The first encounter between the Maoists and the Nepali Army in Nepal's six-year insurgency has therefore settled down to a classic siege. The Maoists are extirpating the Army with commandos in full battle gear from the Royal Nepal Army's elite Bhairabnath Battalion, deployed for the first time on a search and rescue mission, the Army had thought this would be a quick commando action against the estimated 400 rebels who had holed up in a Maoist gathering at Karche-Nuwagaon. What the pilot did not know was that he was coming in to land smack in the middle of what appeared to be a Maoist victory parade.

But for how much longer?

"The Maoists were as startled as the Army and rebels in Nepal's six-year insurgency has therefore settled down to a classic siege. The Maoists are extirpating..."
OCCUPIED BY THE TIMES

It has been a month of the crises of 1959, “the word crisis is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents opportunity,” John F. Kennedy in a stirring speech in 1962. "When written in Chinese," said W. B. Yeats, "the word revolution is composed of two characters. One represents violence and the other represents progress."

We need to advertise to some extent a truth that is commonly obscured by politics. People think of politics as only one thing, but it has many facets. A mere list of sides does not necessarily bring closer to the truth. In fact, facts can be seductively false. Facts, if they can be selective, can be persuasive, too, if they are not put to a real test.

The media is often seen as the public’s decision-making authority. It is a challenge for any media organisation to find out what the public is really thinking. And, it is a challenge for any media organisation to find out what the public is really feeling. It is a challenge for any media organisation to find out what the public is really doing. It is a challenge for any media organisation to find out what the public is really saying.

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The Nepali Congress (NC) and the Unified Marxist-Leninist (UML) are the two best-organized political entities in Nepal today. They may be following in the footsteps of the parties in the 1960s and 1970s, which were also well-organized, but the political parties in Nepal are also split due to personality conflicts. The political parties in Nepal are also not as popular as they were in the past. The Maoist party has also split due to personality conflicts. The support for the Maoists is not as strong as it was in the past. The Maoists have been behaving in an almost criminal manner in recent times. Your concerns about the Maoists have been valid, but your concerns about the political parties in Nepal have also been valid. The Maoists have been behaving in an almost criminal manner in recent times. Your concerns about the Maoists have been valid, but your concerns about the political parties in Nepal have also been valid.

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HEMLATA RAI IN KAILALI

Sunita, the widow of a migrant worker from Doti district, lives in a rented one-room, disgraced and friendless. She is waiting to die.

“Just look what will happen to my children when I go,” she sobbed. In a country much longer.

The worsening problems of one little Himalayan country don’t mean a hill of beans in this crazy world. They worsen, day by day, in the tussle for the right to host the Olympics. I don’t think about the care of AIDS orphans. Prakash, also of Kailali, has seen HIV change his life dramatically. Both his parents are bedridden, and now the 14-year-old school dropout must not only care for them, but also feed his five younger siblings. His elder brother Hari, 15, has already migrated to India, following his father’s footsteps. He will have access to a larger job market—and to the country with the largest absolute number of HIV-infected persons in the world. Medical prescriptions for Sunita and Prakash’s father clearly that he is HIV-positive. The mother, however, has not been tested, as the family is too poor to afford the Rs 34 bus fare she needs to travel to the nearest hospital in Dhangadi. In the house next to theirs, Man

HERE AND THERE

Nepal is on its own

The worsening problems of one little Himalayan country don’t mean a hill of beans in this crazy world.

In Kailali district, HIV/AIDS is a taboo topic, and largely regarded as a disease that kills only “bad” people. The government’s National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC) and about two dozen national and international organisations are working with different, specifically targeted groups—migrant workers, sex workers, intravenous drug users, Ritchhua pullers and truck drivers. But many worry that such undertakings, which cost millions of rupees, are doing more harm than good. Their approach appears to be reinforcing the misconception that only people belonging to certain specified categories are in danger of contracting HIV. Infected people are reluctant to seek medical help because of the stigma that continues to be attached to the disease, and communities are finding it hard to accept that any one of them could be in danger of contracting the virus.

