

Dabbu Newsletter

June 2000
Volume V, Issue 1



New Executive Members Elected

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T. Maharjan, NPPA
404 Whiton Rd
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853

The Nepa Pasa Puchah successfully celebrated its 8th Annual Bhintuna Celebration on November 13, 1999.

More than 300 people participated in this special celebration. As our population grows, this annual program has been growing steadily.

The success of the program is due to many dedicated and committed people. We would like to thank those individuals who made this event successful.

We had many visitors from Nepal and around the States who participated in this program. We would like to thank all participants, performers for their support for the organization.

The NPPA elected following new executive members for the year 1999-2001. They are as follow.

1999-2001 Executive Members

President: Mr. Dibya Ratna Hada

Vice Presidents: Mr. Dhurba Lal Gorkhalee
Mr. Krisna Prajapati

Treasurer: Mrs. Sarita Malakar

Secretary: Mr. Raju Shrestha

Executive Committee

Mr. Pashupati Gorkhali
Mr. Deepak Shrestha
Mrs. Saroja Pradhan
Mr. Subarna Malakar
Dr. Devendra Amatya
Mr. Gyanu Rajkarnikar
Mrs. Anita Shrestha
Mr. Surendra Pradhan
Mr. Ramesh Amatya
Mr. Laxman Pradhan

Mr. Indra Lal Shrestha, singer and song writer

We are very saddened to inform you that Mr. Indra Lal Shrestha, famous singer and songwriter passed away on May 30, 2000 in Maryland.

He was instrumental in promoting Newa songs and cultural programs in Washington DC. He performed at many Nepali gathering all over the States.

During his tenure in Nepal, he received many awards for his talent. Mr. Shrestha was always willing to perform during special events held around the country. He inspired many young artists in both Nepal and Washington to appreciate Nepali music.

We will miss him dearly. If you are interested in making donations in his memory, you can send donations made out to the Nepal Cultural Center C/O Ms. Magan Shrestha at 11806 Elkin St, Wheaton, MD 20902

NPPA's Newa CD Project

With a popular demand, the Nepa Pasa Puchah is launching a special project to collect some old traditional songs and produce a CD as a new educational project. The cost for this project will be about \$3000.

At this moment we are looking for special contributions to defray the cost of the production. If you are interested in making a contribution, please contact Dr. Tulsi Maharjan at Tmaharjan@juno.com. All contributors who donates more than \$50 will be listed in the cover of the CD and receive a free CD. All the proceed from this project will go to our scholarship fund.

**Four Pillars of Nepal
Bhasa Literature –**
from <http://www.intweb.com/asani/>

Nisthananda Bajracharya (1858-1935), Na Bahi, Kathmandu
Nisthananda Bajracharya is best known for his Nepal Bhasa version of *Lalit Bistar*, a work on the life and teachings of the Buddha, published in 1914. Since there was no printing press in Nepal at the time, Bajracharya traveled to Calcutta and brought printing type to Kathmandu. He did the type-setting, proof-reading and printing himself. *Lalit Bistar* was the first printed book in Nepal Bhasa.

Siddhi Das Amatya (1867-1930), Kel Tol, Kathmandu
Siddhi Das Amatya was a storekeeper who spent more time composing verse than selling cloth. A lot of time during his business trips to Calcutta was spent visiting libraries. Among Amatya's plethora of creations, the works that come to the fore are *Sajjan Hridayabharan* (1920), dealing with ethics, women's education and other social causes; *Siddhi Ramayana*, his rendition of the great Hindu epic (1912); and *Siddhi Byakaran* (1926), a book on grammar.

Jagat Sundar Malla (1882-1952), Khauma Tol, Bhaktapur
Jagat Sundar Malla was a champion of modern education who turned his own house into a free school. Since there was a lack of teaching materials, he wrote many course books himself, including an English-Nepal Bhasa-English dictionary. He also translated *Aesop's Fables* (1915) into Nepal Bhasa. In the preface, he espoused the benefit of imparting education in the mother tongue. This brought four policemen to his door who took him to the Singha Durbar where he was given a severe admonition.

