

Yeti Views

New Year 2001 Edition

January 2001

Highlights of the First International Convention of Nepalese Associations

INTRODUCTION

With many years of adoration and networking, Nepalese Associations from around the world jointly launched a convention at Atlanta, Georgia, USA, on July 1-3, 2000 (Atlanta Marriott Century Center). The convention was the collective vision of many Nepalese Associations and friends of Nepal. The theme of this convention was "Nepalese Unity 2000". The primary goals of this convention were to share knowledge, expertise, and resources among the Nepalese living abroad so that we can bring positive changes that can benefit Nepal and Nepalese communities in which we are currently residing.



The six main participating associations were:

- Association of Nepalis in the Americas (ANA)
- Association of Nepalese in Midwest America (ANMA)
- Florida Nepal Association (FNA)
- Nepal Center North Carolina (NCNC)
- Nepalese Society Texas (NST)
- Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASEA).

Other participating associations were:

- American Nepal Society of California
 - Nepalese Society in Qatar
 - The Nepalese Community Network of Canada
- (more on page 4-5)

NASEA Education Assistance Program

In 1998 UNESCO reported the literacy rate in Nepal as 35.9%. It is even more disturbing and saddening to learn that the literacy rate for females is only 23.8%. This means one out of our four Nepalese sisters can not read or write. No prosperity and peace is possible in a country without basic education to the people. Some may view it as a national problem and we, as individuals, have nothing to do with this. If we care for our motherland, why **NOT** do something about this? As Nepalese living abroad, we love Nepal, our motherland, dearly. If we care for our country, we must do something about it. This may appear to be a formidable task, but with a little help (*Haste Ma Hai*) and desire from every member we can do it!

The Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASEA), therefore, has established an **Education Assistance Program**. NASEA will act as a facilitator to those who are interested to help Nepalese in education. NASEA is very proud of those members who have been helping Nepal in education and would like to help more through NASEA.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this program are to:

- Provide educational assistance to young Nepalese living in Nepal
- Provide educational materials to school libraries and laboratories in Nepal
- Facilitate educational exchange program between Nepal and the US

In general, we wish to achieve these goals by providing scholarships, educational materials, and through exchange programs. This program will initially focus at providing educational assistance to primary through high school students within Nepal. However, the program may be expanded in the future to include college students as well as students outside Nepal. (more on Page 3)

NASEA Volunteer Service Weeks

"Selfless service is the greatest virtue" and "To serve others is to serve ourselves". These are our culture and values, which we are very proud of.

Many of our members have been expending their personal resources and time to engage in various volunteering activities in order to serve their communities despite their hectic schedules at home and work. NASEA salutes these exceptional members.

In order to encourage our members to perform volunteer activity services, NASEA plans to celebrate two weeks of the year, "Christmas Week" and "Labor Day Week", as "NASEA Volunteer Service Weeks." The Christmas week is designated for community service works such as feeding homeless people, visiting orphan homes, and senior citizen homes and the Labor Day week is designated for the blood donation activities.

NASEA encourages its members to take their own personal initiatives to perform these volunteering service activities twice a year during the designated weeks at their respective communities. NASEA will keep you informed about various volunteering opportunities available at different locations through its web page, however it does not plan to host or organize any of those activities during NASEA volunteer service weeks. Those interested on volunteering opportunities may directly contact local volunteer agencies. Information on these agencies is also available in the yellow pages.

Let us imagine the joy that comes if we can save someone's life by donating blood. (more on Page 3)

NASeA Executive Committee (2000-2001)

President

Ramesh Amatya, Ph.D.
E-mail: Ramatya001@aol.com
Phone: (615) 376-8193

Vice-President

Shaubhagya Shrestha, GA

Vice-Presidents for Student Affairs

Jay Shrestha, AL
Suman Silwal, AL

Secretary

Narayan Rajbhandari, Ph.D., NC

Joint Secretary

Ram Dongol, GA

Treasurer

Girwan Pandey

Member at Large

Praksah Malla, Ph.D., GA

Past Presidents

Bishwa Acharya, Ph.D., GA
Dharmendra Dhakal, Ph.D., TN
Samanta Thapa, Ph.D., TN
Hari Dhungana, M.S., GA

Designing Editor

Suman Silwal

Newsletter Committee

Suman Silwal
Tara Dhungana
Jay Shrestha
Bharati Guatam
Narayan Rajbhandari
Marlene Silwal

2000 Atlanta Convention Video Still Available

The Video on the First International Convention of Nepalese Associations, held in Atlanta, July 1-3, 2000, is still available. If you have not received your copy of the video, please contact :

Mr. Shaubhagya L. Shrestha
email:
sshrestha@dataradio.com
Tel. Phone: 770-943-0140

President's Message

Dear Friends:

Namaste!

