) residing in the United States, who is a US high school graduate and has been admitted as a full-time student to a US college or university.
4. The selection process involves completing the application form together with all the documents (listed in no. 15 in page 3 of this application form) and the verification of the total annual income of the student and/or the student’s parents.
5. NASeA Academic and Professional committee will make the selection on the basis of the financial needs of the applicant, and its decision will be final.
6. Application forms are due by the second Saturday of every August. For this year, the application deadline is Saturday, August 8, 2015. Please complete the application form in the next page and submit documents mentioned in no. 15 of page 3 and send it to Academic and Professional Committee chair at ramjee.sharma@gmail.com by August 8, 2015.
7. The decision on the winner and a runner-up of the award is made by the fourth Saturday of every August. For 2015, the selection will be made by Saturday, August 22, 2015 or at the earliest possible date thereafter.
8. The award is given out to the winner at the NASeA/ ANMA Joint Convention in Greensboro, NC during the cultural program. The student must be present at the convention to receive the award. Visit convention website http://www.jointconvention.org for more information about the convention. If the winner fails to show up at the convention, the award will be given to the runner-up if he/she is present.
9. For questions or information, please contact ramjee.sharma@gmail.com.

Application deadline August 8, 2015
Please download the application from the following link:

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**NASeA Contributes to Prime Minister’s Disaster Relief Fund**

**EVP/Chair, External Relations Committee, NASeA**

**West Palm Beach, FL**

Bimal Nepal

Our hearts and pray to our beloved Nepali people and the country of origin Nepal who have suffered from this catastrophic earthquake disaster struck Nepal on April 25 and another big one on May 12, 2015. This earthquake has been unique which has more than 120 shocks.

Nepal is in real crisis due to this earthquake. Total life loss is more than eight thousands and more than sixteen thousands injuries and over half million homes are destroyed. Furthermore the physical and psychological impact occurred due to disaster before us has no tool to measure and this pain will be with us for many years to come.

NASeA was among the first to have emergency meeting to extend pray to Nepal and established NASeA’s Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund. NASeA Executive Committee unanimously decided to release our support $7000.00 (seven thousand dollars) to Prime Minister’s Disaster Relief Fund. Furthermore NASeA assigned President Dr. Ram Chandra Baral to hand over $7000.00 to H.E. The Ambassador Dr. Arjun K. Karki which them to be transferred to the Prime Minister Disaster Relief Fund, Nepal for the immediate relief task.

On Friday, May 22, 2015 NASeA President Dr. Ram Chandra Baral amidst a special function in Nepal Embassy, Washington D.C. officially handover a cashier check of seven thousand dollars to Ambassador H.E. Dr. Karki. Representing Nepali community in NASeA region President Dr. Baral extended his unconditional support to Nepal government and wishes them a success in the recovery mission.

H.E. Ambassador Dr. Karki extended special thanks to President Dr. Baral NASeA EC members and Nepali community in NASeA for their generous contribution to the Prime Minister’s Disaster Relief Fund. He appreciated NASeA being among the 1st few organizations to extend financial support to the Nepal Government and requested other individuals/organizations to follow.

For details, please visit Prime Minister’s Disaster Relief Fund and with this note, NASeA encourage all individuals and organizations to extend their contribution and support Nepal government during this moment of crisis: [http://pmrelief.opmc.gov.np/](http://pmrelief.opmc.gov.np/).

During this occasion distinguished individuals Minister DCM Rishi Ram Ghimire; Minister Counselor, Narayan P. Mainali; Defense and Military Attaché Colonel Himanshu Khadka; Second Secretary, Lekh Nath Gautam; Third Secretary, Hakim Bhandari; NASeA Entrepreneurship Chair/Life member Lok Tewari and Life Member Kusum Baral were present.

Please enjoy the news publish in enepalese and also the attached glimpse of this official event together with the acknowledged receipt by Nepal Embassy to NASeA.

