

#806

29 April - 5 May 2016

16 pages

Rs 50



BEST SEASONLESS CASHMERE FROM NEPAL

Scarves • Tanks • Pullovers • Cardigans • T-shirts • Wraps



NATUREKNIT  
CASHMERE REDEFINED

info@natureknit.com | natureknit.com | SANCHAYA KOSH, THAMEL | TEL: 4254812

## Foundations of democracy

**B**abies born in 1997 when Nepal held its last local elections are already 18 – the age when Nepalis become eligible to vote. This lack of local accountability has delayed earthquake relief and is a setback for rural development.

Early this month, the UML directed the government led by its own party leader K P Oli to hold local elections immediately. UML secretary Yogesh Bhattacharai said: "Rarely do we take a decision unanimously, but everyone agreed about early local elections."

Foreign Minister Kamal Thapa of the RPP-N, who also heads the Ministry of Local Development, keeps harping on about the need for local elections. The main opposition NC maybe more lukewarm, but gives lip service for polls. So why isn't it happening?

The Maoists and Madhesi parties are against VDC, DDC and municipality elections. The former because they think they will not

win, and the Madhesi parties want boundaries of future Tarai provinces agreed upon first.

Rishi Raj Lumseli of the Association of District Development Committees (ADDCC) says it's not just opposition from the Maoists and Madhesis that is the problem. "Actually, the UML and NC are not really interested

### THINK NATIONALLY, ACT LOCALLY

EDITORIAL  
PAGE 2

because everyone benefits so much from the absence of elected officials." Indeed, the Local Development Officers (LDO) Chief District Officer (CDO) and the so-called 'all-party mechanisms' at the local level decide on billions worth of budgetary resources by themselves.

After the Sher Bahadur Deuba government dissolved

municipality and village councils without new local elections in 2002, cartels of unelected local politicians make all decisions. Worried about misappropriation of local development budgets, the government declared these mechanisms illegal in 2011.

Dor Mani Poudel of the Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN) says, "An entire generation of Nepalis has never practiced democracy and good governance at the grassroots." Poudel is also member of a commission recently formed by the government to redraw local boundaries within the new federal structure. He maintains this exercise shouldn't stop local elections from taking place.

"Implementing federalism will take at least a few more years, we must hold local elections right away since the constitution allows local elections before federal provinces are set up," he says.

The National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) Chief Sushil

Gyewali is also worried that rebuilding is delayed by the absence of elected local councils. He said in a recent interview: "If it is not possible to hold local elections in all 75 districts, let us at least do it in the 14 quake-affected districts."

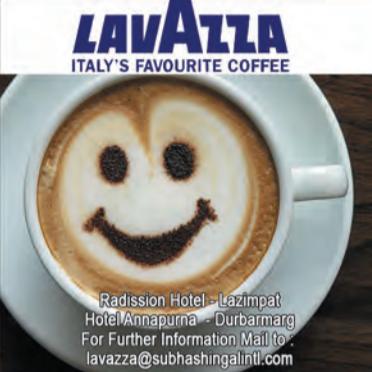
Om Astha Rai

### BHAKTAPUR'S DEAR LEADER

BY SEULKI LEE  
PAGE 14-15



AFTER THE  
AFTERSHOCKS PAGE 8-9



Going places  
together

Together, there's no limit to what we can achieve. Try some of the world's best beaches; go on an adventure holiday or visit friends and family in any of the more than 150 places we serve around the world. [qatarairways.com/np](http://qatarairways.com/np)



QATAR AIRWAYS  
القطار

GOING PLACES TOGETHER



# THINK NATIONALLY, ACT LOCALLY

Local elections would restore grassroots accountability, improve earthquake relief and kick-start development, but there is no political will for it.

**N**ePAL has not held local government elections since 1997. It has been a decade-and-a-half since the last elected district, village and municipality councils were dissolved. The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal has been run by unelected bureaucrats at the grassroots for the past 15 years.

In the early 1990s, Nepal was beginning to see the first signs of how local democracy could better deliver services in this rugged and predominantly-rural country. Backed by the Decentralisation and Self-Governance Act, local bodies were – for the first time in Nepal's history – forced to be accountable, because they were elected.

Development took off, with remarkable improvements in rural health care, school enrolment, community forestry, village-managed irrigation, and credit and savings schemes. It was largely due to decentralised decision-making that Nepal saw dramatic improvements in female literacy, which in turn sharply reduced both infant and maternal mortality rates. The momentum of the changes that swept rural Nepal is still being felt today in health and education.

The Maoist conflict was the ruse Nepali Congress prime minister Sher Bahadur Deuba used to cancel local elections in 2002, when in fact he feared that the UML would once more dominate village and district councils. What he did not anticipate – or could not have cared less about – was that the Maoists would use the vacuum at the local level to spread their influence, which is exactly what happened. The rebels used terror tactics, threatening elected local councilors and killing those who refused to toe the line, they bombed most of the 4,000 VDC and 75 DDC buildings.

After the conflict ended, the presence of elected officials at the grassroots would have streamlined compensation for victims and their families. Local accountability would have also ensured more timely and efficient delivery of relief



after last year's earthquake. In the year after the earthquake we have seen CDOs and LDOs in many of the 14 districts doing a commendable job with emergency response, but in the presence of elected local councils they would have performed even more effectively distributing reconstruction grants, rebuilding schools and repairing infrastructure.

National-level politicians are too busy bickering for power, or arguing about the new constitution, to pay attention to local elections. They spout the 'federalism' mantra, but they stopped practicing decentralisation long ago. Federalism is nothing more than self-governance and autonomy for local units of government, but Kathmandu today is more centralised than ever. Bureaucrats sent by Singha Darbar decide where to spend earthquake money or the development budget, even as politicians argue endlessly about the form of federalism and the boundaries of proposed provinces in the Tarai.

This young democratic republic is dysfunctional because of the lack of its basic tenets: periodic local elections, the rule of the majority and a vibrant opposition at the grassroots level. Currently, a junior civil servant with no ties to a village or district disburses billions of rupees of the village or municipality budget like a mayor, and the local people have virtually no say over where it is spent. We are obsessed with slogans of federalism, but have forgotten the true spirit

of decentralisation.

The only way to kick-start development and promote grassroots accountability is to hold local elections. But none of the major political parties could be bothered. The UML is the only one that has officially announced that it wants local polls, because of its strong grassroots support base. The UML's coalition partner, RPP-N, did not win a single seat under direct elections in the last two CA elections, but its Chair Kamal Thapa, is demanding local elections only because he is also the local development minister. The NC is paying lip service, but is not a very keen proponent.

Those openly against local elections are the Maoists even though they promised polls in their 2013 election manifesto. Madhesi parties are understandably opposed to local elections saying local councils must be elected only after a final decision on the federal demarcation of Tarai districts.

However, it would be fair to say that none of the parties – not even the NC or the UML – is in any particular hurry to have local elections, because they benefit so much from the absence of grassroots accountability. Village and district councils are dominated by so-called 'all-party mechanisms' with representatives of all political parties in proportion to their parliamentary strength. VDC and DDC secretaries listen to these unelected local leaders, not to people's representatives, when it comes to disbursement of budgeted resources. The government declared all-party mechanisms illegal a few years ago, but they still rule the roost.

The Supreme Court has twice ruled that local elections should be held. Finalising the boundaries of federal provinces could take years, and it would be unwise to wait so long for local elections. Under Article 303 of the new constitution, which deals with the political system of transition, there is no obstacle to holding local body elections. In Nepal, it has been a clear-cut case of where there is no political will, there is no way.

## THIS WEEK



### Most reached on Facebook

Twin Passage  
Two American expatriates who devoted their lives to Nepal passed away this month (9,781)

### Most shared on Facebook

Twin passage (32 shares)

### Most popular on Twitter

The Spirit of Nepal by Jay Poudyal (54 retweets, 82 likes)

### Most visited online page

Lok in the time of Loktantra by Bidushi Dhungel (1,072 views)

### Most commented

Lok in the time of Loktantra by Bidushi Dhungel

## YOUR SAY

[www.nepalitimes.com](http://www.nepalitimes.com)

■ Nepal needs those who tell truth to power. Thank you Kanak.

S Blair

■ The Government has made it clear that the arrest of Mr. Dixit was due to several inconsistencies between his declared assets versus the assets the commission was able to investigate. The fact that Mr. Dixit happens to be a well regarded journalist is beside the point. Those mounting a vigorous defense and claiming Nepal to be a "failed state" based solely on the arrest of this one journalist need to take several steps back. Yes corruption is an issue in Nepal, but that ought not to then result in a situation where only those less high profile than Mr. Dixit are charged or dealt with through the legal system.

Justice

■ Amnesty International would not call this a blown-up case by the media. If anybody can be thrown in jail as easily as Kanak Dixit was, what does that say about our democracy?

Anonymous

■ Mr. Dixit is being held for corruption and amassing of illegal wealth and not

for free speech. If this is true, he, like any other corrupt needs to be behind bars. Can't one be a well known journalist and a corrupt at the same time?

Hurray

■ It is clear that the CIAA's selective action is more of an individual revenge. I have truly appreciated Mr Dixit's articles which were among the very few written by a Nepali journalist that was fair and balanced. In my view, Mr Dixit is innocent until proven guilty.

Bal Tamang

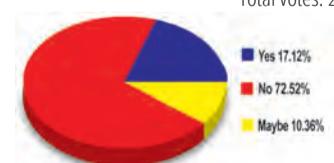
### NEPALI Times

nepalnews.com

Weekly Internet Poll #806

Q. Is the Rs 200,000 reconstruction grant sufficient?

Total votes: 222



Weekly Internet Poll #807

To vote go to: [www.nepalitimes.com](http://www.nepalitimes.com)

Q. Do you think local elections should precede federal demarcation?

# Devil and deep blue sea

Nepalis do not need an anniversary to remind them of what has been a recurring nightmare. A year after the earthquake and billions of dollars promised for rebuilding, 2.5 million people are still living in temporary homes.