As we enter a new year of this millennium, I thank you for your ongoing support, cooperation, and active participation. The year 2000 has been a truly amazing year for all of us. The Atlanta 2000 convention was by far our most ambitious and successful event to date. The convention now earmarks a new horizon for the Nepalese community to set its aim in the future towards unity and cooperation. The convention's resolutions will be a benchmark for the future.

Following the Atlanta convention, I was privileged to attend the reception hosted by Asia Society and Nepalese community from New York in honor of Prime minister, Mr. Girija P. Koirala. I also attended the State of World Forum on behalf of NASeA which was held in September at New York. The forum brought multi-stakeholders together, including many non-government organizations, like NASeA, to discuss the future of globalization. I also had the privilege of attending the inauguration of Nepal Culture Center in September 2000 at Washington, D.C. which was organized by ANA. We sincerely feel that this is the culture center for all Nepalese regardless of where they live in the US. We must and will continue to support this center and any other Nepalese cultural center around the world.

We had a wonderful Dashai festival party organized by the Nepalese community at Birmingham, Alabama. NASeA is grateful to all volunteers and organizers of this special event.

NASeA salutes those members who have been helping Nepal in education. In order to provide more help, NASeA has established an **Education Assistance Program**. This program aims to give educational assistance to young people living in Nepal; provide educational materials to school libraries and laboratories; and facilitate the educational exchange program between Nepal and US. To begin with, the program will focus on providing educational assistance to elementary through high school students in Nepal. Your participation to this program would be greatly appreciated.

We are very proud to have many exceptional members who have been expending their personal resources and time in volunteer activities despite their hectic schedules at home and work. In order to encourage our members to continue to perform voluntary services,



NASeA will celebrate Christmas week and Labor Day week as "**NASeA Voluntary Service Weeks**". Christmas week is designated for community service activities. Likewise, Labor Day Week is set aside for blood donating activities. We hope that you will participate in these activities.

We will continue to support any local, regional, or national sister Nepalese organizations, or Nepal related associations with projects that benefit the Nepalese community. To further enhance our collaboration, NASeA will work very closely with the Nepalese American Council (NAC) to coordinate and facilitate a partnership among Nepalese and Nepal related associations in Nepal and Canada. This will be one of our primary focuses over the next few years and will require the coordinated efforts of the NASeA network and members to achieve.

NASeA will have a joint convention with Nepal Center in North Carolina (NCNC) and Florida Nepal Association (FNA) at Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina. Please mark September 1-2, 2001 on your calendar for this special event. We hope that all Nepalese and friends of Nepal could attend this joint convention to celebrate our culture and values.

We have been posting new developments regularly on our web page (www.Nepal-America.org). Please keep update about NASeA activities by visiting our web page. Future email updates will also keep you posted of new developments.

On behalf of the NASeA executive committee, I would like to wish you and your family a happy and prosperous New Year.

May our culture and values continue to inspire us! May love and compassion be always in our heart! May we all have ever lasting strength to help others! May peace be always with everyone!

Best Regards,

Ramesh Amatya, Ph.D.

Special Thanks!

Subodha & Pratima Gautam contributed \$2000.00 to Atlanta 2000 Convention. NASeA sincerely appreciates their contribution.

Continued...**Education Assistance Program CONTRIBUTIONS**

The contributions will be solicited on a volunteer basis from NASEA members or any other interested people or organizations. The funds collected will be used for educational purposes only and under no circumstances these funds will be spent for other activities. The funds collected and disbursed will be posted in the web page.

Why contribute through NASEA?

Your contribution is tax exempt. No hassle for you, because NASEA will coordinate and facilitate the disbursement of your funds per your selection criteria. Your contribution will be acknowledged in the NASEA annual meetings. Your contribution will be acknowledged in the newsletter YETI VIEWS and NASEA web page, unless you wish to remain anonymous.

You can contribute to this program in the following way:

A. Individual contribution of \$1000 or greater

These contributions will be invested in mutual funds or long-term CD and the dividends will be used to provide scholarships. Individual contributions of about \$1000 (\$80-\$100 dividend @ 8-10% rate) can support one student in Nepal. The contributors will have an option of setting up the scholarship fund in the name of their choice (for example, Your Chosen Name Scholarship Fund) or NASEA scholarship. Individuals can also establish an Educational Trust Fund in the memory of their loved ones, for example father, mother, wife, husband, etc.