[http://enepalese.com/2015/05/22943.html](http://enepalese.com/2015/05/22943.html)

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**Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Approval: A Great News for Nepalese Community**

**EVP/Chair, External Relations Committee, NASeA**

**West Palm Beach, FL**

Bimal Nepal

June, 23, 2015 – Department of Homeland Security releases the news that the DHS has signed and approved Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for Nepal. Congratulations to all well-wishers around the world for your true dedication and support to rally behind this TPS petition and finally it has been approved by the USCIS. Good Luck to all undocumented Nepali now you can travel to Nepal and get the temporary working status to work here in the USA to support your families back home that got affected by the resent catastrophic earthquake that left thousands of life loss/ injured and unprecedented damages.

Here are the highlights of the announcement:

Due to the magnitude 7.8 Richter scale earthquake on April 25, Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson designated Nepal for TPS for 18 months, effective June 24, 2015 through December 24, 2016. Eligible nationals of Nepal (and people without nationality who last habitually resided in Nepal) may apply for TPS during the 180-day registration period. The period began June 24, 2015, and ends on December 21, 2015. Applicants must have continuously resided in the United States since June 24, 2015, and meet other eligibility requirements. Those who are approved for TPS may obtain an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) and will not be removed from the United States during the time period that TPS is granted. The eligibility requirements are fully described in the Federal Register notice and at uscis.gov/tps.

TPS Grant to Nepali Community is a historical achievement and will help so many Nepali origin undocumented people to travel to Nepal and get the temporary working status to work in USA.

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A Successful Talk Session with Commissioner of Asian and Pacific Islanders
Ms. Sanjita Pradhan

Bimal Nepal
EVP/Chair, External Relations Committee, NASeA
West Palm Beach, FL

On behalf of Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASeA) External Relations Committee and Public Relations Committee, monthly talk session was held by conference call on Sunday, June 14th 2015 with Commissioner of Asian and Pacific Islanders Ms. Sanjita Pradhan.

Ms. Sanjita Pradhan, a native of Nepal, has worked with refugees and immigrants in Iowa for the last eight years in different capacities. Sanjita was the Resettlement Director at Catholic Charities where she helped resettle and integrate thousands of refugees from Nepal, Iraq, Burma, Eritrea, Sudan, Liberia, Tunisia, Pakistan and many other countries. Commissioner Sanjita joined the Department of Human Rights, Office of Asian and Pacific Islander affairs in 2013 to explore looking at these system issues from a macro level and advocate for appropriate services for the underrepresented. On May 8, 2015 Sanjita was appointed by President Obama to the President’s Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. In this role, Sanjita is expected to be the eyes and ears of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities on the ground and provide input and feedback on policies and programs that affect the population. In this role she is also expected to help the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to bridge the gap between federal government programs and help improve the quality of life of AAPI’s through increased participation in Federal programs. We, Nepalese community, take great pride in her nomination.

"जहाँ मेरो जरुरत छ त्यहााँ म सहयोग गर्न सक्छु : सञ्जजता प्रधान"

Detailed news of the program is available at:


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गोमा पराजुली
साउथ क्यारोलिना, कोलम्बिया
Nepal: A country that, unfortunately, most have not heard of. A mystical oasis located in between China and India. A melting pot of Hindus, Buddhists, smiling faces, hospitable people, breathtaking sceneries, ancient cultures and mouthwatering foods. Nepal is truly a one of a kind country, a country that does not deserve all that it has unfortunately suffered in the last couple of months.

It was a typical Saturday; everyone was off of school and work. Most were starting to prepare lunch for their family. As Samser Sherpa began to sit down to enjoy his lunch, he noticed his plate begin to shake. As he looked up, everything began to tremble He quickly realized what was happening, hollered at his wife, and picked up his children, and ran into the streets. There he saw all of his neighbors in the same situation that he was in. All you could hear were screams and cries. You could see houses crumble right in front of your eyes. Luckily Sherpa’s house was not too heavily impacted by the earthquake, only a few cracks on the sides.

On April 25, 2015 at 11:56 AM Nepali Time, Nepal suffered an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale. Over 9,000 people have been declared dead and more than 16,000 injured. Thousands have not been accounted for.