**THIS IS IT**

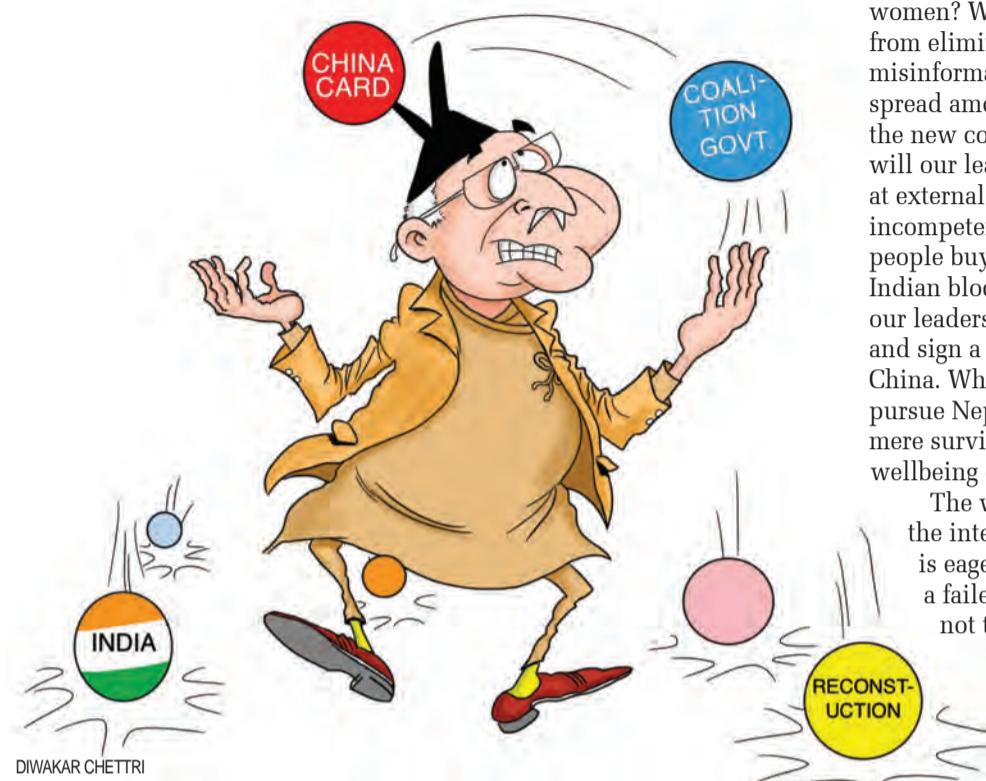
Rubeena Mahato

People have lost their loved ones, their livelihoods, livestock and homes. They have little hope that things will improve. Every second matters, yet our political parties took nine months just to appoint a CEO to the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA). It did not matter to them that earthquake survivors were wet, cold and hungry while they were wrangling over the NRA seat.

This lack of seriousness, an absolute disregard for the people's welfare and the shocking confidence that they are indispensable makes one wonder what we Nepalis ever did to deserve politicians like these.

Our tragedy is not that we live in one of the most perilous and disaster-prone parts of the world, but that we have inherited a political class that is capable of keeping this country in a perpetual state of ruin as long as they can benefit from it. With two big earthquakes and

Nepalis learnt long ago they cannot rely on their government, and recent events have taught us we cannot rely on outsiders either



an even more damaging Indian blockade, the year 2072 was not a very good one. But has any year been better? How long are we condemned to live like this? At this pace of reconstruction, whatever is still standing will be destroyed in the next Big One, which is inevitable.

Now that the blockade is over, there shouldn't be fuel lines and gas cylinders should be plentiful

and sold at normal prices, right? Wrong. We should be catching up with delayed infrastructure projects, but they are in limbo. With things returning to normal, there should have been a semblance of governance by now.

What has stopped the government from amending discriminatory citizenship provisions in the constitution to give equal rights to Nepali

women? What has stopped it from eliminating fear, doubt and misinformation that has been spread among Madhesis about the new constitution? How long will our leaders keep on pointing at external threats to hide their incompetence, and how long will people buy their lies? It took an Indian blockade to wake some of our leaders from their slumber and sign a transit treaty with China. What will prompt them to pursue Nepal's interests beyond mere survival for the greater wellbeing of their people?

The way things are going, the international community is eager to write off Nepal as a failed state, and it is hard not to notice an alliance forming that wants to discredit and delegitimise the Nepali nation. If our parties do not get their act

together, there are more difficult days ahead.

For all their talk of humanitarian support and accountability, the international community was hardly to be seen during the difficult months when Nepal was being blockaded by India. Their disdain and criticism of the Nepali state, does little to mask their own selective application of principles of

human rights and democracy. It seemed as if they had no qualms watching millions of Nepalis suffer if that's what it took to teach Katmandu a lesson.

Despite knowing full well that India blockading Nepal immediately after the earthquakes would lead to a humanitarian crisis, the international community kept its mouth shut for fear of hurting India's feelings. There are now claims from different quarters that Nepal is facing grave existential threat owing to the Madhes unrest, but by failing to support Nepal when it was most needed, the international community has proven once and for all that it is not a neutral partner. Nepalis are trapped between corrupt and incompetent political forces within, and external powers without. Both are working to advance their self-interest at the cost of the ordinary people of Nepal.

Understandably, there is an air of cynicism and collective despair, but survivors of the earthquake and those reeling under food shortages caused by a prolonged drought in western Nepal, continue to do the best they can to survive day-to-day.

Much to the disappointment of blockade imposers, Nepal did not come tumbling down in those five months last year. And perhaps Nepal will continue to survive despite the doomsayers because of the fortitude and wisdom of its hardy people.

Nepalis learnt long ago they cannot rely on their government, and recent events have taught us we cannot rely on outsiders either.

**CG | NXT GEN**

**SUZUKI**  
Way of Life!

**made of  
mettle**

**INTRODUCING  
BALENO**

The Premium hatchback with a powerful stance, iconic body and innovative features. The Baleno is more than just the personification of these qualities. They symbolize the car's attitude and that's why we call it 'made of mettle'.



Turn Fuel Into Adrenaline  
Inside The Heart Of The Baleno Sits  
A Powerful 1.2i VVT Petrol Engine.



Enhanced Safety  
Dual Front Airbags.



High-Tech Cockpit  
Ultimate Elegance &  
Unparalleled Quality.



SmartPlay Infotainment  
System With Airplay  
Equipped To Enthrall.



Projector Headlamps With  
Daytime Running Lamps  
Lights Up Your Drive.



More Space For  
More Adventure  
Big Enough To Cater Your Needs.



Track Your Drive  
Keeps You Informed About  
Every Aspect Of The Car.

**BOOKING OPEN**  
AT INTRODUCTORY PRICE

**MILEAGE 21.4 KMPL\***

\*STANDARD TEST CONDITION

EXCLUSIVE INTEREST RATE AVAILABLE  
FINANCE PARTNERS:



**NMB**  
एनएमबी बैंक

**Standard Chartered**

**NIC ASIA**

join us @ [facebook.com/cgnocorp](http://www.facebook.com/cgnocorp)

**Suzuki Showroom:** Thapathali, Kathmandu, Tel: 4229086, 4229099, 4245361, Jhamsikhel, Lalitpur, Tel: 5547165, 5547166, 5525066  
**Suzuki Service Centre:** Jhamsikhel, Lalitpur, Tel: 5545907 | Dhabighat, Tel: 5540462

**Sales Persons:** Jhamshikhel: Dipen Pradhan, 9801200883 • Ramesh Uprey, 9801200733 • Anish Shakya 9801200741 • Kiran Dangol, 9801200743 • Govinda Bhusal, 9801200825 • Sujit K.C, 9801200855  
Thapathali: Anuja Shrestha, 9801200732 • Rajkumar Dhakal, 9801200748 • Shreesha Pal, 9801200744 • Rajendra Pandey, 9801200746 • Amarendra Kumar Singh, 9801200742

**BAGMATI DEALERS:** Balkumari: 015532419, 9851053777,

Banepa: 9851057268, 011662609 Bhaktapur: 9851207010, 6618519 Mahrajgunj: 9851179553, 4016090

Naxal: 4444201, 4434660 Nayabazar: 9803238876, 4389699

AUTHORISED SERVICE CENTERS: Jadibuti: 6639177, Mahrajgunj: 4016221 Mitrapark: 4114661 Nayabazar, 4389723

**OUTSIDE BAGMATI DEALERS:** Baglung: 9856030836 Bhairahawa: 523314, 9857030121 Biratnagar: 9802711054, 462092 Birgunj: 9845269167, 9745058807 Birtamode: 9802678144, 541037 Butwal: 9847068678, 438233 Damak: 580255, 9852676327 Damauli: 9856022609, 9856021398 Dang: 9857830614, 563433 Dhangadi: 9858420192, 525992 Dharan: 9852049179, 533179 Hetauda: 9841771664 Itahari: 586475, 9852679188 Janakpur: 530481, 9744017324 Kawasoti: 9808188966 Narayanghat: 9855033556, 056-528969 Nepalgunj: 9858025567, 551075 Pokhara: 9856020169, 530208, 530107 Waling: 9856024795, 856044128 Dadedhura: 410400, 9851090432 Jitpur: 550412, 9857024412

**Gulf Lubricants**  
**26 CITIES**  
**30 SALES OUTLETS**  
**20 SERVICE CENTRE**

# Interval in Janakpur

Some organised crime dons are more equal than others in the Tarai

Last Tuesday, I was sitting at a tea shop in Janakpur just as a group of political activists were moving up the street asking shops to shut.



# MAKING IT PLAIN

Navin Iha

It soon became clear that they were supporters of Sanjay Sah, the elected MP from this area, who has been serving a jail sentence for allegedly masterminding the bomb attack two years ago on a group demanding a separate Mithila Province at Janakpur's Ramanand Chok that killed five and injured 32.

A month ago, police arrested a local gang leader who told them that Sah was also behind the murder of Janakpur publisher Arun Singhaniya in 2010. Sah claims he is clean, and that he has been framed for both crimes.

The Sanjay Sah story is the talk of the town in Janakpur today. People are divided about whether Sah is indeed the culprit. There is some resentment against

There is some resentment against the government and police for hounding an innocent man, but others are happy that Sah is in jail. The plot thickens now with

The plot thickens now with the fact that all this may have more to do with rival organised crime outfits than anything



NAVIN JHA

else. Sah is opposed to another local don by the name of Jibnath Chaudhary. If Sah is in jail, so should Chaudhary, many here think. In fact, they say Chaudhary is more of a criminal than Sah and should be the one behind bars.

Ram Yadav, a young Janakpur businessman, says the town is overrun by organised crime figures who prospered during the blockade. "This is an interval in the politics, things will hot up again after it is over," he said, sipping tea, and pointing outside at one group trying to close the

market on behalf of Sah, and the other one trying to keep it open on behalf of Chaudhary.