B. Individual contribution of \$10 or greater..

Anyone can contribute a minimum amount of \$10.00. These contributions will be pooled and invested in mutual funds or long-term CD and the dividend will be used to provide scholarships or educational materials through NASEA educational program.

C. Adopt a child.

Individual contributor can also directly sponsor a child for education either selected by NASEA or the contributor himself/herself. The contributor can pay the monthly or annual expenses incurred for educational materials, clothes, tuition, etc. for one to several years.

D. Corporate contributions (businesses run by Nepalese or non-Nepalese). There is no limit on corporate contributions. We will disburse the money, as per your selection criteria.

E. Institutional contributions (e.g., Federal Government, United Nations, other Non-Profit and philanthropic organizations, etc.). There is no limit on institutional contributions. We will disburse the money, as per your selection criteria.

AWARDEE SELECTION PROCESS

Every effort will be made to insure fairness in awarding the scholarships. Also, efforts will be made that the intended individuals receive the award. The scholarships will be provided to the most deserving student as identified by the education assistance program committee unless the contributors have specific criteria. The deserving student will be the one with academic excellence and/or economic hardship.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE -THIS IS YOUR PROGRAM!

Your active participation for this cause will be the key determinant for the success of this program. You can make a difference. You can help to flourish this program through your direct contributions, critical yet constructive ideas and suggestions, participation in various fund raising activities including acquiring educational materials (books, laboratory equipment, teaching/learning aids, etc.) from various sources. Please consider the contributions and fund-raising ideas (type of contributions) listed above. We also envision initiating some sort of educational exchange program for students and teachers between U.S. and Nepal. In fact NASEA is proud to inform that our members are already helping to facilitate the faculty exchanges between Kathmandu University and Western Kentucky University. We hope that our members will continue to play important roles to expand such activities in the future.

CONTACT PERSON

The educational fund raising and disbursement will be coordinated and facilitated by NASEA education assistance committee. The committee members are nominated by NASEA Executive Body.

The current members of this committee are Dr. Prakash Malla (Coordinator), Dr. Bhaskar Dawadi

(Member) and Mr. Girwan Pandey (Treasurer).

Please contact:

Prakash Malla, Ph.D.

(912) 275-8342 (Home)

Email: malla@pcnow.net (Home)

Bhaskar Dawadi, Ph.D.

(770) 447-4090 (Home)

brdawadi@hotmail.com

Continued...**Volunteer Service Weeks**

NASEA appeals you to find just one day or even few hours twice a year from your busy schedule to get involved in these activities. Please keep us informed about your service and experience via e-mail to our volunteer service coordinator Dr. Bhaskar Dawadi (brdawadi@hotmail.com).

Homeless Feeding Activity

NASEA volunteers from **Nashville** worked at the Nashville Union Mission to feed the homeless people on Christmas eve. More than 15 volunteers showed up for this activity.



NASEA volunteers worked at the **Atlanta** Union Mission to feed the homeless people on Christmas morning. The volunteers are: Raja Ghale, Pritam Gurung, Dr. Tilak Shrestha, Dr. Bhaskar Dawadi, Subha Dawadi, and Sagun Shrestha.



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Continued... HIGHLIGHTS

- Nepa Pasa Pucha Amerikaye
- Nepalese American Council
- International Nepalese Literary Society
- Alliance for Democracy and Human Rights in Nepal, and
- Empower Nepal Foundation.

This convention was hosted by the Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASEA). The convention attended by over 1200 delegates and participants from around the world was a landmark in the history of Nepalese Associations. Participants included Nepalese from various associations, and delegates from Nepal. The convention was also addressed and participated by representatives from various international organizations; such as, The Carter Center, World Peace Prayer Society, Foundation for Healing Among Nations, US Peace Corps, The Friendship Force, and Brahma Kumari. The dignitaries included the former Prime Minister and Chief Guest Sher B. Deuba; the Former Ministers Rishi Kesh Shah and Jhala Nath Khanal; Royal Nepalese Ambassadors Mr. Damodar Gautam and Mr. Murari Sharma; Atlanta Mayor's Representative Mr. Greg Pridgeon; Mr. Chip Carter, President of The Friendship Force; Dr. Laurence Frankel, Chief Development Officer of The Carter Center; and Ms. Bonnie Mansdorf, President of Foundation for Healing Among Nations.