Yog Bir Singh Kansakar (1885-1941), Kel Tol, Kathmandu
Yog Bir Singh Kansakar was a poet and social reformist who advocated causes like girl schooling and use of homespun. In 1930, he and other members of a committee suffered arrest for signing a

petition to open a library. The mass crackdown of 1940 put him and many other writers and political activists in prison. Kansakar's multi-faceted poems are contained in the book *Yog Sudha*.

2000 DABUU Magazine

The 2000 Issue of the Annual Dabuu Magazine will be published on the special occasion of the 9th Annual Bhintuna Celebration. If you would like to send special greetings to your friends and families. Please let us know. The ad rates are *Quarter page \$25.00, Half page \$40.00, Full page \$75.00*

If you place an ad, your annual membership will be automatically renewed. Send your check made out to the NPPA and mail it to Dr. Tulsi R. Maharjan. All the proceeds from this fund benefit the NPPA Scholarship fund.

Also we are looking for a special stories on Newa culture and tradition. If you are interested in writing any articles, we will be happy to publish it.

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
OF NEPALESE ASSOCIATIONS
JULY 1 - 3, 2000
ATLANTA MARRIOTT
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ATLANTA**

"NEPALESE UNITY 2000"

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Solo Dancer, Group dancers, Singers,
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Please send email to:
suvaganga@easyliving.com or
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For further details, please visit our web site:
<http://www.nepal-america.org>.
Shaubhagya L. Shrestha
Coordinator, Cultural Program Committee

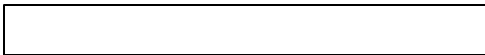
Please visit The Nepa Pasa Puchah home page at
<http://www.geocities.com/rajumaha/nppa/>
to learn more about NPPA. If you have any suggestions and ideas on how we can improve this site please contact
Dr. Tulsi Maharjan
E-mail tmaharjan@juno.com.

**Profile
Dibya R.Hada
President
Nepa Pasa Puchah**

Dibya R. Hada was borne on July 10, 1938 in Bhaktapur, Nepal. After completing his Master in Commerce he went to study Industrial Cost Accountant in Ottawa, Canada under Colombu Plan from 1966 to 1968. Mr.Hada worked temporary in the Royal Palace Investigation Department. He, along with his wife, Jaya and only daughter Dipa came to the United States in October of 1971 and settled down in New York City.

Mr. Hada worked as an Accountant and promoted to Management Consultant. He always wanted to go back to Nepal and do the social work so he took his early retirement. He spent almost one and half years organizing and lobbying for Non-Resident Nepalese visa status and requested His Majesty's Government to reform the Immigration Act so as to ease visa policy for NRN (asking permanent visa for those who have become American Citizens).

The Hada family moved to Rockville, Maryland in the beginning of 1999.



Newa Consultant Inc. is looking for qualified computer experts. If you are interested contact at <http://www.newainc.com>

President's Message

On behalf of the Nepa Pasa Puchah (NPPA), I would like to wish you and your family a happy and prosperous Nepalese New Year 2057.

For the past ten years, NPPA has been working towards establishing itself as a community-based, non-profit organization devoted to cultural and educational exchanges and studies in areas of vital interest not only to the Newa community of Washington Metropolitan area, but also to all Nepalese and friends of Nepal residing across the North America. NPPA has been observing Bhintuna celebration with widely popular traditional Newa dinner as a single most important annual event ever since it was established in 1991.

As we all know, we are entering into a new era with much anticipation for renewal and progress. Year 2000 has brought us a new opportunity to reflect upon our past accomplishments and to rededicate ourselves to the original ideals of NPPA while moving forward to meet the new challenges and future needs that lie ahead of us.