After his alleged role in the Singhaniya murder was exposed by police, Sah and his family have been trying to gain public sympathy by portraying him as a victim of political vendetta.

A well-known civil society member here told me on condition of anonymity that when Sah was arrested two years ago, Chaudhary threatened him and others to sign affidavits proving his guilt. The source said he

refused to sign, but many others did.

The public in Janakpur is caught between the two gangs, but there is growing disenchantment with the police for keeping Sah in jail while Chaudhary is free to roam around threatening people.

Sah's wife, Rangeli has already started a hunger strike to seek his release. "If both are mafia dons, why is only one of them arrested?" asked one relative. Local intellectuals and civil society leaders say that police should treat all criminals equally,

**FAIR TRIAL:** Supporters of MP Sanjay Sah who has been serving a jail sentence for allegedly masterminding the 2014 bomb attack in Janakpur organise a fast-unto-death demanding his release.

and if both were curbed Janakpur would be back on track.

Sah is the only elected MP of the Sadbhavana Party that was on the forefront of the recent Madhes movement. Even as other Madhesi leaders held talks with the Big Three in Kathmandu, the Sadbhavana Chief Rajendra Mahato led street protests. Interestingly, after India hinted at lifting the blockade, Mahato was the first Madhesi leader to publicly admit that their border-centric protest was a failure.

Mahato and other Madhesi leaders have now formed a broader alliance with Janajati parties. The Federal Alliance is preparing to bring in thousands of people from outside the valley to lay a siege on Singha Darbar, and giving a reason for the main opposition NC to demand PM KP Oli's resignation.

Madhesi leaders know that creating just two federal provinces covering the whole Tarai is not possible, and they are now preparing a new strategy to join hands with the NC and topple the government. But they are also cautious about a possible backlash from their constituencies. 

# Artists in residence



US EMBASSY/NEPAL

In the small hallway connecting two wings of US Ambassador Alaina B Teplitz's living room in Kathmandu hangs Shannon Szczekot's colour photograph of prayer flags hovering against a backdrop of a blue sky in Colorado. At first glance, visitors think it is a picture from Nepal, and it is this similarity that made Teplitz include the photograph among new works by American artists to adorn her residence in Kamaladi.

"Every piece tells a story and you can relate to it despite being a Nepali or an American," Teplitz told *Nepali Times* during a gathering to introduce guests to artworks by 10 American artists curated by Sarah Tanguy of the Art in Embassies Office in Washington DC. Teplitz and Tanguy chose artworks by women and artists from minority groups in the US.

The photographs, paintings and even tapestries make for a diverse collection. From Susan Makara's Convivial rocks, an

**CLOSE STUDY:** Designer Prabal Gurung observes a tapestry artwork at the residence of US Ambassador Alaina B Teplitz in Kathmandu last week.

oil and metallic leaf painting of cairn rocks in Arizona, to modern interpretations of indigenous culture in Tony Abeyta's Infinite Wisdom and Crystal Worl's Into Water, Teplitz has tried to feature glimpses of her native Pacific Northwest.

Two photographs, Szczekot's Prayer flags over Colorado and Carol Nelson's Aspen View, a picturesque landscape art with mountains in the background, have been particularly picked because of its similarities to Nepal.

Among the other pieces, Jane Cochran's Mind Games with its dramatic patchwork adds to the vibrancy of the living room of the residence. Inspired by the tradition of American quilting, Cochran uses the technique of sewing and beading to create a portrait of a woman's face

festooned by her thoughts, dreams and aspirations. Colourful leaves, flowers, butterflies, even monkeys, fish and cats sewed around the face add to its flamboyance.

Tucked away under the staircase of the envoy's residence is Lisa Cameron Russell's impressive Praire Cactus painted with layers of latex enamel on gallery-wrapped canvas. From afar, it appears to be three huge yellow cactus flowers. As one draws nearer, the texture of the painting comes to life. A representational painting from a distance, it now becomes an abstract art with beaming colours.

"The works of art express American culture in a small way and give a chance to bring people to the house and talk about art in a different way," said Teplitz, who has been active in pushing for gender equality since her appointment last year. Her first trip outside the valley was to participate in a Women's Build with Habitat for Humanity in Kavre.

The evening to introduce the artworks ended on a musical note with Raptivist (rap + activist) Aisha Fukushima and her band performing. Fukushima's global hip hop project will be conducting workshops across Nepal with youth on freedom of expression and strengthening democracy.

*Smriti Basnet*

## prabhu BANK BIZ BRIEFS

### Self reliance

NMB Bank recently launched Atmanirbharta, its corporate campaign aimed to finance various businesses. Ranging from agriculture to project financing, the bank



aims to re-emphasise its focus on micro, SME enterprises and entrepreneurship across the country.



### Sony in Jawalakhel

Authorised distributor of Sony in Nepal, Nepa Hima Trade Link, inaugurated a new showroom at Jawalakhel recently. The store offers a wide variety of Bravia TVs, Xperia Smartphones, Alpha and CyberShot Cameras, home theatre systems, personal entertainment and MDR series headphones.

### Qatar bags awards

Qatar Airways was recently awarded Airline with the Best Business Class and Best Airport Lounge in the Middle East for the Al Mourjan Business Lounge in Hamad International Airport at the Business Traveller Middle East Awards 2016. The airline currently has three flights from Kathmandu to Doha daily, connecting Nepal to over 150 destinations worldwide.



### Insured partnership

Everest Bank recently signed an agreement with MetLife Nepal for



bancassurance partnership. With this agreement, EBL customers can now avail different insurance products of MetLife from the bank's branches.

## prabhu BANK

# RAYMOND WEIL GENEVE



PRECISION  
IS MY INSPIRATION

**SULUX CENTRE**  
SOLE DISTRIBUTOR & SERVICE CENTRE  
Hotel Woodland Complex, Durbar Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal.



Scan for  
watch details



**HIMALAYAN JAVA COFFEE**  
Serving Nepali Coffee Since 1999

# Brewing Soon At Boudha

*think local*

**Himalayan Java Coffee**  
Boudha Stupa, Kathmandu  
[www.himalayanjava.com](http://www.himalayanjava.com)

**RAYMOND WEIL**  
GENEVE



PRECISION  
IS MY INSPIRATION

**SULUX CENTRE**  
SOLE DISTRIBUTOR & SERVICE CENTRE  
Hotel Woodland Complex, Durbar Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal.

raymond-weil.com

# Lenin Sues Maoists, Gov't & UN

A group of former Maoist combatants is demanding action against the Maoist leadership for exploiting them as child soldiers

**A**s the first anniversary of the great earthquake filled millions with trepidation, reports of progress made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and less poetically named Commission of Investigation on Enforced

## MOVING TARGET

Foreign Hand

Disappeared Persons (CIEDP) offer a glimmer of hope, delusional or otherwise. Both organisations began registering complaints as of mid-April, a year after their formation and 10 years after the conflict ended, indicating the government has finally run out of excuses to delay the process any longer.

Newspapers carried heart-rending tales of sons and husbands murdered by Maoists or disappeared by the army, reminding us of the Pointless War's tragic impact on so many families, many of whom still wait and pray for justice.

Events took an unexpected turn when a group called the Discharged People's Liberation Army Struggle Committee filed a complaint with the TRC, demanding action against the Maoist leadership for exploiting them as child soldiers. Known as the Disqualified, they represent the 4,000 'fighters' refused entry into the UN camps for being underage.



**THE DISQUALIFIED:** Lenin Bista joined the Maoists at 12 and served four years in the Maoist army before being disqualified by the UN. He now heads an organisation of former child soldiers demanding action against the Maoist leadership.

It's well known that many 'Mao kiddies' were rounded up by the party, given a few days training and an old pressure cooker 'bomb', and presented to UNMIN as bona fide combatants. This highly cynical ploy to inflate PLA numbers, which Prachanda bragged about in the leaked Shaktikhor tapes, made a fool of both the UN and government. Worse still, while many imposters were accepted into the camps some of those rejected were actually battle-hardened soldiers. Lenin Bista, the group's aptly

named spokesman, was recruited in 2002 at the age of 12 and served 4 years in the PLA before being disqualified by the UN and ditched by the party he fought for. If he couldn't earn \$1 a day in the camps, with the party claiming half, the Politburo had no further use for him and promises of government help typically never materialised.

Spreading the blame further, the group accuses both the government and UN of willful negligence for ignoring the PLA's rampant use of minors.

International protocols on child rights oblige the authorities to arrest anyone breaking such laws, yet nothing was done. UNMIN's mandate in 2006 was limited but didn't preclude condemning the use of child-soldiers and demanding action against those responsible.

The group's request for recognition, reparations and security is a courageous step that's sure to upset some very powerful people. Your columnist fears any extra attention may

bring trouble, but Lenin Bista has already been front page news and many share his group's view that exposing this terrible abuse of power to the world could help ensure Nepal's children never get used as soldiers again.

Though it's no surprise that the only ones seeking justice are the victims and their families the complete lack of support for the process from any of the political parties, either in government or opposition, reeks of high level collusion.

How can the NC, UML and RPP-N forget their many party members murdered by the Maoists, who, for their part, seem to share this collective amnesia towards their own cadre tortured and disappeared by the army? Wouldn't it make sense for the governing UML to empower the commissions and finally bring closure to an agonising chapter in the country's history, especially since so many of the slain were their own?

Logically speaking, the opposition NC should be demanding justice but instead stays quiet, perhaps because most of the war crimes committed by the state took place while Girija Prasad Koirala was PM.

Another explanation for this conspiracy of silence is most of the victims were poor villagers,

mere pawns in the game, and how can we expect those so willing to forget their own fallen comrades to give a damn about the thousands of nameless dead?

While the Maoists have gone to extraordinary lengths to place their high ranking members in lucrative posts while shielding them from prosecution, no such concern was ever shown for their rank and file. Perhaps they should have been kinder, considering the leadership now stands accused of crimes against humanity by its own troops, a charge that takes irony to new heights.

Both commissions can expect more resistance, obstruction and pressure from all quarters as the cases evolve.

The army's immediate demand that the CIEPD furnish a list of complainants is menacing, especially since they have no legal right to do so, and suggests the military plans to actively undermine the commission however they can.

