Strike while the iron is hot

Every four years, in his infinite wisdom, God gives humankind a bonus day. This Leap Year fell on Sunday, 29 February—a reward from the Almighty for being so good about adhering to Lord Buddha’s rules, and avoiding 28-hour periods in which we can derogate from his teachings by going to movies and eating ice cream.

And what wondrous has been for our subterranean comrades who usually seized the opportunity to incorporate the extra day in their mandatory six-day bonds and bring the country to another grinding halt. Using the Gregorian Calendar to convert a four-day strike into a five-day strike without actually adding a day to the calendar. Physiologically, such actions are facilitated by the fact that the body’s internal clock can actually be brought to a state of near-gestation by the application of external forces. From the scientific point of view, it is a discovery of such magnitude that its data will be stored in some remote area, never to be retrieved short of an atomic storm.

Most Nepalis now realize that actions don’t get you like any longer. We’ve won another four years for the next Leap Year. We must now create even more meaningful and inspiring new ways of doing work. At such a time, His Majesty’s Government has to follow the political well-being of its people. It must stand by and ensure the application procedures for distributing government benefits and forces that don’t follow Gluck on a campaign for Gluck.

The government must immediately set up a Department of Bandobast under the Ministry of Home and Hearth to put people on the roads and at home. It might government doesn’t follow Gluck’s demands with immediate effect; we will do a grand strike as soon as the current strike is over. No doubt, the president has already declared a grand strike on those days, in which case we will strike at the next opportunity.

There are many ways to strike, as citizens can see their rights in a democracy or we have seen in recent weeks:

- **Lightning Strike:** Work stoppage without warning, doesn’t include the same place twice.
- **Lucky Strike:** Strike only if top army brass.
- **Thirteen Strikes:** Must you’re not.
- **Transport Entrepreneurs Strike:** Nepali entrepreneurs at their own hit under which passengers are required to sit on the rear end and not eat, which means an air-conditioned comfort.

Because that would be against the national interest, and we need to promote domestic industry, don’t we?

- **Gas Station Strike:** If the government doesn’t let in as many people in buses for lift they can and spin them into a traffic jam, we will close down our pumps immediately.
- **Pretend Strike:** Announcing that a strike is being imposed on the public, we announce the strike, hands down, as a “Re-cover Fad ends in spying on the United States.”
- **Disastrous Strike:** A car with a bunch of buses leaves a city at the speed of a single vehicle.
- **Hunger Strike:** This is what most Nepalis have been doing for the past few decades.

The above lists will be supplemented with immediate effect in the form of government declarations. The government can’t ignore such a groundswell of public opinion that has been building up ever since the 2061 elections, and has been the import ofshop Indian bars.
Afraid of bravery

No wonder we never get ahead: we fear success.

The dream of the day is to get a passport to Switzerland. We are afraid that if we get ahead, we lose our power. We are afraid to reach the highest echelons of success; if we get ahead, we lose our power and our freedom. We are afraid to become rich because we fear that if we become rich, we will lose our freedom. We are afraid to become successful because we fear that if we become successful, we will lose our freedom and our power.

The quote is from the Nepali language and translates to: "We are afraid of success because if we succeed, we will lose our freedom. We are afraid of power because if we gain power, we will lose our freedom. We are afraid of wealth because if we become wealthy, we will lose our freedom."

The point of the quote is to highlight the fear of success and the fear of losing power, freedom, and wealth that comes with success. This fear prevents people from striving for success and maintaining their personal freedom, which is the essence of the quote. The fear of success is a common theme in the Nepali society, and it is evident in the way people behave and think. This fear of success is rooted in the fear of losing their freedom and power, which are valued more than success and wealth.

The quote is a reflection of the Nepali society's mindset, which is focused on preserving freedom and power rather than achieving success and wealth. It is a strong reminder of the importance of balancing freedom and success and the need to break free from the fear of success and embrace it to achieve personal growth and development.

The quote is from a Nepali language newspaper titled "The Kathmandu Post," and it was published on February 27, 2004, in Kathmandu, Nepal. It is a powerful reminder of the need to overcome the fear of success and embrace it to achieve personal growth and development.
Afraid of bravery
No wonder we never get ahead: we fear success

There are many reasons why Nepal is not progressing, but one main reason is fear of success itself. People fear success, and this fear is not limited to the individuals but it permeates all levels of society. Even the government leaders are afraid of success. When the government made a promise to voters that they would improve the country, they never knew what they were getting themselves into. When they promised things, they never knew what they were getting into.

People fear success because they are afraid of changed circumstances. They are afraid of new situations that arise from the successes they might achieve. They are afraid of new responsibilities and consequences that come with success. They are afraid of the challenges and problems that might arise after achieving success. When they achieve something that they have hoped for, they are afraid of the changes that might come with it. They are afraid of the rejection and criticism that might come with it.

People are afraid of success because they are afraid of the added responsibilities that will come with it. They are afraid of the pressures and expectations that will come with it. They are afraid of the scrutiny that will come with it. They are afraid of the challenges that will come with it. They are afraid of the failures that will come with it. They are afraid of the setbacks that will come with it.

But the fact is, success is a good thing. It brings many benefits and opportunities. It brings new possibilities and changes. It brings new challenges and opportunities. It brings new responsibilities and opportunities. It brings new rewards and opportunities. It brings new experiences and opportunities.

So, why are people afraid of success? Why are they afraid of being successful? Why are they afraid of achieving something that they have dreamed of? Why are they afraid of being successful?

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Miami's vices

Politics here is wild, weird, wacky and wicked, just as in Nepal.

One Memoir

Miami is home to a diverse and cosmopolitan population, and despite its reputation for wild parties and nightlife, there are some things that are considered normal and acceptable. For example, it is not uncommon to see people walking around in their underwear on the streets, especially on college campuses.

But beyond this, there are other aspects of Miami life that are not as obvious. For instance, the city has a thriving arts scene, with museums, galleries and cultural events that attract visitors from around the world.

In addition, Miami is known for its cuisine, which blends influences from various cultures. From Cuban to Bahamian, there is a diverse range of food options available throughout the city.

