नेपाली आवाज

NEPALI AAWAZ | AN INTERNATIONAL FORTNIGHTLY

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ANUP PRAKASH

X-Treme Rock Show २०६२

A rock show gives away free SIM cards with every ticket and reserves an empty football field between the stage and the cordoned [real] audience for His Majesty Crown Prince Paras to grace.

There's a lot that amounts to a good audience turn out in a stadium concert, especially in a valley whose citizens have been living under a lingering dark cloud of political and social turmoil and are looking for a release of some kind. Throw in a free SIM card for a mobile phone and add some of Nepal's best rock acts on the bill, and you have a massive turn out for a stadium show. *Page 17*

नेपाल इतिहासकै संगीन मोडमा

नेपालीहरुका दुई ठूला चाड दशै र तिहार अर्को वर्ष आउने वाचा गर्दै भर्खरै विदावारी भएका छन्। आयो दशैं ढोल बजाई, गयो दशै ऋण बोकाई- चाडबाडको यो परम्परागत धङ्धङ्गीबाट आम नेपाली जनजीवन क्रमश: छुट्कारा लिइरहेको छ। डायस्पोराबाट चाडवाड मान्न स्वदेश फर्केकाहरु पनि अव विदावारी भएर आ-आफ्नो कर्मक्षेत्रतिर लाग्न थालेका छन्। माओवादीको युद्धविरामका कारण शहरबाट दशैतिहार मान्न गाउँतिर लागेकाहरु पनि शहरतिर फर्कने क्रम जारी छ।

शरद ऋतुको सुन्दर बेला ओरालो लागरहेको यतिबेला दाँती जस्ता सेता हिमश्रृंखलाहरुले फालिम लागेर पर्यटकहरुलाई आमन्त्रण गर्न छोडिसकेका छैनन्। माओवादीको एकतर्फि युद्धविरामका कारण पोहोरभन्दा अहिले सयकडा १५ ले पर्यटकहरु बढी आएको समाचार निस्केको छ। तर, यो खुशीमा सामेल हुन नपाउदै माओवादीहरुको एकतर्फि युद्धविराम समाप्त हुने दिनगन्ती शुरु भइसकेको छ। फलत: आम नेपाली जनमानसमा फेरि एकपटक उनीहरुको शिरैमाथि सन्त्रासको कालो बादल मडारिरहेको टड्कारो अनुभूति हुन थालेको छ। *Page 21*

Jazzmandu 2005

An Avalanche of Jazz sweeps through Kathmandu as the "biggest jazz party in the Himalayas" takes place in the valley for the 4th time. *Page 14*

ANUP PRAKASH

WIN TICKETS!
***MUSIC DOWNTOWN*, NEW YORK**

नेपालीहरुलाई हङकङमा राजनैतिक अवसर

हङकङ सरकारको संवैधानिक विकासका लागि गठित कार्यदलले प्राप्त गरेको प्रतिवेदनको आधारमा सार्वजनिक गरिएका प्रस्ताव अनुसार राजनीतिक निकायहरुमा अब अल्पसंख्यकहरुको समेत सहभागिता रहने प्रवल संभावना रहेका कारण नेपाली लगायत अल्पसंख्यक जातिहरुले सकरात्मक रुपमा लिएकाछन्। *Page 6*

A Weekend In The Lives of Nepali Students

Party with celebrities in London's hippest club and work for charity the next day. Get drunk in Cyprus. Go out for dinner with family in Hong Kong. Live it large and take care of your hangover when you wake up the next evening in Delhi. Nostalgically enjoy a traditional festival from home, far away from home. These are the weekends of young Nepali students, a demography that is increasingly traveling abroad for college education and finding out what being independent means, for now. *Page 10*

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Letters

Dear Nepali Aawaz,
Just want to say thanks for the great poster of Lauryn Hill and Melissa Ethridge. It's good to know that Nepali journalists are able to take photos just as good as any international photographer. I guess that's the beauty of art, it breaks all barriers. Congratulations on a great start!
Samrat, Kathmandu.

Hello Nepali Aawaz team,
I have heard Kutumba, I got their two albums when I was in Kathmandu in spring this year. I completely agree with your write up. They are absolutely deserving of international promotion, and what better place than an international Nepali paper. I can't wait to listen to their new album. I'll have to get my friend in KTM to send it to me.
Susan T., UK.

Hi Nepali Aawaz,
I can't believe Nepal has had it's own women rock concert for three years! Thanks for updating us on it. Congratulations to all the performers and organisers.
Sujata Sharma, Canada.

Hi Nepali Aawaz,
It's good to see a budding newspaper that boldly publishes the kind of political articles and views that are right, but prohibited in Nepali media by the current government. This kind of growth in Nepali media and the voice it has is perhaps just what the government is trying to stop altogether.
Raman Bhakta Shrestha, Nepal.

Hi Nepali Aawaz,
Just wanted to congratulate you on a wonderful 3rd issue. Keep up the good work.
K. Shrestha, California.

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Watch Grammy winner and Rock and Roll Hall Of Fame Inductee blues legend **Buddy Guy** and Grammy Winners **Blind Boys of Alabama** live in New York!!! Details on Page 18.

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डा. प्रकाचन्द्र लोहनीको निष्कर्ष
‘राजा, दल र माओवादीबीच वार्ता आवश्यक’

‘नेपालमा विगत १२ वर्षदेखि चल्दै आएको माओवादी हिंसात्मक द्वन्द्वको अन्त्य र मुलुकमा व्याप्त राजनैतिक गतिरोध समाप्त हुन राजा ,राजनैतिक र माओवादी दलहरुबीच समझदारी कायम हुन नितान्त आवश्यक छ’

यो निष्कर्ष हो, राष्ट्रिय जनशक्ति पार्टीका सह-अध्यक्ष डा. प्रकाशचन्द्र लोहनीको । उहाँ गत नोभेम्वर २ तारिख बाल्टिमोरमा आयोजित एक छलफल कार्यक्रममा सम्वोधन गर्दै हुनुहुन्थ्यो । उहाँले अगाडि भन्नुभयो- ‘देशभित्रका संसदवादी राजनैतिक दलहरुको आ–आफ्नो स्वार्थका कारण अहिले देशको अस्तित्व नै खतरामा परेको छ, राजनैतिक दलहरु शक्तिहीन हुदै जाँदा उनीहरुको यस कमजोरीबाट फाइदा उठाउन विदेशी शक्तिको षडयन्त्र शुरु भइसकेको छ। यसैले मूलकको हितको लागि कत्ति पनि ढिलो नगरी राजा, दल र विद्रोही पक्षवीच वार्ता अपरिहार्य भइसकेको छ ।

राष्ट्रमा अब छ महिनाभन्दा बढी धान्न सक्ने सञ्चिति नरहेकोले नेपालको अर्थतन्त्रमा ठूलो ह्रास आई सिंगो देश नै आर्थिक रुपले संकट र असफल राष्ट्र हुने बाटोतिर लागेको धारणा व्यक्त गर्नुहुदै डा. लोहनीले भन्नुभयो- ‘राजाले नियुक्त गरेका मन्त्रीपरिषद्का उपाध्यक्ष डा. तुलसी गीरीले राजसंस्था र प्रजातन्त्र संगसंगै जान संविधान बाधक रहेको भ्रमपूर्ण कथन व्यक्त गर्दा पनि राजाद्वारा कार्वाही नगरिनु अचम्मलाग्दो विषय भएको छ ।’

छलफल कार्यक्रममा संवाद नेपालका अध्यक्ष तथा नेपाल मानव अधिकार संगठनका केन्द्रीय सदस्य निलकण्ठ शर्माले सैन्य पक्ष र विद्रोही पक्षवीचको बन्दूकको लडाईले नेपालीहरुको मानव अधिकार हनन भएको उल्लेख गर्दै बन्दुकद्वारा नेपालमा कहिल्यै पनि कसैको जीत हुन नसक्ने इतिहासको स्मरण गराउनु भयो ।

बाल्टीमोर अमेरिकन नेपलिज सोसाइटीका संरक्षक एवं बुद्धिजीवि गणेश मलेकूको सभापतित्वमा सम्पन्न कार्यक्रममा डा. अनुप पहाडी, प्रेमराजा महत, कृष्ण कडेललगायतका वक्ताहरुले पनि आ–आफ्नो धारणा राख्नुभएको थियो ।

न्यूयोर्क देउसी र भैलोले गुञ्जायमान

गगन विरही

गएको हप्ता अमेरिकामा रहेका मुश्लीमहरुले आफ्नो महान पर्व “इद” मनाएजस्तै अमेरिकीहरुले पनि “हलोइन” मनाए । संस्कृतिमा धनी नेपालीहरु पनि के कम, अमेरिकामै रही उनीहरुले पनि उज्यालोको चाड तिहार त्यत्तिकै हर्षोल्लासपूर्वक धुमधामसँग मनाए । अमेरिकाका विभिन्न राज्यहरुमा छरिएर रहेका सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमको आयोजना गरी गत नोभेम्वर ५ तारिख भव्यरुपमा मनाइयो । करिब ५ घण्टा लामो साङ्गीतिक कार्यक्रमका साथ आयोजित शुभदीपावली साँझ-२०६२ नेपालमा झैं देउसी र भैलोको भाकाले गुञ्जायमान भयो ।

CHANDRA PRAKASH

नेपालीहरुले यसपटकको तिहारमा दाजु-वहिनी, दिदी-भाईको साइनो गाँस्दै सप्तरङ्गी भाइटीका लगाए । हरेक वर्ष हजारौंको संख्यामा बढिरहेको नेपाली जनसंख्याका कारण अब अमेरिकामा समेत दशै-तिहार बाक्लैसँग लाग्न थालिसकेको अनुभव यसपटक अरु बढि गरियो । सेलरोटी पकाउने, जुवा-तासमा जम्ने, देउसी भैलो खेल्ने, भाइटीका लगाएर अजम्वरी हुने आशिष आदानप्रदान गर्ने लगायतका नेपालीहरुका यी जन्मजात संस्कार चलनहरु उनीहरुसँगै अमेरिकामा पाइलो सारे ।

सेलरोटी पकाएर होस् कि नाचगान गरेर होस्, आआफ्ना मित्रहरुमा शुभकामना साटासाटा गरेर हर्षोल्लासका साथ दिदी बहिनी र दाजुभाईलाई आशिष दिएर मनाउने जुन परम्परा थियो, ती यावात परम्परागत संस्कार भव्यरुपमा न्यूयोर्कमा सम्पन्न भयो । न्युयोर्कको ज्याक्सनहाइटस्थित हिमालयन याक रेष्टुरेन्टमा भने सामुहिक रुपमै एक भव्य कार्यक्रममा ख्यातिप्राप्त कलाकार नरबहादुर दाहाल, उज्ज्वल मैनाली, गोमा गुरुङ्ग, गम्बु शेर्पा, तेन्जिङ्ग लामा, याङ्गजी शेर्पा र नीमा लामाले आ–आफ्ना कर्णप्रिय गीतहरु प्रस्तुत गरेका थिए भने संसारा ब्याण्डद्वारा रोचक साङ्गीतिक झंकार प्रस्तुत गरिएको थियो ।

कार्यक्रमको आयोजक हिमालयन याक रेष्टुरेन्टका प्रोप्राइटर एवं समाजसेवी सोनाम लामा आयोजनाको औचित्यमाथि प्रकाश पार्दै भन्नुहुन्छ- जहाँ रहेपनि हामी नेपालीले आफ्ना परम्परागत चाडपर्वहरुलाई बिर्सनु हुदैन भनेर यस वर्षदेखि हामीले हाम्रा महान चाड दशै र तिहार भव्यरुपमा मनाउन यो कार्यक्रमको थालनी गरेका हौं । यसपालीको कार्यक्रममा सहभागी कलाकार तथा दर्शकहरुका कारण हाम्रो हौसला बढेको छ। नेपालीहरुको आफ्नै भान्छाघरका रुपमा रहेको हिमालयन याक रेष्टुरेन्टको उद्धेश्य मात्र पैसा कमाउनु मात्र होइन भन्नुहुदै सोनाम भन्नुहुन्छ- हामीले आफूलाई सांस्कृतिकरुपमा धनी देखाउन सक्नुपर्छ ।

National Lawyer’s Guild To Investigate Nepal’s HR Violations

Held through October 27- 31, Portland was the host for this year’s convention of the National Lawyers Guild. Amongst the 600 participants, mostly lawyers, law professors and legal academics from across the US, guest experts from Japan, Philippines, Belgium and Nepal were also invited at the event. “There is massive and systematic human rights violation taking place in Nepal,” Advocate Dinesh Tripathi who represented Nepal, said during the event. “The King himself showed disrespect to the law and constitutional provisions when he imposed his personal and direct rule in the country.” He also went on to talk about how the independence and authority of judicial branch of Nepal is seriously undermined and how a large number of court orders have been disrespected by the Royal regime. The advocate also highlighted the fact that Nepal’s court system is “functioning under the growing shadow of militarization.” During the event, he appealed to the international community to give due attention and support to Nepal’s growing socio-political problems that have escalated since the King’s take over on 1 feb. 05. He urged the international civil society and global human rights community to continue supporting the human rights movement and the struggle for democracy in Nepal. The Guild has also decided to organise an international fact finding mission on and a delegation to Nepal.