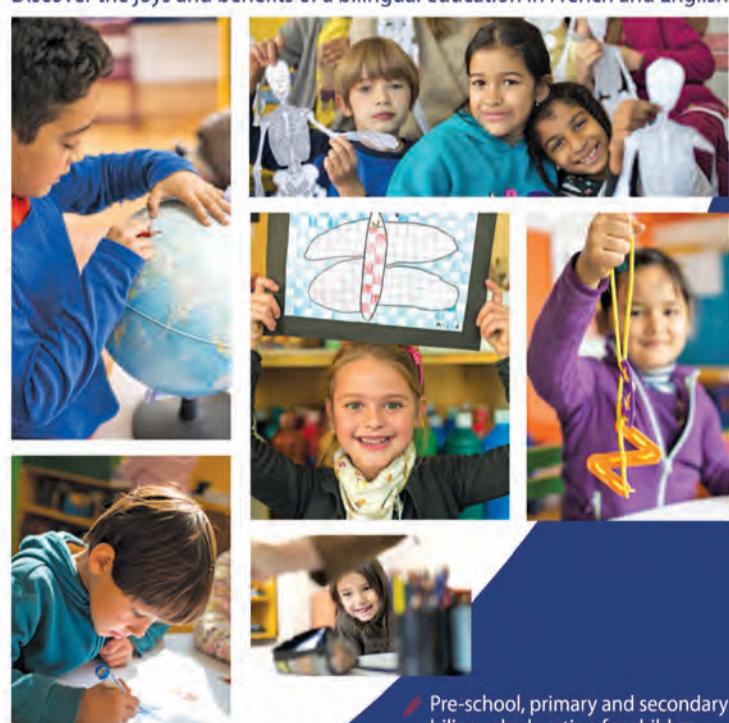
The Maoists, meanwhile, are feverishly trying to shift cases against their cadre from civil courts to the TRC, where they must believe their chances of achieving a whitewash are greater.

It's clearly not going to be easy, especially since history shows Nepal's political and military brass consider themselves to be firmly above the law. None can be trusted to pursue justice, most can be expected to obstruct it, and all are actively colluding in this pursuit. Perhaps the only hope lies with the international community and donors, who can leverage their influence (\$) to ensure the cases proceed without interference. Otherwise, this historic exercise, supposed to bring closure for the victims and help heal the nation, risks degenerating into yet another shabby travesty of justice. If our leaders manage to pull that off the impunity they've grown so fond of will be theirs forever.

## THE INTERNATIONAL FRENCH SCHOOL OF KATHMANDU



Discover the joys and benefits of a bilingual education in French and English



- Pre-school, primary and secondary bilingual education for children ages 2-14
- Open to all nationalities—including Nepali families
- Located in Kathmandu for almost 30 years
- A retro-fitted (earthquake-resistant) building with active safety procedures
- Fully-accredited by the Ministry of Education in France
- Part of a network of nearly 500 French schools worldwide

For more information on the school and enrollment, contact us at [www.efiktm.com](http://www.efiktm.com) | [secretariat@efiktm.com](mailto:secretariat@efiktm.com) | +977 1 400 1673

**dumb. paani**

**smart paani**

Rainwater Harvesting System  
BioSand Filter  
Greywater Recycling  
Wastewater Treatment System

GPO Box 13989, Campus Marg, Chakupat, Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur, Nepal  
P: +977-1-5261530, 5260506  
[info@smartpaani.com](mailto:info@smartpaani.com)  
[www.smartpaani.com](http://www.smartpaani.com)

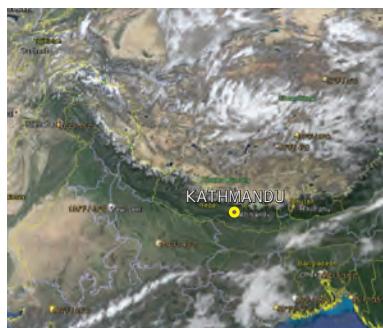
NEPAL WHEREVER YOU ARE.



Nepali Times

in your lap or palm.

[www.nepalitimes.com](http://www.nepalitimes.com)



If this was any other country, the government would have declared an emergency in the western half of the country. The extended drought has led to a failure of both the winter crop and spring corn planting. River levels are also low because snow melt has not been augmented by additional precipitation. In earthquake areas, spring were already drying up. Unfortunately, the forecasts do not show any major precipitation in the offing. Kathmandu Valley maxima will soar into the low 30s over the weekend, and the only saving grace is that the thick dust haze will filter the sunlight.

FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY  
32° 32° 33°  
15° 15° 16°



**QATAR** AIRWAYS القطرية

Going places together - [qatarairways.com](http://qatarairways.com)



KATJAZZ PRODUCTIONS



SAMIR SHRESTHA

## SMRITI BASNET

Over 60,000 people watched, mesmerised as Nepal's most popular band 1974 AD took stage at the Dasarath Stadium in Kathmandu and belted out some of their biggest hits including 'Nepali Ho' and 'Pahilo Junima', songs that made the audience wave the double triangle wildly. Thus was 2000 and the band had just put on the country's biggest concert.

Sixteen years on, 1974 AD continues to attract the same fervour from Nepalis

everywhere despite changing its line-up more than once. The numbers are not just songs, they are anthems. Which explains why the band's booking calendar is already full for this year.

"1974 AD has become a sort of an institution. Even if we were to leave tomorrow, the band and its legacy will carry on," says drummer Sanjay Shrestha, one of the only three remaining members from the original band.

After delivering hits like 'Sambodhan', 'Parelima', and 'Chaubandi Cholo' the band hit a bump in their journey in 2008 when lead vocalist Phiroj Syangden left. The news didn't sit well with hardcore fans

# Numero Uno

1974 AD continues to be Nepal's top band in 2016

who voiced their dissatisfaction at their beloved rockstar being replaced by another.

Despite the initial backlash the audience eventually warmed up to Adrian Pradhan taking Syangden's spot and the band's album *Aath Aathara* dominated airwaves.

Last year Adrian Pradhan also left the band, which led to the formation of a brand new 1974 AD. Besides Manoj KC, Nirakar Yakhumba and Sanjay Shrestha, the band now consists of four more members: all young musicians - Prajjwal Mukhiya, Rohit John Chhetri, Jacko Wacko and Pratik Baniya - associated with the Kathmandu Jazz Conservatory.

"I grew up listening to 1974 AD. Never did I think I'd be a part of it," says new vocalist Prajjwal Mukhiya. The young members are proud to be part of such a legendary band, but also understand that audience expectations will be high.

"There is a lot of pressure, but we all practice a lot and that makes us confident enough to perform on stage," says Jacko Wacko, who plays the trumpet.

The band is currently working on its new album which will feature wider use of

Nepali folk instruments fused with western trombone and trumpet.

For the two decades 1974 AD has been around, the band has never needed to promote itself through music videos. Manoj KC admits that none of the band's video has a wow factor. In fact, the popularity of its songs - especially till 2006 when radio was still a popular medium - lugged the band to fame.

By playing a mix of rock, funk and classical, 1974 AD made it big in the new century giving people a variety of music to listen to. Its popularity took the band to the international stage, and it still regularly performs overseas in US, UK and Australia. Today, despite the changes, their efforts are still focused to offer its audience one-of-a-kind music. Said Sanjay Shrestha: "We want to continue to reach out to as many people as possible."

nepalitimes.com  
Listen to 1974 AD songs



## Home Delivery Available



"An unexpected cuisine of high quality Mo:Mo"



**Classic Mo:Mo**  
Narayanchaur, Naxal  
phone: 01-4428648, 9801112164, 9860676141



## Krishna Devi Khadka

When her husband left her, Krishna Devi Khadka of Bardia came to Kathmandu to work so she could raise her two little children. She found a job as a cook at a hotel in Gongabu. When the earthquake hit on 25 April she was in the kitchen and the seven-storey building collapsed around her even before she could run to safety. A falling concrete beam trapped her, but also saved her life.

She could not budge, but heard people shouting above her. She lost consciousness, and woke up in hospital. She was surprised to find out that she had been under the rubble for six days.

Khadka's uncle Durga Bahadur Thapa came to Kathmandu searching for her, but was not hopeful he would find her alive after seeing the ruin of the hotel. "When she was finally pulled out, I thought she was being born again," he said.

Khadka and her children now live with her uncle. "He has always been kind to me, but I do not want to be a burden to him," she said. "I am trying to learn skills, so I can raise my children."

*Bhabuk Yogi*



**buzz NEPALI TIMES**  
29 APRIL - 5 MAY 2016 #806

# AFTER THE A



## Priya BK

Priya BK, 15, wanted to follow in her uncle's footsteps by joining the Nepal Police. She was physically fit, and could outrun all her friends. On 25 April last year, she was washing clothes at a public tap near her rented room in Tarkeswor. She started running away from the tall buildings, but a compound wall collapsed, burying her. She was rescued and taken to hospital where doctors plastered her left leg. She went home the same day, but started feeling unbearable pain. The family

took her to hospital again the next day and doctors had to amputate her leg.

Her father, Arjun BK said: "I did not want to see my daughter lose her leg, but I loved her too much to lose her."

It took Priya time to learn to live on crutches and prosthetics. She missed her exams, but caught up with help from her friends. But she needs help to go to school, since it is not disabled-friendly.

"The earthquake ruined my dream to become a police officer," she says. "But I am determined to achieve something in life."



## Amrit Magar

Amrit Magar, 16, was a football star in the making. Playing since childhood in Banke district and in Kathmandu when his parents moved here, he was in the field every chance he got.

When the earthquake hit, the teenager was watching tv at home. His parents had gone out to work. He quickly ran out, but a compound wall collapsed and buried him below waist. He was rushed to hospital by neighbours where doctors plastered the leg and sent him home. But when the pain continued, doctors amputated his leg.

"I was not sad because I lost my leg," he says. "I was sad because I thought I would never be able to play football again."

## Ramesh Khatri

18-year-old Ramesh Khatri of Dailekh was a waiter at a guest house in Balaju, Kathmandu. He had got leave and was to catch a night bus to visit his family on 25 April last year. After lunch, the building started shaking. The floors collapsed, trapping Khatri and his friend Pemba Lama under the rubble.

Khatri was rescued alive 12 hours later. His friend Pemba was also brought out alive six days later. When he woke up on a hospital bed, Khatri could not move. Both his legs had been amputated. "I thought I would be able to walk around in a few days," he said. "I was not aware I had lost my legs."

Khatri sacrificed his education to find work to support his family, but the earthquake has now made a job difficult to find. He has not given up, though, and after the earthquake he has participated in a wheel chair race, swimming and wheel chair basketball competitions. He thinks he can make a career out of it.