Sherpa and his family had been lucky enough to receive aid quickly and been provide food, water, and a tent. He assembled the tent in the open space in a field beside his house. The family then began transferring items from their house, into the tent. As Sherpa went in to get some blankets and clothes for his family, he began to hear a very familiar sound; the sound of glass breaking and everything rattling. He began to run down the stairs when suddenly pieces of his house began falling onto him. One lump hit him in the head while another bigger one landed on his legs and crushed them. He could remember hearing faint cries of his family members and others as they attempted to search through the rubble of the house in hopes of finding their father. Sherpa breathed his last breath just as his son qummaged through the debris and found him.

On May 12, 2015 at 12:50 NST, Nepal suffered yet another earthquake. This one measuring 7.3 and killing 218 while injuring more than 3,500.

The houses in Nepal are made of cement and can reach heights of six, seven stories. Also, they are made out of cement so if you are caught under one in a situation like this, there is a very slim chance that you would survive. The population of Nepal is greater than the population of Australia, but is roughly the size of Arkansas. Due to the sheer number of people living there, there is nowhere to go but up in terms of construction. They are closely packed with usually one side of the house touching somebody else’s. The building codes weren’t up to standard especially for the older houses. All of these reasons play a role in why so many people have died already and the toll continues to rise.

Besides private homes being destroyed, 1,355 governmental buildings have been destroyed along with hundreds of temples. Nepal is one of the few countries where different religions gave coexist among each other. Buddhism and Hinduism have been living in peace and harmony in Nepal for thousands of years. Siddartha Gautama, the first Buddha, was born in Lumbini, Nepal, about 45 minutes from where I am from. The birth of him also signaled the birth of Buddhism. Ever since then Nepalis who are predominantly Hindu, have respected the Buddhist and vice versa. Several of the temples around Nepal incorporate the two religions together. The temples in Bhaktapur, Patan, Basantapur, and Lalitpur are the identity of Nepal. You can’t picture Nepal without them. Nepal holds the world record for the most UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage Sites in one place. Every time I go to Nepal we always go to these places. I can’t even fathom going to Nepal and these sacred sites not being there. The amazing history of the nation is held in those temples. We have to rebuild and maybe even make them better than before. We should learn from all of this and move on. There is no good in dwelling in the past. This will only make Nepal stronger.

Translation: “You must learn to endure fleeting things they come and go!” - Bhagavad Geeta 2:14

(Scripture in Hindu Epic Mahabharata)

The moment that the European Union heard about the devastating tragedy in Nepal, they pledged $250 million dollars for relief efforts. Also most countries within Europe sent relief teams and supplies as soon as they could. The United States pledged $250 million and since then has gradually increased the money. Asian countries such as Japan, China and India sent in medical crews along with search & rescue teams immediately and have continued with physical, emotional and monetary support.

Communication to Nepal has been a struggle. My family received the news at about 3 or 4 AM EST. We were awaken by news...
alerts and text messages from family in Nepal as well as Nepalis living in the States asking if we had heard of the news. We tried countless times to contact our family but the calls wouldn’t go through. Being a socialist country, the government had blocked phone calls of non-emergency numbers to go through in order to keep the lines clear for emergency and governmental operations.

The Nepali community in America has really been hurt from this national tragedy. Being so far away, there is nothing we can do except donate, pray and keep on trying to contact family. It is so hard to just sit here when you hear your family on the other end crying about how they would do anything to be here, safe with us. Several Nepali communities have started fundraising and held vigils in honor of Nepal and every Nepali. In moments like this, all you want to do is be with people that can empathize with you. This tragedy has made us all so much closer.