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सगरमाथा पर्वतारोही हरि बहादुर बस्नेत सँगको जम्काभेट

विश्वको सर्वोच्च शिखर सगरमाथा एवं अमेरिकाको उच्च शिखर माउण्ट मेकन्ली, दुवै शिखरहरु आरोहण गर्ने सम्भवत: पहिलो र एकमात्र नेपाली हुनुहुन्छ- हरिबहादुर बस्नेत। वि.सं. २०१७ श्रावण ३ गते बुबा देवी बहादुर बस्नेत र माता मधुमाया बस्नेतको कोखबाट तनहु जिल्लाको खैरेनीटार-४मा जन्मनुभएका बस्नेतले जीवनका महत्वपूर्ण २७ वर्ष शाही नेपाली सेनामा रहेर राष्ट्रसेवामा समर्पण गर्नुभएको छ।

हाल अमेरिकामा बस्दै आउनु भएका पर्वतारोही बस्नेतसँग नेपाली आवाजका लागि शिव विष्टको यसपटक जम्काभेट भयो। प्रस्तुत छ, सोही जम्काभेटको केही अंश:

कहिले आउनुभयो अमेरिका ?
एक वर्ष जति भयो।

के गर्दै हुनुहुन्छ ?
अमेरिकामा क्लाइम्बिङ्ग स्कूलहरु खोजेर आफ्नो अनुभव बाँड्ने योजनामा छु। यसबीचमा दैनिक गुजाराका लागि सानो काम पनि गर्दैछु।

काम पनि सानो/ठूलो हुन्छ र ?
!त्यसो भन्न खोजेको होइन ? तर, भविष्यमा धेरै ठूला काम गर्ने सोचाई भएकाले प्रसंगवश मात्र यो कुरा आएको।

कहिले फर्कदै हुनुहुन्छ नेपाल ?
अहिले तय भैसकेको छैन । ग्रीनकार्ड प्रोसेसमा छ, पाएपछि फर्कनुपर्ला । शिखर चढ्दाको छोटो अनुभव बताईदिनोस् न। म शाही सेनामा हुँदा अधिकांश समय पर्वतारोहणसम्बन्धी काममै बिताएँ। तालिम प्रशस्त मात्रामा लिएकोले चढ्न खासै कठिन भएन। यसको मतलव शिखर आरोहण गर्नु भनेको सहज र सजिलो काम पनि होइन। तर, यात्रा जतिसुकै कठिन भए पनि शिखर चुमेपछि हुने आनन्द भने स्वर्गीय नै हुँदोरहेछ। त्यसको अनुभव भने मलाई राम्रैसँग भएको छ।

शिखर चुम्न गाह्रो हुन्छ भन्छन् नि ?
उचाइको कारण अप्ठेरो र जोखिम सबै झेल्नुपर्ने हुन्छ। तैपनि प्रत्येक क्षण–क्षणमा नयाँ/नयाँ मनोरम दृश्य देख्न पाइने हुँदा आफ्नो लक्ष्यमा नपुगुन्जेलसम्म प्रयास गर्न मन लाग्ने रहेछ।

होचो शिखर चढ्न त सजिलो होला नि, हैन र ?
होचो होस् या अग्लो- सबै हिमाल चढ्न उत्तिकै प्रयास गर्नुपर्छ, तर कम उचाई भएको शिखर चढ्न सहज हुने रहेछ।

के का लागि शिखर चढ्ने आँट गर्नुभयो ?
नेपाल आमाको उच्च शिखरमा धेरै शिखर आरोही फुलहरु फुलिसकेका छन्, अझै एक फुल थपेर सप्तरङ्गी बनाउने चाहना नै मेरो आँट र हौसला बन्यो।

चन्द्रमामा पनि जाने मन छ कि ?
चन्द्रमामा जाने मन कसलाई नहोला र ?

तपाई त विश्वकै सर्वोच्च शिखर चुमेको मान्छे, जीवन के जस्तो लाग्यो ?
सामुद्रिक जल- कहिले निश्चल अनि शान्त, कहिले छालझैं वेगवान अनि अशान्त।

तपाई अहिले अमेरिकामा हुनुहुन्छ, आफ्नो जन्मभूमिदेखि टाढा कस्तो लाग्छ ?
छातिमाथि हात राखेर भन्ने हो भने यो उमेरमा आफ्नो जन्मभूमि छोडेर विदेशमा बस्दा कसको मन खुशी होला र ? तर, के गर्ने देशको परिस्थितिले बाध्य बनायो। आफ्नै देशमा भविष्य भएको भए...यसरी सोच्छु। तर, भाविको लेखान्त नै यस्तै रहेछ भनेर खुशी हुन खोज्छु।

अरु केही भन्नु थियो कि ?
खास केही छैन। नेपाली आवाज पत्रिका सर्वव्यापी होस्। विदेशबाट प्रकाशन भएपनि सम्पूर्ण नेपालीहरुका लागि सञ्चारको दूत बन्न सकोस्। जहाँ रहेका भए पनि सबै नेपालीलाई स्वदेश र राष्ट्रियताप्रति सदैव उच्च भावना सिर्जना गर्न अभिप्रेरित गरोस्। सबैभन्दा महत्वपूर्ण कुरा, नेपाली आवाजले नेपाल र अमेरिकाका नेपालीहरुबीचको सम्वन्ध-सेतूको काम गरोस् !

Do you have news related to the Nepali diaspora?
Are you a musician or an artist?

info@nepaliaawaz.com

न्यूयोर्कमा ९७औं लक्ष्मीजयन्ती सम्पन्न

विनोद रोक्का बने सर्वोत्कृष्ट कवि

CHANDRA PRAKASH

नेपाली वाङ्मयका श्रष्टा/साहित्यानुरागी नेपाल भित्र रहुन् या बाहिर, जहाँ रहेपनि महाकवि लक्ष्मीप्रसाद देवकोटा र उनको जन्मजयन्ती उनीहरुका लागि सदैव एक महान चाडका रुपमा रहने गर्छ।

अमेरिकामा रहेका नेपाली श्रष्टा तथा साहित्यानुरागीहरुले गत अक्टोवर २९ तारिख न्यूयोर्कमा कविता प्रतियोगिताको आयोजना गरी ९७औं लक्ष्मी जयन्ती श्रद्धापूर्वक मनाए। अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय नेपाली साहित्य समाज न्यूयोर्कको आयोजनामा सम्पन्न उक्त कविता प्रतियोगितामा प्रतियोगी र अप्रतियोगी गरी करिव दुई दर्जन कविताहरु समावेश गरिएको थियो।

प्रतियोगी कविताहरुतर्फ कवि विनोद रोक्काको हामी बुद्ध मारेर शान्ति खोज्दैछौं शीर्षकको कविता सर्वोत्कृष्ट हुन सफल भयो भने कवयित्रि राधा पौडेललाई द्वितीय र सन्तोष थपलियाको सिर्जनालाई तृतीय स्थान प्राप्त भयो। बोष्टन, बाल्टीमोर, वाशिङ्टन डि.सी. र नर्थ क्यारोलिनाबाटसमेत कविहरु सहभागी हुनुभएको समारोहमा नेपाली वाङ्मयमा स्थापित कवि तथा कवयित्रिहरु रमेश खकुरेल, गगन विरही, गोविन्द गिरी प्रेरणा, बसन्त श्रेष्ठ, मोहन सिटौला, सीता पाण्डे, झलनाथ खनाल र नरवहादुर दाहालले पनि आ-आफ्ना अप्रतियोगी कविताहरु वाचन गर्नुभएको थियो।

नेपाली राजनितीका चर्चित व्यक्तित्व डा. रामशरण महत, झलनाथ खनाल, डा. मिनेन्द्र रिजाल, कानूनविद् खगेन्द्र जि.सी., संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघका लागि आवासिय प्रतिनिधि मधुरमण आचार्य, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघका सहायक महासचिव कुलचन्द्र गौतम उपस्थित हुनुभएको सो कविता प्रतियोगिता न्यूयोर्कमा अहिलेसम्म आयोजना गरिएको भव्य प्रतियोगिता मानियो।

हामी बुद्ध मारेर शान्ति खोज्दैछौं

(अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय नेपाली साहित्य समाज न्यूयोर्कद्वारा ९७औं महाकवि लक्ष्मी जयन्तीको उपलक्ष्यमा आयोजित कविता प्रतियोगितामा सर्वोत्कृष्ट ठहरिएको यो कविता यसका विजयी श्रष्टालाई हार्दिक बधाई ज्ञापन गर्दै प्रकाशन गरिएको छ। (सम्पादक)

हामी बुद्ध मारेर शान्ति खोज्दैछौं
अरुहरु सडक र बाटो हिडेर लक्ष्यमा पुगिसके
तर हामी भने अझै बाटो खोज्दैछौं

हामी पूर्वको झुल्के घाम अनि
दक्षिण र पश्चिमका उर्वरा फाँट र खुल्ला आकाश छोडी
उत्तरको कठ्याङ्ग्रिने जाडो र आकाश छेक्ने पहाड रोज्दैछौं
लाग्छ अझै हामी वेहोसी मै छौं
त्यसैले होला यस्तो उल्टो-काम गर्दैछौं

हामी दाई र भाई मारी भय र आतंक फैलाएर
पौरखी हात र उर्वरा मस्तिष्कहरु विदेश धपाई
वालक, विधवा र बुढाबुढीहरु रुवाएर
देशमा प्रजातन्त्र, शान्ति र विकासका सपना देख्दैछौं

हामी समयको ताल र भाकामा नाँच्न छोडी
आ-आफ्नै ताल र भाका मिलाई आगनमा नाँच्दैछौं
कहिले ठोक्किन्छौं, कहिले लडेर डिलमुनि जोत्तिन्छौं
ठोक्किनु र जोत्तिनुको कारण हामीले कहिल्यै खोजेनौ
त्यसैले, कहिले आगन टेढो भएको आरोप लगायौं
कहिले अरुको नियतमा शंका उठायौं
कहिले समयको ताल र भाका नै
अनियमित रहेको दोष लगाई
एकपछि अर्को नियम बनायौ
तर आफ्नो गल्ती हेर्ने संस्कार
कहिले बसाएनौ....
त्यसैले आज हामी देशमा बुद्ध मारेर
विदेशमा आफ्ना लागि शान्ति खोज्दैछौं
अरुहरु सडक र बाटो हिडेर लक्ष्यमा पुगिसके
तर हामी भने अझैपनि सडक र बाटो रोज्दैछौं ।

(आईतवार, १६ अक्टोवर २००५
मिडलभिलेज , बसस्टप।

नेपालीहरुलाई हङकङमा राजनैतिक अवसर

देवराज राई, हङकङमा

हङकङ सरकारको संवैधानिक विकासका लागि गठित कार्यदलले प्राप्त गरेको प्रतिवेदनको आधारमा सार्वजनिक गरिएका प्रस्ताव अनुसार राजनीतिक निकायहरुमा अब अल्पसंख्यकहरुको समेत सहभागिता रहने प्रवल संभावना रहेका कारण नेपाली लगायत अल्पसंख्यक जातिहरुले सकरात्मक रुपमा लिएकाछन् ।

तत्कालिन मुख्य सचिव डोनाल्ड चाङको संयोजकत्वमा गठित उक्त कार्यदलमा तत्कालिन कानुन सचिव इल्सि ल्योङ र संवैधानिक मामिला विभागका सचिव स्टेफन लाम र हनु भएको थियो । कार्यदल समक्ष विभिन्न राजनीतिक दल, संघसंस्था तथा व्यक्तिहरुले करिव ५ सय सुझावहरु पेश गरेका थिए । हङकङ माइनोरिटिज कम्युनिटी एशोसियनका तर्फबाट एकराज राईले पेश गर्नं भएको सुझाव पनि कार्यदलको प्राथमिकतामा परेको छ । कम्युनिटीका तर्फबाट पेश गरिएको सुझावमा अल्पसंख्यकहरुलाई पनि मूलधारको राजनीतिमा सामेल गराउनु पर्ने र यसका लागि हेङ यि कुक (गाउँ स्तरीय निकाय)देखि विधान परिषद् लगायत कार्यकारिणी परिषद् र निर्वाचन समिति समेतमा कम्तिमा ५ प्रतिशत नियुक्ति गरिनु पर्ने रहेको थियो । यसका साथै विधान परिषद् अन्तर्गत कार्यगत निर्वाचन क्षेत्र (फङ्सनल कन्स्टिच्युसन) मा अल्पसंख्यकका लागि छुट्टै क्षेत्रको व्यवस्था हुनुपर्ने समेत सुझावमा समेटिएको थियो । गतहप्ता कार्यदलका तर्फबाट मुख्य सचिव राफेल हुइले (तत्कालिन मुख्य सचिव डोनाल्ड चाङ कार्यकारी प्रमुखमा नियुक्त हुनुभएपछि मुख्य सचिवमा राफेल हुइ नियुक्त भएपछि सेप्टेम्वर १८ सम्ममा सुझावहरुको आधारमा संवैधानिक विकासका प्रस्ताव पेश गर्नंहुँदै उक्त प्रस्ताव वालिक मताधिकारका (युनिभर्सल सफरेज) लागि महत्वपूर्ण हुने बताउँनु भएको छ ।

उहाँका अनुसार वालिक मताधिकारको विषयमा आधारभूत कानुन (वेसिक ल)मा स्पष्ट व्याख्या गरिएकोले त्यसको प्राप्ति तथा संरक्षणका लागि सरकार जवाफदेही रहेको छ । यसका लागि समय तोकिनु ठूलो कुरा होइन त्यसको प्राप्तिका लागि सबै एक हुनु मुख्य कुरा रहेको छ ।

वालिक मताधिकार सम्बन्धी कार्वाही अगाडि बढाउनका लागि एक छुट्टै समितिको निर्माण गरिने प्रस्तावमा उल्लेख गरिएको छ । सोही समितिले वालिक मताधिकारका लागि आवश्यकीय वातावरण तयार गर्न काम गर्ने छ । प्रस्ताव अनुसार डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टीले मुख्य रुपमा उठाइरहेको सन् २००७ मा कार्यकारी प्रमुख र सन् २००८ मा विधायक परिषद्को गठन वालिकमताधिकारको आधार मा हुनु पर्छ भन्ने माग पूरा नहुने भएको छ ।

सरकारका तर्फबाट उक्त प्रस्ताव आउदो डिसेम्वरमा विधान परिषद्मा पेश गर्ने तयारी भइरहेको र यही मुताविक प्रस्तावको समर्थनका लागि सम्पूर्ण विधायकहरुमा अनुरोध समेत गरिएको छ । यसका लागि विधायक परिषद्को दुई तिहाई सदस्यहरुले समर्थन गर्न पर्ने हुन्छ । अहिलेको स्थितिमा यसका लागि सरकारको विपक्षमा रहेका कम्तिमा ६ जना सदस्यहरुको समर्थन आवश्यक रहेको छ ।

कार्यदलको यस प्रस्तावप्रति सरकारको विपक्षमा रहेका प्रजातान्त्रिक समूहका विधायकहरुले डिसेम्वर ४ का दिन विरोध प्रदर्शन गर्ने कार्यक्रम तय गरेका छन् । उक्त समूहका अनुसार प्रस्तावमा वालिक मताधिकारका लागि सरकारले समय निर्धारण नगरेसम्म प्रस्तावको समर्थन नगर्ने जनाएको छ ।

सरकारी योजना अनुसार चुनाव समिति विस्तारका लागि आगामी जनवरीमा प्रस्ताव पेश गरिनेछ भने सन् २००६ को मध्यसम्ममा विस्तार गरिने छ । सन् २००८ मा हुने विधायक परिषद् विस्तारका लागि अर्को वर्ष प्रस्ताव पेश गरिने छ ।