He says: "The government did not help me, but I am not hopeless. I will devote my life to helping people like me."



ALL PICS: BIKRAM RAI AND GOPEN RAI

## Sanu Maharjan

Sanu Maharjan lost his home to the 25 April earthquake and then his mother to the 12 May aftershock. He was in his shop in Jorpati when the first quake struck and rushed home to Sitapaila to find that it was a heap of rubble. His wife Ganga, son Manish and daughter Manisha were in hospital. They were buried, but rescued alive.

Although he lost his home, Maharjan was glad his family was alive. But then the 7.3 magnitude aftershock of 12 May killed his mother. The family still lives in a tin shelter near the ruins of their house.



# AFTERSHOCKS

TUFAN NEUPANE



## Rishi Khanal

Three days before the earthquake, Rishi Khanal bade farewell to his family in Arghakhanchi and came to Kathmandu to catch his flight to Dubai. A few days before he was to leave, the Gongabu hotel he was staying in collapsed in the earthquake.

The 27-year-old was trapped under the rubble for 82 hours, and drank his own urine to survive. A team of French and APF rescuers brought him out - he lived to tell his tale but lost his leg.

Khanal spent eight months in a hospital in Kathmandu, which he says were as excruciating as the days he spent under the rubble. "I got free treatment, but I was unable to earn to feed my family," he says. "I am now worried about my son's future more than my own."

As Nepal commemorated the first anniversary of the earthquake this week, Khanal was once again in Kathmandu for a hospital follow up. He is still in pain, but wants to learn a skill. He says: "If I get vocational training, I can feed my family even by standing on just one leg."



## EVENTS

**Kathmandu Kora,**

Ride to raise funds for birthing facilities in Nepal in the sixth edition of Kathmandu Kora Cycling Challenge. Free registration.

16 July, 7.30am onwards, Mangalbazar

**Art exhibition,**

Exhibition of works by artists Shradhha Shrestha and Kiran Manandhar as part of the sixth series of works produced by recipients of the Australian Himalayan Art Award.

Until 9 May, 11am to 5pm, Siddhartha Art Gallery, Babar Mahal Revisited, (01)4218048

**Green film,**

Screening of *Greening the Island of the Gods*, a short documentary about Bali's garbage crisis and its grassroots solutions.

7 May, 11am to 12pm, Clean up Nepal, Tangal, (01)4428633

**Talk on air pollution,**

A talk by Dr Joe Vipond, clinical lecturer at the University of Calgary, advocating adaptation of a Canadian model to improve air quality in Nepal. Registration recommended.

30 April, 11am to 12pm, Clean Up Nepal, Tangal, 9851010003, aakash.shrestha@cleanupnepal.org.np

**King's day,**

Go orange and celebrate the Dutch holiday Koningsdag (King's Day) in Kathmandu with Het Pannenkoekenhuis - The Dutch Pancake House of Nepal.

30 April, 10am to 8pm, Het Pannenkoekenhuis, Sanepa, 9843411753, saa.gun@gmail.com

**Girls on Wheels,**

Gear up for a treasure hunt on your scooters around Kathmandu with KCM's Girls on Wheels. Men allowed to participate only as navigators.

30 April, 8am onwards, Civil Mall, Sundhara

**Get sporty,**

Run, ride or rock climb at the fifth edition of Himalayan Outdoor Festival.

29 April to 1 May, Hattiban Hills, Pharping, www.himalayanoutdoorfestival.com, 9823287228/ 9843817625

**Critical Mass,**

Reclaim the streets of Kathmandu with fellow bicyclists to celebrate the third anniversary of critical mass Kathmandu.

29 April, 5.30 pm onwards, Basantapur Darbar Square

**Open data,**

Attend a talk by the Chief Commissioner of National Information Commission, Krishna Hari Baskota on open government data in Nepal.

5 May, 1 to 4pm, The Platform Inc, Uttar Dhoka, (01) 4415793, 9801105262

**BAC Mela,**

Local products, foodstuffs and a second-hand garage sale plus entertainment for the whole family at BAC'S monthly mela.

30 April, 12 to 7pm, BAC Art Café, Pulchok, www.biakaplaartcenter.org

**MISS MOTI-VATION**

KRIPA JOSHI



## DINING

**Grill Me,**

A restaurant with a warm ambience and delicious grilled delights.

Jhamsikhel, (01)5535294

**Saigon Pho,**

Spacious interior with authentic Vietnamese dishes.

Lajimpat, (01)4443330

**The Heritage,**

Escape the hodgepodge of the tourist hub as you relish delights like paella and panna cotta.

Thamel, (01)4254343

**Hyatt Regency,**

Enjoy a sumptuous Italian-styled lunch at Hyatt's Rox Restaurant featuring a variety of dishes like mushroom, leeks and sage pasta, homemade tagliatelle, lamb ravioli and a variety of risottos and desserts.

Till 30 April, 6.30 to 10pm, Hyatt Regency Kathmandu, Baudha, (01)4491234

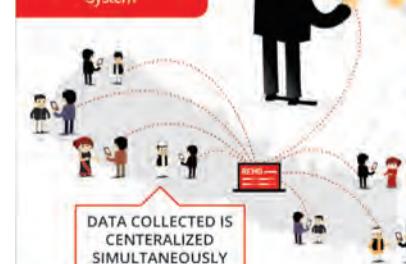
**Downtown,**

Go Indian at this restaurant, although it serves Chinese and Continental food too. Don't miss out on the biryani.

Pulchok Road, (01)5010751

**REMO**

Research & Monitoring System



redefining research

rooster logic

"1<sup>st</sup> Nepali System to be deployed in all 75 districts; 200,000+ sample size"

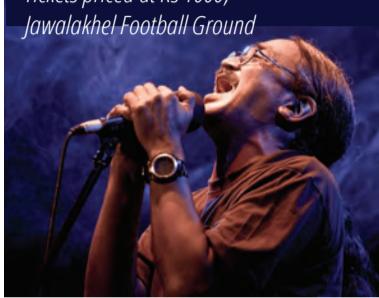
T : (+977 - 1) 526 1530  
M : (+977) 9851164335, (+977) 9860307694  
E : info@roosterlogic.com

## MUSIC

**Nepathy live,**

Folk rock band Nepathy will be performing to raise funds for earthquake victims and spread the message of strength through solidarity.

14 May, 5 to 9pm (Gates open at 4pm), Tickets priced at Rs 1000, Jawalakhel Football Ground

**Rhythmic night,**

Enjoy a musical evening with 90s Nepali pop sensation Deepak Bajracharya and The Rhythm Band

30 April, 7pm onwards, The Victory Lounge, Darbar Marg

**Cancer benefit,**

Help raise funds for children battling cancer at Kanti Children's Hospital with Nepali rock band 1974 AD.

Tickets: Rs 2000.

1 May, 6.30pm onwards, Moksh, Jhamsikhel, 9813688226

**All about jazz,**

Celebrate the fifth International Jazz Day with a concert followed by a jazz workshop organised by KJC.

30 April, 6pm onwards, Moksh, Jhamsikhel, (01)5013554

**Metal night,**

Book your seats for a night of hard-hitting heavy metal featuring bands Binaash, Aakrosh, Nude Terror, DISORDER, Crown Of Thrones and Vivace Octave.

30 April, 12 to 6pm, Reggae Bar,

Thamel, (01)4700654

## GETAWAY

**Dhulikhel Lodge Resort,**

Located on a hilltop, the resort offers a magnificent vista of valleys, foothills, and mountains to the north.

Dhulikhel, (01)490114/494, dhulikhelodge resort.com

**Raniban Retreat,**

Situated at the other end of the Phewa Lake and nested inside Raniban forest and the World Peace Stupa, this retreat has one of the best views of the Annapurna range.

Phewa Lake, Pokhara, (01)4411855

**Shangri-La Village Resort,**

Escape the heat this summer with a two day and three night package at Shangri La Village Resort in Pokhara.

Gharipatan, Pokhara, Rs 7500 per person including one way transportation from Kathmandu, rafting and lunch, (01)4420252/ 9808187015/9860260894

**Mango Tree Lodge,**

Culture walks, rafting in the Karnali, wildlife exploration, and jungle safari at the Bardia National Park.

Bhetani, Bardia, (84)402008, info@mangotrelodge.com.

**Milla Guesthouse,**

If you prefer the quiet, and admire a mix of old and new, this is the perfect place to stay. Not too far away from the city, yet miles apart.

Bhaktapur, 9851024137

**Weekend BBQ**

The variety of Chicken, Beef, Fish, Lamb and Sausage galore are grilled to perfection, accompanied with soups, salads, vegetables and a selection of delicious desserts.

Rs. 1500 plus taxes per person including a 500ml can of beer from 6:00 pm till 10:00 pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

**Radisson**  
HOTEL KATHMANDU

Radisson Hotel Kathmandu, 4411818 - Ext. 1312

# TWIN PASSAGES

Two American expatriates who devoted their lives to Nepal passed away this month



## JIM DANISCH

Jim Danisch came on a trek to Nepal in 1979 to meet his friend Judith Conan Chase. Their Guru Swami Rama suggested they get married, and they did in a Vedic ceremony in 1984 (pic, above). He worked for nine years in Thimi for the German agency, GTZ, to promote ceramics designing a new type of kiln and introducing glazed porcelain as a Nepali handicraft. He helped set up 24 new ceramics workshops in Nepal.

He returned to California in 1995 and worked on his ceramic art and sculptures, but the tug of Nepal was too strong and he returned to a village in Kavre where, with Judith, he set up the Everything Organic Nursery to promote green agriculture and got local farmers interested.

"Jim was energetically involved in village life, helping

to fund the expansion of a local school and to fund rain-harvesting ponds so that villagers enjoy water year round," Judith wrote in a tribute. Danisch was also involved with his wife in the design of the Living Traditions Museum at Changu Narayan, which was badly damaged in last year's earthquake, although the exhibits survived.

Jim Danisch died on 29 March in Dhulikhel Hospital after a brief and painless illness, near where he was married at Hansda Ashram in 1984. He was cremated in the full Hindu tradition at Danphe Ghat, the village cremation site, and Judith observed the 12-day mourning process.

Danisch saw the Hindu spiritual side of Nepali pottery-making and wrote in an article in *Ceramics Today*: 'Symbolically, the potters' wheel as, great god Vishnu's discus, spins out the Hindu creation myth...'