Nepali families are very big and really close, even with relatives that are on the other side of the family tree. People who are related to you are your immediate family and you become really close to them. The four of us, my mom, dad, sister and I, divided up our Nepali family and texted whoever number we had in our phones. Text messages were the only means of communication that would go through. If one of us got in contact with someone, we would breathe a sigh of relief, notify everyone and move on to others. After hours of worrying and trying to contact our family, phone calls finally started to go through. However the quality was not so clear and the government only allowed calls for 3 minutes and then it would be cut off. However, we were so relieved to hear their voice and know that they were unharmed. My aunts, uncles and cousins would describe the situation as utter chaos and complete confusion. Their beloved Kathmandu was now completely devastated. Thankfully no one in my family was seriously injured and their houses were only cracked.

Engineers would travel around the cities and inspect houses for free. Though nothing serious had happened, they were advised not to return to their homes due to concerns of strong aftershocks. My cousins would quickly run in their house and get necessities, blankets, food, water, phone chargers, and money then run back out. They stayed in their cars for a few days after until the strength of the aftershocks lessened.

Thankfully communication from both ends continued to improve gradually. The four major US cell phone carriers announced free, unlimited calling to Nepal for a month. Carriers in Nepal also announced unlimited calling, texting, and data for free. However, these benefits could only be utilized if the calls could go through and the internet servers worked.

My grandparents on my mother’s side had traveled to Sinamangal, Kathmandu from Shankarnagar, Rupandehi a couple of months ago because my aunt had a baby. After the day of the big earthquake, my grandparents took all of my cousins and some of my uncles & aunts back to Shankarnagar for some time, a distance of about 8 hours. Luckily there was no effect in Butwal, where I am from and where most of my family resides.

One of our friends in Asheville has been affected tremendously by the quake. They lost an aunt, nephew, and uncle. All of their houses in both the city and village have been flattened. Their family is staying in tents and cars. They couldn’t bear this anymore so the next day after the quake, they bought a ticket for their parents to come here and sent it to them immediately. Luckily the airport was in operation at the time and they were able to board the next flight to America.

An oncologist couple in Asheville is also going to Nepal this summer to be with their family and also to volunteer. Many of my cousins who are doctors have also been out helping as much as they can. My family is planning to go to Nepal in October as we had previously planned. Officials in Nepal have said that summer might be too soon because recovery efforts will still be going on in major cities.

As a Nepali, this has truly been the worst thing I have had to experience in my life. I always wanted more people to know about and how beautiful and amazing of a country it is, but not in this way. As the media and people forget about Nepal and carry on with other news and there day to day lives, I ask that you all remember Nepal and continue to pray for them. Please keep a little place in your heart for Nepal.

Translation: Jai Nepal – A patriotic and religious saying meaning “All hail Nepal!”

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A Letter of Hope

Renu Sharma
West Palm Beach
Florida

I, like most of other Nepalese, felt shocked and disbelief when I received news about the massive earthquake in Nepal. For a whole week I felt numb and I was glued to the computer hoping to catch the latest news. Although, I have spent more time outside of Nepal, I still carry some fond memories of happy time in Nepal that I spent as a young girl. Like many Nepalese who had immigrated to different parts of the world, every one including me wishes to see and hear about one’s birth place rising above and not falling down. Learning about earth quake, although living outside the country, our hearts go out to all who suffered destruction, damage and personal loss.

I know how much pride we have for our culture and heritage. I grieve like many of us whether living in and outside Nepal on the massive destruction of Nepal’s treasures and loss of precious lives. It is a matter of extreme sentimental value to all of us whether who live inside or outside Nepal.
There is a lot of anger and frustration going on in Nepal at this time. My heart hurts to see some of negative feelings expressed through various communications and social channels. Although some may not agree with me, but I feel that this is the time to be positive and optimistic. In my humble opinion, it is not time to express negative feelings and anger towards the administrative system or politicians at this time of natural disaster. No human being caused this worst catastrophic event.

Recent history of Nepal shows that there have been no visionary leaders. Corrupt leaders are not new thing in most of third world countries. This is a time to induce positive influence among all people living in Nepal. There is no short cut to success. We should learn to be grateful that the world is willing to help us. We should learn to be self sufficient and not to depend on foreign aid all the time. Even simple steps which seem to be generally appropriate, if undertaken on wrong time may not bring desired result. So we should change our focus to do right things at right time. This is not the time to do an overall political reform. It can be done, if citizen feel the need, when and after the country fulfills basic relief supplies and shelters needs.