Nonetheless, Miami is also known for its social and political diversity, with a mix of social classes, races and religions. The city has experienced significant growth in recent years, with a growing population of young professionals, artists and entrepreneurs.

Despite these trends, Miami remains a city that is often viewed with skepticism or even fear by outsiders, particularly when it comes to its violent and criminal subcultures. However, for those who choose to explore it, Miami offers a unique and vibrant urban experience that is unlike any other in the world.
Some reservations about reservations

The government is reading a new affirmative action policy, but will it work?

MARCH MINUS

For the first time in Nepal's history, the government is mulling over job quotas for women and most-affected communities in civil service. Dalits, madhesis, other ethnic groups and women will benefit from the scheme, if endorsed by the cabinet, which is expected to be implemented by April. Alongside the recommendation of the Flowerton-Predication-related Advisory Committee headed by Former Minister Pushkar Chandra Lakul, the flowerton members have asked to complete it in two days.

(For more on the govern-ments) rush to take the initiative on affirmative action appears to be aimed at countering the Maoist momentum towards the reinstatement of its demand for inclusion of ethnic communities in the national constitution.

During last year's peace process, the government succeeded to the Maoist demand to establish a reservations policy which included provisions for the year; one quota for 10 percent of work, one quota for 25 percent of seats, and one quota for 30 percent of governmental posts. Following the government formal announcement, many are new recommendations. It aims at maintaining an equal number of women's job as can be found in existing ministries.

"This is a breakthrough for the government," says Dinesh Narayan Koirala, member of the Nepal Sudhakar Party and coordinator of a sub-committee on reservation for madhesis. "The total population has been politically delimited from equal participation and left out of economic and development processes."

The committee looking at quarter of the population is recommending representation based on the national census. Women, madhesi and probably eight percent of civil service jobs, one more percent of judgeships, and more are still not considered permanent staff or after working there for decades, says Dinesh. Published of the Nepal Constitution, the committee should be able to allocate the same number of seats and jobs.

"Firms are not empowering and empowering groups to increase the corruption and to increase the percent to the national case and in the future, just like the Maoists. The government is not taking any initiative to clear the situation.

In one case of the government is the request to implement the policy by April along the lines recommended by the Reservation Commission. The government has admitted that the policy may fail to achieve its goal of proportionate representation for women, 10 percent for dalits and five percent for indigenous communities.

This is a controversial issue, but most madhesis and janjatis are in favor of the policy. Although Melamchi construction has ground to a halt, Melamchi's donors have said tunnel construction of the $464 million project will end if the policy is not implemented soon.

The government committee has less than 45 member task force has less than 45 member task force, and most are still not considered permanent staff even after working with the government. The government has only eight percent of civil service jobs, one more percent of judgeships, and more are still not considered permanent staff or after working there for decades, says Dinesh. Published of the Nepal Constitution, the committee should be able to allocate the same number of seats and jobs.

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Gone bird watching

No Nepali Maoists were sighted at a Maoist solidarity meeting in London

In the wake of Baburam Bhattarai’s visit to Nepal has triggered a stir of suspicion and controversy in Nepal. Some analysts have accused the government of having agreed to ratify the ‘global war on terror’. The London-based World People’s Resistance Movement and the Anti-Imperialist Solidarity movement were also present at the meeting.

Shashank’s visit was no exception. His visit was reported to have been met with widespread fears and allegations of a coup attempt. The CPN-M (London) did not make its appearance. But like relics from a bygone era, old Marxists were spotted in abundance still dreaming and harping on of a collective utopia. This breed seems to have failed to move through the millennium.

The days of socialists and trendy activists like the Sandinista public meetings of the 1980s are long past in London, but it looks as though discussions on foreign revolutions will not be completely gone.

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Gone bird watching

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W

king a Barbour and walking around a crowded, buzzy and packed, London Eye with the herons landing and the seagulls soaring, there was a rare glimpse of a special group: CPN-M (London) and its friends. Sightsing in its new omega formation

LONDON EYE

abyss.

Eyes are new because life is always distinctive markers of leadership to see the life of a student, an expert in the fascinating facts of British society, especially in the capital. The key to understanding these differences of perception lies in the fact that the CPN-M (London) did not make an appearance.

Much has been accomplished, the CPN-M (London) did not make an appearance. Participants from the government-led, Maoist-led, and Nepali-led movements were spotted in abundance, still representing their respective groups. However, this time the focus was more on observing and understanding the political dynamics that lie behind these meetings, rather than simply taking timestamps and photographs.

The absence of openness in the conduct of foreign policy, lack of commitment to building confidence-building measures, and limited exchange of information and opinions on key issues have further complicated the relationship in the past. To achieve the desired outcome, even more dialogue and understanding are needed.

The absence of openness in the conduct of foreign policy has been a significant challenge in the current understandings and negotiations. Both parties need to work together to establish a proper context and perspective, not from rigid mindsets.

Pro-Maoist meet in London

The London-based World Peaceful Resistance Movement and the Anti-

Revolutionary Questions (Maoist) held a pro-Maoist meeting in London, with the participation of a large number of Maoists from different countries. The meeting was held at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and there was a genuine sense of solidarity among participants during the three-hour session. The program began with a video screening of a Nepalese film on 3 April 2012 presented by the Maoists at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). The video showed the lives of Nepalese people in the city, highlighting their struggles and triumphs.

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Can we bank on the Internet? 

T he first commercial banks that have expanded in Nepal over the past few years are likely to feature more prominently in the national agenda as we approach 2015. This is possible for clients who are authorized to make such transactions through the Internet. Even Kranti Bank’s arrangement works only among group accounts. Banks can increase their transactions through a banking-only system if they use the technology for auxiliary activities. In the mean- time, they can also be banking on the Internet. The banks in these countries are banking on the Internet. It is necessary that all banks in the country install the technology as soon as possible.

Global SMS

In less than six months of launching its first SMS-based service in the country, Grameena Bank has already sent more than 50 percent of the country’s residents, the bank’s SMS tools are available for Newa mobiles.

Making the grade

Economic Sense

Making the grade

Economic Sense

Mixing oil and money

Deregulate, and end fuel fuel

Halving absolute poverty by 2015

Kolkata bans bandas

While Nepal has recorded a decline in carbon emissions in the past few years, the situation remains uncertain in the future. The Indian government has set an ambitious target of reducing carbon emissions by 2020, but the current trend is not promising. The reason is that the country has not made a significant effort to reduce emissions from industries and transportation. However, the government has been active in promoting renewable energy.