## BARBARA ADAMS

Barbara Adams came to Nepal 43 years ago even before the hippies did. The lush valley of Kathmandu, its pristine culture and nature attracted the early globetrotters of the new jet age. Sitting at the Royal Hotel one evening, she got chatting with Prince Basundhara, King Mahendra's brother and the two became inseparable. Even though Basundhara was married, they didn't bother to hide their affair, and were often seen together in public.

She was a prominent member of the Kathmandu's high society and diplomatic circles in the 1970s and 80s, driving around in her convertible along Putali Sadak (long before Kathmandu got its first traffic light) with her striking blonde hair flowing in the slipstream. After the 1990 People's Movement that turned the king into a constitution monarch, Adams fell foul with the democratic leaders and was once deported by the Girija Prasad Koirala government when she landed in Kathmandu airport from Delhi. After the conflict began, she became a peace activist and many were surprised by her open sympathy for the Maoist rebels in her translated columns for *Jana Astha*.

However, she often voiced concern that violence would not achieve anything, and was critical of the state's crackdowns in Maoist affected areas.

Barbara Adams also wrote a weekly column for this newspaper in the early 2000s called Barbara's Beat, with a



strong voice in support of the downtrodden and the neglect of the Nepali state towards their needs. Having spent decades trying to bring about positive change through her writing, and despairing of the lack of progress after the conflict, she opted for direct action with the Barbara Peace Foundation to help Dalit families in far-western Nepal which buys land and sets up self-sustaining communities by giving the community more self-esteem.

"I wanted to give something back to Nepal," she told this newspaper two years ago. At first she had tried to create a Nepali 'Peace Corps', encouraging young people to volunteer to work in their own country rather than to migrate abroad for jobs. While successful, the project was too expensive to sustain.

Barbara Adams died of complications after an abdominal operation in Kathmandu on 22 April. She was 84.

This line from one of her columns in 2001 in *Nepali Times* gives a flavour of Barbara Adams' sympathy for the underserved in society and her direct writing style: If we are to have peace, understanding and a meaningful dialogue with these young warriors who call themselves Maoists, we first have to...understand the problems which led young teachers and farmers to risk their lives to take up arms. We have to understand the movement's roots, its deviations, its justification and compulsions, and the horror, the pain and also the humanity involved in the process of bringing change to the lives of the suffering masses.'



## DO YOU HAVE:

- A nose for news
- Multimedia skills
- Multitasking abilities
- Get-up-and-go attitude
- English proficiency

You may be one of the News Reporters *Nepali Times* is looking for.

Scan and attach 400 word essay in longhand with 1 page cv and email to: editors@nepalitimes.com Deadline: 1 May 2016



## MEMBERSHIP Deal



- ✓ Food voucher worth Rs. 1,000 from 'Bajeko Sekuwa'
- ✓ Annual subscription of 'Nepali Times' or 'Himal'
- ✓ Transferable gift voucher worth Rs. **15,000**
- ✓ **50 %** discount at all our branches for friends & families as well

PAY  
Rs 7999/-  
ONLY





# BROOKLYN

Sometimes a film can creep up on you and really surprise you with its heft, coming suddenly out of nowhere and becoming a favourite. Of the eight films nominated this past season in the 'Best Picture' category by the Academy, many have shown themselves to be little gems



**MUST SEE**  
Sophia Pande

their own special qualities. The same has happened most recently with *Brooklyn*, a charming, beautifully shot film, adapted from a novel by Colm Tóibín of the same name, about a lovely, bright, young Irish girl, Eilis Lacy (Saoirse Ronan) who is forced to leave her mother and sister to move to Brooklyn to find work.

The plot, set at the beginning of the 1950s, when summarised, is deceptively simple: Eilis (which is pronounced Ailish in Gaelic), who is brilliant at mathematics, quickly moves away from the swanky department store job that is waiting for her, organised courtesy of a kindly Catholic priest, Father Flood (Jim Broadbent), and becomes qualified as a bookkeeper.

Her sister Rose's (Fiona Glascott) letters keep her heart

full of Ireland and her family, and she slowly makes friends at her boarding house despite deep homesickness. When Eilis meets Tony Fiorello (Emory Cohen), a big hearted, adorably articulate Italian American from Long Island, it seems her integration into the new world record is complete.

Of course, that is not all that the universe, well Tóibín the writer, has in store for young Eilis. *Brooklyn* is indeed a coming of age story, but unlike most in the genre, it is a subtle, deep one that does not hit you over the head with needless melodrama. *Brooklyn* is also a story about finding one's place and finally belonging, a condition that is almost always linked to both home and family.

Eilis's story is not a new one, in fact, it is a story that is repeated the world over in this time of financial instability, conflict, forced migration, and of course natural disaster. *Brooklyn* therefore, is not a film that is self-indulgent nor is it just a romantic tale told to glorify the possibility of making your own destiny in the United States. Instead it is a story of personal fortitude, family ties, grace, and humour under adversity, and finally, a love story that endures over the ages.

Eilis and Tony may not be the heroes that Hollywood so often sells to the masses, but their lives are made riveting by their humanity, their families, and their ties, ultimately, to Brooklyn. ☺

[nepalitimes.com](http://nepalitimes.com)

■ Trailer

## M-Series Printers

**EPSON**  
EXCEED YOUR VISION

Get the most **ECONOMICAL B/W PRINTERS ever**  
Best for Office and Commercial purpose

**Just 25 PAISA per print**

**M200- PRINT / SCAN / COPY**

**M100- PRINT**

**Print upto 8000 PAGES with initial starter ink kit**

**POWER SAVER** **JUST 12 WATTS POWER CONSUMPTION** **1 YEAR WARRANTY** **34 PPM HIGH SPEED PRINTING**

**MERCANTILE**  
OFFICE SYSTEMS PVT. LTD.

Authorized Distributor  
Hiti Pokhari, Durbar Marg  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
Tel: 14440773/4445920

Kathmandu Valley Dealers:  
Lazimpat : 4410423, New Road : 4220058  
New Road : 4227854, New Road : 4260173  
Putalisadak : 4222384, Patan : 5536649  
Putalisadak : 4266820, Putalisadak : 4415786  
Putalisadak : 4227474, Putalisadak : 4436307  
Putalisadak : 4417050

Outside Valley Dealers:  
Banepa : 011-680888, Biratnagar : 021-538729, Biratnagar : 021-532000  
Birtamode : 023-540150, Butwal : 071-545399, Chitwan : 056-571764  
Dang : 082-561022, Dhangadi : 091-523601, Dhangadi : 091-521392  
Janakpur : 084-525565, Lahan : 033-561205, Mahendranagar : 099-523872  
Nepalganj : 081-527092, Pokhara : 061-525300, Surkhet : 083-522488  
Tulsipur : 082-562575

## HAPPENINGS



**BILATERAL TALK:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Kamal Thapa met with US Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday in Washington DC.



**QUICK STOP:** Former President Ram Baran Yadav leaves the ICU at Bir Hospital on Tuesday after visiting journalist Kanak Mani Dixit who is undergoing treatment under custody of the CIAA.



**IN MEMORY:** Hundreds gathered at Basantapur Darbar Square on Sunday to hold a candlelit vigil in memory of those killed in the earthquake last year.



**ANGRY PUBLIC:** Protesters chant slogans against what they said was government apathy towards earthquake survivors in Kathmandu on Sunday.



**HIGH FIVE:** Army Chief Gen Rajendra Chhetri with Sonish Awal, who was rescued alive as a four-month-old baby after being buried for 22 hours in last year's earthquake.

# Suspicious action

Editorial, Kantipur, 25 April

कान्तिपुर

The arrest by the Commission on the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) on Friday of Sajha Yatayat Chair and Himalmedia publisher Kanak Mani Dixit has raised questions about the anti-corruption watchdog's jurisdiction. The point is not whether the Commission can or cannot investigate or detain Dixit, the more important concerns are about the kind of accusations against him and the manner in which he was detained. The CIAA has not furnished satisfactory explanations about them, putting its entire action into controversy and doubt.

To be sure, the CIAA is mandated by the constitution and the laws of the land to investigate public officials. We journalists, publishers or personalities that society regards as prominent should not expect to be treated differently than other citizens. But the CIAA also cannot overstep its mandate.

The CIAA claims Dixit has been booked for 'amassing disproportionate wealth' not as Publisher of Himalmedia but as Chair of Sajha Yatayat. The CIAA is allowed to investigate Dixit's dealings with Sajha, but not his personal assets that predate his appointment in the transportation cooperative, and they fall beyond the CIAA's terms of reference.

If there is even a bit of truth in these allegations, then it is for the Department of Money Laundering or other branches of government to investigate.

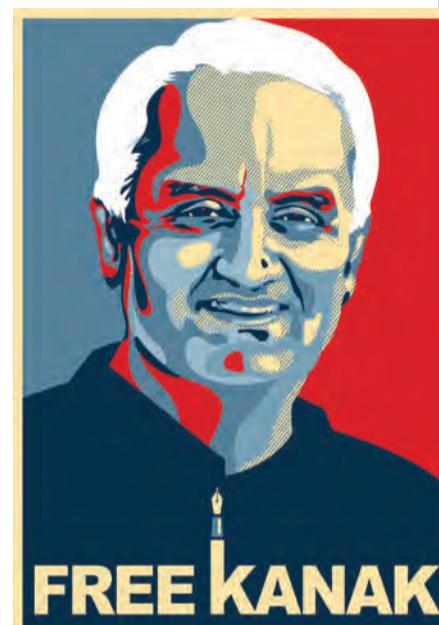
Dixit is well known for his long-standing involvement in journalism, publishing, running NGOs and civil society activism. He was at the forefront of protests against the appointment of Lok Man Singh Karki to head the CIAA two years ago because of his role as Chief Secretary in the royal government. But to seek revenge against a citizen for using his constitutionally-guaranteed right of free expression smacks of dictatorship.

It is also not clear why the CIAA felt it necessary to put Dixit behind bars in order to investigate him. Did Karki take this decision on his own, or was this a collective one by the CIAA? What is the opinion of the other commissioners on this?

It is by now a well known fact that the CIAA chief Karki has a habit of going after people who point fingers at him. Whether it is political leaders or legislators critical of him or others, he has been summoning more and more of them for interrogation at the CIAA. The Commission should only publicise the complaints about someone after it has gathered enough evidence to take them to a court of law. But what the CIAA has done here is to incorporate details of an ordinary

complaint in its public notice, the sole intention of which can only be character assassination. Also, there are suspicions about the CIAA's true intentions from the way it has not kept Dixit in CIAA custody, as is the usual practice, but to lock him up with other prisoners at the Gaushala Police Post.