सरकारको प्रस्तावलाई हङकङ माइनोरिटिज कम्युनिटि एशोसियसनका अध्यक्ष एकराज रईले स्वागत गर्नंभएको छ । उहाँका अनुसार यस विषयलाई अब जनस्तरमा प्रचार–प्रसार गर्न लागि परेको जनाउनु भएको छ ।

प्रस्तावमा परेका मुख्य बुँदाहरु

- सन् २००७ को कार्यकारी प्रमुख चयनका लागि हालको ८ सय जनाको निर्वाचन समितिलाई विस्तार गरी १६ सय पुऱ्याइने । उक्त समितिमा जिल्ला परिषद्का सम्पूर्ण सदस्यहरुलाई समेत समेटिने ।
- हाल रहेको ६० जनाको विधान परिषद्लाई विस्तार गरी ७० पुऱ्याइने । यसका लागि भौगोलिक (जियोग्राफिकल) र कार्यगत (फङ्सनल) निर्वाचन क्षेत्रमा पाँच–पाँच बृद्धि गरिने ।
- वालिक मताधिकार (युनिभर्सल सफरेज) का लागि निश्चित समय नतोकिएको भए पनि सो प्राप्ति कसरी गर्न सकिन्छ भन्ने विषयमा काम गर्नका लागि समितिको मातहतमा रहने गरी एउटा जूरी तयार गरिने ।
- अवधि पूरा नभई निर्वाचित भएको कार्यकारी प्रमुखलाई पनि विधायक परिषद् विघटन गर्ने अधिकार रहने, वाहिरिने कार्यकारी प्रमुखले उ कार्यरत हुँदा उक्त अधिकार प्रयोग गर्न चाहेको अथवा नचाहेको भए पनि ।
- मध्यावधिमा नियुक्त कार्यकारी प्रमुखलाई पनि विधान परिषद् विघटन गर्ने अधिकार ।

ANUSHIL SHRESTHA

डाक्टरहरुको कला प्रदर्शनी

चिकित्सा पेशा र पेन्टिङ्को सम्बन्धको स्पष्ट व्याख्या गर्न नसकेपनि डा. रोशन अर्याल दुवै क्षेत्रमा उत्तिकै दखल राख्न प्रयासरत छन् ।

व्यवसायिक र स्थापित कलाकारहरुले तयार पारेका आकर्षक पेन्टिङ्ग सँगै उनका पनि प्रदर्शनीमा राखिएका थिए । वी.पी. कोइराला स्वास्थ्य विज्ञान प्रतिष्ठानका परिक्रमा कला मञ्चले प्रतिष्ठानको १२ औं वार्षिकीको अवसरमा हालै आयोजना गरेको कला प्रदर्शनीमा चिकित्सक र स्वास्थ्यकर्मीका चित्रहरुपनि राखिएका थिए । 'कलर्स अफ लाइफ' नाम दिइएको उक्त प्रदर्शनीमा वालवालिकाका चित्रहरु पनि राखिएका थिए ।

चिकित्सा पेशाभए पनि पेन्टिङ्ग एउटा समग्र भावना व्यक्त गर्ने माध्यम भएको वताउने वी.डी.एस्. अन्तिम वर्षका अर्का कलाकार सरुण कोइरालाले भने, 'पढाइ पछि अरुले केके गर्छन् तर मैले पेन्टिङ्लाई निजी सौख बनाए ।' प्रतिष्ठानमा कार्यरत चिकित्सक, अध्ययनरत विद्यार्थी, नर्सहरुले तयार पारेर प्रदर्शनीमा राखिएका अधिकांश चित्रहरु वेलुका बनाइएका छन् । 'दिउसो त व्यस्तताले चित्र वनाउन भ्याउदै भ्याइन्न, विदाको वेला र राती मात्र हो ।' कलाकार डा अर्यालले भने ।

ANUSHIL SHRESTHA

कला प्रदर्शनीमा डा. तनवीर रहमान, डा. अभिशेक शाह, एम.वी.वी.एस. र वी.डी.एस्.मा अध्ययनरत विद्यार्थीहरु ध्रुव श्रेष्ठ, संगम रायमाझी, सीता, समीर श्रेष्ठ, मनितारा शाक्य, जया रेग्मी सन्तोष दहाल, राजकुमार पन्त, रचना गुप्ता, दिपाली गोयल लगायतका चित्रहरु प्रदर्शनीमा राखिएका थिए ।

प्रतिष्ठानका चिकित्सकहरुलाई साथ दिन वरिष्ठ कलाकार कर्ण मास्के, प्रदर्शनी स्थल पुगेका थिए । उहांका केही पछिल्ला अमूर्त पेन्टिङ्हरु पनि त्यहां सजाइएका थिए । युवा कलाकारहरु स्वयम् प्रकाश श्रेष्ठ, श्यम ठकुरी, प्रनोद दत्त, महेन्द्र राई लगायत स्थापित १५ कलाकारका गरी १सय ५० पेन्टिङ्ग प्रदर्शनीमा राखिएका थिए ।

तिमध्ये स्वयम् प्रकाश श्रेष्ठ, श्याम ठकुरी र प्रनोद दत्तका अधिकांस चित्र स्त्री विषयमा केन्द्रीत 'न्युड' शैलीका थिए । पेन्टिङ्ग सँगै कलात्मक स्थीर फोटोहरु पनि प्रदर्शनीमा राखिएका थिए । फोटो प्रदर्शनीमा मिली कोइराला, राजेश शाक्य, विकास गौचन, अरुणा, विकास वत्स्याल र रोशन अर्यालका फोटाहरु राखिएका थिए ।

सानो परी धरान भईन् सजना

ANUSHIL SHRESTHA

धरानमा कार्तिकको दोस्रो साता सम्पन्न सानो परी-सानो बाबु प्रतियोगीता २००५ मा बाह्र जना प्रतिस्पर्धीलाई उछिन्दै नवज्योती स्कुल धरानमा कक्षा ५ मा अध्ययानरत १० वर्षिया सृजना गदाल "सानो परी धरान २००५" घोषीत भएकी छिन ।

सुलक्ष्य ए डिभीजन अफ जीत हाम्रो प्रालीको प्रस्तुतीमा काठमाण्डौ र पोखरा पछि धरानमा सम्पन्न आयोजनामा नवज्योती स्कुलकै ३ कक्षामा अध्यानरत ८ वर्षिया रमा लिम्बु फष्ट रनरअप र स्प्लेण्डर बोर्डिङ स्कुलमा १ कक्षाकी ७ वर्षया रोजीना राई सेकेण्ड रनर अप घोषित भएकी छिन। सानो परीको ताज पहिरिए पछी सृजनाले प्रमाण पत्र र आकर्षक पुरस्कारहरु प्राप्त गरेकी छिन ।

धरानको ब्रिटिष्ट गोर्खा सामुदायीक भवनमा सम्पन्न कार्यक्रममा सानो परि तर्फका उपाधीहरुमा मस्ट ट्यालेण्ट र वेष्ट स्माईलको उपाधी नवज्योती स्कुलकी प्रज्ञा राईले प्राप्त गरेकी थिईन । अन्य उपाधीहरुमा वेष्ट हेयर निशा लिम्बु, चार्मीङ पर्सनालीटी नेहा र ाई, बेस्ट पर्फमेन्स कोरोलिना लिम्बु, वेस्ट वाक सुब्रिना लिम्बु, वेष्ट फ्रेण्डशीप साराह थापा, वेष्ट फोटो जेनिक अस्मिता राई , डिसीप्लेन सिमोप राई, स्विट मेरि लिम्बुले प्राप्त गरेकाछन । सानोबाबु तर्फ सहभागी चार जना बालकहरुमा मष्ट ट्यालेण्ट सुभम श्रेष्ठ, डिसीप्लेन मनोज राई, प्रर्फमेन्स युमास राई तथा फोटो जेनिक र पर्सनालीटीको उपाधी मौशम राईले प्राप्त गरेका थिए ।

कार्यक्रममा विजेता सानो परी र सानो बाबुहरुलाई समारोहका प्रमुख अतिथी अञ्चल प्रहरी कार्यालय धरानका प्रहरी वरिष्ठ उपरि क्षक कुवेर सिंह रानाले ताज पहिऱ्याउदै पुरस्कार र प्रमाण पत्र प्रदान गर्नु भएको थियो । प्रतियोगीताको निर्णायकहरुमा पत्रकार डम्बर कृष्ण श्रेष्ठ, युरेका बोर्डिङका प्रिन्सीपल राजेन्द्र गुरुङ, समाजसेवी बिद्या शाक्य र केशव श्रेष्ठ रहनु भएको थियो भने सहजकर्तामा सम्यक शिक्षा समुहका मोहन श्रेष्ठ हुनुहुन्थ्यो ।

पनिता तामाङले संञ्चालन गरेको ५ घण्टा लामो सो कार्यक्रमको कोरीयो ग्राफी सुशिल दाहालले र सहभागीलाई प्रशान्त तामाङले नृत्यको प्रशिक्षण दिएका थिए । कार्यक्रमको फोटो ग्राफरमा कलर फोटो स्टुडियोका प्रेम शाक्यले रहेका थिए भने कार्यक्रमको लाईट र साउण्ड ब्यावस्थापन मल्ल रेडियोले गरेको थियो । कार्यक्रममा गायीका हर्षु राई, सुनितार ाईले गीत प्रस्तुत गरेका थिए भने स्मिता लिम्बु, स्नेहा श्रेष्ठ र रोयसा लिम्बु सहीत युरेका बोर्डिङ स्कुलका बाल बालिकाहरुले नृत्य प्रस्तुत गरेका थिए ।

विगतको वर्षहरुमा कार्यक्रमले पाएको सफलता पछी राजधानी बाहिर साना बालबालीकाको ब्याक्तित्व बिकास गर्ने उदेश्यका साथ आयोजना गरिएको प्रस्तुतकर्ता राजेश जोशीले बताए । प्रतियोगीताका लागी गत असोज २४ गते देखि नै धरान जेसीसको भवनमा नानी र बाबुहरुको दैनीक ४ घण्टा प्रशिक्षण दिईएको थियो । जसमा ७ वटा स्कूलका १२ जना नानी तथा ४ जना बाबुहरु गरी जम्मा १६ जना सहभागी थिए ।

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न्यूयोर्कस्थित नेपाल प्रजातान्त्रिक युवा परिषद् ले आयोजना गरेको अन्तरक्रिया कार्यक्रममा सहभागी नेपाली कांग्रेसका वरिष्ठ नेता र ामशरण महतले भन्नुभयो– 'नेपाली जनता अहिले बीचमा पेलिएका छन् । यो दुर्भाग्य भनेको राजाको महत्वकांक्षा हो र राजाले नै प्रजातन्त्र मासेका छन् । नेपालको इतिहासको २४० वर्षमा नेपालले पछिल्लो १२ वर्षमा जति उपलब्धी यसअघि कहिल्यै प्राप्त नभएको बताउनुहुदै डा. महतले भन्नुभयो- 'नेपालमा माओवादी भएसम्म राजालाई सत्ता चलाउन सजिलो हुन्छ तर भोलिको नेपालको राजनीति भनेको अति हिंसायुक्त हुन्छ ।'

नेपाली कांग्रेसकै अर्का नेता चक्रप्रसाद वास् तोलाले भन्नुभयो – नेपाली जनता अहिले दोहारो मारमा परेका छन् । राजाले के गर्न खोजेको थाहा छैन, शान्ति बहाली गर्न लिएको भनेको सत्ता अहिले चुनावमा परि वर्तन भएको छ । नेपालका राजा संवैधानिक राजा हुनुपर्छ, राजनीति गर्ने राजा होइन ।

एमाले स्थायी समितिका सदस्य झलनाथ खनालले प्रजातन्त्रको विरोधी भनेको २ लाख सेना लिएर बसेको निरंकुश राजतन्त्र हो भन्नुहुदै राजाको अप्रजान्त्रिक शैलीले गर्दा नै दिन प्रतिदिन अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय जगतमा नेपालको छवि धमिलिदै गएको विचार प्रकट गर्नुभयो । अहिले सात पार्टीको एकता भनेको परि स्थितिको उपज हो र साझा एकता हो भन्नुहुदै नेता खनालले भन्नुभयो - 'यो एकता नेपालमा लोकतन्त्र स्थापना नभएसम्म कायम रहन्छ। '

एमाले स्थायी समिति सदस्य अशोक राईले प्रजातन्त्र सबैको लागि भएकाले अहिले हामी त्यसैको लागि लडिरहेका बताउनुभयो । र ाज्यमा पुनर्संरचना जरुरी भएको बताउँदै नेता राईले भन्नुभयो- 'सात पार्टी एउटै स्वर मा आउनुको मूलकारण नेपाललाई आवश्यक परेको समावेशी लोकतन्त्र नै हो ।'

नेपाली कांग्रेस प्रजातान्त्रिकका विमलेन्द्र निधीले भन्नुभयो– 'राजाले असोज १८ र माघ १९ गते गरेको गल्तीको समस्याको समाधान भनेको संविधानसभा हो । यसको लागि स्वदेश तथा विदेशमा बसेका सबै नेपालीहरुको सहयोगको खाँचो छ । र अन्तिममा विजय भनेको जनताकै हुनेछ ।'

जनमोर्चा नेपालका उपाध्यक्ष परी थापाले हाम्रो देशको समस्या भनेको राजा र जनताबीचको भेदभाव भएको बताउनुहुदै त्यसैले अहिलेको लडाई गुणिलो प्रजातन्त्र र गतिलो बहुदलको लागि भएको विचर व्यक्त गर्नुभयो ।

कार्यक्रममा नेपाल सद्भावना पार्टी (आनन्ददेवी) का अनिल झाले भन्नुभयो– 'माओवादीहरु अहिले सात पार्टिसँग मिलेर एकैसाथ अघि बढ्ने मुद्दा उठाई रहेका छन्, यसको अर्थ हामी सबैको लक्ष्य प्रजातन्त्र भन्ने नै हो ।' अक्टोबर ३० तारिख सम्पन्न कार्यक्रममा सभापतित्व आयोजक संस्था नेपाल प्रजातान्त्रिक युवा परिषद्का अध्यक्ष आनन्द विष्टले गर्नु भएको थियो भने कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन शैलेश श्रेष्ठ र डा. तारा निरौलाले गर्नुभएको थियो।