Destiny of Nepal lies in the hands of people who live there, and who are willing to sacrifice their personal benefits for the good- ness of the country. In general, I feel that all non-residents Nepalese share a common feeling is to see a positive atmosphere in Nepal. We are all willing to help from outside but the task of re- construction and redevelopment should be accepted by our Nepalese countrymen in a spirit of harmony and cooperation among its entire citizen.

Different forms of anger are continuing to be reflected in the media day by day from Nepalese living in and out side of Nepal. Recently, people have upset over Indian media because of how they portrayed a part of Kathmandu such as Thamel. As a non resident Nepali and visiting the country regularly, I have noticed that Nepalese living in especially in Kathmandu have progressive-ly embraced added Indian social culture and custom in their daily lives. Since many Nepalese are Hindus, similarities in social and cultural practices are to be expected. Lately, I noticed that new Indian customs have been adopted by Nepalese living in Kathmandu such as “Mehadi ceremony”, “hiding shoes” and wearing kurta. Turban and scarf by the groom etc…. When I was living there we did not have mehadi and hiding shoes portion of custom in the wedding ceremony. Majority of people did not wear salvar kamiz for weddings or in daily use. This could be due to influence from watching Indian films and television. Many reasons are provided by the people, who have adopted Indian customs in their daily lives based on personal choices, convenience or affordability rightly or wrong. I do not know.

While I was in Kathmandu I noticed that most of the Hindu bha- jans were done in Hindi especially the hymn “JAYA JAGDISH HARE”. I was puzzled and inquire as to what happened to the Nepali version of JAYA JAGDISH HARE sang by a singer Gauri Keshi that Nepal Radio used to broadcast in the morning. No body seemed to remember that Nepali version. It indicates to me that new generation will have no knowledge of it.

As a child growing up in Nepal, I used to enjoy wearing “bhoto and janghe suruwal.” When I asked a Nepali tailor to make a bhoto suruwal for me, he replied that no body wears bhoto suwal any more these days and he did not know how to make a “janghe suruwal” for girls either. He recommended that I make “salvar kamiz” Indian style instead which is in fashion these days. So I drew him a picture of “janghe suruwal” and asked him to make one for me. After much explanation and persuasion from me, he was kind enough to tailor a set of “bhoto and janghe suruwal” for me for which I was so grateful.

All these information indicated to me that Nepal’s people have fallen love with Indian custom and have embraced it. In my humble opinion, most of the Kathmandu does appear to be like any other Indian town and these days almost all shop-keepers are of Indian origin. So my question is at this time of disaster, why are we being sensitive when some Indian reporter calls little or mini India to Thamel. At this time all these negative feelings should be set aside.

In USA, there are places called little Havana, little Italy and China towns. I do not see any issues which is degrading and insulting on this matter. Obviously, some people think other- wise and appear to carry strong sentiment on this issue. In my view issues such as of Thamel, can be addressed later on a positive matter, after the basic need of country is met.

Now is the time to focus on providing basic human needs and services to the injured, hungry and homeless Nepalese that are still shocked and petrified.

I feel that we are being very sensitive on issues that may not be of significance in the long run. We are creating chaos in the country which is already in chaos by reacting negatively about what other people have said about the country, whether justifiable or not this does not solve the problem, we are facing at present. Priority at this time I feel is to work towards recovery from the shock of disaster and ignore nega- tive publicity. Our focus should be directed towards distrib- uting relief supplies, healing the wounded and reconstructing urban and remote rural areas of Nepal. I would love to see every one pulling together, being positive and enthusiastic to fulfill this tremendous responsibility.

We can only hope for the rise of some visionary leaders who will lead the country in this effort. I conclude this writing by quoting a famous saying by an American President John F. Kennedy; “…Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country”.