Such attitudes affect women and children the most. Under its new community mobilisation programme, the Kailali District Red Cross office estimates that one in 32 wives of migrant workers from the district could be HIV-positive. That figure could be even higher, as more comprehensive studies are conducted and reluctant wives are persuaded to undergo tests. Red Cross data show that sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevalence in the district is a fairly high eight percent. Save the Children UK, which runs a community mobilisation programme in Achham to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, has recorded over 180 HIV/AIDS-related deaths in the district. The family structure the deceased men

so many are affected by HIV/AIDS. Children of the sick have not been tested and there are no training or awareness programmes on how to take precautions. All families with identified AIDS deaths in Kailali relate to stories of younger children in their families dying. None of them was tested for HIV.

And no one has the time to think about the care of AIDS orphans. Prakash, also of Kailali, has seen HIV change his life dramatically. Both his parents are bedridden, and now the 14-year-old school dropout must not only care for them, but also feed his five younger siblings. His elder brother Hari, 15, has already migrated to India, following his father’s footsteps. He will have access to a larger job market—and to the country with the largest absolute number of HIV-infected persons in the world. Medical prescriptions for Sunita and Prakash’s father clearly that he is HIV-positive. The mother, however, has not been tested, as the family is too poor to afford the Rs 34 bus fare she needs to travel to the nearest hospital in Dhangadi. In the house next to theirs, Man

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Kumari takes care of five grandchildren, all AIDS orphans. The government ignores this disturbing data and the official count of HIV/AIDS deaths in the country lingers at 143, with 1,940 individuals (1,382 children and old people) identified as HIV-positive. Government-run NGOs suggest that the figures do not reflect the true picture. The official government data is out of date, and the country’s development is lagging.

It’s not just the government that is to blame. Charity organisations undertake awareness-raising activities only, and care and support packages for infected people and their families have been minimal. In Nepal, health workers are generally oriented to treating and caring for those who are already infected. Even for those who have been newly infected, treatment is often delayed. The level of care is not enough to help prevent the spread of the disease.

Nepal has all the socio-economic characteristics that aid in the rapid transmission of HIV—low literacy rate, poverty, gender inequality, poor health services, economic discrimination, and cultural restrictions. The majority of people living with HIV are from the productive age bracket of 20-29 years. This is the age group that is most likely to be infected.

It is obvious that all the good intentions and action plans will be useless if public attitudes do not change. As the government heads towards the end of its “Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS in Nepal 1997-2001”, the problem is still not recognized at the highest levels of education and health systems. In the national AIDS Co-ordination Committee, awareness-raising and care and support programmes are discussed, but there is no clear direction on how to implement them.

A 1991 study conducted by the Resource Centre for Primary Health Care (RECPHEC) in the nine districts where the UNDP-funded Participatory Planning and Management of HIV/AIDS programme is implemented, revealed that 28 percent of young people, across class and caste lines, engaged in premarital sex and extramarital sex. Virtually all young people engage in unsafe sex and are unaware of preventive measures against HIV/AIDS.

A government representative on the Kailali District HIV/AIDS Co-ordination Committee suggested to us that “exposing” people identified as HIV-positive, calling them “bad social elements” and cautioning the community to “keep away” would be the best way to prevent the spread of the virus. Since local governments have tried to include communities and people with HIV/AIDS in their fight against the virus, but they have not had virtually any access to the policy-making level in the central government.
The women were more worried about an unborn grandson than the life of her own daughter.

On March 30, 2001, I arrived in Doti district, one of the most remote areas of Nepal. About 150 km from the capital, Kathmandu, a large proportion of the population is engaged in agriculture and gainfully employed in the brick kilns. I found that Doti is a hospital run by the Department of Health Services, mainly for women of the far-western region of Nepal. It was kept busy with an emergency case—a 28-year-old woman named Kamala. She had been brought to the hospital in an ambulance to deliver her baby. When she arrived at the hospital, the baby was already born and dead. Kamala, who had just delivered her first child, was in shock. She had fainted and was rushed to the hospital.

Kamala lived in a small village in the Doti district. She was the second wife of her husband, who had three more children from a previous marriage. Kamala had a small house with a thatched roof and a dirt floor. She had no electricity or running water. Her only money was from the sale of butter, cheese, and milk. She had no formal education and spoke only her local dialect.