सोही दिन नेपाली प्रजातान्त्रिक एकीकृत मञ्च, न्यूयोर्कले पनि नेपालमा छाएको वर्तमान र ाजनीतिक समस्या समाधानको बाटो खोज्न तीन नेता डा. रामशरण महत, झलनाथ खनाल र अशोक राईबाट देशको परिस्थति बुझ्न अन्तरक्रिया कार्यक्रमको आयोजना गरेको थियो। संस्थाका सभापति टेक गुरुङको सभापतित्वमा सम्पन्न कार्यक्रम रत्न प्रसाद सञ्ज्यालले सञ्चालन गर्नु भएको थियो ।

पुर्वमा सुरक्षा फौज र माओवादी उस्तै: माओवादीको युद्ध विराममा सुरक्षा फौज आक्रमक

अनुशील श्रेष्ठ, पुर्वाञ्चलमा

ANUSHIL SHRESTHA

KASHISH DAS SHRESTHA

Royal Nepali Army patrols the streets of Dharan, Easter Nepal; Right: People's Liberation Army (Maoists) photgraphed in the hills of Eastern Nepal, Spring 2005

माओवादीले तीन महिने युद्ध विरामका क्रममा पुर्वी क्षेत्रमा माओवादीहरु सभा समारोह, प्रशिक्षण संञ्चालन गर्ने क्रममा शिक्षक बिद्यार्थी र सर्व साधारण अपहरण संगै चन्दा संकलन र संगठन बिस्तारमा ब्यस्त रहेकाछन भने सुरक्षा फौजको सक्रियता अझ बढेको पाईएको छ ।

माओवादीले युद्ध विराम गरेपछी सरकारी पक्षबाट पनि दशै तिहारको समयमा युद्ध विराम होला भन्ने आशा गरेका जनतामा निराशा कायमै रहेको स्थीतीमा पुर्वी क्षेत्रमा सुरक्षा फौजले गरेका कार्वाही चर्चामा आएको छ ।

सुरक्षा फौजले २९ असोजमा मोरङको बेलवारी-६, तेलकुडी, लिम्बु चौकमा गरेको कार्वाहमिा माओवादीका उपब्युरो सदस्य सहित निशस्त्र अवस्थामा रहेका चारजनाको हत्या गरेको भन्दै मानवअधिकारवादी संघ-संघठनहरुले राज्य पक्षबाट जेनेभा महा सन्धीस्को उल्लघंन भएको जनाएको छ ।

सादा पोशाकमा रहेका सुरक्षाकर्मीले मोरङको बेलवारी ६ को तेलकुडी भन्ने ठाँउको आफ्नै घरमा रहेका माओवादी एरिया सदस्य दुर्गा राईलाई घरैमा पुगेका सुरक्षाकर्मीलाई देखेर भाग्दा गोली प्रहार गरिएको थियो । राईको हत्यापछी सुरक्षाकर्मीले उनकै मोवाईल फोन प्रयोग गरेर उनका साथीहरुलाई झुक्याएर बोलाई हत्या गरेको बताईएको छ । मोटर साईकलमा आउदै गरेका तीन माओवादी सुरक्षा फौजलाई देखेर भाग्न खोज्दा मारिएका थिए । मारिने माओवादीहरुमा माओवादी बुद्धिजीवी फाँटका मोरङ-सुनसरी अध्यक्ष पुर्ण श्रेष्ठ, माओवादी उपब्युरो सदस्य तथा माओवादीको मुखपत्र जन बिद्रोहका प्रकाशन समिथी सदस्य बिनोद भनिने मोहन खनाल र पार्टी सदस्य बिदुर भट्टराई रहेकाछन ।

घटनाको पुष्टि माओवादी मोरङ-सुनसरी जिल्ला संगठनका सेक्रेटरी सन्तोषले एक प्रेस विज्ञप्ती जारी गरेका थिए । विज्ञप्तीमा सुरक्षाकर्मीले निशस्त्र नेता कार्यकर्तालाई हत्या गरि मानवअधिकारको उल्लघंन गरेको उल्लेख गर्दै यो घटनाले युद्धविराम भङ्ग गर्ने स्थिती सृजना गराएको बताएको छ । शाही नेपाली सेनाको पुर्वी पृतना हेडक्वार्टर ईटहरीले भने मोरङको सुरक्षा कार्वाहीमा चार माओवादी मारिएको जानकारी दिएको थियो । ईन्सेक पुर्वाञ्चल क्षेत्रिय कार्यालयले घटनाको छानवीनपछी बिज्ञप्ती प्रकाशीत गर्दै चार निशस्त्र माओवादीलाई नियन्त्रणमा लिएर हत्या गरिएकोले दोषीमा थी कार्वाहीको माग गरेको छ। त्यस्तै सो घटनाको संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघिय मानव अधिकार आयोगको नेपाल स्थित कार्यालयको टोलीले छानविन गर्ने क्रममा मानव अधिकार अधिकृत योन मेडिन र मार्क स्लुमरसेल्टले घटनास्थलको अवलोकन गरी सेनाको पुर्वी पृतना हेडक्वार्टरबाट आवश्यक जानकारी लिने काम गरेको छ ।

२ कार्तिकमा ताप्लेजुङको डुम्रीसे-७, बडहरेमा सुरक्षा फौजको आक्रमणमा परी माओवादीका जिल्ला नेता अर्जुन म्याङ्गबो "रमण" मारिएकाछन भने जील्ला जन सरकार उप प्रमुख कमान सींह भनीने सुरेन्द्र कार्की, रमेश अधिकारी "बसन्त", थर बहादुर तामाङ "चन्द्र" पक्राउ परेकाछन। त्यसको अघिल्लो दिन भएको अर्को कार्वाहीमा एरिया सदस्य बिष्णु मेयाङ्बो मारिएका थिए भने छापामार खिम प्रसाद पौडेल र मनकुमार शेर्पा पक्राउ परेकाछन । मोरङको थलाहा गावीसका पुर्व अध्यक्ष नारायण खतिवडालाई सादा पोशाकका सुरक्षाकर्मीले ८ कार्तीकमा र सुनसरीको महोन्द्र नगरबाट माओवादीको आरोपमा रामलाल उराउ र राम मुसहरलाई ३ कार्तिकमा पक्राउ गरी बेपत्ता पारिएको उनीहरुका परिवारले जनाएकाछन ।

८ कार्तिकमा ताप्लेजुङ सिकैचाकी माओवादी सेक्सन कमाण्डर कविता सुब्बाले माओवादीको भनाई र गराईमा ठुलो अन्तर भएको आरोप लगाउदै इलाममा आत्मसमर्पण गरिन । ६ कार्तिकमा सिराहा एरिया कमीटी सदस्य प्रमोद यादवले , २ कार्तिकमा ताप्लेजुङमा माओवादी छैठौं ब्रिगेड सोह्रौ बटालियनका प्लाटुन कमाण्डर खेमराज भण्डारीले र सोलु-१ नम्बर एरिया सदस्य रविकुमार राई "उत्साह"ले र त्यस अघि पाँचथरमा चन्द्र सेन्चुरी "बिस्फोट" र राजु दाहाल "बिशाल" नामका दुई जनाले आत्मसमर्पण गरेकाछन । झापामा कारागारबाट नजरबन्द मुक्त ५ माओवादीलाई २ कार्तिकमा पुन: पक्राउ गरिएको छ । यसरी पक्राउ पर्नेहरुमा पुरुषोत्तम चुडाल "राजु", पुष्पा उप्रेती, खगेन्द्र प्रसाद दाहाल, हिम बहादुर राना मगर र प्रेम चापागाई रहेकाछन। त्यस्तै पाँचथर जिल्लाका तीन गाविस र ताप्लेजुङ्ग दुई गाविसका शिक्षक तथा सर्वसाधारणलाई माओवादीको कार्यक्रममा गएको भन्दै सुरक्षाफौजले तारिखमा बोलाएको छ । पाँचथरमा च्याङ्थापु, फलैंचा, ओयाम र ताप्लेजुङ्गका कालिखोला र सादेवा गाविसका शिक्षक र सर्वसाधारणलाई माओवादीको निर्देशनमा श्रममा गएको, कार्यक्रममा गएको लगायतका आरोप लगाउदै संयुक्त सुरक्षा बेस क्याम्प च्याङ्थापुले तारिखमा राखेमा राखेको श्रोतले जनाएको छ ।

एकातिर सुरक्षा फौजले माओवादी विरुद्ध सक्रिय कार्वाही जारी राखेको छ भने गाउँ घरमा सुरक्षाकर्मीको स्थिती सुन्यकै बराबरमा छ । जिल्ला सदरमुकाम र बजार बाहेक पहाडी क्षेत्रमा गस्ती गएका बेला बाहेक सुरक्षाकर्मी देखिन्न । तराईका गाउँहरुको स्थिती पनि उस्तै छ कार्वाहीका नाममा सुरक्षाकर्मीहरु सादा पोशाकमा नपत्याउदो हुलिया बनाएर हिड्ने क्रम बढेको छ। असुरक्षाका कारण झापाका अत्तचल स्तरका सम्पुर्ण कार्यालयहरु भने शाही नेपाली सेनाको चारआली ब्यारेक छेउ सारिने भएको छ । मन्त्री स्तरको निर्णयले सार्न लागीएको बताईने ति कार्यालयहरुमा अञ्चल प्रशासन, प्रहरी, यातायात, खाद्य संस्थान आदी रहेकाछन। सर्लाहीमा भने दुई वर्ष अघि देखी निरन्तर लगाईंदै आएको बेलुकी ९ बजे देखी बिहान ४ बजे सम्मको कर्फ्यूँ सुरक्षा स्थिती सामान्य रहेको भन्दै हटाईएको छ ।

युद्ध विरामका समयमा सुरक्षाकर्मीले निहत्था कार्यकर्ताहरु मारेको भन्दै उत्तरी मोरङको मधुमल्लामा ३ कार्तीकमा माओवादीको मेची कोशी क्रान्तिकारी पत्रकार संघले एक अन्तरक्रिया कार्यक्रम गर्दै युद्धविराम भङ्ग गर्ने चेतावनी दिएको छ । संघका अध्यक्ष शशीकिरणले सुरक्षा फौज युद्धविराममा अझ आक्रमक भएको बताएकाथिए ।

माओवादी पनि उस्तै

मओवादीको धम्कीका कारण बन्द पुर्व क्षेत्रका बिद्यालयहरु अझै संञ्चालन हुन सकिरहेका छैनन । समुदायमा ब्यावस्थापन हस्तान्तरण गरिएका बिद्यालयले ब्यावस्थापन फिर्ता नगरेको जनाउदै उत्तरी मोरङका डेढ दर्जन बिद्यालयहरुमा अखिल क्रान्तिकारीले कार्तिक पहिलो साता देखी पुन: तालाबन्दी गरिएको छ ।

मओवादी धम्कीबाट बन्द रहेको झापाको दमक स्थित सुर्योदय बोर्डिङ स्कुलका बीद्यार्थीहरुले अभिभावकको सहयोगमा २ कार्तिकमा कक्षा कोठा भीत्रै पत्रकार सम्मेलन गरेर बिद्यालय नखुल्दा भविष्य नै अन्यौल रहेको बताए । गत साउनमा माओवादीले बिस्फोट समेत गराएको सो बिद्यालय २१ असोज देखी पुन: बन्द रहेको छ। नजिकीएको सेण्ट अप परिक्षालाई ध्यान दिएर पढाई सुचारु गर्न पहल गरिदीन बिद्यार्थीहरुले मानवअधिकारवादी,

पत्रकार, नागरिक समाज, कानुन व्यावसायी समक्ष आग्रह गरेका छन । कक्षा ७ का सन्देश सुवेदी, लोमीसा भट्टराई, कक्षा १० का प्रभाव बिक्रम बिष्ट र रेविका खत्री लगायतका बिद्यार्थीले शिक्षा माओवादीका लागी पनि आवश्यक भएकाले आफुहरुको भविष्य माथी खेलवाड नगर्न अनुरोध गरेका थिए ।

माओवादीले पुर्वी कमाण्ड अन्तर्गतका क्षेत्रमा युद्ध विरामपछी संगठनात्मक कार्यक्रम अन्तर्गत बिभीन्न स्थानमा सभा समारोह, प्रशिक्षण संञ्चालन गर्ने क्रममा शिक्षक बिद्यार्थी र सर्व साधारण अपहरणका घटना तिव्र बनाएकाछन भने सुरक्षा निकायले पनि आफ्नो कार्वाहीलाई निरन्तर अघि बढाईरहेको छ । माओवादी कार्यकर्ताले युद्धविराम गरेको दुई महिना भईसक्दा समेत गाउँ-गाउँबाट सर्वसाधारण, शिक्षक, विद्यार्थीहरुको अपहरण जारी राखेका छन् । माओवादीले २ कार्तिकमा ईलामको मावु स्थित प्रमोद मावीका बिद्यार्थी बिशाल गुरुङलाई बिद्यालय बाटै अपहरण गरेकाछन, ३ कार्तिकमा उदयपुरबाट प्रहरी जवान बेनुपर ाज भेटवाललाई र ७ कार्तिकमा सप्तरी कञ्चनपुर ७ का गिरीधरप्रसाद गुप्तालाई अपहरणगरेका छन ।

माओवादीले धनकुटाका ३२ गावीसका सचिवहरुलाई पेशाबाट राजिनामा नगरे भौतिक कार्वाही गर्ने चेतावनी दिदै पाख्रीवास गाँवीसका सचिव रेवतकुमार राईको मुगा स्थित घरमा ४ कार्तिकमा ताला लगाए पछी ८ कार्तिकमा सामुहिक बिज्ञप्ती जार ी गर्दै माओवादीलाई बिकल्पहीन राजीनामा माग्न अपिल गरेकाछन । झापामा गावीस सचिवहरुलाई धम्की दिईएपछी सुदुरपुर्वी ६ गावीस कार्यालय चारआलीमा सार्ने तयारी भएको छ । तेह्रथुमका माओवादी जिल्ला जनसरकारका कार्यवाहक प्रमुख विष्णु प्रसाद दाहालले जिल्लामा गैर सरकारी संस्थाहरुलाई लगाएको सम्पुर्ण प्रतिवन्ध फुकुवा गर्दै एक वर्षका लागी निर्धक्क काम गर्न आग्रह गरेकाछन ।

माओवादीका नाममा लुटपाट र डकैतिका घटना दिनानुदिन बढीरहेकाछन । सुरक्षाकर्मी बताउने ठुलो समुहले ४ कार्तिकमा झापाको जुरोपानी गाँउ कब्जा गरि ४, ५, ७ र ८ वडाका नौ घर बाट साढे ३ लाख बराबर का धनमाल लुटेकाछन । लुटेराहरु हतियार सहित ५० जना जतीको समुहमा आएका थिए । ६ कार्तिकमा माओवादी बताउने चार जनाले धनकुटा ९, पानीपात्लेका प्रेम बहादुर पराजुलीको घरबाट एघार हजार लुटेकाछन । ३१ असोजमा धनुषाको दुवाकोटमा १५ जनाको डाँका समुहले आक्रमण गर्दा र ाजकुमार मरिकको मृत्यु भएको छ भने ५ जना गाँउले घाईते भएकाछन ।

Former Ministers felicitated in New York

BEL BHUJEL

A brief welcome facilitation meeting was organized by Nepal Kirant Rai Association of America in honor of Mr Jhal Nath Khanal and Mr Ashok Kumar Rai on 31st Oct 2005. Representatives of different (New York based) socio-cultural organization of indigenous people (Janajati) of Nepal welcomed Mr. Jhal Nath Khanal and Mr Ashok Kumar Rai. Both politburo members of Communist Party of Nepal, United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) and former ministers were in a month long visit in different states of USA. Representing one of the agitating seven parties, both of them are accompanying other political leaders from Nepal, scheduled to exchange ideas with their US counterparts regarding present political issues of Nepal.