Personal note from the writer:

I wrote this article after one week of massive earthquake in Nepal. I am not sure whether I will publish it or keep it as my private thought at this time. If I decide to publish this article I just want the reader know that people cope differently responding to stressful situation in order to relief stress. Writing can be a catharsis for many people. I noticed that after the earthquake in Nepal people have composed poems, songs and essays expressing their feelings and thus relieving their stress. The purpose of this letter of hope is not to judge how people have reacted in that dire situation but to share our feelings in order to improve the current situation in the country. Let’s all pray, work together and focus on building a brighter future for Nepal.
नेपालको नवसंरचना र नवनिमाणः चुनौती र सम्भावना— ९

भाकाठू पनि मानवीयतम नवसंरचना संरचना बार्तौ दिइँदैन। यस अवधिमा निर्देश जानिन्था रजसाफान, मानव दुर्भाग्यको बिषयहरू हुनेछ एराको संसारवर्ती र निजी निबन्धावर नाप्देको हुन भएको नै हुनेछ। अभिक्रियाहरू र निजी निबन्धाहरूले निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको र राष्ट्रीय केन्द्रल मन्त्रीहरूको सहयोगले राज्य निविदा रेखासहित निजीकरण तथा नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको, 

१९१० माघसौबत १२ मा महाकालीमा कोटका आएको रेश्मा सेलिबर मन्त्रिका भाग पाइँदै तथा भनेको भनिन्थालै पनि निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको, जसलाई दुई अनुभव, अभिक्रिया र निजीकरण र नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको। भवन निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको, जसलाई दुई अनुभव, अभिक्रिया र निजीकरण र नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको। भवन निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको, जसलाई दुई अनुभव, अभिक्रिया र निजीकरण र नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको। भवन निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको, जसलाई दुई अनुभव, अभिक्रिया र निजीकरण र नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको। भवन निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको, जसलाई दुई अनुभव, अभिक्रिया र निजीकरण र नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको। भवन निजीकरण र नवनिमाण गर्नुभएको, जसलाई दुई अनुभव, अभिक्रिया र निजीकरण र नवनिमाण र नवसंरचना गर्नुभएको।

२५ माघ १५०९ मा श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान

२५ माघ १५०९ मा श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान बिबेक श्रीमान
This page contains text in various languages, including Nepali, English, and others. The text appears to be a mix of random characters and possibly some coherent content. Due to the formatting and language, it is challenging to extract meaningful information directly. Further, the text does not seem to follow a standard layout, making it difficult to parse automatically. The content might include discussions, articles, or excerpts from different sources. However, the exact nature of the text cannot be accurately determined from the image provided.
Nepali Association in Southeast America (NASeA)
The purpose of the meeting was to bring in different ideas and professionals in aid to the earthquake disaster relief and long term planning. It is a technical, not political, platform. The NERHP conducted its first meeting on May 25th, 2015.

Coordinator: Bishal B. Shah, Washington DC
Participants:
  Dr. Kamal Pandey
  Dr. Khagendra Thapa
  Dr. Tilak B. Shrestha, Remote Sensing, Huntsville, Alabama
  Dr. Keshab Poudel, NRN
  Mr. Diwakar Pant
  Mr. Gopal Shrestha