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**Negotiate from a position of strength...**

The army doesn't want to massacre fellow Nepalis.

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**STANDOFF**

Most military analysts we talked to said that the Maoists would be ready to talk if the army stood down. The rebels have been on a roll. Especially in the past two years, they haven't really had an enemy and have resorted to using maximum violence to hunt Maoists. Their mandate is to free the 69 hostages and drive out the Maoists. They won't have much choice, and the rebels are now in a position of strength. The government has to be prepared to use the New Royal Nepal Army. The government has to tighten security in other Maoist areas.

The Maoists have to realize they can't have a free hand, and that they can't address the problem of development. They could even contemplate forming a counter-coup, which could mean more violent information-sharing roles. The government doesn't have to have a guarantee, so it has to rely on the army. The National Security Council spells out the tasks and commands: decide operational necessities, if necessary.

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**Godavari**
Public enemies

Nepal’s public corporations have become a permanent drain on the economy. Most of them only have balance sheets which show losses, and many have not multiplied their books since the early 1990s. The situation of most is so bad that even privatization is no longer an option, especially because of the cost of employees specific to need to make sure the corporations are privatized. The annual review of the performance of public enterprises, published by the Ministry of Finance, tells the sad story:

- Total number of enterprises: 43; government has updated statistics for only 39
- Total investment (shares and loans) up to 1999/00: Rs 71.24 billion
- Total investment (shares) up to 1999/00: Rs 19.94 billion
- Total investment (loans) up to 1999/00: Rs 53.29 billion
- Total assets in 1999/00: Rs 257 million, or 1.9 percent of investment.
- Total employees: 47,716, or an average of 1,210 per organization.
- The most troubled enterprises: Nepal Electricity Authority, 3,269; Nepal Telecom, 3,269; Rastriya Banja Bank, 5,106; Nepal Telecommunication Corporation, 4,704; and Agricultural Development Bank, 4,629.

The estimate for 2000/01 are not very encouraging either: seven monopolies like the Nepal Oil Corporation and Nepal Television (which the government helped to borrow money from NTC to set up satellite broadcasting) are expected to have negative operations. The only companies expected to do reasonably well are the Oilfe Investment Trust, the Jonaker Cigarette Factory, and the Kathmandu Traders, which have the best chance of survival. But it is hard to believe that any organization which has all the time, but leaves the basic question unasked—why have the corporations at all?

Hydro growth

Electricity and gas, which comprise about two percent of the GDP, emerged as the highest growth sectors in fiscal 2000/01. The growth is the group was up 19 percent and the trend is expected to remain. New hydro projects began to supply to the central grid. Of the projects under construction, the Kali Gandaki power project (KGP) completed its first year of operation on 11 July. The KWP (60MW), the first private investment in hydro, is a project of the Himal Power Limited (HPL), a Norwegian-Nepal joint venture, which has a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement with the NEA. Butwal Power Company is the Nepali investor in the project.

Khimti sells electricity to the NEA at a little over 6 US cents (about Rs 4.5 ca) per kW, among the best prices a private company gets in Nepal, for all electricity generated—including floodenergy during the monsoons. When Khimti was launched in 1993, the only project under development before Khimti came along.

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The government is to offer rehabilitation loans to ailing companies, but in practice these loans will be doled out on a case-by-case basis as the NEA sees fit. The NEA says Khimti got a “good deal” because it is at a time when there were no other means to meet the increasing demands after the World Bank cancelled the controversial Arun III, the only project under development below Khimti came along.

Why the euphoria?

It is too early to get excited about the budget.

In the Budget has been hailed by business as a signal of the government’s commitment to economic reform and liberalization. The Finance Secretary has said that the budget is a document of economic policy and that it is not just a spending document. The government has also said that the budget is a blueprint for economic growth and development.

However, the budget has also been criticized by the business community. The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) has said that the budget is a “crude” document and that it is not a blueprint for economic growth and development. The FNCCI has also said that the budget is a “short-term” document and that it does not address the long-term problems of the economy.

The government has also been criticized by the business community for not providing sufficient tax incentives to businesses. The FNCCI has said that the budget is a “tax-averse” document and that it does not provide sufficient tax incentives to businesses.