SHAMBU MOKTAN

Representing Sherpa kyidug, Mr Pasang Sherpa, vice-president, welcomed the leaders with flower garlands and addressed the meeting by stressing the need of unity among Janajati of Nepal. Mr Gambu Sherpa, secretary of Sherpa kyidug welcomed the leaders by offering them Kirant caps, expressed his concerns over the social and economic adverse impacts of present political conflicts of Nepal. Likewise, President of Tamang Society, Mr Subash Lama welcomed them by offering flower garlands, reminded the leaders their role in solving socio-economic disparity faced by rural people. He stressed the current crisis and extreme poverty faced by indigenous people of Nepal. Mr. Deepesh Subba, the General secretary of the Kirant Yakthung Chumlung America welcomed them by offering a souvenir, made his remarks by stating how Nepalese are compelled to leave the country for survival and how difficult life they are living outside country including in United State. He also urged leaders to initiate coordination with international organizations and requested them to facilitate the team work. Mr. Durga Rai, the president of Nepal Kirant Rai Association of America, welcomed them by offering a souvenir, made his remark, giving the examples of the violation of human rights and state terrorism by political extremists in Asian and south Asian countries, expressed his concerned over the grievances faced by the jana jati indigenous people of Nepal. He earnestly asked them to realize their feeling, their grievances and hurdles, exploitation they are facing outside their own counties as Tibetan refugee as and Bhutanese refugees in different parts of the world. He also made remarks on the burning issues of socio-economic disparities, misdistributions of national resources, corruption, racial discrimination and exploitation by the state to the indigenous people of Nepal. Mr. Keshab Rai, member of Nepal Kirant Rai Association of Nepal, cordially welcomed both leaders and expressed his remarks by expressing the strength and value of unity of all janajati and all Nepalese and requested them to foster the idea of unity among Nepalese. Founder member of Nepal Kirant Rai Association of America Mr. Sukra Rai also gave his remarks on that occasion.

Prem Shrestha also welcomed the leaders by offering them the Kirant vests to them. Dr. Krishna Kumar Rai, and Dr Kumar Rai also participated the welcome program. Mr. Dal Bahadur Magar, the president of the Magar society, also sent his cordial welcome message on behalf of the Magar society of America.

Responding to the remarks made by the different janajati representatives, UML politburo member and former minister Mr. Khanal expressed his gratitude for the welcome facilitation by Nepalese expatriates in New York. He asked every Nepalese expatriate to contribute to the movement for restoration of democracy. Likewise his colleague Mr. Ashok Kumar Rai also highlighted the current people's movement against the unconstitutional autocratic rule of the current King Gyanendra in Nepal. He assured all Nepalese expatriates that unconstitutional autocracy of the current King Gyanendra will be overthrown very soon probably in the coming winter by the strength of the people's movement led by seven political parties. He also appreciated the welcome facilitation organized by Nepal Kirant Rai Association of America for showing their immense love and respect to them. On the same occasion, both leaders also expressed their "best wishes" to Nepal Kirant Rai Association of America for the bright future, team work, mutual cooperation, and mutual understanding in the welfare activities of all members. The program was conducted by the general secretary of Nepal Kirant Rai Association of Nepal, Mr. Narad Mani Rai. On behalf of Nepal Kirant Rai Association of America, he finally expressed sincere gratitude to Miss Muna Rai and Mr. Mekh Gurung and Mr. Tek Gurung (President of United Democratic Front) for their generous cooperation in facilitating the program in their apartment in Astoria. He also expressed sincere gratitude to Mr. Sambhu Moktan for conducting Photography and videography of the welcome program.

Sherpa Kyidug to build new Gumba in New York

New York. On 6 November, the Sherpa Kyidug organised a meeting to discuss the plans of building a new gumba in New York. The event was graced by the 12th HH Jathrull Rimpochee. During the event, he expressed his view about building a new gumba here in New York and also talked to the gathered 100 people about buddhism. The organiser of the Gumba construction project have chosen the Rimpoche as the president of the project's advisory committee. There is already a gumba in New York, in 70-12, 37 AVE, Queens, but the new one is expected to be much larger. Gumbas are a sacred part of the buddhist culture, a place where the offer prayers and hold many traditional rituals.

Lifestyle Special:
A Weekend In The Lives of Nepali Students

Party with celebrities in London's hippest club and and work for charity the next day. Get drunk in Cyprus. Go out for dinner with family in Hong Kong. Live it large and take care of your hangover when you wake up the next evening in Delhi. Nostalgically enjoy a traditional festival from home, far away from home. These are the weekends of young Nepali students, a demography that is increasingly traveling abroad for college education and finding out what being independent means, for now.

This issue, Nepali Aawaz explores the weekends of Nepali students from London, Hong Kong, Cyprus, America and Nepal. Just how different can weekends be for students of the same age group? What is the lifestyle of a young Nepali from an urban area and a middle class or upper middle class family like today? And is it really fun having to work for the money you spend? We find out over a weekend in the lives of a Nepali student.

Nabin Chaudhury in Alabama

Friday: It's usually outing with friends or staying home watching movies. You never get the time to do those things during the week.

Saturday: I never have special plans for saturday. Some Saturdays I get tied up with work, but I'm free then I find out what party is happening and make sure I'm there. Otherwise catch with friends in Nepal and US and clean up my apartment.

Sunday: More or less the same as Saturday, really.

Recent good time: On 29 Oct. I went to Dallas, TX to meet my friends. Then the pumpkin carving and gathering with friends in Tihar was fun too. I can't forget swimming in the Tennessee river.

Compared to Nepal: I had lots fun in Nepal but not as much as i have in USA

Kanchan Limbu in Dharan

Friday night: I'm always anxiously waiting for Fridays to come. I usually just let lose, stay home, watch TV. Sometimes I actually even do some school work.

Saturday: My college starts early in the morning, so Saturday is always perfect for sleeping till late. In the afternoon I wash my clothes, clean up the house, work in the kitchen and relax in front of the TV.

Sunday: We have to go to college on Sundays too. But in the afternoon I go to my computer classes and in the evenings I usually go out with friends.

Recent good time: Dasain was fun, the whole family spending time together.

Compared to weekends abroad: I think life is definitely more fun here in Nepal. Abroad, you have to get a job so you are probably always running short of time. I work here too, but it's just house chores. Abroad, you have to do your house chores, job-work and then college too. So maybe its not as fun as it is in Nepal?

Nijina Gurung in Dharan

Friday night: Not many parties and events happen here, so I usually spend Friday night at home watching TV.

Saturday: Sleep till late, laundry, clean up around the house, you know, the regular.

Sunday: I go to college in the morning. But I am also a teacher, so my day usually ends after I'm done teaching.

Recent good time: We had a get together of friends before Dasain, like a pre-dasain party. That was loads of fun.

Compared to abroad: I'm actually not sure which would be more fun. Abroad, there are probably more places to go to and things to see. But at the same time, here you don't have to get a part time job so that's fun too.

Prakriti Sherchan in Dharan, Eastern Nepal

Friday night: I end up spending most of my Fridays nights at home. But I do enjoy going shopping in the evening sometimes.

Saturday: Saturday is quite well planned out for me. For the first half of the day I do some chores at home, clean up the place a bit, help out in the kitchen. Then in the afternoon I go out with my friends, just hang out in town.

Sunday: It's a college day for us. But later in the day my friends and I go out to town and just relax. It's a college day, but it's still weekend, you know!

Recent good time: My entire family travelled to Sikkim for Dasain, so that was the most fun I've had recently.

Compared to weekends abroad: Well I know that Nepali student have to pay for college themselves so they have to work. So I'm guessing that because they work they probably don't have enough time to go out and have fun like here in Nepal. But here in Nepal we enjoy our freedom because the social structure is different and we don't have to work.

Anisha Limbu in Hong Kong:

Friday night: It's the end of a long week for me so I just stay at home, go online to check emails and chat. Then I spend the evening watching television to catch up on news and world affairs.

Saturday: My Saturdays are usually planned with friends in school on Friday itself. We end up going out to interesting places to hang out in or just to the bazaar if nothing else.

Sunday: It's family time for me. My parents don't have work on Sundays so we spend the day together. We go out to town, meet relatives sometimes and we usually end up dining out.

Recent good time: Dasain and Tihar was the most fun I've had recently. In Tihar specially, during bhai tika.

Compared to Nepal: Nepali students here have independence and freedom. Not all of the local students our age have that kind of free time also because a lot of them generally work part time so they are quite busy. But for us Nepali students we have the time to go about and have fun also.

Sarita Shrestha and friends in Cyprus:

Friday night: Since Saturday is a holiday, most of the students in Cyprus stay up till late. Those who drink, end up drinking till they are out of their sense. Those who don't drink usually watch movies.

Saturday: Well, if we have work we get up for it on time. Otherwise most of us sleep till 12 or 1 in the afternoon. Then we usually watch a movie or play cards with friends.

Sunday: It's a holiday too, so we spend it relaxing unless we have work. We go to the pier or the beach sometimes.

Recent good time: Well the most recent fun we've had was during dasain when we got some bottles of wine and us girls started drinking till we were almost out of our sense. We were calling the nepali guys on their cell phones and to their awakwardness, ragging them.

Compared to Nepal: The thing is in Nepal. we would always be in the shadow of our family. Here, we are always amongst friends so we can go out, eat, have fun, and do anything with our friends or on our own. There is that sense of independence and freedom of sorts.

Trishna Lama in London:

Trishna was a TV show host and producer in Kathmandu, Nepal. She was also once on the cover of WAVE magazine.

Friday night: Friday's I tend to head to Chinawhite, which is this fabulous night club in Picadilly (any party animal worth his/her salt will have been there at one point or other). Getting in can be tricky as its one of London's exclusive members only clubs. I get in because i am **ahem* "gorgeous"...and well, also because I do some part time PR for them. haha. Chinawhite is one of those places you go to so that you see and are seen at Chinawhite, to rub shoulders with A- list celebrities and its always filled with premiership footballers! There isn't a week that goes by when taboloids don't print a picture of someone famous stumbling out from Chinahwite. Their music is off the hook, the crowd never disappoints you, the decor is brilliant and the drinks are paid for. What more do you want when you all you want to do is let your hair down after a hectic week of work and endless university projects and essays! :)

Saturday: I sleep in on Saturdays. I also make my weekly call back home, to my darling mom and gorgeous brother. I work as a volunteer for Victim Support London which helps victims of crime. So i go see my clients if its been arranged. If not then it really depends on what my flatmaes are doing or what plans I've made with my friends. We generally tend to do movies, a quick drink in the local pub, a stroll in the park if the weather permits, some shopping, museum, art, plays, musical. There's always a lot happening here, so if you are into it, then you can always find something interesting to do in London.

Sunday: The day starts with a big fry up, a full English breakfast at our regular cafe! I'm a huge TV buff so I get back and catch up on all the TV shows I've missed during the week. And in between commercials on TV, I try and get my laundry and apartment cleaning done. The evening usually fills up with reading for classes, replying my e-mails, a quiet meal with my faltmates before winding it up in front of the idiot box.

Recent good time: Oh, without doubt the International Student Cruise party on the Thames. My university organized it for the 1st year students, so technically I wasn't supposed to be there. But because I like going to all the parties, I have contacts, so I managed to get passes not only for myself but for my friend Aditi, who recently got here, and her sister. After a bottle of champagne, few Sambukas and Tequilas, the music made up for the lack of good looking guys. I especially enjoyed the night because it was the first night out for me and Aditi, whom I hadn't met for three years.

Compared to Nepal: I can't really say that its the fact I can party and stay out till late because my parents have always been cool with that even back home. I guess what makes the difference is mainly the options of all the things you can do and the general ambience. I mean, if you walk down Leicester Square at 4 AM, you will see hundrends of people running about having a one big street party. The energy is just great here. I love london. It might be one of the most expensive city to live in, but it also one of the most exciting!

Are you a Nepali student with an interesting story to tell?

info@nepaliaawaz.com

Mandil Pradhan in Delhi

Mandil is the Director of Nepal's most popular party organising company and the online party portal, PartyNepal.com

Friday night: Here in Delhi, Sunday is the night off so the party night falls on Saturdays. Friday nights are mostly dinner with friends, a couple of drinks, a movie and back home by midnight.

Saturday: Saturday for me is what Fridays must be for most people. Eat out, drink some, go clubbing, drink some more, go to an after clubbing joint, get something to eat and try to be back in my apartment by dawn. I don't really like to hop from one place to the other, but a few of my friends like to try out several places in one night, and since there are so many options in Delhi, sometimes, I don't really mind that.

Sunday: I haven't seen a Sunday afternoon in Delhi for ages. Normally, by the time I wake up, its 5 or 6 in the evening already. Then there is the whole getting rid of the hang over bit. Get a dose of caffeine and nicotine and chill out in the terrace listening to some soothing music, and then finish up on some school work. Usually, I have friends coming over to my place, so we order in, watch a couple of movies at home, go out for some drinks and get to bed by 2 or 3 AM. Dreading the long week ahead. Luckily I don't have to worry about cleaning up my place and doing the laundry because I have a maid who comes every morning to do that for me.