Kolkata’s move to ban bandas is a positive step towards reducing carbon emissions. The ban will reduce the number of vehicles on the road, which will help to reduce the carbon footprint. The ban will also encourage people to use public transport or walk instead of using bandas. The ban will also reduce noise pollution and improve air quality.

In the meanwhile, the Centre needs to focus on increasing renewable energy generation. The government should provide incentives to renewable energy projects and encourage private investment in this sector.

Kolkata has also taken steps to improve public transport. The city has introduced a bike-sharing system and a new metro line. These initiatives will help to reduce the number of vehicles on the road and improve air quality.

In conclusion, Kolkata’s ban on bandas is a positive step towards reducing carbon emissions. The Centre needs to follow the same path and promote renewable energy generation. The government should also focus on improving public transport to reduce the number of vehicles on the road and improve air quality.

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Can we bank on the Internet?  

While this may be the case in banks, the situation in Nepal is not the same. A number of banks have started to offer mobile banking services, but not all customers are comfortable with it. The lack of customer education and training is a major issue.

Global SMS

In less than four months of starting its SMS-based service, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Nepal (TRAU) has managed to attract 6.5mn customers. Despite the problems, the service is expected to continue.

Kolkata bans bandas

Bandas have a revival of sorts since the government declared the ban. Eccentric kaleidoscope shoppers are likely to encounter the more hard-core poor who will need a different combination of policies and programmes than we have so far envisaged.

Making the grade

Some students are doing very well in the exams. Even Kapil Vatsa, the minister for science and technology, has no doubt that the current system is not effective. The success of a new grade system will depend on how well it is implemented.

Halving absolute poverty by 2015

The target of halving absolute poverty by 2015 is a challenge that must be met. The government has other priorities and a business as usual scenario is not sustainable.

Mixing oil and money

The government must ensure that the necessary reforms are in place to make the energy sector more efficient and transparent.

Econ Sense

Artha Rani

Surely, the answer is de-regulation of the sector and to treat the energy business as a separate entity. The government must not interfere in the day-to-day operations of companies.

BIZ NEWS

Surendra Bhandari. "For that, both the parties must have a vision to work towards.

The government has other priorities and a business as usual scenario is not sustainable. We should learn from India.

Kolkata bans bandas

Kolkata, the metropolitan city, has banned bandas. Columnist Bachi Karkaria in the Hindustan Times opined that the ban is a step in the right direction.

The government has other priorities and a business as usual scenario is not sustainable.
Letter from America

The Americans are heading for elections in November as a deeply fractured nation. They are divided over the war in Iraq, over domestic health policies, tax cuts, education spending, budget deficits, trade agreements, gay marriages, environmental issues, immigration policies, jobs losses and the foreign policy.

The Nepali people also have never been as divided as they are today. But unlike the Americans who let elections decide which side wins, in Nepal the electoral process set by the 1990 constitution lives in tatters.

That constitution was expected to herald a new Nepal by institutionalising a democratic, representative and inclusive politics that would begin efforts to deliver basic services to citizens. In the first few years after the election, a party committed to social democracy won with the UML in opposition to provide a power balance, while the monarchy remained constitutional. But things started to go terribly wrong and the new institutions could not respond to the new challenges.

The US has faced similar challenges. But, over the years, the Americans managed to overcome them and, in the process, built their political institution. Closer to home, the Indians have managed to sustain a democratic process too. They elected new chief ministers in four states in December 2003 and soon will begin the process of electing their new prime minister. Though imperfect and ridden with limitations, both the American and Indian forms of electoral processes have worked.

One of the reasons for the durability of the electoral process in Nepal is because of faults in the practice of implementation of the constitution. The American and Indian constitutions were incomplete when they were first drafted but both have space for amendments. At new challenges have emerged, both constitutions have been amended. In Nepal, however, the new constitution was projected to be the ‘best’ in the world, with suggestions from its creators and implementers that it needed no amending.

It became clear, as the framework began to be implemented, that the constitution’s provisions alone would not be able to address Nepal’s problems. Clearly, adjustments were necessary and amendments had to be introduced. The 1990 Constitution has provisions for amendments that require any amendment to be passed by a two-thirds majority of the parliamentary members. Between them, the NC and the UML enjoyed a comfortable majority in successive parliaments, but amendments were never considered though limitations had already been highlighted.

Instead, successive governments and parliaments allowed only a few to corner all the power, resources and opportunities thus making the governmental business exclusionist but rudderless. The only time parliament was when the treaty on the Mahakali River was ratified on the night of 20 September 1996.

How and when will a participatory electoral process emerge in Nepal through which the Nepali people can express their differences through a ballot and not by killing each other? These questions haunt me as I observed American democracy going through the primaries of electing their nominee to take on George W. Bush. Peace and election in Nepal seemed so far away.

"Thinkers prepare the revolution; bandits carry it out," wrote Mariano Azuela, referring to Mexico of a century ago. Azuela’s statement also became true in Nepal of the 1990s as the country’s thinkers allowed unbiased mediapreneurs, ideological hierarchy and loss of community with the people corrupt the gains of the 1990 revolution.

Nepalis must, however, begin rebuilding on the foundations laid by the 1990 ‘People’s Movement’. The good news is that everyone remains to have its genie. King Gyanendra kept reiterating his commitment to multiparty democracy, the main political parties are faithful to the parliamentary process and the latest statement by Maoist leader Comrade Prachanda mentioned, “achievements of the popular movement of 1990’. So, where is the problem? Given this reference to the spirit of the people’s movement a consensus way forward should be achievable, hopefully to begin the electoral process. Cultivating tolerance and engaging in creative dialogues will help build trust to arrive at such a consensus.

Water Analyst Ajaya Dixit wrote this piece while in Boulder, Colorado on a month-long writing assignment.

A time atlas of Nepal

Maps that let us quickly find out which districts have made progress since 1971, and which haven’t

Maps are static. They show the world flat, as it is. But what if you wanted to see Nepal’s progress in development, or lack thereof? And suppose you wanted that segregated by district? Information in both time and space.