Nevertheless, there are some positive aspects of the budget. The government has increased the budget for infrastructure development and has also increased the budget for education and health.

The budget has also been praised by the international community. The World Bank has said that the budget is a “credible” document and that it is a step forward in the process of economic reform.

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The Valley’s new

Sometimes, appearance is about more than a pretty face: the Toyota building

RAMYATA LIMBU

Incongruous. Ugly. Concrete nightmare, concrete jungle, architectural disaster.

It is easy to describe walking through the streets of Kathmandu in these glowing, disjointed phrases. The experience, after all, is much like that—without continuity, and with much to offend even the most accommodating aesthetic. Even recognising that things, including our built environment, change and that restoration is not and cannot always be an option, there are few glimmers of hope for the future of our cityscape.

And yet. And yet.

There is one route people are starting to go down, whether in building new structures or taking a fresh look at existing constructions—façading. This is, quite simply, putting a face to a building that is not structurally required. This can, of course, often be disastrous, like the incomprehensible practice of Doric columns on Maharajgunj mansions, or even worse, the false lattice windows on the RNAC building. Such insults to the urban dweller’s intelligence are why the entire practice gets such a bad rap.

But it isn’t all bad, if you think about it. Obviously it is impossible to tear down buildings that offend, and the convenience of modern design is undeniable, especially in larger office spaces. This is where façading steps in—to restore some traditional beauty and harmony to the architecture of the city without sacrificing convenience, having to spend obscene amounts on structural changes, or simply hoping against hope that somehow your new building will have an interesting, appropriate and attractive modern front.

An unlikely candidate for a modern façade with intricately designed oil bricks is a symbol of all that is dark, modern, and industrial, the Tin Kune Toyota building. It is possible to take an ugly cement block designed to be a garment factory and turn it into a semi-elegant and modern structure that respects traditional Newari architecture. Industrialist Gajanan Vaidya wanted to ensure that while the building has all the modern amenities a business house requires, it would have a markedly traditional exterior.

“They’re doing it in Japan, Korea, in England, maintaining old façades. You can’t be modern without maintaining your culture,” says Vaidya. Despite the extra time and money his project requires, Toyota hopes to not only impress foreign clients, but also set an example for other business houses.

The building will have a traditional brick exterior that experiments with texture and pattern, and be interspersed with simple, attractive wooden windows. Inside the Toyota building are all the trappings of a modern structure—well-lit office space, lobbies spacious enough to withstand the foot traffic of a large organisation, functional cubicles.

Facade is catching on as increasing numbers of hotels, private homes, and business houses realise the need to be modern without giving up tradition. Most new hotels like Dwarika’s, the Hyatt, the Pokhara are designed with traditional looks, and yet owners of hotels built in the 1970s with just concrete and glass have realised that putting a non-traditional Nepali exterior adds economic and aesthetic value to their property.

One of the people who make such work possible is Tirtha Lal Maharjan. Friends and relations thought he was wasting his resources when, in 1980, he decided to set up a business manufacturing traditional bricks.

“They thought I was crazy investing in a business that had little scope, in trying to revive a technology that was ancient and outdated and that people weren’t interested in anymore,” says Maharjan, proprietor of One Shelf Machhindra Nath Brick Industries in Dadikot, Thimi.

But Tirtha persisted and today, with his brothers Hira Kaji and Bikki Maharjan, he runs a brisk brick manufacturing business. “People have had to eat their words,” smiles Tirtha. He is now proud to encourage prospective clients to accept traditional material by offering payment in instalments,

“People have had to eat their words,” smiles Tirtha. He is now proud to encourage prospective clients to accept traditional material by offering payment in instalments.
feeling about the Valley’s fast-disappearing heritage. Pragmatic as he is, he understood that people outside the field of conservation would realise that if the city’s old flavour is ever to remain, it needs to be more easily available. Conversely, it would start making better business sense to produce these materials once the sphere and appeal of traditional façades broadened.