Recent good time: I was in Kathmandu last week for Project Peace 2005 [PartyNepal's annual street dance festival], and I had a blast there, watching thousands of people dancing in the open streets of Thamel was an amazing sight. That day was mostly about work though; co-ordinating things, taking pictures [for the website], making sure things went smoothly. The night before that was awesome. I had gone to Latin Quarters at Babarmahal Revisited with some friends and I had an amazing time. I really at home at LQ because I know most of the people there. The DJ was playing some good music, I was surrounded by people I know and because it was a Nepal Bandh night, the place wasn't too crowded either. I had a great time there. Got home at around 5 AM.

Compared to Nepal: You can't even compare weekends in KTM and Delhi. When I walk into a club in KTM, the DJ announces my name and it feels good to be at home, where people know you. In Delhi, you are just another guy looking to have a good time. In KTM, I don't even have to wait for a weekend to party out mainly because I don't have to think about waking up the next morning, save up money to pay rent or buy groceries to feed myself. I am a member at almost all the places I go to in KTM, so I get that extra little response from the staffs. That's what home does to me. I love Kathmandu, and no matter how limited its night life is, I enjoy my night outs there a thousand times more than here. In Delhi, I usually go out with a bunch of friends and we stick together for the entire night. But the best thing about Delhi is that you can get totally wasted and not have people tell you about it wherever you go for the next one month!

Bhaskar and Alok in Minnesota

Bhaskar used to be the guitarist and Alok the drummer, for Xmarica, a popular rock band in the local concert scene in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Bhaskar

Friday: I get back from work only at 11 PM. After that though, I go to clubs or get together with my friends and cook bhat daal and maasu.

Saturday: Oh, that's simple. Sleep till late afternoon, wake up eventually, have some Ramen Noodles, surf the net, clean my car and finally start partying till late night..

Sunday: Most parts of the day is like a regular holiday with home chores. In the evening go to library to study for my Graduate Management Admission Test. It's usually almost midnight when I get back. So all that I have left to do is eat, find out what's happening online and sleep for the week ahead.

Recent good time: Few weeks ago I went to Detroit Lakes with my friends. We did some fishing, but dind't catch any. haha. Then we decided to go to a Mexican restaurant. Food was alright, but the girls were mucho bonita!

Compared to Nepal: It's totally different from what I do here in weekends and what I used to do in Nepal. In Nepal I used to go to Chakupat, Patan to jam with my bandmates, have some chyang and more than practice we used to make plans for our band. Those plans never worked out of course. haha. We used to chat for a few hours and it used to be fun. On Sunday I used to stay at home or hang around with my college buddies. I don't do any of those things here. I miss those days. The thing that I miss most is asking for money (Rs100.00 or Rs50.00) from my parents ;)

Alok

Friday: It' definitely a night out or for Movies. Or both!

Saturday: You can't help but catch up on your sleep. Then of course during the day I do my laundry and some cleaning up.

Sunday: It's time to get back to school work and take a quick road trip during the day, if possible.

Recent good time: Definitely the road trip with my friends to Ithaska State Park a few weeks back.

Compared to Nepal: I used to do a lot of mountain biking when I was in Nepal during the weekends but here there are no mountains

Guitar rock legend **Santana,** performing here with Michelle Branch, helped celebrate ABC's Good Morning America's 30th Anniversary by performing live on the show outside their Time Square studio, New York.
Photo by: Kashish Das Shrestha

Jazzmandu 2005

An Avalanche of Jazz sweeps through Kathmandu as the “biggest jazz party in the Himalayas” takes place in the valley for the 4th time. PREENA SHRESTHA

ANUP PRAKASH

ANUP PRAKASH

ANUP PRAKASH

Carmen Genest (top left) and Cadenza perform at this year's jazz festival, Jazzmandu, in Kathmandu

Jazzmandu has once again taken the city by storm. The fourth annual Kathmandu Jazz Festival was held from the 4th to the 12th of November. Organized by Upstairs Ideas and aptly labeled “the biggest jazz party in the Himalayas”, the festival this year has proved to be another mega-musical event. Jazzmandu 2005 featured performances by many acclaimed international acts including Soul Mate (Shillong), Groove Suppa (Bombay), Solid (Norway), David Jacques and Carmen Genest (Canada) and Nepali bands like Cadenza and Dimple. Keeping in mind the quest to broaden and popularize the jazz scene in Nepal, “Jazz for the Next Generation,” a competition that allows five under-24 bands to perform in front of leading jazz musicians from the international scene, was also organized for the first time.

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ANUP PRAKASH

Navin Chhetri of Cadenza jams with Groove Suppa at Jazzmandu, Kathmandu's jazz festival; Below: Mariano Aballa from Spain

Striking the first chord:

The annual Kathmandu Jazz Festival was launched in 2002 by Nepal's jazz pioneer Navin Chhetri of Cadenza, Chhedup of Upstairs bar and Susan, who are now a part of the event management company "Upstairs Ideas." It all began when Cadenza was invited to play at the Palmer Street Jazz Festival in Townsville, Australia, in June 2000. Navin and Chhedup were so moved by the show that they felt the need to have something like that in Nepal too. Once back in Kathmandu, Cadenza, along with Susan and Chhedup invited bands from London and Australia to play in Nepal at the self-produced concert, the first "Jazz at Patan" in October 2001, which was hugely successful.

Still not satisfied, Navin wanted to do something more significant, something that would make jazz more accessible and more appealing to the Nepali masses. When Suman Sachdev, who runs the upscale Gokarna Golf Resort, asked Navin to play at his resort for Shivaratri, Navin decided to take his idea one up and invite other bands to perform with them. With Suman's approval, a simple event turned into a major jazz festival. The team, along with considerable assistance from Shangri-La Hotel, Vidhea Shrestha, Singapore Airlines and Nepal Tourism Board, then began putting together the details for the biggest jazz gig Nepal had ever witnessed.

With Kevin Hunt and Don Burrows, a leading jazz musician from Australia often referred to as a 'National Treasure,' headlining the event, the first Jazzmandu festival held in March 2002 made quite an impact. The ability of the festival to draw major bands from the international jazz scene like Afro Dizzi Act and Bernie's London Jazz Groove, along with regionally acclaimed groups like Krish Masand and his Band, gave Jazzmandu's reputation a real boost. Also performing were Prustaar and Gandharva, two Nepali classical bands, and of course, Cadenza.

The second annual Jazz Festival was organized a year later in March 2003 and it caused quite a stir in the media. With improved sound quality and new acts, the stage was set for another memorable event. Eight international bands, including Jamie Baum Quartet, Ralph Thomas, Natalie Williams and The Funky Homosapien were invited to play, and the headliners this time round were master percussionist Trilok Gurtu and European jazz guitarist Jesse Van Ruller. Needless to say, an amazing show was put together for an audience of over 2600 people. Jazzmandu 2003 was a certified hit.

In 2004, the line-up consisted of six international bands and three local bands. With power-packed performances by Urban Connection, Hannah Vasanth Trio, Soul Mate, Max Lolo and Simak Dialog, and Louis Banks Brotherhood headlining the show, the festival made it big. And in addition, a free concert for school students was also organized at Budhanilkantha School with the help of SEBS (Students of Ex-Budhanilkantha School). The main intention for the school event was to introduce jazz to a younger audience. The two-week festival included a Jazzmandu Peace Parade in Lazimpat, with bands from the Nepali and international scene, traditional dancers, Buddhist monks and vintage automobiles.

ANUP PRAKASH

Jazz for the Next Generation

A music festival tries to create an appetite for jazz bands in an era of MTV hipsters. SAHARA SHRESTHA

ANUP PRAKASH

Karmavalanche, this year's winner of the Jazz for the Next Generation contest.

Jazz For The Next Generation was the first of the music competition for Nepali musicians less than 24 years of age. It was held on 4 Nov. at Yala Maya Kendra, Patan, and marked the beginning of the 4th annual Kathmandu Jazz Festival. There was actually supposed to be five bands competing but due to undisclosed reasons, two of them backed out at the last minute. This left us and the judges Daniel Formo, Bjørn Vidar Solli and Hakon Mjaset Johansen of the band SOLID! with "Jocose", "Karmavalanche (Karma Avalanche)" and "In Between."

Jocose opened up the show and did quite good, although they seemed a little nervous. It was Karmavalanche's dynamic performance with Alan on drums, Abhishek on keyboard, Bibhushan on lead guitar and vocals and Bob on bass that really got the crowd going. They livened up the show with their original compositions, two of which were instrumentals and the other a song called "Smile Away." Then came In Between, which also put up a fairly impressive show but there's no denying that Karmavalanche was a touch act to follow.

ANUP PRAKASH

Finally, the judges themselves got up on stage for a jam session in which Bob of Karmavalanche had the privilege of taking part. It's no surprise Karmavalanche bagged the first prize; an opportunity to play at Jazz Bazaar in Gokarna with some of the top bands featured in the festival and to have an intensive workshop with the musicians. In Between came in second and Jocose, third. The winning band was also honored by an en core to close the contest, for which they performed another truly electrifying original instrumental titled "Electric."

ANUP PRAKASH

X-Treme Rock Show 2062

A rock show gives away free SIM cards with every ticket and reserves an empty football field between the stage and the cordoned [real] audience for His Majesty Crown Prince Paras to grace.

ANUP PRAKASH

Robin Tamang of Robin and the New Revolution takes the stage as Prince Paras and friends squat on the grass for the show

There's a lot that amounts to a good audience turn out in a stadium concert, especially in a valley whose citizens have been living under a lingering dark cloud of political and social turmoil and are looking for a release of some kind. Throw in a free SIM card for a mobile phone and add some of Nepal's best rock acts on the bill, and you have a massive turn out for a stadium show. X-treme Rock Show 2062, held on 29 Oct., would be a perfect prototype. And by all means, this is no disrespect to the some of the performing artists at the event, as 1974 AD, Robin and the New Revolution and Cobweb are more than capable of drawing large audiences without the help of a SIM card. Other performers included the British band The Hidden, who recently set the record for the highest gig in the world by performing at the Everest Base Camp, metal act X-Mantra and rock outfit The Axe.

X-treme Rock Show 2062 drew close to 22,000 people in the audience, filling up the seats on one side of the Stadium. But it wasn't close to matching the massive turn out of 1974AD's Rock Yatra in 2002, the first true stadium concert in Nepal where the entire venue- ground, seats including those behind the stage

ANUP PRAKASH

- were filled to capacity and fans even climbed on the stadium roof to watch the show.

Surely it wasn't as fun as a stadium concert could be for the bands to have their audience, and for the audience to have the bands, quite literally, a football field away from each other, just to ensure security for the royal guest, Crown Prince Paras. Mero Mobile, who gave way the SIM cards with the tickets, is owned by relatives of the Royal family.

It must have also been somewhat surreal for Robin to perform with the crown prince sitting in front of him, since he is one of the few vocal pro-people/ democracy singer songwriters in Nepal, and democracy being something the King has currently suspended in Nepal.

Nevertheless, Xtreme Rock Show, organised by Dynamic Era Vision, was one of the more successful and better major rock shows in a long time in Kathmandu. It was also a good PR event for Mero Mobile and a great photo-op for the Crown Prince, who was once involved in a hit and run incident that left renowned singer Pravin Gurung dead. Rock on.

Dibesh Mumi of Cobweb does a Jimmy Page

ANUP PRAKASH

Music Downtown: A series of concerts is all set to help Lower Manhattan.

Produced by Michael Dorf, Music Downtown is a 7- night music concert series to be held at the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center from the 14- 20 Nov. The event , which features 12 artists in all, also includes a show by the legendary Buddy Guy and Blind Boys of Alabama. Other famous acts in the event include Jeff Tweedy and New York native Ryan Adams who also performed at the the Downtown River To River Festival in 2003. The event has been organised by the non-profit organisation Wall Street Rising, founded in October 2001 to “help restore the vibrancy and vitality” that existed in Lower Manhattan before 9/11.

KASHISH DAS SHRESTHA

Concert Schedule:

14 Nov: Blind Boys of Alabama and Cat Power
15 Nov: Buddy Guy and Shemika Copeland
16 Nov: Jeff Tweedy and Nels Cline
17 Nov: Jeff Tweedy and Glenn Kotche
18 Nov: Ryan Adams and the Cardinals
19 Nov: Vic Chesnutt and Rickie Lee Jones
20 Nov: Keren Ann and Aimee Mann

For more event details and ticket information: www.musicdowntown.org

Buddy Guy

Buddy Guy, the four time Grammy winning Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, and the reigning king of Chicago Blues, is more than just an artist; he is a living legend whose performances always enthrall or surprise audiences. His distinct singing style and guitaring has captivated blues and guitar enthusiasts for decades, and he is deservingly mentioned in the same breath when blues enthusiasts talk about guitar gods and blues legends like Muddy Waters, B.B King, Steve Ray Vaughn or Jimi Hendrix. The icon who has been performing for over 40 years hasn’t always lived large, spending many years as a struggling artist even after being famous. But the last decade, in which he won his Grammies, has treated him better. His latest album “Bring ‘Em In” was released in September this year. Take part in our Music Downtown contest and win yourself a chance to watch him live next week!

Do you want to watch the legendary bluesman Buddy Guy and the legendary gospel group Blind Boys of Alabama live in New York next week?

All you have to do is answer these 2 very simple questions:

1. **Which one of the following artists doest not belong in a list of guitar/ blues icons?**
   - Jimi Hendrix
   - Eric Clapton
   - Buddy Guy
   - Bono
2. **Blind Boys Of Alabama collaborated for a full length album with:**
   - Ben Harper
   - Ben Stiller
   - The Big Ben
   - The couple formerly known as Bennifer

Please send us your entries to letters@nepaliaawaz.com with the subject "Music Downtown"

Please mention the show you want to see, your name, and the city you live in.

Blind Boys of Alabama

Multiple Grammy winners Blind Boys of Alabama are truly a landmark in the Gospel music map. The group, originally founded in 1939, has been performing for over 60 years. And now the founding members Clarence Fountain, Jimmy Carter and George Scott along with newer recruits Joey Williams, Ricky McKinnie, Bobby Butler, and Tracy Pierce are taking their vision higher by fusing the traditional gospel sound with more contemporary styles. And the move must have worked out well; in 2001 and 2002, they won two consecutive Grammy awards. In 2004, the group collaborated with the young soulful folk-rock singer Ben Harper for the amazing studio set There Will Be A Light, which also won the team a Grammy. *Take part in our Music Downtown contest and win yourself a chance to watch The Blind Boys of Alabama live next week!*

SOUTH ASIAN rock fest 2005

south asia rocks !