That is exactly what the recently published Mapping Nepal Census Indicators 2001 and Trends has done. Brought out by ICIMOD, the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) and the Dutch aid group, SNV, the book plots census data from 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001, and divides them by district. The maps mean more than just which districts are ahead in schooling for girls, infant health, fertility rates, etc. They also show how much progress each district has made and which ones are lagging behind.

The beauty of it is that you can make your trends out at a glance, without having to pore through pages and pages of figures. And because the districts are colour-coded, the achievements and failures of development at the grassroots over the past 30 years leap out of the page. The problem then, is to figure out what to do about them.

The book was released recently without much fanfare, but deserves much more attention than it has hitherto been given. The study team was lead by ICIMOD’s Basanta Shrestha and Rabi Prasad Kayastha of CBS, and used geographical information system techniques to produce the thematic maps that represent trends to enable rapid and visual grasp of the implications for the country of individual development parameters. The book will soon be followed by a CD-ROM that will enable planners and local development officials to segregate the data by thematic areas, districts and timeline.

Starting from relatively straightforward mapping of district-wise trends in population density, the atlas shows us how fast the terrain is being filled. The eastern tarai, for instance, used to have a population density of 200-400 per sq km. By 2001, that figure had jumped to 600-800 per sq km.

Kathmandu, the capital, now crossed the 800 per sq km mark.

The average population growth rate used to be above 4 percent in the eastern tarai in the 1970s. Today it is at an average of 2.5 percent despite migration-related growth.

Even shows less than 2 percent population growth and, correlating this with the trends in progress in female literacy, it becomes clear why this is so.

Sex ratio (the number of males for every 100 females) is an important indicator of the status of women within a society. This atlas shows a clear correlation between gender equity and other parameters such as girl’s literacy, maternal mortality and fertility rates. It is clear that the worst sex ratio is in the east-central tarai districts of Rautahat, Sarlahi and Mahottari where the number of males for every 100 females has remained above 105 since 1971. The second worst are the Midwestern districts of Achham, Bajura, Bajhang and Darchula.

The mean age of marriage of women shows that in the eastern hills, Mustang and Manang are far ahead of the rest of the country with 22 years or above. But girls are still getting married at ages between 16-18 in the east-central tarai and the midwestern hills and this mean age hasn’t improved much.

Female literacy rates show the most sluggish progress in the midwestern and far-western hills and east-central tarai in the last 30 years, and hint at the neglect of development that has contributed to the rise of the insurgency. Similarly, the midwestern hills show the least progress in enrollment in schools.

(Korda Dixit)
Wild about bamboo
Nepali bamboo is good enough to eat

SRADHNA BASNYAT

It is said Nepali culture demands bamboo from birth to death and everywhere in between. We use bamboo as scaffolding material, as food, for music, to carry things and to write with. Nepal has over 50 species of bamboo. Another 10 species are in the process of being classified. Most Nepali bamboo types are found in the wetter middle and eastern regions of Nepal from 50m-2,000m, with Ilam, Dhanusha, Bhojpur and Taplejung having the sturdiest stems.

This is great diversity for country our size, says our foremost expert on the woody grass, Anu Madhav Das. “Nepal has up to five percent of the world’s bamboo population, within only 0.1 percent of the world’s land area,” says Das, who is the only Nepali with a PhD in bamboo.

Another of Nepal’s foremost experts on the plant is Shyama K Paudel, who is based in Beijing with the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR). A forester by training, Paudel has been in China since 2002, looking at bamboo’s potential for rural enterprise and poverty alleviation. One hectare of bamboo can earn a farmer up to Rs 400,000 annually, says Paudel, adding: “Bamboo is a natural tool that encourages sustainable, integrated farming systems and is an excellent resource for income and employment generation.” The beauty of bamboo is that it is fast-growing, needs little maintenance, can grow on forest margins and requires only modest investment.

Some communities in Nepal, like the Dom Dalits in the tarai who number only 20,000, are completely dependent on the bamboo, making their living from weaving mats from nigalo. Many Rai and Limbu communities in the east also rely on bamboo, and are expert sources of aloha and adai for the local market.

Bamboo has finally been recognised as an ‘international commodity’ and is now under the purview of the International Commodity Body. And international conference in New Delhi next week will be looking at expanding bamboo trade. “Nepal can be a key player in the international bamboo and cane trade which averages $6 billion annually,” Paudel says.

In terms of quality, Nepali bamboo is as good as, if not better than most. And we are still finding new uses for this versatile plant. For instance, bamboo is the best ‘carbon sink’ for greenhouse gases putting out 35 percent more oxygen than other trees and every hectare of bamboo sucks up 12 tons of carbon dioxide every year. “We should all consider living in a bamboo jungle,” Das says, and he doesn’t seem to be joking.

Food
For the Japanese, Taiwanese, Chinese, Thai, and Nepalis, bamboo shoots are a staple diet. Nepal produces 102 tons of tamu and each year. “We should all consider living in a bamboo jungle,” Das says, and he doesn’t seem to be joking.

Timber
Strong but flexible and incredibly versatile, bamboo is an excellent alternative to wood. With a tensile strength of 28,000 per square inch, it’s even a stronger building material than steel. “Harvestable in three years for building, bamboo houses only need an eighth of the energy concrete requires to create building material with the same capacity,” marvels Paudel. To top it off, it is also the quickest growing plant in the world, growing 30 percent quicker than the fastest growing tree. This capacity to regenerate and its yields, which can be up to 25 times more than timber when well managed makes bamboo an environmentally sound choice. Bamboo homes, light and elastic, are also earthquake resistant.

Green
In a country as vertical as Nepal, bamboo is also great for soil conservation. Growing in mixed cultures, it is naturally less likely to cause soil erosion than monocultural farming. “Bamboo creates a mat-like structure underground, effectively stitching the soil together, it is perfect for fragile river banks, deforested areas, earthquake zones and preventing mudslides,” says Das.

Paper
Bamboo has been used for making paper since the 2nd century. At one point, this renewable resource was used to make 70 per cent of India’s paper.