And so, with his brothers Tirtha Maharjan combed the Valley, looking for artisans who knew the trade, learning more about it and recording the materials available. “Initially, such work may cost more and take longer to build, but in the long term, it would be more economic—tourists would visit, and you don’t need to repaint the building and maintain it every year,” he says. Most of the bricks he supplies to hotels have a four-inch façade covering the original structure. Laying bricks itself is painstaking and delicate work, and Maharjan also supplies trained stone masons to lay a solid, uniform foundation before they lay the bricks.

When Dwarika’s Hotel, Maharjan’s first big client, drew artistic acclaim after its completion, he was immensely satisfied. Dwarika’s Hotel is a four-star establishment that has been recently renovated over a period of time. He also ensured that I always had an order of bricks so I wouldn’t get discouraged and fold up the business. “Making the bricks is a delicate process. The handmade bricks are pressed, dried and burnt. If out of 100 bricks six are broken, they don’t count. The brick is then broken into small pieces. The remaining surface makes these more resistant and the summer and winter climate suits them, so they can be used,” says Kayastha. The firm, which works with Mahajan and his team of artisans to cover the old concrete façades, has been able to add more value to the city’s old buildings.

But, for Maharjan, façading is as good as it is going to get. “The municipality is covering the city’s old buildings with a brick façade, but it’s not as effective as covering the whole building. It’s also more expensive. People don’t need to think about the building and maintain it every year,” he says. Most of the hotels and houses he’s supplied bricks to have a four-inch façade covering the original structure. Laying bricks itself is painstaking and delicate work, and Maharjan also supplies trained stone masons to lay a solid, uniform foundation before they lay the bricks.

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Building blocks in the Valley

The husband-and-wife architect’s team of Chandra Lekha Kayastha have designed numerous structures over the past 25 years: corporate offices, government and private buildings ranging in size from substations, courts and libraries to neo-classical, and now, traditional. The firm designed the Kathmandu Tourism Service Centre in Bhaktapur Municipality, “It is very satisfying to have seen how much we can do. You see the difference and the difference is there. It’s hard to imagine the sense of the building,” says Kayastha. The firm is currently working with Mahajan and the team of artisans to cover the old concrete façades of the Narayani Hotel in Pulchowk with traditional façades.

Kayastha believes that façading should not just be an afterthought, or an add-on. “While traditional structures are appropriate for the purpose, they might not have potential to be an asset in tourism lighting, and other tourism requirements.” Critics might argue that façading is an eyewash, because it does not actually preserve traditional architecture, and is just a marketing technique. Perversely, this is true. But that’s because it’s not an eyewash. It’s not even a war of old vs new, but a war of old vs old, of the structures that remain, the city’s old buildings, and these new structures that are being added to them. Maharjan, Kayastha and their team of artisans are bringing back to life the old buildings, but in a new way, adding a modern twist to them. This is the traditional façade, and it’s a mix of old and new, of traditional and modern.

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By the wayside on the information highway

Women Internet users in Pakistan are few, despite an aggressive IT policy.

"Two girls come to the cafes because they are shy and don’t feel safe," said Bushra Munir, a university student who occasionally visits an Internet shop. She believes more girls will visit cyber cafes if separate facilities are set up for them.
Know thyself, Russia

For good, friendly coexistence, candour is essential.

An agenda for G-7

Conclusions

The G-7 summit needs more debt relief, and making itself more democratic.

Balding?

An agenda for G-7

The G-7 summit needs more debt relief, and making itself more democratic.

Conclusions

The G-7 summit needs more debt relief, and making itself more democratic.
Mushahid Hussain was Minister for Information in Nawaz Sharif's government.

A weak constitution

Can Koizumi save Japan?

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Maoist front organisations

Snehal Thapa
11 July

...The Maoist party has promised general support to various organisations working alongside the Revolution. It is the policy of the party to organise people in such organisations. In this respect, especially in the western parts of the country, different groups have been formed. Organised groups will be the main source of strength in the people's war. In the history of the Harrison-like period, the most striking progress has been the growth of women's organisations, and awareness of their strength. Half the population, always discriminated against on the bases of gender and class, are slowly realising. They are realising their voice and this has killed the ruling class and other exploiters. This has gone to their head. The courage, sacrifice, and literacy are commendable and have earned the revolution will be successful. However, there are few problems. Men and, despite being exploited by men, have not become very strong and ruling. They have issued the demands of women throughout the country. They have showed the way to any successful revolution has with the women of that society. According to Marxist-Leninist-Marxist theory, the power of the party is the consciousness of the people. The party and the people will take direction from it. It is the party's policy to recognise that the people who will mould the life of society and will help in the development of a republic.