Things are about to heat up in Kathmandu this winter as the city prepares to host the South Asian Rock Fest 2005. For the first time in the region, rock outfits from the South Asian countries are coming together for two days of rock in Dashrath Stadium on 9th and 10th of December. According to the organizer Enterprise Y, big time bands from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Nepal have already confirmed their performance in the fest. And apart from the major stadium shows, the organisers are also trying to co-ordinate several smaller events in other venues around town. "The idea behind the fest is to bring together the youth of the South Asian region with rock music as the medium," said Yubakar, the founder of Enterprise Y and the project producer and director. Proceeds from the concerts will go towards educating underprivileged children of Nepal.

Look out for details about the South Asian Rock Fest 2005 in the next issue of Nepali Aawaz.

ANUP PRAKASH

The venue for upcoming South Asian Rock Fest has already hosted several rock concerts including 2002's sold out solo show Rock Yatra by 1974 AD

यमनको "अम्रिकामा" विमोचन

शिव विष्ट, वाल्टीमोर

विजयादशमी एवं शुभदीपावलीको सौगातका रुपमा युवा गायक तथा सङ्गीतकार यमन श्रेष्ठले नेपाली स्रोताहरुका लागि 'अम्रिकामा' नामक सीडी प्रस्तुत गरे। बाल्टिमोरमा रहेका नेपालीहरुको लागि आयोजित सामुहिक दशै कार्यक्रममा अन्तर्राष्ट्रियरुपमा चर्चित नेपालका वरिष्ठ लोकगायक प्रेमराजा महतले 'अम्रिका'को विमोचन गर्नुभयो।

समारोहलाइ सम्वोधन गर्नुहुँदै प्रमुख अतिथि महतले हामी जहाँ रहेपनि आफ्नो कला, साहित्य र संस्कृतिलाई भुल्नुहुदैन भन्ने आग्रह गर्दै यमनको 'अम्रिकामा' त्यही अभियानको कोशेढुङ्गा सावित हुने विश्वास प्रकट गर्नुभयो।

विशेषगरी अमेरिकामा रहेका नेपालीहरुको दिनचर्याका शब्दहरु समायोजन गरी सङ्गीतबद्ध गरिएको "अम्रिकामा" शीर्ष गीतले प्रवासी नेपालीहरुलाई राष्ट्र र राष्ट्रियताप्रतिको माया र सद्भाव प्रगाढ बनाउन थप प्रोत्साहन मिल्ने देखिन्छ। 'अम्रिकामा'मा नरेशदेव पन्त, मनोज आचार्य, रिंकु श्रेष्ठका १२ वटा गीतहरुलाई संगीतबद्ध गरी कर्णप्रिय स्वरले सजाएका छन्- यमनले। सुप्रसिद्ध कलाकार मदनकृष्ण श्रेष्ठका छोरा यमन बुबाकै प्रेरणाले साङ्गीतिक

क्षेत्रमा होमिएको बताउँछन्।

कार्यक्रममा प्रेमराजा महत, सञ्जीप श्रेष्ठ, सरिष्मा आमात्य, यमन श्रेष्ठ, शान्ति भण्डारी लगायतका प्रसिद्ध गायक/गायिकाहरुले आ-आफ्ना चर्चित गीतहरु प्रस्तुत गरेर दर्शकहरुलाईं पूर्ण मनोरञ्जन प्रदान गरेका थिए। कार्यक्रममा विभिन्न सांस्कृतिक नृत्यहरु समेत प्रस्तुत गरिएको थियो। प्रवासमा भए पनि स्वदेशमै आयोजित कुनै कार्यक्रम या भोजभतेरमा उपस्थित भएजस्तो भान हुने कार्यक्रममा विभिन्न प्रकारका नेपाली परिकारहरुको स्वादले दर्शकहरुको तृष्णा मेटाएको

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बाल्टीमोरमा हिमालयन नाइट

शिव विष्ट, वाल्टिमोर

नेपाली कला र संस्कृतिको संरक्षण र सम्वर्द्धनमा क्रियाशिल सांस्कृतिक समुह हिमालयन म्यूजिक ग्रुपले वाल्टीमोरमा बृहत सांङ्गीतिक कार्यक्रम हिमालयन नाइट आयोजना गर्‍यो। विजया दशमी तथा शुभ दीपावलीको उपलक्ष्यमा आयोजित कार्यक्रममा नेपाली तथा विदशी संगीतप्रेमीहरुको उल्लेख्य उपस्थिती रहेको थियो।

नेपाली कला र संस्कृतिलाई अर्न्तराष्ट्रियकरण गर्न कृतसंकल्पित वरिष्ठ नेपाली लोकसंस्कृतिकर्मी प्रेमराजा महतको विशेष प्रस्तुति रहेको सो कार्यक्रम "यो दाज्यूको मिर्मिरे आँखा, कस्तोसँग बिगार्‍यो दिमाख' बोलको बाँसुरी धुनबाट आरम्भ भएको थियो।

प्रवासी भूमिमा रहेरपनि आफ्नो मातृभूमिप्रतिको अपार माया र सद्भाव कहिल्यै कमी नहुने विश्वासका धनी गायक महतको "आयो नेपाली हो, आयो नेपाली.....चन्द्रसूर्य झण्डा बोकी आयो नेपाली" भन्ने शीर्ष बोलको गीतले प्रष्ट्याइरहेको थियो। पानको पात, सिमसिमे पानी, बाझो खेतमा, हिउँचुलीमा हिउँजस्ता सयौं लोकप्रिय गीतका सुमधुर स्वरका गायक एवं लोकश्रष्टा प्रेमराजा महतले आकाशमा जुन झलल झल्कियौ हे माया हिरा हौ कि सुन गीत प्रस्तुत गर्दा उपस्थित स्वदेशी तथा विदेशी युवतीहरु सङ्गीतको नशामा झुम्दै कम्मर भाँची भाँची नाच्न अनि माया र पिरतीका भावनाहरु नजाँनिदो रुपले एक-आपसमा साट्न व्यस्त देखिन्थे। कार्यक्रममा नेपाली युवा-मुटुका ढुकढुकी बनिसकेका चर्चित पप गायक संजीप प्रधान उडी जाने रुमालको गीतसँगै स्टेजमा देखापर्दा दर्शकहरुले तालीको गडगडाहटले स्वागत गरे। गायक प्रधानले पनि साँझलाई पूरापूर उपयोग गर्दै आफ्ना चर्चित गीतहरु "देउरालीको चौतारीमा", "नशाभित्र नशा सरी", "कसरी भनु म" लगायतका गीतहरु प्रस्तुत गरेर दर्शकहरुलाई भरपूर मनोरञ्जन प्रदान गरे। अत्यन्तै मनोरञ्जनात्मक सो कार्यक्रममा पप गायक सुनिल उप्रेतीले आफ्नो चर्चित गीत "मुसुमुसु हाँसी देऊ न लै लै" प्रस्तुत गरेर दर्शकहरुलाई नचाएरै छोडे।

कार्यक्रम नाँच्ने र नचाउनेमा सीमित थिएन, गायक यमन श्रेष्ठले अमेरिकामा बसेका नेपाली दाजुभाईहरुको वास्तविक दिनचर्यालाई शव्द र सङ्गीतको तालमा बुनेर सुमधुर गीत पनि प्रस्तुत गरेका थिए। विशेषगरी प्रवासमा बसेका नेपालीहरुको हृदय छुने सो गीताका अलावा गायक श्रेष्ठले धामिर्क शव्दावली समिश्रण गरिएको कर्णप्रिय गीत पनि प्रस्तुत गरेर दर्शकहरुलाई नचाई छोडे।

गायिका सरिष्मा आमात्यको सुमधुर आवाजले कार्यक्रममा थप रौनक थपिदियो। गायिका आमात्यले आफ्ना चर्चित गीतहरु प्रस्तुत गरेर सम्पूर्ण दर्शकहरुलाई पूर्ण मनोरञ्जन प्रदान गरिन्। चर्चित उद्घोषक रवि लामिछानेको स्पष्ट र हाँस्यपूर्ण उद्घोषणले कार्यक्रमलाई सुनमा सुगन्ध थपी दिएको थियो।
विजय श्रेष्ठको कुशल व्यवस्थापनमा सम्पन्न कार्यक्रम वरिष्ठ समाजसेवी गणेश मलेकु तथा मोहन थापाको सल्लाहमा तय गरिएको थियो। बाद्यबाद्यक राजकपूरले संगीतको सुरमा गायक–गायिकालाई गीत प्रस्तुत गर्न भरपूर योगदान प्रदान गरिरहेका थिए। कार्यक्रममा सगरमाथा आरोही हरि बहादुर बस्नेत, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कराते खेलाडी रत्न बहादुर शाही लगायतका विशिष्ठ अतिथिहरुको पनि सहभागिता थियो।

FOOTBALL

National League postponed

The National League, which was due to restart November 07, has been postponed till December 20 as informed by ANFA speaker Lalit Krishna Shrestha. According to Shrestha, the busy international calendar in November and early December prompted ANFA to reschedule the proposed program. Nepal is participating at the U-19 and U-17 Asia Cup and South Asian Football Championship in November and December.

ANFA announces Under-19 squad

The All Nepal Football Association (ANFA) has announced the second selection for the Under-19 national team who will participate in the U-19 Youth Championship Qualification in Kryzgstan from November 23-27. The latest selection has narrowed down the list from 31 players to 23. Those named are Sangeet Kumar Rajak, Manij Hada, Sanjeev Shrestha, Nur Raj Kafle, Suman Subedi, Santosh Gurung, Durga Lawati, Sandeep Rai, Pankaj Lama and Gopal Thapa. Similarly, Nirajan Khadka, Krishna Lama, Jeevan Sinkeman, Dipesh Thapa Magar, Rojit KC, Sunil Rawat, Sudeep Limbu, Man Sajan Rajbhandari, Rishi Rai, Arjun Rijal, Anil Gurung, Sishir Adhikari and Santosh Sahukhala have also been selected. Bhutan is the other team for the qualification, but according to reliable sources, they might be pulling out their team.

CRICKET

Baluwatar awards cricketers

Baluwatar Cricket Club Training Center awarded eight cricketers and honored five founding members of Cricket Association of Nepal (CAN) amidst a ceremony organized to mark its second anniversary. Upendra Bhattarai, the founder chairperson of the club, distributed cash prize to the best performers of the U-19 Youth World Cup in Bangladesh in 2004. Kaniska Chaugai, Shakti Gauchan and Sarad Vesawkar received Rs 5,000, Rs 5,500 and Rs 6,000 respectively. Other recipients were: Former national captain Raju Khadka and national vice-captain Shakti Gauchan bagged the Best Player of the Year Award for 2060 BS and 2061 BS respectively. The award carried a cash prize of Rs 5,000. Similarly, Paras Khadka and Antim Thapa received the Best Youth Player of the Year award each carrying a cash prize of Rs 4,000. Dipen Shrestha and Sunam Gautam were declared the center's best players while Rikesh Lama and Avaya Rana were awarded as the best player of the Baluwatar Cricket Club. Each of them pocketed Rs 3,000. During the program, Mukunda Shamsher Thapa, Dr Dwarika Nath Regmi, Sarada Bhakta Pant, Kumar Mani Dixit and Krishna Raj Aryal, the founding members of CAN when it was established in 1948 AD, were felicitated for their contribution in the development of the game during the formative years in Nepal. Bhattarai informed that the training center has already trained 296 cricketers, 10 of whom have already represented Nepal in various teams. National coach Roy Dias, CAN president Jai Kumar Nath Shah, other cricket officials and cricketers were present on the occasion.

ACC Under-19 Cup 2005: Nepal under way

Teams participating in the Asian cricket Council (ACC) Under-19 Cup cricket tournament have already arrive in Kathmandu. The 15-team event, also including host Nepal, will start on November 07 with the inaugural session at the Tribhuvan University Stadium, while the matches will begin at four different venues from Nov 08. Crown Prince Paras is scheduled to inaugurate the tournament. He is the patron of Nepal Sports Council, governing body of Nepali sports.

The umpires and match officials have already arrived in Kathmandu. The ACC has appointed 11 umpires ncluding one from Nepal — Buddhi Bahadur Pradhan — and five match referees for the event. The other umpires are Zameer haider and Riazuddin of Pakistan; Ranmore Martinez and JWK Boteju of Sri Lanka; Suhas Phadkar, KG Laxminarayan and Jasbir Singh of India; and Nadir Shah, Md Jahangir Alam and Monzur Rahman of Bangladesh.

The match referees appointed by the ACC are three ACC Development officers — Iqbal Sikender (Pakistan), Rumesh Ratnayake (Sri Lanka) and Roger Binny (India) — and Azhar Khan of Pakistana and ASM Roquibul Hassan of Bangladesh.

The participating 15 nations are divided into four pools and the top two from all the pools will advance to the quarter-finals slated for November 16.

Kanishka Chaugain leads the 'dream team' this year. Paras Khadka is the vice captain, while other members are Sharad Vesawkar, Gyanendra Malla, Yeshwant Subedi, Prem Chaudhary, Basanta Regmi, Mahesh Chhetry, Raj Shrestha, Sashi Keshari, Bantu Bataju, Amrit Bhattarai and Ratan Rauniyar. Avay Rana remains the lone player without international experience. The four players in the reserve list are Akash Gupta, Nirmal Simangaida, Suraj Timilsina and Deepen Shrestha.

BASKETBALL

IHS Basketball League

Lincoln School and CSSV, a volunteer organisation, are jointly organising the Inter-High School Basketball League. According to the organizers, four teams — Gyanodaya School, Lincoln School, Little Angels' School, and Rato Bangala School are taking part in the seven-day tournament. After the round-robin league round, the top two teams will qualify for the final, slated for November 13 at the Lincoln School court.

South Siders wins title

With Akash Chhantyal's 20 points, South Siders clinched the Second Open Men's Basketball Tournament after beating Gyan Niketan 61-46 at Golfutar. Sanjay of South Siders added 14 to his tally of 104 points to be declared the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the tournament. The MVP Sanjay was awarded a gift hamper worth Rs 3,000 sponsored by Interactive Pvt Ltd and Saraswoti Music Company. The winning team received a cash prize of Rs10,000 along with internet access worth Rs10,800 from Vianet where each player of the team gets 25 hours of free internet. The runner up team received a cash prize of Rs 5,000 along with gift hampers. The tournament was organized by Chakrapath Youth Club.