Comments by Dr. Tilak Shrestha:
1. This is a useful discussion and formation of a technical forum. It would be even better if it is sponsored by recognized organizations like ‘NRN’, ‘NASeA’, ‘ANA’, ‘ANMA’ and others for wider exposure and participation. It also will help in better contact with the relevant experts, officers and impressions on leaders in Nepal.
2. The discussion group also must emphasize on creating a data base of experts in different field who would contribute. It is about counting what expertise we have, how to build network, and how to fruitfully use it. Some experts may even go to Nepal to help. However, it may be more practical if the experts work in own home and contact counterparts in Nepal in his personal visits.
3. I have some experience in applied Remote sensing techniques. I will be happy to help if it is appropriate. The technique can be used in monitoring and identifying landslides. I know of two institutes in Nepal with expertise in remote sensing – a. Department of Survey, Nepal Government, and b. ICIMOD ‘International Center for Mountain Development.’ It requires high resolution satellite imagery before and after the earthquakes. These days many countries produce them and we may be able to get ‘buy’.
4. We may request individuals with expertise and track records in town planning with political backgrounds like Dr. Baburam Bhattarai and Mr. Keshab Shhatapi. However, they need to rise above political ideologies and work together for good of the nation.
5. There are many earthquake prone nations like Japan and Chile, which have developed considerable expertise in earthquake disaster managements and buildings. Perhaps, we can learn from them.
6. The existing building laws must be strictly enforced and new appropriate laws need to be enacted. There have been many cases of corruption, where buildings are built in public land and with illegal design. They should be removed. Tall buildings may be built, but only with proper and approved engineering design.
7. It may be good time to open up congested public places, around temples and our historical sites. We may even learn from the earthquake disaster of 1934 (1990 BS). Then PM Juddha Shumsher Rana demolished many broken buildings, cleared many congested places and build the ‘Juddha Sadak.’
8. I have read somewhere that the water wells (Inar) have effects of minimizing earthquake damages in the surrounding buildings. It is an important research issue. Perhaps the wells have dampening effects on the earthquake waves. The hypothesis can be ascertained by the field observations. The engineering and science students may make it as their class project. If it is really true, then it could be a tool to solve both problems – a. water management and b. mitigating earthquake damage.
9. One major problem is that Kathmandu being the capital, all the government offices and other institutions are concentrated here. Thus, people are moving in and making the population density very high. Perhaps, the decentralization of offices and other institutions may be done to disperse population. Kathmandu should be developed more like cultural center.
10. Special care has to be taken to restore our cultural and Dharmic heritages. Sadly many temples and older architectural heritage were damaged. A few decades earlier, I know of a German project to restore old temples and buildings in Bhaktapur. Perhaps we can dust off the project and invite help from experts who worked in the project. It requires patient work of many people and will also be a source of jobs for our unskilled labor.
11. This may be good time to remove or minimize architecturally incongruent structures. Case in point is the white British style building in the Basantapur, down town Kathmandu. We have royal palace built by Malla Kings and King PN Shah. Later Rana PM copied the British style like Singh Darbar and added a part in it. The British style in Singh Darbar is fine and it does not stand out incongruent. However, it stands our incongruent along with the earlier Pagoda style building in Basantpur. Thus, it may either be removed completely and make it a public space, or build pagoda style congruent with other royal constructions. Same issue may be observed in the Shree Pashupati Nath temple and other places.
12. Even private houses may be asked to add façade to make it congruent to the local architectural culture.
13. A major problem is haphazard building houses. It must be controlled. Many houses are built in very small plots, without spaces in between to drive a motor vehicle even in emergency.
14. Another problem is building houses in agriculturally good land with good soil and water source. Houses may be encouraged to build in at elevation with closer rock formation, which is less ferile and less prone to earthquake, flood and other problems.
15. Army may take on the responsibility of reliefs in disasters like earthquake, flood etc. Army personnel may be trained. Depots with disaster basics like dry food, water, medicine, tents, corrugated iron sheets, communication devices etc. may be kept in the army bases around the nation.
16. Government may conduct competitions for cheap and functional housing designs using local material in view of disaster managements, energy \ water conservations, sewer and waste disposal etc.
17. Government may aid productions of corrugated iron sheets, tents, toilet fixtures etc.
18. Perhaps, we can make it a part of studies for students in science, engineering, earth sciences, social sciences, medical sciences etc. For example: our traditionally traditional towns are made out of lattice of ‘Chowk’ or court yards. These are semi-enclosed
Support Your Favorite Charity with Life Insurance

As Americans, we can take pride in the fact that we are a nation of givers. And as the economy improves, charitable giving is on the rise. In fact, according to the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, in 2013 total charitable giving from U.S. individuals, corporations, foundations, and bequests exceeded $335 billion.