Another important factor that will give the direction to the desire of Nepal's history, which has to be shared with Marxist-Leninist-Marxist Peasant. Such a history will be the base of codes for the development and upliftment of different classes and classes.

Establishing the exploited classes in a centre of power of the party, so that they can utilise their rights to the maximum, is an important and never again exploited. This policy makes clear the objectives of our party. The coming together of the exploited and their empowerment will pave their status. Under the leadership of the party, various organisations have been formed—this is the time—the country has greatly advanced the revolution and will definitely benefit people who will help in the development of the party.

It is a policy to give equal thought to the different patterns of religion, languages, castes, traditions, families, traditions, etc. In all revolutions, there too students have played a major role. The party wants to win their support for their revolution. For the revolution. They want, to work for this goal, to utilise their advantages. So, they, too, are essential to take the revolution to the logical point. They bring new thought, energy and powers of reasoning. Their recent period closed down all educational institutions for a week and showed the power they possess. Also, they are the main force of the revolution, and is the future leaders. That is why our party has special policies for them. They have a historic role to play in the future.

The party is forming policies whereby untrained workers will come forward to help the idea alongside with help of some the Maoist workers. Once the workers have joined the party, there will be a union of the party of the factories and the factories which will utilise their true powers. As it does, the party's work will get better and they will utilise these various tools and see that they grow properly...
**Cronje campaign gains momentum**

Hannes Cronje is doing all he can to persuade the South African cricket board and public that he should be allowed back, at least as a public cricketing figure.

It is almost certain that Cronje will appeal against the ban, but in the meantime his attitude is to prepare himself to take on a managerial role in South Africa. His mother, who is deputy chair of the Cricket Board, has already said Cronje is welcome at the headquarters in Pretoria.

**Lord of the rings**

Jean Antoine Samaranch has been accused of interfering in the International Olympic Committee’s presidential campaign by canceling candidate Kim Ung-Yong’s visa and positioning a candidate from South Korea, Kim, to replace Samaranch, and Kim is alleged to have announced that the campaign was less than fair. “Samaranch systematically attacked his predecessor, as is apparent from the press conference in which he apprised the audience of the organisation, All Bach, was hurt when Beijing won the 2008 Games last Friday and “European IOC members spread an opinion that Asia should not walk away with two victories.” In an analysis of the IOC election on Tuesday, the Yonhap news agency said that, with Kim’s defeat, “the IOC’s East Asians” and “the IOC and last Monday, he consented to a radio interview in which he expressed contrition and remorse for his actions. He has spoken at functions organised by the Charles Glass Society, an organisation with close ties to Castle Lager, the official sponsors of the South African cricket, and has written a column for the Daily Mail’s website and Monday, he announced in a radio interview in which he expressed contrition and remorse for his actions.

Hansie Cronje’s bid to return to cricket has been held up by the court challenge which he launched against the decision to ban him from the sport. The ban was imposed on Cronje in 2000 after he admitted to fixing matches, and it was lifted last year after he lost his appeal against the decision. It is almost certain that Cronje will appeal against the ban, but in the meantime his attitude is to prepare himself to take on a managerial role in South Africa. His mother, who is deputy chair of the Cricket Board, has already said Cronje is welcome at the headquarters in Pretoria.

**Radisson**

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Since it apparently does not affect body shape, flexibility is often overlooked and is used to supplement strength training and to improve performance and safety by increasing range of motion. It is also important for the的学习 through the complete range of movement, especially when weight training.

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Administrative Management

controversy 24 hours before the vote when it was reported that he had promised members at least $50,000 a year in...
HALLUCINATORY VOICE

Poet and Member of the Royal Nepal Academy Toya Gurung begins her book, Hallucinatory Voice, with a tale to be told to children. She states: "The tale is fiction, but you can make it as true as you wish. I can hear the words today as I write them. I can hear the sound of faint voices in my ear."