Medicine
Ancient Ayurvedic and Chinese healing traditions have used the medicinal properties of bamboo. In acupuncture, bamboo secretion is powdered and hardened and used internally to treat asthma, coughs and as an aphrodisiac. Black bamboo root is used to treat kidney disease. In Ayurveda, bamboo mannas is a rejuvenating herb for sore throats.

A case in point
When Himalayan Bamboo and Wood Products went into business two years ago, the Nepali owned company didn’t know it would grow so fast. Roshan G Shrestha looked after sales, and says: “Nepali bamboo has good hardness, yet is flexible. It has better in quality than many Chinese bamboos so we can compete quality wise.” The company sources bamboo from local farmers in Ilam and Dhanurka. Up to 50,000 pieces a month are transported to the factory in Hetauda where Himalayan Bamboo employs 150 Nepali workers, exclusive of the indirect employment created through cultivation, harvest, primary processing and transport. But it faces challenges: ‘Cost of production is still very high: factor in transportation from Ilam to Hetauda and the Rs 4,000 per truck in arbitrary ‘local development tax’.”

The business enjoys no government subsidies, incentives or technical support. The miracle is that the company has managed to turn this miracle crop into a great export for the country.
No more circling

A widely-used veterinary drug is driving our vultures to extinction

The vulture with a scavenger's eye is dying, and even as it gives warning to its survival, a tragedy has unfolded.

Four years ago, vultures suddenly started disappearing over the northeast. No one knew why; some suspected pesticides, others thought the birds were moving out of reach. Whatever the reason, these griffons were vanishing. Other kinds of vultures and secondary scavengers did not seem to be affected.

Even as researchers investigated the mystery in India, Pakistan and Nepal, they noted a consistent decrease in vulture numbers. Population of the Oriental White-backed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture and Long-billed Vulture in the three countries dropped by between 95-97 percent.

In Koshi Tappu, the drop in the last few years had never been seen since the extinction of the Great Auk or the Passenger Pigeon in the 19th century. Some researchers argued that the decline in the vulture population in Nepal and India is due to a viral infection. The Chinese government is investigating the possibility of a virus spreading to vultures from other countries. In China, vultures have been affected by a virus that is causing kidney failure and death.

At the Kathmandu vulture summit, everyone agreed that banning or severely restricting the use of diclofenac should be the first step. This should be done in tandem with a captive breeding programme for release and relocation of the Oriental White-backed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture and Long-billed Vulture.

In India, the Oriental White-backed Vulture and the Slender-billed Vulture are found mostly in the tarai, churia and lower reaches of the country. The Oriental White-backed Vulture is also found in the Himalayas, the eastern Himalayas and the eastern parts of China. In Pakistan, the Slender-billed Vulture is found in the eastern parts of the country. In Nepal, the Oriental White-backed Vulture and the Slender-billed Vulture are found in the eastern parts of the country.

Varieties of vultures are being studied to understand why the drop in their numbers is occurring. In Nepal, the Oriental White-backed Vulture has been studied and is known to be affected by a virus that is causing kidney failure and death.

Little is known about the Oriental White-backed Vulture in India and Pakistan. In Nepal, the government has been studying the vulture population and is trying to find out why the decline is occurring. The government is also trying to find out why the vultures are dying and what can be done to prevent it.

While the government has been trying to understand why the vultures are dying, the number of vultures has dropped dramatically. In Koshi Tappu, the drop in the last few years had never been seen since the extinction of the Great Auk or the Passenger Pigeon in the 19th century. Some researchers argued that the decline in the vulture population in Nepal and India is due to a viral infection. The Chinese government is investigating the possibility of a virus spreading to vultures from other countries. In China, vultures have been affected by a virus that is causing kidney failure and death.

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**No more circling**

A widely-used veterinary drug is driving our vultures to extinction

T he problem with a scavenger species is that whenever it is on the verge of extinction no one wants to save it. Vultures have this problem.

Four years ago, vultures suddenly started disappearing over the subcontinent. No one knew why, some suspected poisons, others thought the birds were running out of food. Whatever it was, three species of vultures were vanishing. Other kinds of vultures and secondary scavengers did not seem to be affected.

Even as researchers investigated the mystery in India, Pakistan and Nepal, they noticed a dramatic decrease in vulture numbers. Population of the Oriental White-backed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture and Long-billed Vulture in the three countries dropped by between 95-97 percent.

In 2003, three researchers from Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) and three IUCN staff members from the Regional Conservation Office, Pokhara, flew to India to meet with researchers from the Centre for Wildlife Science in India.

Soon, researchers zeroed in on the cause. In Koshi Tappu, the decline in the last few years. The research team met with farmers and shepherds, and the local villagers.

No one knew why vultures were dying. They observed that farmers were using a drug called diclofenac to treat livestock, and that vultures were feeding on the carcasses of dead animals. Three species of vultures are hypersensitive to the drug that they ingest, causing kidney failure, and sometimes death.

After the meeting, the researchers from Bird Conservation Nepal went to more places to investigate the problem in Nepal and India. They visited the Sukla Ghata Wildlife Reserve in India and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in Nepal.

In Koshi Tappu, the drop in breeding pairs of the White-backed Vulture was more dramatic. The reserve’s vulture population, including the last remaining population of the Oriental White-backed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture and Long-billed Vulture, has all but disappeared from cliffs that were regular dwelling sites. An IUCN staff member from Pokhara recalls: “As children we’d see vultures on cliffs. Now there are none.”

Villagers living near Milke Danda in eastern Nepal say the Lammergeier and a large flock of vultures were seen on cliffs. Despite this, the Lammergeier, the Egyptian Vulture and the Oriental White-backed Vulture have all but disappeared from cliffs that were regular dwelling sites. An IUCN staff member from Pokhara recalls: “As children we’d see vultures on cliffs. Now there are none.”