The Special Court on Sunday has remanded Dixit in custody for ten days pending investigations. And Dixit has also said he will contest the accusations against him in the courts. But if the courts cannot



prove that the charges against him are true, who will compensate him? Is the CIAA free to destroy a person's character? Surely not. If it is proven that the investigations against him are driven by a sense of revenge this will not just raise questions about the CIAA's working methods, but also undermine its reputation.

# CIAA vs Dixit

Constitutional law expert Bipin Adhikari in BBC Nepali Service, 27 April

BBC  
नेपाली

**BBC: Many have accused the Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) of overstepping its jurisdiction in Kanak Mani Dixit's detention. Is it so?**

Bipin Adhikari: If a person holding public office abuses his power, the CIAA can investigate the corruption charges against him. It is within its jurisdiction.

**If so, why is the CIAA being criticised?**

The CIAA is not a court, it is just an institution with a mandate to investigate corruption cases. It has to follow a due process, and there is concern that it failed to do so in Dixit's case.

**The CIAA is still investigating, but it has already made public the complaints against him. Is it legal?**

If the unproven complaints are made public and the accused is later absolved of all charges, the damage done to his reputation cannot be compensated.

**The CIAA has said it had to arrest Dixit because the latter did not cooperate.**

The CIAA can arrest a person who does not cooperate. But Dixit had moved the Supreme Court, claiming that the CIAA's charge against him was an act of vengeance. And the court had ordered the anti-graft body to take action against Dixit only after collecting sufficient evidence. But the CIAA detained Dixit disregarding the apex court's order. As a lawyer, I find Dixit's stand logical.

**As a constitution expert, do you find flaws in the two statements that the CIAA issued?**

The second statement in English, in particular, is crude and ruthless. It exposes the CIAA's negativity towards Dixit.

**Dixit fought for democracy. But political leaders are silent even when he is not being allowed to meet his lawyers despite a Special Court order.**

Perhaps they hadn't seen the media reports. It is a person's fundamental right to meet his lawyers and family members while in custody.

**But his fundamental rights are being violated...**

We have National Human Rights Commission and rights groups. We also have the Office of Attorney General. They should act if fundamental rights enshrined in the constitution are violated.



नयाँ वर्षको अवसरमा SUBISU INTERNET/ CLEAR TV  
जडान गरी प्राप्त गर्नुहोस।  
**FREE** CLEAR TV SET-TOP BOX  
CABLE MODEM WITH INBUILT WIRELESS ROUTER  
FIBER MODEM AND TV RECEIVER

**SUBISU**  
INTERNET

Amazing all the way

**clear** tv

Clearest TV viewing experience

INTERNET पनि गज्जबले चलाइन्छ, साथै DIGITAL TV CHANNEL को पनि मज्जा लिइन्छ।

**CLEAR TV OFFER**

Just at **Rs: 3,999**  
(Including VAT)

**CABLE INTERNET OFFER**

Just at **Rs: 5,499**  
(Including VAT)

**CABLE INTERNET & CLEAR TV COMBO OFFER**

Just at **Rs: 10,999**  
(Including VAT)

**FTTH INTERNET & CLEAR TV COMBO OFFER**

Just at **Rs: 9,999**  
(Including VAT)

**OFFER INCLUDES:**

- Free Clear TV HD Set-Top Box
- 3 Months Subscription of Digital TV-Clear TV Premium Package (30HD & 100+ Digital Channels)
- 3 Months Subscription of Cable TV Channels
- Splitter • Isolator • Installation Charge
- Registration & Activation Charge

**OFFER INCLUDES:**

- Free Cable Modem with Inbuilt Wireless Router
- 3 Months Subscription of 768 Kbps Unlimited Cable Internet
- 3 Months Subscription of Cable TV Channels
- Splitter • Installation Charge

**OFFER INCLUDES:**

- Free Clear TV HD Set-Top Box
- Free Cable Modem with Inbuilt Wireless Router
- 4 Months Subscription of 768 Kbps Unlimited Cable Internet
- 4 Months Subscription of Digital TV-Clear TV Premium Package (30HD & 100+ Digital Channels)
- 4 Months Subscription of Cable TV Channels
- Splitter • Isolator • Installation Charge
- Registration & Activation Charge

**OFFER INCLUDES:**

- Free Clear TV HD Set-Top Box
- Free Fiber Modem & TV Receiver
- 10 Mbps 250GB Fall Back 512Kbps for 3Months
- 3 Months Subscription of Digital TV-Clear TV Premium Package (30HD & 100+ Digital Channels)
- 3 Months Subscription of Cable TV Channels
- Splitter • Isolator • Installation Charge
- Registration & Activation Charge

Loyalty Offer for Existing Internet & Cable TV Customers

Clear TV HD Set-Top Box ABSOLUTELY FREE



Clear TV Now with 30 HD Channels

# City of devotees devotes itself to

While the rest of the country just talks about federalism, Bhaktapur is already practicing self-governance

SEULKI LEE  
IN BHAKTAPUR

A nine-year-old girl was collecting water one morning last week from a public tap in Jenla, a part of Bhaktapur behind Dattatreya Square that was devastated by the earthquake last year. Bushes are growing on the heaps of rubble in the neighbourhood, indicating the passage of time.

Some 8,000 houses collapsed during the earthquake in Bhaktapur, which was one of the worst-hit towns in the Valley. Rehabilitation here has been faster than other places, but it is surprising how many people are still living in temporary shelters.

"Reconstruction and rehabilitation is the priority of the Nepal Workers Peasants' Party and its leader Comrade Rohit for the next few years," says Niraj Lawoj, head of the NWPP's student wing.



## Bhaktapur's Dear Leader

For Gopal Lachmashu, a 40-year-old tea shop owner next to the Dattatreya temple in Bhaktapur, the Korean peninsula is not 4,000km away but just next door.

The rest of Nepal may be in the grip of a South Korean pop culture fever, but here in Bhaktapur it is Juche Idea of North Korea's founding leader Kim Il-Sung that is the dominant ideology.

"DPRK's political system is similar to Nepal's Panchayat," explains Lachmashu, "for less developed countries, this tight system helps development and social unity because there is discipline."

To outsiders Bhaktapur may look like it is in a time warp given its affinity to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), but for its fifth-time elected lawmaker, Narayan Man Bijukchhe of the communist Nepal Workers Peasants' Party (NWPP) which has led Bhaktapur for three decades, it makes perfect sense.

"Just as the Korean people are dominated by the American and Japanese ruling class, India is doing the same to Nepal and the Nepalis, there are similarities between Korea and Nepal," Bijukchhe told *Nepali Times*. (See interview overleaf).

Bijukchhe finds nothing incongruous about North Korea's defiance of the West and its missile and nuclear weapons policy, saying it represents the country's ideology of Juche (self-reliance) which itself is a consequence of geopolitics in the Korean peninsula that involves China, Japan, South Korea and the United States.

"Kim Il-sung is one of the great teachers for Nepal together with Ho Chi Minh, Fidel Castro, Rosa Luxemburg to learn communism



# development



GOPEN RAI

**BETTER LATE:** Communities across Bhaktapur, like this one in Golmadhi, are finally rebuilding quake-destroyed neighbourhoods on their own.

'Rohit' is the nom de guerre of Naryan Man Bijukchhe, the former underground communist leader who has ruled Bhaktapur for three decades. "In every election, 100 per cent of the people in Jenla vote for the NWPP."

Lawoju, 31, joined the NWPP when he was a teenager and being a party member is a family tradition for most in Bhaktapur. He is a firm believer that the NWPP's effort to raise education standards and tenants' rights will lead to prosperity.

"This is a farmers' town and a centre of the peasants' movement, but we have a college graduate in every family, and we hope to build our prosperity through a strong cultural tradition," explained Lawoju during a walkabout at the Nyatapola Square. "Before, the people of Kathmandu looked down upon us, now they admire us."

Rajani Shrestha (*at left in pic below*), a Patan resident and vice-principal of Khwopa Engineering College in Bhaktapur, says she envies this town: "The one and only difference between Bhaktapur and Patan is that it has a visionary leader, and there is a local political party that is totally committed to the community."

Khwopa Engineering College,



## REBUILDING OURSELVES

lessons," explains 31-year-old NWPP member, Ramesh Suwal, "the Juche Idea is a directional ideology of our party, we read and study a lot of literature from North Korea."

That the Juche Idea, shaped by the DPRK's first president (1972-1994) Kim Il-sung to safeguard the North's political independence and economic self-reliance, is taken so seriously as the governing ideology of a town in Nepal is puzzling to many – especially because the ideology is seen as a justification for the totalitarianism of the 'Kim Dynasty'.

Bhaktapur's extraordinary respect for Kim Il-sung and the Juche Idea is based on the vision that Bijukchhe has for his town to be self-reliant, pro-people and propel development through tourism and its famous handicrafts. Many visitors find it incongruous that Bhaktapur, which translates as 'town of devotees', is actually devoted to a Stalinist from the Korean peninsula.

After three decades, Bijukchhe is a leader who most here regard as a true nationalist, and a scrupulously honest man of the people. Says Lachmashu: "He is far-sighted, and more mature and astute than most other leaders in Nepal. For example as far back as 2005 after the Maoists signed the 12-point agreement in New Delhi, he had predicted that India would ultimately blockade Nepal."

But Bijukchhe has his detractors. Bhaktapur residents living in neighbourhoods flattened by last year's earthquake say he hasn't done enough to expedite relief and rehabilitation. They also question the relevance of an ideology imported from North Korea into a country like Nepal.

But among Bijukchhe's many admirers is German architect Götz Hagemüller who has been involved in Bhaktapur's restoration since 1979, when the city was declared a World Heritage Site, and has settled down here. He says: "He is the only politician I know who has a vision for his historic town and for the upliftment of his people."

Seulki Lee



BIKRAM RAI

Bagiswori School and Bhaktapur Community Clinic are examples of Bijukchhe and his NWPP's commitment to fulfilling election pledges in last local election to improve education.

Though Bijukchhe is against federalism in Nepal's new constitution (*see interview, right*), he is the only political leader today who already practices autonomous and decentralised local self-governance. Which must be why there are very few international organisations active in Bhaktapur town, because the party does such an effective job.