But with money still being tight for many Americans, it’s nice to know that there is a way to support a favorite charity without having to worry about the impact it could have on your budget. How? By giving the gift of life insurance. Here are just a few ways you can use this proven method to contribute money to your favorite causes:

• **Donate an existing policy**—If you already have a policy and no longer need the death benefit, you can irrevocably transfer ownership of the policy to your desired charity. While the charity will be responsible for any remaining premium payments, it will also receive the full death benefit when you die.

• **List the charity as a beneficiary**—As the owner, you remain in control of your policy and can leave money to as many beneficiaries as you like: children, grandchildren—even multiple charities. Or you can name a single charity the sole beneficiary, and it will receive the entire amount.

• **Purchase a separate policy**—There are times when it makes sense to have separate policies: one for loved ones, and one for charitable gifts. This technique can prove especially helpful if you would like to retain ownership of one policy, but not the other.

• **Create a Charitable Remainder Trust:** While this planned-giving tool is designed to shelter assets such as stocks and real estate, you can also incorporate life insurance if it’s set up correctly. Be sure to consult a trust attorney before pursuing this approach.

Giving life insurance can be a lasting and recession-proof way to support a worthy cause. Depending on the method you choose, it may also offer a variety of tax benefits.

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Continued from page 10 (Nepal Earthquake)………

spaces where residents interact, take care of children, elderly people spend time etc. These spaces have both social and physical significant.

19. We also need to watch carefully and take appropriate actions against Churches and similar institutions which like to take our bad times as opportunities to Convert poor people and kidnap children to their Church orphanage.

20. Let there be culture of making these disaster a case of national unity, not political, by our leaders.

21. Finally, let us remind ourselves our roots, heritage and spirituality in overcoming all the problems bravely and wisely.

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मेरो विचार र राजनीति

सामूहिक काम करिएको समूहमा नै काम गर्नुहोस्, तरी धेरै जस् भएको भएको वियोक्ति/ वियोक्तिहरूलाई निर्माण संकाय पद्धति र कामहरू सङ्ग्रहात्मक आरोपको बौद्धिक निर्देश प्रदान गर्दछ। समर्थनकारी सदस्यहरू स्वयं आफू समाजको आरोपको बौद्धिक निर्देश प्रदान गर्न सक्छन्?

एकतर मद्दत र्यासों दीपक, त्यसपैठ निर्देश हुनु, त्यर्नाउ रक्षक पुरुष गर्न जाने त्यसरो टोलिस्कलाई नै दुई दुलै छानसेको पूरी, साथै नेपाली समूहले तोलिस्कलाई नै हामीले गर्न सक्छौ रूपमा काम गर्न सक्छ।

सबैलाई लाग्दै केहि राजनीतिलाई निर्माण गर्न सक्छन्, अलग अलग आफू सामाजिक समूहहरूलाई अक्षरमा यो भर्न सक्छ। अन्य राजनीतिक समूहहरूको साथै हामीले यस्तो परम्परासहित पद्धति लागू गर्न सक्छौ।

नेपालमा, हामीले जरूर सामाजिक समूहहरूलाई अक्षरमा यो भर्न सक्छौ, अलग अलग सामाजिक सत्तालाई निर्माण गर्न सक्छौ। यसलाई केहिले मान्छेले सामाजिक समूहहरूलाई अक्षरमा यो भर्न सक्छौ। यसलाई केहिले मान्छेले सामाजिक समूहहरूलाई अक्षरमा यो भर्न सक्छौ। यसलाई केहिले मान्छेले सामाजिक समूहहरूलाई अक्षरमा यो भर्न सक्छौ।

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Hosted By: Triad Nepalese Community Center, Highpoint, North Carolina

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Let’s cherish the moment!

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⇒ Nepal Forum, Literature Program, NRN Session just to name a few.
⇒ Nepali cultural program performed by our local talents
⇒ Concert/Comedy/DJ performed by renowned Nepali artists.
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⇒ Nepali food.

For More Information
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If you are life member, you don’t need to a member again to Vote or file a candidacy.

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