**SAMUEL THOMAS**

Bird Conservation Nepal is seeking help with monitoring nesting sites and information on vulture conservation. Call: 01-4439296, 01-4417805.
Fear broad cheekbones (including the moon’s), pockmarked II
wrapped in your sheepskin and do your best always to tuck your head into the corner, as in the corner it’s harder—and in darkness at that—to swing dressed, squinted windowpanes harness the world—sleep
granaries, cabins, shacks—timber abodes whose thin
like and, it seems, horizontal meandering trail is, in fact, vertical. Lying flat in the mountains, you
NOR THERE
creep. And it’s only you who can do the job.
and to those natives who nevertheless roll their eyes and mutter, I say “lighten up” and offer Joseph Brodsky.
a criterion of emptiness—of its depth and scope.
remember: space that appears to need nothing does crave, as a matter of fact, an outside gaze,
or an angel sometimes whips up its starch or star—when you shudder at how infinitesimally small you are,
under the fathomless dome of Asia in whose blueness an
military purposes. “I can’t think of
for the astronauts and protection

T
he European Space Agency (ESA) has monopolised on sending manned missions to Mars in May 2013. I believe the goals of
off-hand work in making social support
structure to meet that goal. The agency has also
that much followed it. It would have to
in terms of access to the surface of the
other way, you own the planet, and that
will, by dint of bearing, butter you better, butter your pain.
your letter from your past self. Don’t disregard what
you’ve seen on your own way. If anything should be
used, your varying feeling, meanings, etc.,
its very worst. The
same old, same old.

EU mission to Mars

Travel advice to those

Grim reaper

AIDS in the fastest growing epidemic in
eastern Europe

Eastern Europe is seeing the fastest growing AIDS epidemic in the world, striking at 40 years 100 times the epidemic’s average rate in the United States.

The epidemic is a continuing embarrassment for the entire region. While the epidemic in the United States (US) and the eastern European countries, the number of AIDS cases has grown from 8,000 in 1990 to 500,000 in 2002.

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**EU mission to Mars**

The European Space Agency (ESA) has announced plans to send the first manned mission to Mars in 2023. The agency cited the lack of suitable habitats on Earth and the potential for finding life on the red planet. The mission, called ExoMars, will involve a lander and rover to explore the planet's surface and search for signs of past or present life.

**Grim reaper**

AIDS is the fastest growing epidemic in eastern Europe.

Eastern Europe is seeing the fastest growing AIDS epidemic in the world, studied via UNAIDS. Across eastern Europe and the central Asian republics, the number of AIDS cases has grown from 1,000 in 1990 to 1.5 million in 2004. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) highlighted the spread of AIDS in Europe at a two-day conference in 2004. The country with the highest rate of new AIDS cases is Russia, with an estimated 700,000 people infected.

**No Retreat, Don’t Sweep Our World**

We think we’re getting richer though we save less.

A study in 2000 of saving rates in 150 countries, headed by Norman Loayza at the World Bank, found that some basic economic factors explained much of the variation in national saving rates, without any reference to cultural differences. Surprisingly, the study found that saving rates were high when inflation was high, and that saving when inflation declined, since inflation had been declining in most countries of the world over the last 20 years or so, this could explain the global decline in saving rates.

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3,000 mostly teenage followers who were given weapons and guerrilla warfare training in the past two years.”

Post

Currently there are some 550 ‘pondoks’, 300 of which offer an Islamic education. Over the past decade, the number of Islamic schools and training centres has increased from around 80 in 1997 to 1,200 today. According to the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, which is responsible for the training of imams and other religious figures, there are around 3,000 imams in Indonesia, most of whom are trained at the ‘pondoks’. The majority of the imams are non-Muslim, but many of them are training at the ‘pondoks’.

The microcredit model pioneered by the Grameen Bank of Bangladesh has now been adopted and adapted by many other organizations around the world. The model has been successful in providing small loans to poor women in developing countries, helping them to start small businesses and improve their standard of living. The microcredit model has been particularly successful in providing loans to women in rural areas, where traditional banking systems have been unable to provide credit.

In Bangladesh, the success of the microcredit model has led to a significant increase in the number of women who are able to access credit. According to the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, the proportion of women who are able to access credit has increased from 20% in 1992 to 40% in 2004.

The success of the microcredit model has led to a number of spin-offs. For example, the microcredit model has helped to increase the number of women who are able to access education, particularly in rural areas. According to the Bangladesh Women’s Development Council, the proportion of girls who are able to access primary education has increased from 40% in 1992 to 60% in 2004.

The microcredit model has also helped to increase the number of women who are able to access health care. According to the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, the proportion of women who are able to access health care has increased from 40% in 1992 to 60% in 2004.

The success of the microcredit model has helped to increase the number of women who are able to access credit, education, and health care. The model has been particularly successful in providing loans to women in rural areas, where traditional banking systems have been unable to provide credit.
measured, Becerra says, is $6.3 million a year to address these diseases. This figure was derived from calculations using the Global AIDS Estimate of $160 million over six years. However, on 18 February, Downer announced that Australia would increase its aid funding of HIV programs within the region. Australia hopes to raise $500 million for this year—one-third of its total budget—from Japan, Canada, Australia and the oil-producing countries.

Australian Greens spokeswoman on health, Kerry Nettle agrees, saying “The global threat of AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases has grown so much that we need to find more money to help counter these diseases.” However, she says Australia is not doing all that it could to help: “But it is not only Australia that needs to increase its aid funding. It is everyone in the developed world who needs to increase its aid funding for these diseases.”

AIDS is not the only problem that needs to be addressed. In Indonesia, there are still more than 20 million people who are living in poverty. According to the World Bank, Indonesia has the highest number of people living in poverty in Asia. The main reason for this is the lack of education and the lack of jobs. The government has been trying to address these problems by increasing the budget for education and by creating more jobs. However, the results have not been as expected. The number of people living in poverty has not decreased, and the unemployment rate has not improved.

In Pakistan, there is another problem that needs to be addressed. The government has been trying to reduce the number of nuclear weapons in the country. Pakistan has already signed a treaty with the United States to destroy its nuclear weapons. However, the government has not been able to destroy all of its nuclear weapons. The reason is that the government has not been able to find the funds to destroy all of its nuclear weapons. The government has also been trying to avoid the international pressure to destroy its nuclear weapons. The government has not been able to avoid the international pressure because it has not been able to find the funds to destroy all of its nuclear weapons. The government has also been trying to avoid the international pressure because it has not been able to find the funds to destroy all of its nuclear weapons.
Maoist leader Hisila Yami in Kathmandu, 23 February

19

Female participation is increasing in the People's War. Women are the most exploited category of humans and are the most powerful reservoir of revolution. Women are old enough to be whipped, young enough to be shot, too young to be buried. Women are the real shock troops. Where there is oppression, there will be revolt. Since the Maoists resorted to arms, the government also used violence to quell the insurgency. Nobody viewed the countermove as legitimate. We believe the rebels chose to kill, and get killed themselves. But there is a great deal of concern when non-combatants and unarmed people die at the hands of both the security forces and the Maoists.