Gurung goes on to say that it is not poetry in the conventional sense. It is, she says, "the sound of the mid-day cannon". She adds: "The sound is a greeting for the city." And she continues: "The sound is a greeting for the people who wander the city to sell freshly made curd."

Gurung's poems are characterized by their hallucinatory voice. She writes in a taut, hallucinatory language to spin out her poems. Her tone is often wry, playful, and ironic, unlike much of Nepal's poetry, which tends towards being emotionallyầung.

The first poem translated below contains some of the heartfelt and moving aspects of Gurung's work. It takes place in a small village—"a girl playing on a rooftop—and shows something of the quirky character of the human heart.

**AFTERNOON**

Lines of warmth and haze, city roads—mills clip the sun-scorched roof roof after roof
You couldn't become history—
the sound of the mid-day cannon couldn't act as a greeting for
New year's greetings to all

Dharahara towers over even new concrete structures.
What meaning does a watch have for those who wander the city to sell freshly made curd who walk loaded down with ainselu who have never seen more than one city who carry fresh mushrooms and bamboo shoots who bear gifts for highly esteemed dignitaries—

One of Bhim Sen's illustrious descendants, the first prime minister Jung Bahadur, is believed to have ridden his horse up the narrow steps of the tower and jumped from the top. The horse died but Jung Bahadur survived. An old Nepali

In a recent interview on Radio Sagarmatha, Gurung mentioned that poetry is not merely the expression of emotions; the poet must also reflect his or her times through poetry. In keeping with this statement, Gurung's poems do take on larger social themes, often indirectly, and sometimes, as below, more directly.

HISTORY CAN'T LAST IN THIS COUNTRY

Min Bahadur

Admittedly, Gurung's poems have a certain naïveté. In a recent guide book

An experimental poem

The first poem translated below contains some of the freshest poetry, which tends towards being emotionally auğn.

In the three years since I first

The first poem translated below contains some of the freshest poetry, which tends towards being emotionally auğn.

Admittedly, Gurung's poems have a certain naïveté. In a recent guide book

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THE HIMALAYAN JOURNAL

NGAMINDRA DAHAL

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Mikul

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FRIENDS OF THE BAGMATI RIVER

by

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Nepal Times
The magic lake

Manang is magic, and there’s no better way to catch it than walking up the lovely Q-cho.

The magic lake

Manang is magic, and there’s no better way to catch it than walking up the lovely Q-cho.
Under My Hat

A voice of Nepal

by Kunda Dixit

A Reader in Nepali and Himalayan Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, Michael Hutt's phone often rings with queries about the country. "Every year, a foreign journalist discovers the 'Nepali way'," says Hutt, referring to the most oft-asked question. His service to interested intermediates—The Cult of the Kumari, by Michael Allen—is about to go away, though.


Then a student of modern Hindi literature at the SOAS, he was looking for traditional Nepali handmade paper to write on, and decided he liked Nepal better. Fortunately, Hutt does know people who know more about mahouts. "Sometimes it's a big responsibility. People expect you to know things you don't. What worries me is that I'm not Nepali."

That's why he produced his 1984 doctoraldissertation on the history of Nepali and how it became the national language (later published as...)

"I don't think Hutt has yet written a book that says 'This is what Nepal is about'. But his writings and his research have helped bring the country to the world's attention. He is an important figure in the study of Nepalese literature in the West." -- however, he says, he sees himself as a fairly naive, youngish, foreigner not quite aware of the factors, allegiances, and social undertows that marked the Panchayat era. "The literature then was quite dark, really," says Hutt. "But it was important because what poets couldn't say straight, they could say in an inventive and allegorical way."

As a spin-off of Himalayan Voices, Hutt published a modern literary reader for advanced Nepali learners. Other publications include Art and Architectures of Kathmandu Valley, a coffee table book written in collaboration with other writers, and Nepal in the 1990s, a collection of essays by various commentators.

Hutt is currently in Nepal to complete research on a study of ethnic Nepalis in Bhutan.

Now that the Nigerians and Albanians are here, our economy is headed towards boom time. It is only a question of time before Nepal overtakes Luxembourg in the UNDP's Development Index....

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