I would like to present you with a number of new initiatives that will be undertaken in the coming years to keep the unique heritage of our tradition and culture alive in our homeland, half a way across the globe and to work towards bringing the recognition to NPPA as a cultural and educational center for Nepal in North America.

We have undertaken several initiatives for this year. One of the program for this year will be a day long seminar on "Cultural Heritage of Nepal". We are also trying to collect and preserve old traditional Newa songs. Please let us know if you would like to participate and help in these initiatives.

We are also collecting books and magazines related to ancient arts, culture and social/educational issues for our NPPA Library. We would very much appreciate for your kind donation.

We would like to develop new partnership with our sister organizations as well. We have already committed to participate at Atlanta in July 4th weekend to conduct a session on Cultural Heritage. I think it is very important for everyone of us to understand the role, the need and the meaning of NPPA. Your strong participation will make this organization most viable and successful.

Special Seminar on Nepalese Cultural Heritage set for August 12, 2000

The Nepalese community in Washington area is hosting a special cultural heritage seminar in Rockville Maryland on Saturday, August 12, 2000. The topic of the conference will be **"How to Preserve Cultural Heritage of Nepal"**

If you are interested in participating, please contact Mr. Dibya Hada at Dhada@juno.com

Patrons & Life Members of NPPA

Biswamber & Mandira Shrestha
Dr Suresh Man & Sajani Shrestha

Life Members:

Dr. Maheshwar & Bina Baidya
Dibya & Jaya Hada
Veda & Kyana Joshi
Ganesh Lal & Haribaba Kayastha
Dr. Tulsi & Ellen Maharjan
Ram & Bishnu Malakar
Raju & Sanju Malakar
Dr. Rajendra & Mary Pradhan
Achut Shrestha
Bhagat Lal & Meena Shrestha
Tribhuban & Roshna Tuladhar
Dr. Pabitra & Amrit Tuladhar
Rajesh & Neeva Pradhan

NPPA Membership and Renewal Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Life \$200, Benefactor \$500,
Regular \$8, Family \$10, Student \$5.

Membership Life [] Benefactor []
Family [] Regular [] Students []

Ms. Sarita Malakar
14418 Oakvale Street
Rockville, MD 20853
(301) 460-7903

Dear Members!

When you become a member of the NPPA ONE dollar of your membership fee automatically goes to our NEPA education project. The NPPA has started a new scholarship program with a school in Nepal. Each year we are providing \$200 scholarship money to this school to select three orphan students who might not be able to continue their study without financial help.

So your membership dollar is crucial to keep this project going in Nepal. Please send in your membership dues today.

**Profile
Krishna Prajapati
Vice President of Cultural Affairs**

Profession: Engineering Manager at Marriott Corporation

He has a certificate in Recovery Program from Ferris State University, Michigan and also Certified Pneumatic Control System by Trane Company. Hobbies includes fishing, kite flying, swimming, gardening and landscaping, renovating and designing the residential and commercial sites, designing and controlling of musical and theatrical sound systems.

Celebration of Vesak Full Moon Day

The United Nations has adopted resolution at the last General Assembly Session in 1999 to declare the Vesak Full Moon Day as a United Nations holiday.

The resolution was co-sponsored by all SAARC countries, nine Asian Buddhist countries and 12 countries from the rest of the world.

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Writer: **cg}tuf}kfn l/; in**

If you are interested in receiving a copy, please contact
Mr. Risal at astik_risal@msn.com

We are asking people to vote which old Newa songs should be included in our Newa CD collection project. If you would like to vote, you can send me E-mail at Tmaharjan@Juno.com with your song name.

Also, if you are interested in making a special donation for this project you can send your contributions to Dr. Tulsi Maharjan, 404 Whiton Rd, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853-4200. All donors, who make a contribution of more than \$50 or more, will be listed in the cover of the CD. Please make the check payable to NPPA.

Dr. Tulsi R. Maharjan
NPPA
404 Whiton Rd
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853



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