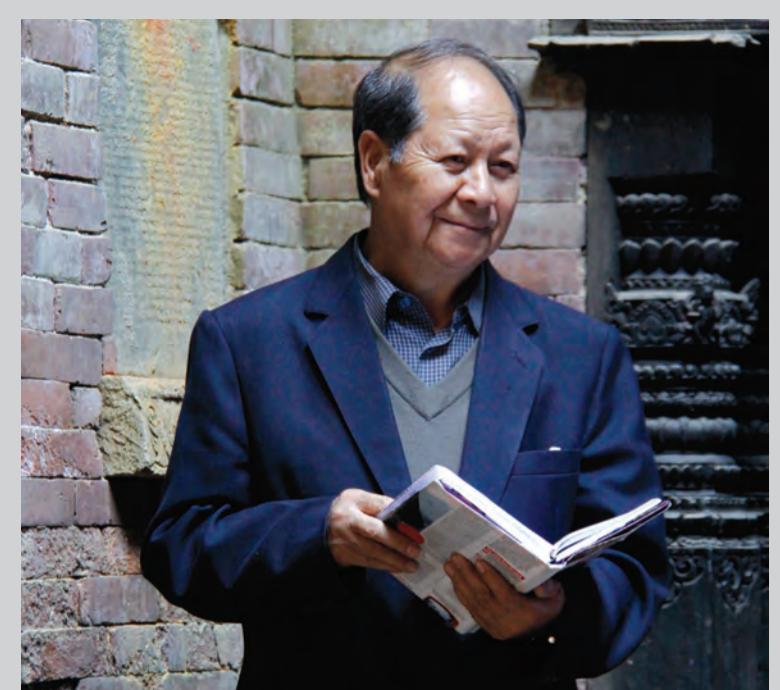
"There is still long way to federalism in Nepal but Bhaktapur can provide an example how local government can function by utilising local sources of tourism and prioritising social services for the good of the people," said geographer Pitambar Sharma.

A 54-year-old farmer Bir Bahadur Kaschhwa admits that there is a delay in reconstruction, but blames the central government.

"I'm proud of Bhaktapur. We are setting an example for the preservation of cultural and architectural heritage in Kathmandu Valley," he said.

Still, some in Bhaktapur say the NWPP hasn't been proactive enough in reconstruction, and younger people in Bhaktapur don't seem as aware of Bijukchhe's past achievements.

Said Shyam Dhaubhadel, 63, founder of Siddhi Memorial Hospital: "Bijukchhe and his party have done a remarkable job in development, but they are still communists. They have a vision but are a bit closed, and not so eager to collaborate with others."



SEULKI LEE

## "Federalism will weaken Nepal"

Member of Parliament from Bhaktapur, Narayan Man Bijukchhe, spoke to *Nepali Times* last week about his vision for the city, his mistrust of India and his admiration for North Korean leader Kim Il-sung.

**Nepali Times: People say Bhaktapur is Nepal's best governed municipality. What is it that you do differently here?**

**Narayan Man Bijukchhe:** We consult with people, we don't impose on them, we are transparent and they participate in decision-making. We never forget that we are serving the people, that is the difference with other parties.

**And how does North Korea's Juche Idea fit into this?**

After the 1990 People's Movement, soon after we were released from jail, the first embassy to call on me was from the DPRK. We learnt about Korean history, the terrible war and the aspirations for reunification. There is sympathy towards North Korea from across the political spectrum in Nepal. In 1995, there was a massive flood in North Korea and we donated what we could as a token of solidarity. Just as the Korean people are dominated by America and Japan, Nepal is dominated by India. The Indian ruling class is doing to Nepal exactly what British India did to them. Under Narendra Modi, the Indian economy is turning into monopoly capitalism, and he is interfering in the internal affairs of neighbouring countries like Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh to capture their resources. There was a bill in parliament that would give unlimited resources to Indian and other companies for more than 50 years, we strongly opposed it, but the ruling party passed it.

**Would you call yourself a communist?**

Anyone who serves the workers and peasants is a communist. But Nepal's communist parties are not true communists. Even the Maoist party is an Indian construct. And the UML is not a communist party, either, because instead of socialising the means of production it has privatised it. There is no difference between the UML and the NC.

**You are elected, but how do you reconcile yourself to Korea's totalitarian Kim dynasty?**

We had BP Koirala, his brother Matrika Prasad Koirala, then Girija Prasad Koirala and then Sushil Koirala. In India, too, Jawaharlal Nehru was followed by his daughter, Indira Gandhi, then her son Rajiv Gandhi. Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines and even the United States have political dynasties. South Korea has Park Jeong-hee and his daughter. Comrade Kim Il-sung made a great contribution to Korean history, so it was their necessity to bring his son and family members to power. It's like the children of carpenters are good wood carvers, and children of farmers are good farmers.

**Some people say your party has been slow with reconstruction in Bhaktapur.**

Firstly there is no elected member in the local government of Bhaktapur municipality, or anywhere in Nepal. Secondly, reconstruction is not under the jurisdiction of local government. As an MP in parliament we can't only talk about Bhaktapur but the whole country. There are lots of hurdles, for example how is a joint family home to be reconstructed, who gets the rebuilding grant? Bhaktapur has some specific problems. If four brothers lived in a house that collapsed, they can now only rebuild after leaving open space — this means the house would no longer be big enough for everyone. The central government doesn't understand these problems because ministers are from wealthy class and from outside Kathmandu Valley.

**Do you plan to launch yourself beyond Bhaktapur onto the national stage?**

Actually we are not only confined to Bhaktapur but have our presence in other parts of Nepal. The major parties are funded by the Indians, and they will use any means to stop the NWPP from being on the national stage.

**Are you in favour of early local election in Nepal?**

There won't be local elections in Nepal until India wants it, and it wants to weaken Nepal through federalism. It wants local elections only after federal boundaries are demarcated. It doesn't want local people to be empowered through local elections, because that would decentralise state power and make it difficult for them to capture our natural resources. If we have autonomous decentralised elected local bodies, we don't need federalism.





WORLD'S PUREST VODKA

www.8848vodka.com | facebook.com/8848vodka



## Nepal Bags Most Scenic Loo Award

**GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING:**

This week's column contains some flash photography and material that some customers may find disturbing. Read on at your own risk, but keep barf bag handy just in case. Do not drive a car or operate machinery while reading this, and doing so on a smart phone in the loo may not be such a good idea. Management is not responsible for the consequences.

OK, now that we have those legal niceties out of the way we can plunge headlong into this week's topic. You know a nation is headed for bigger and better things when it starts winning one international contest after another. After knocking out Namibia in cricket and overtaking Bangladesh as the second-most corruptest country in South Asia, Nepal has now beat the crap out of Iceland and the International Space Station for the most scenic toilet in the world according to Gear Patrol.

There was stiff competition out there for sure, but it's a recognition of our



growing self-confidence as a vassal state and a great national honour that this loo in Chukung below Ama Dablam has been recognised by the jury as having a better view than the first runner up, a urinal in Ladakh, and the third-placed pissoire at Singapore Airport Terminal 2. Hip-hip-hurrah! Another crowning glory for Nepal, ladies and gentlemen, a country that had already bagged the Golden Potty Award in the Smelliest Lavatory Category for its

winning entry: the latrine at the departure concourse of Gate 2 at the Tribhuvan Unintentional Airport, one whiff of which has been known to cure acute sinusitis in dear and departing passengers.

Now that the entire country is open-defecation free and we have all been adequately toilet trained, it is time to move on to other matters of national importance, viz: Nepal's trade deficit with India. Did you know, for instance, that since they are downstream from us everything we flush down the toilet here in Nepal ultimately ends up in India?

Since time memoriam, we in Nepal have exported to India what we don't need, and in exchange we import what they don't eat: water buffalos to feed Kathmandu Valley's voracious appetite for buff momo. And now that we are all god-fearing secular republicans, we send our holy erstwhile national bovine to clandestinely hoof it across the border at 3AM. We also have a thriving bilateral trade under which we



barter our intelligentsia for their intelligence handlers. But more on that in a future column.

Speaking of thriving bilateral trade, it is about to grow exponentially after Laluland banned alcohol from April 1. Already, there has been a huge influx of Bihar Beer Tourists flocking across the border in huge numbers, and proof of this are the cars with Indian number plates driving erratically on the East-West Highway these

days. According to our usually unreliable sources, Nepal Police has suspended MaPaSe checks on Indian cars to promote cross-border tourism so that thirsty Indians can combine pilgrimages to Pashupati with bar-hopping in Thamel.

All this can only mean that as tourism income rises, Nepal's balance of trade with India will now be less skewed. However, to really remove our trade deficit in one swell foop, and even register an export surplus within this fiscal year, we must use our higher moral standing and the force of gravity to reverse the flow on the proposed Raxaul-Amlekhanj Petroleum Pipeline. So, they pump up diesel in the daytime, and we pour down whiskey, vodka and gin in the other direction to Bihar.


**The Ass**


**Five Great Benefits. One Great Offer.**



This New Year,  
enjoy benefits upto  
**Rs. 5,00,000**  
with Ford vehicles.



**Book Now!**  
Enjoy complimentary  
night stay for a couple at  
Gokarna Forest Resort

Attractive  
Cash Discount

Free 1 year  
Insurance

Free Genuine  
Ford Accessories

Exchange Bonus  
upto Rs. 125,000

3 years Maintenance Cost  
(including consumables)



**Go Further**

Like us on: www.facebook.com/fordnepal

GO FORD, G.O. Automobiles Pvt. Ltd., Thapathali, Kathmandu

Thapathali Showroom: 4244254, 4257001, 4231985, 9801201235, E-mail: info@ford.com.np, Website: www.ford.com.np

\*Biratnagar: 021-463593, 9802032225, 9802079406, 9802079409 • Birgunj: 051-533186, 9802951102, 9855021471, 9802951104 • Narayanghat: 056-526672, 9855066171, 9802960171  
• Butwal: 071-415033, 9857031014, 9802656281 • Birtamode: 023-544830, 9852677189 • Nepalgunj: 081-551248, 9802522771 • Dhangadi: 091-416515, 9858421850, 9801728082  
• Pokhara: 061-541285, 9856036160, 9816681075 • Dang: 082-560794, 9857830336 • Bhairahawa: 9857031014 • Banepa: 011-691231, 980186379, 9851053363, 9851052312

\*Terms and conditions apply. Features and specifications shown may not be part of standard fitment, may vary from model to model and can change without any notice. Colours are indicative only and may vary due to printing constraints.