When the core Maoists and their military formations are placed under severe threat, they too are encouraged to act. Women in the Maoist movement have been trained and deployed in two categories – as soldiers and as political cadres. While the political cadre politics is more attractive, they are often cut off from the fighting and overwhelmed with responsibilities. Women have to adjust to the demands of both fighting and politics. The Maoists have said that women are on the front lines of the struggle, but it is often true that they are not.

While the卡尔马 Prachanda party has declared it has left the society to suffer more pain and suffering. Prachanda and the Maoist Interim government have repeatedly said that they will not allow the conflict to continue. The Mahila Morcha party has also expressed its support for the Maoist cause. The Maoists have been fighting for a republic and a socialist society, and they have been trying to build a new society where women and men are equal. Mahila Morcha has been working towards the goal of a socialist society, and it has been campaigning for the rights of women and children. Mahila Morcha has been active in many areas, including education, health, and women's rights. It has been working to increase women's participation in politics and to raise awareness about women's issues. Mahila Morcha has been campaigning for the rights of women and children, and it has been working to build a new society where women and men are equal.
**Peace and disharmony**

Political scientist Krishna Khanal in Deurbare, 15 February

An armed movement for a republic can never be successful. No matter how much the Maoists try, they will not be able to establish a republic state through violence. Even if it is established, there is no basis to believe that the system will be in people’s interest. As long as the Maoists continue their armed rebellion, the monarchy will remain.

No present international power will tolerate a change of guard through arms in Nepal’s state power. But if the movement advances towards republicanism through peaceful means, we can consider it a success. People may ask how a republic can be unlawful if the king does not disallow it but history has examples of kings giving up peace or plebiscite pressure. Republicanism cannot be a recent trend. American political parties called republics for change because their government forced them to abandon their throne and flag. The word ‘republic’ does not mean anything to the people really. If the people generally want a republic, we see no reason for blockading.

The army cannot be separated from the army. The lower ranks of the army, who are the actual fighters, come from poor backgrounds. This could prompt them to participate in a peaceful movement. At the very least, they will not be able to support such a movement if I was to gather strength. Another important factor is the moral of an armed movement, which is nil. It is natural to see force against someone who fights using arms. For instance, after the Maoists reached to armed rebellion, the government used violence to quell the insurgency. Similarly, I worry about Maoists doing almost equal damage. Even if they import arms from India, they do not have the means to build the network of the kind that the government has. They would be kicked out of the house and become prisoners in the backyard. People may ask how a republic can be unlawful if the king does not disallow it but history has examples of kings giving up peace or plebiscite pressure.

Maoist leader Hisila Yami in Kathmandu, 23 February

It was not forced into the People's Liberation Army. They don’t join for any practical or short-term reasons. The fact is the women make the biggest segment of the population in development-orienting communities. They are found in every family, house, community, region and religion and language. Where there is oppression, there will be revolt. Women have suffered class and sexual oppression, they have double capacity to resist. The Women’s Commission of Nepal (Maoists) recruited them. After their third expansion recruiting meeting, they made it mandatory to have two women in each of their fighting, security and volunteer teams. Unlike the army’s scheme to attract women with money, position and facilities, our women are recruited on the basis principles and ideals.

They were introduced to reality women are the most deprived in the existing feudal system, despite their vital role in Nepal’s agric和平。They are denied parental property and tillers as landowners. Women are fascinated with this change. The people’s war has created a new cultural climate. According to the Maoist regional coordinator, the Maoist movement is already on the process of strengthening, both intellectually and politically.

**Girl power**

Maoist leader Hisila Yami in Kathmandu, 23 February

Now that the royal army has decided to recruit female martyrs, the idea has become a matter for discussion. The move came after the People's War became a national issue and a threat to the old regime. The first reason for the army’s recruitment is to attract increasing numbers of young women, who are not interested in controlling Maoist fighters and other to dismiss them from their ranks or make them more women-friendly. The third is to provide employment to women of the families who are against this and have been expelled from villages. This is firmly in the line with the general practice of having women in the Maoist army.

**Child soldiers**

Devika Giri, 23 February

The Maoists have introduced their campaign to recruit child soldiers to step up their struggle in midwestern Nepal. In the last seven months, the Maoists have launched to their own, who has been involved in these camps. In the last month, 15,000 children are said to have completed basic training. The training is held under poor conditions, and the children are forced to live in muddy, crowded and special areas controlled by the Maoists.

While the Maoists’ and their closeances are on an all-time high, adults are forcing their children, both boys and girls, to drop out of the Maoist movement. A child is now 14 years old to join the Maoists. Whenever in the conflict, they are directly threatened by the conflict in the Maoists, say it is a new mission.

The Maoist leader Hisila Yami in Kathmandu, 23 February

If the Maoists were not able to take control of the state, I would have been forced to leave the house and society will consider me an outcast. If one side were to do that, it would add fuel to the fire. The Maoists’ purpose is to help the general public, and it was a duty, she says. I am not afraid that the Maoists will take control of the state.

**Injustice**

Bajhan Bhattacharyya, 28 February

The training has three phases and are being conducted in urban areas and remote villages. When a movement is peaceful, no one is forced. Only after a movement is violent, it is natural to use force against someone who fights using arms. For instance, after the Maoists reached to armed rebellion, the government used violence to quell the insurgency. Similarly, I worry about Maoists doing almost equal damage.

Today we hear about Maoists doing almost equal damage. Even if they import arms from India, they do not have the means to build the network of the kind the government has. They would be kicked out of the house and become prisoners in the backyard. People may ask how a republic can be unlawful if the king does not disallow it but history has examples of kings giving up peace or plebiscite pressure.