GENERAL

NAA announces National Championship dates

Nepal Athletics Association (NAA) has announced the 35th National Athletics Championship and regional championships on the last week of January 2006. NAA, in a press release, said that the association is conducting selection tournaments in 60 districts prior to the regional selection tournaments. The association also announced dates for the regional selection tournaments. The tournaments host 15 events for men and 12 events for women. The national championship will see 21 events for men and 18 for women.

NSC to set development fund

National Sports Council (NSC), the governing body of Nepali Sports under Ministry of Sports and Education, has made an effort to institutionalize the development of sports and upgrade Nepali sports in the international arena. The move comes as per the command of the patron of the council, Crown Prince Paras, as there was no such constructive effort in this aspect for the last decade. The council will also construct sports infrastructure in the country for holding regular sports training and tournaments of international standard. Budget limitation has been cited as one of the constraint for the development. For this, special sports development fund has been established as per the constitution of the council. According to Minister for education and sports, Radha Krishna Mainali, a five member committee has been formed for the establishment of the required fund. Likewise, the council is to make financial statement on monthly basis in coordination with the auditor general's office for transparency.

Arjun Dhakal finishes 16th in Frankfurt Marathon

Arjun Prasad Dhakal of Nepal finished 16th in the Frankfurt Marathon. The event, dominated by Kenyans, was held in Germany on 30 Oct. The Gyanendra Armed Police Force Club athlete Dhakal, who had no prior international marathon experience, entered the field of more than 15,000 runners and finished the race in 2:26:16. He beat his own personal best time of 2:36:51 when he won the Toyota Kathmandu Marathon in Kathmandu last year. Dhakal ran the first five kilometres in 16 minutes and maintained his speed to cross the 10-km mark in exact 32 minutes. He posted the time of 1:09:06 at the half way mark. He ran the 30 kms in 1:40:02 and crossed the 40-km mark in 2:18:15.

Akkal Bahadur Bohara and Arjun Kumar Basnet, also from Nepal, finished 41st in 2:37:01 and 44th in 2:38:10, respectively. Among the three athletes, Basnet from Tribhuvan Army Club had the best record. He had also won the silver medal in 9th SAF Games in 2:21:21. APF Club's other athlete Bohara's personal best was 2 hour 36 minutes. All the three runners finished in top 50, which is quite an achievement for Nepali Athletes.

Wilfred Kigen from Kenya finished first at 2:08:29 while Jason Mbote and Wilson Kigen grabbed the second and third spots respectively in men's section.. Russian Alevtina (2:25:12) won top spot in women's section.

Shrestha wins President's Cup golf

Rabindra Man Shrestha won the President's Cup Golf Tournament held at the Royal Nepal Golf Club (RNGC). Shrestha netted 38 points to edge Major Man Bahadur Limbu by a point in the tournament played in stableford 7/8 handicap format. Similarly, Tashi Ghale had the best gross of 30 while Shastika Shrestha (36) came top in the ladies' category beating Sabitri Rai by two points. Likewise, Bishnu Bahadur Shahi (30) won the seniors' title to put off the challenge of Vinode SJB Rana (28). In super seniors' section, Dal Bahadur Gurung (16 in nine holes) got the better of second placed Khadga Jeet Baral by four points. Meanwhile, Ang Tsering Sherpa carded two birdies for the most birdies while KC Gurung had the longest drive. Similarly, Madan Rana hit the closest to the pin while Deepak Rajbhandari got the best sportsmanship award. Sunil Ratna Dhakwa was declared the most elegant player of the event. The one-day tournament featured 53 golfers including six females, five seniors and four super seniors.

नेपाल इतिहासकै संगीन मोडमा

डा. प्रदीप भट्टराई

नेपालीहरुका दुई ठूला चाड दशैं र तिहार अर्को वर्ष आउने वाचा गर्दै भर्खरै विदावारी भएका छन् । आयो दशैं ढोल बजाई, गयो दशैं ऋण बोकाई- चाडबाडको यो परम्परागत धङ्गधङ्गीबाट आम नेपाली जनजीवन क्रमश: छुट्कारा लिइरहेको छ । डायस्पोराबाट चाडवाड मान्न स्वदेश फर्केकाहरु पनि अव विदावारी भएर आ-आफ्नो कर्मक्षेत्रतिर लाग्न थालेका छन् । माओवादीको युद्धविरामका कारण शहरबाट दशैतिहार मान्न गाउँतिर लागेकाहरु पनि शहरतिर फर्कने क्रम जारी छ ।

शरद ऋतुको सुन्दर बेला ओरालो लागरहेको यतिबेला दाँती जस्ता सेता हिमश्रृंखलाहरुले फालिम लागेर पर्यटकहरुलाई आमन्त्रण गर्न छोडिसकेका छैनन् । माओवादीको एकतर्फि युद्धविरामका कारण पोहोरभन्दा अहिले सयकडा १५ ले पर्यटकहरु बढी आएको समाचार निस्केको छ । तर, यो खुशीमा सामेल हुन नपाउदै माओवादीहरुको एकतर्फि युद्धविराम समाप्त हुने दिनगन्ती शुरु भइसकेको छ । फलत: आम नेपाली जनमानसमा फेरि एकपटक उनीहरुको शिरैमाथि सन्त्रासको कालो बादल मडारिरहेको टड्कारो अनुभूति हुन थालेको छ ।

नेपाल अधिराज्यको संविधान २०४७ यही कार्तिक २३ गते (नोभेम्वर ८) का दिन पन्ध्र वर्ष पुगेर १६औं वर्षमा टेकेको छ । गाउँघरतिर त भन्न सकिन्न तर यता शहरमा भने १६औं संविधान दिवश रमाइलैसँग मनाइयो । २०४७ साल कार्तिक २३ गते नेपाल अधिराज्यको संविधान २०४७ का रुपमा यो संविधान आउँदा विश्वकै सर्वोत्कृष्ट संविधानका रुपमा दिपावली गरेर यसको स्वागत गरिएको थियो । तर, १५ वर्ष नवित्दै यो संविधान मात्र कागजको खोस्टोमा रुपान्तरण भएको छ, कसैका लागि पनि यो कुनै कामको रहेको छैन । नेकपा (माओवादी) यस संविधानलाई नमानेर जंगल पसेको छ, यस संविधानका निर्माता रहेका संवैधानिक दलहरु पनि माओवादीकै संविधानसभाको लाइनमा उभिएका छन् । नागरिक समाज त संविधानसभामार्फत लोकतान्त्रिक गणतन्त्रकै नारा उरालिरहेको छ । अहिलेको स्थितिमा राजावादीहरु पनि राजाको लागि ‘स्पेस’को माग गर्दै यो संविधान काम नलाग्ने पत्तुर भएको अत्तो थापिरहेका छन् । तर, राजा भने संसारलाई देखाउन सही, अहिले यस संविधानको सबैभन्दा बढी पालकका रुपमा आफूलाइ प्रस्तुत गरिरहेका छन् । पछिल्लो स्थिति हेर्दा, अर्को वर्ष यो संविधान शायदै काममा आइरहेको हुने छ । अर्थात् यसो भन्दा शायद बढी नहोला कि, यो नै नेपाल अधिराज्यको संविधान २०४७ को अन्तिम सोल्लास वर्ष हुने छ ।

राजनीतिको कुरा गर्दा, राजा ज्ञानेन्द्र ठूलै दलबलका साथ यही कार्तिक २५ गते (नोभेम्वर ११) का दिन करिव तीनसाता लामो विदेश यात्रामा निस्कदै छन् । कार्तिक २६-२७ मा ढाकामा हुने सार्क सम्मेलनमा मुलुकको प्रतिनिधित्व गरेपछि साउदी अरवको रियाद हुँदै अफ्रिकी राष्ट्रहरुको भ्रमण सकेर खाडी मुलुक संयुक्त अरव इमिरेट्स हुँदै मंसीर १७ गते राजा ज्ञानेन्द्र स्वदेश फर्कने कार्यक्रम छ । यता, मंसीरदेखि आधिवेहरी ल्याउने आन्दोलनको घोषणा गरेर त्यसको आवश्यक वातावरण बनाउन तीनसाता पहिला भारत भ्रमणमा निस्कनुभएका नेकपा (एमाले) का महासचिव माधव नेपालको भारत भ्रमण लम्विएर झण्डै एकमहिने हुन लागिसक्यो, उहाँ फर्कने कुनै संकेत मिलेको छैन । बरु, नेपाली कांग्रेसका सभापति गिरिजाप्रसाद कोइराला पनि नोभेम्वर १० मा भारततर्फ लाग्दै हुनुहुन्छ, स्वास्थ्योपचारका लागि भनिएको यो भ्रमणको दौरान एमाले महासचिव माधव नेपाल र कांग्रेस सभापति कोइरालाबीच दिल्लीमै भेटघाट हुने कार्यक्रम तय भएको छ । नेपालको राजनीति अत्यन्त तिव्रगतिमा ध्रुवीकरण भइरहेको यतिबेला भारतीय राजधानीमा हुने यी दुई शिखर नेताहरुको भेटघाटको समाचारले अनुमानको राजनीतिक बजार एक्कासी गर्मिएको छ ।

राजाको तीनसाता लामो विदेश भ्रमणकै बेला यता सातदलले आन्दोलनको आँधीबेहरी ल्याउने तैयारी गरिरहेका छन्, नागरिक समाजको आन्दोलन पनि मौसम तताउन व्यस्त छ । उता, सञ्चार अध्यादेश, कान्तिपुर एफ.एम.माथि बोलिएको सरकारी धावालगायतका मुद्दाहरुको गरमागरम बहसका कारण नेपालको न्यायपालिकाको पारो पनि एक्कासी गर्मिएको छ ।

एकातिर सात दलको जीवन-मरणको आन्दोलनको घोषणा अर्कोतर्फ आगामी माघ २६ गते जुनसुकै हालतमा पनि स्थानीय निर्वाचनको घोषणा गरिछाड्ने सरकारको प्रतिवद्धता- यी दुई परस्पर विरोधी सोचका कारण नेपाल थप संकटमा धकेलिएको छ । चुनावको तैयारीका क्रममा जतिसुकै ढोल पिटिए पनि राजाको स्वस्ति गाउने नामै नसुनिएका आधा दर्जन जति राजनीतिक दलहरु निर्वाचन आयोग पुगेको समाचार आइपुगेको छ भने ठूला दलहरु जुनसुकै मूल्यमा पनि चुनाव विफल पारेरै छाड्ने रणनीतिमा जुटेका छन् । यसका लागि उनीहरु मओवादीसँग सहकार्य गर्न पनि तैयार भएजस्तो देखिएको छ । विदेशी मित्रराष्ट्रहरु अहिलेको परिस्थितिमा चुनाव निष्पक्ष हुनै नसक्ने निर्णयमा पुगेका छन् तर उनीहरुलाई सातदलले माओवादीसँग सहकार्य गर्ला भनेर पनि त्यत्तिकै डर छ । केही समय पहिले नेपालका लागि महामहिम अमेरिकी राजदूतको प्रतिक्रियाले नेपाली राजनीतिमा ल्याएको ठूलै तरङ्लाई यही मेसोमा राखेर हेर्नुपर्छ ।

जे होस्, यतिबेला नेपाल इतिहासकै अत्यन्तै जोखिमपूर्ण घडीमा उभिएको छ । राजा, राजनीतिक दलहरु, माओवादी र नेपालमा प्रजातन्त्रको पुर्नवहालीका लागि शुभेच्छा राख्ने मित्रराष्ट्रहरु सबै आ-आफ्नो गम्भीर भूमिकाको तैयारीमा जुटेको जस्तो देखिएको छ । तर, आम जनतामा भने अझै पनि आन्दोलनको मुड बनिसकेको अनुभव गर्न सकिएको छैन । अर्थात्, नेपाल यतिबेला औंसीको अन्धकारभित्र किंकर्तव्यमुडमा छ, शायद एउटा टहटह जून लाग्ने पूर्णेको पर्खाइमा व्यग्र हुनुपर्छ नेपाल । तर, अहिलेको परिस्थितिमा त्यो जून एक पक्षमै आउला भनेर अनुमानै गर्न नसकिने स्थिति छ । अझ यसो भनौं, नेपालीहरुको शान्तिको मृगतृष्णा अरु दूरीमा धकेलिएको छ ।

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- लगौडिया सामुदायिक क्याम्पस हाताको सुरक्षित वातावरण।
- अंग्रेजी माध्यममा गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा।
- राम्रो हेरचाह गर्ने कर्मचारी तथा उत्कृष्ट पथप्रदर्शन एवं परामर्श सेवा।
- बाबु, आमा र परिवारसँग नियमित सम्पर्क एवं परस्पर सहयोगी वातावरण।
- माध्यमिक शिक्षा पूरा नहुँदै निःशुल्क उच्च शिक्षाको पठनपाठन।
- पाँच वर्षे कलेज एसोसिएट डिग्रीका लागि पहिल्यै नै पढाइने व्यवस्था।
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- उच्चशिक्षामा आवेदन र भर्नाका लागि उचित परामर्श।
- ८ कक्षामा अध्ययनरत विद्यार्थीहरु पथप्रदर्शकको परामर्शमा भर्ना हुन सक्ने।

हाम्रा विद्यार्थीहरु भर्ना लिने केही कलेजहरु :
एम. आई.टी., कोलम्बिया, स्कीडमोर, वार्ड, फोर्डहाम, एन. वाई यु, स्यारक्युस, राइस, लाफाएटी, स्युनी, क्युनी आदि।

अभिभावकहरूलाई ७१८४८२५४५५ मा सम्पर्क गर्न या विद्यालय भ्रमण गर्न अनुरोध गरिन्छ। यदि नेपाली दोभाषे चाहिएमा कृपया आफ्नो नाम, सम्पर्क र ठेगाना छोडी दिनुहोला, नेपालीभाषीले तपाईंसँग सम्पर्क गर्ने छ।

दी इन्टरनेशनल हाइस्कूल
(७१८) ४८२-५४५५
३१-१० थम्सन एभेन्यू, लङ आइल्याण्ड सिटी, न्यूयोर्क ११९०१

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Left, top to bottom: A mandala for the newar new year celebrated last week; Every dog has it's day, quite literally in the hindu festival of Tihar during which a day has been set aside to celebrate or worship dogs like this one in Dharan; Sukarma performs at this year's Jazzmandu; Thapathali gets Xtremely crowded as people try to get into the stadium for the X-treme Rock Show.

Right, top to bottom: Tihar market in Ason; Human Rights activist addressing Nepalis in New York on 6 Nov.