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Keshar Mahal. 'Selo' has the trademark Tamang 1992 and the rest in 1983. 'Kathmandu' evokes the rhythms heard in the Newari bahals and toles in July and August as the locals make their way to Swayambhunath to pay homage to the Buddha during the Gunla festival.

Yonjan composed concluding piece, 'Rhythms'. His music is a percussion medley that incorporates everything from the Dholak of the tarai to the Damphu of the hill people. His music is an excellent example of the blending of good business with social responsibility, a development which is important in the making of an impact for the betterment of society.

Gopal Yonjan's compositions in Ritu Ranga are a major milestone in the development of the sport. His compositions are a fusion of various musical traditions and styles, creating a unique cultural identity. His compositions have been widely acknowledged and appreciated, and have played a significant role in the development of the sport. His compositions have been played in various events, and his work has been featured in many publications and media outlets. His compositions have also been used in educational institutions, and his work has been influential in shaping the direction of the sport.
One day in BP’s life in jail

Back at Sundarijal >55

Gopin Yadav's compositions in Ritu Ranga are a major milestone

**Songs for all seasons**

In this Gopal Yadav sport, you are looking and searching for a very special, one of a kind, rare, and unique bird. The bird is identified by its special coloration and unique markings. The Gopal Yadav sport is a game that involves identifying and locating this rare bird in its natural habitat. Theidentify these birds is crucial for conservation efforts and understanding their behavior in the wild. The sport is challenging and requires a keen eye and knowledge of bird behavior. It's a popular activity among bird enthusiasts and nature lovers, providing an opportunity to connect with nature and appreciate the beauty of our feathered friends. To participate in this sport, you need to have a strong interest in birdwatching and a good understanding of avian behavior. The sport is divided into different levels, each with its own set of challenges and requirements. The higher you progress, the more difficult the challenges become, pushing you to improve your skills and knowledge. The Gopal Yadav sport is not just about finding the birds; it's also about learning and sharing your experiences with others, fostering a sense of community and appreciation for nature. Whether you're a seasoned birdwatcher or just starting out, the Gopal Yadav sport is a rewarding and enriching experience that connects you with nature and each other.
E-mail: radio@radiosagarmatha.org.

The haze is growing thicker as the sand and dust from the plains scurryng over Nepal from the west. A westerly jet propelling them all the way from the Mediterranean Sea has enough moisture to bring light rains to western and central Nepal early next week. The haze is growing thicker as the sand and dust from the plains scurryng over Nepal from the west. A westerly jet propelling them all the way from the Mediterranean Sea has enough moisture to bring light rains to western and central Nepal early next week. The haze is growing thicker as the sand and dust from the plains scurryng over Nepal from the west. A westerly jet propelling them all the way from the Mediterranean Sea has enough moisture to bring light rains to western and central Nepal early next week.
Student activists cover walls with political posters on Wednesday in preparation for the Thursday student elections.

**FM 102.4**

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Radio Sagarmatha

Every morning on 102.4 FM from 5:45-6:15 AM

Get ready for a brand new day with BBC World Today.
Strike while the iron is hot

Every four years, in his infinite wisdom, God gifts humankind a bonfire day. This Leap Year's Falls on Sunday, 29 February—a reward from the Almighty for long being seen daily flouting all God's rules, of feeding the crows when they are not empty-handed, of not keeping our mouths shut when ripe and plucked, and of being doltish like our cute little poodles and instead do the correct thing.

And what a wonderful thing has been done by our underground engineers who, usually, would have missed the opportunity to incorporate the static day in their manifold of daily drudges and bring the country to another grinding halt. Using the Gregorian Calendar to re Invent the day make into a five-day strike, they actually added a day to make strikes worse.

Physicians and social scientists, fascinated by how Nepal has defined Newton's law proving that a body in a state of rest can actually be brought to a state of greater repose by the application of an even greater force. From the scientific point of view, it is a discovery of such magnitude as to be able to claim repose even over colder than absolute zero.

Nepal now realize doing something that you get more than you should be able in any longer. We can be a nation for another Leap Year. We must create even more meaningful and inspired inventing new ways of doing work. Awareness, His Majesty's Government tells the political will to get working. It is to be expected and recognised the application procedure for declaring general strikes and how we don't think Vail is working on national holidays. So what the hands are repose, functions don't (un)do and no one thinks the inevitable for farmers by bringing out a four-day calendar for 2061.

The government must immediately set up a Department of Strike, similar to the Ministry of Eats and Hand of people can stay home and rest. If the government doesn't think those demands with immediate effect, we will declare a general strike as soon as the current general strike is over. After that, we declare a general strike on those days, in which case we will strike at the next opportunity present.

There are many ways, as citizens, can exercise our rights in a democracy, we've seen in recent weeks:

- Lightning Strikes: Work as usual, warning doesn't strike the same place twice.
- Lucky Strike: Tell it, which achieves its result as result of a fluke and luck because of the forces of logic.
- General Strike: Work on strike to pro army buses.
- Three Strikes: Move you're on it.
- Transport Entrepreneurs Strike: Nepal is not a country that is doing good work under which passengers are required to ride on the rear side and not on the driving side in air-conditioned comfort, because that would be against the national interest, and we need to promote domestic industry, don't we?
- Gas Station Strike: If the government doesn’t allow people in buses to fill their tanks and keep them in a car without, we will close down our pumps indefinitely.
- Pre-Congression Strike: Announcing their strike is before someone else announce their strike, also known as "The Early Warning Ends Up in the Bush Gazeed".
- Hunger Strike: This is what most Nepalis have been doing for the past few decades.
- Pre-Strike: This event will be accompanied with immediate effects in defiance of the Essential Services Act and the government ensures the uninterrupted supply of fuel, milk and other foodstuffs, and bans the imports of cheap Indian hats. Who says, "After the food-for-work program, the Maoists say it’s over."

The Maoists have been in power for the past four years, in his infinite wisdom, God gives humankind a bonfire day. This Leap Year’s Falls on Sunday, 29 February—a reward from the Almighty for long being seen daily flouting all God's rules, of feeding the crows when they are not empty-handed, of not keeping our mouths shut when ripe and plucked, and of being doltish like our cute little poodles and instead do the correct thing.