The convention was organized with the following activities:

RECEPTION DINNER AND WELCOME SPEECH BY ORGANIZERS

Nepalese living in Atlanta hosted the reception dinner on July 1, 2000. Dr. Ramesh Amatya, President of NASEA welcomed the participants and his speech was followed by the welcoming speech by Volunteer Committee Chair Mr. Hari Dhungana. Dr. Bishwa Acharya, Chairman of the Convention outlined the convention programs and thanked the participants for attending the convention. Mr. Greg Pridgeon, Deputy Chief of Staff from Mayor Bill Campbell's Office welcomed the participants to Atlanta and presented

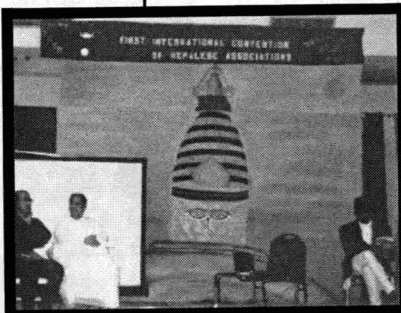
a "Nepalese Unity 2000" proclamation.

POETRY FESTIVAL

The poetry festival was opened by a welcome speech by Dr. Bishwa Acharya. Dr. Shiv Raj Gautam and Mr. Bashanta Shrestha, Coordinators of the poetry festival conducted the program. These poems were evaluated by seven panel committee members. The panel was constituted by four poets from Nepal and three from the USA. Out of the hundred poems that were cited, the panel members chose the three most outstanding poems. The three outstanding poems were awarded certificates and checks of \$500, \$300, and \$200 respectively.

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony started on



the second day of the convention. The Chief Guest of the opening ceremony was the Right Honorable Former Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba. The morning program started with prayers to Lord Ganesh for the success of the convention, followed by the World Peace Prayer for peace of the lands and the people of the world. The World Peace Prayer program was organized by Dr. Bonnie S. Mansdorf, the President of Foundation for Healing Among Nations. The national flag of every country in the world was gracefully exhibited in the ceremony. After the peace prayer, the convention chairman, Dr. Bishwa Acharya highlighted the goals of convention as to create milieu in bringing all Nepalese associations in the US and around the world to set common futuristic goals to maximize the associations' contributions in Nepalese social and cultural enhancements. The two distinguished guests from Nepal, Mr. Jhala Nath Khanal (Member of Standing Committee, Head of the Department for International Relations Communist Party of Nepal, Formal Minister of Nepal) and Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba (Member of Parliament and former Prime Minister of Nepal) compassionately supported the convention's objectives. They praised the Nepalese living abroad for their dedication, contribution, and enthusiasm towards the Nepalese social and cultural development and

enhancement. They wished for the success of all Nepalese ventures in the foreign lands. They also assured that they would support the resolutions passed at the convention including the one on dual citizenship/non-resident immigration problems as recommended by the Convention.

Dr. Ramesh Amatya, President of NASEA, moderated the second half of the morning session (opening ceremony). The presidents from participating organizations presented their organization's views and supported the need for the Nepalese Associations' unity for the betterment of Nepalese social and cultural upliftment. The president of ANA, Mr. Shyam Karki presented an update on the status of the under construction Cultural Center in Washington, D. C. The Peace Corps Coordinator emphasized the importance of associations to play active roles in transferring technology to Nepal.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS

Fifteen different technical sessions/workshops were organized:

- Ten Years of Democracy in Nepal
- Natural Resources •Tourism •Health
- Bringing People and Resources Together
- Bhutan Nepalese Refugees Issues, and
- Empowering Women

The other sessions dealt with the following issues and topics:

- Entrepreneurships •Immigration
- Preservation of Nepalese Culture and Values in the US.

The convention had several youth sessions:

- Nepalese Culture and Values
- Volunteerism •Environmental Ecology
- Alternate Career Opportunities and
- Speaking of the Young Minds.

There were several sessions geared for the children such as story telling and painting.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The social activities included:

- Sports •Blood Drive •Nepali Movie
- Feed the Needy Drive •Cultural Programs

To enhance social interactions among participants, several social activities such as yoga, meditation, bhajan, dances, and sports took place. Five soccer teams (Atlanta, Kansas, Alabama, North Carolina, and Washington DC) participated in the friendly competition. Although all of the soccer teams' performances were magnificent, Kansas team came up at the top and won the first prize. The sports was coordinated by Mr. Raja Ghale.

A Blood Drive was organized at the convention site by Dr. Bhaskar Dawadi. About 35 participants donated blood, and each donor received a T-shirt. Feed the Homeless was also organized by Mrs. Dibya Pradhan; sandwich lunch bags were served to more than 50 homeless people of downtown Atlanta.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

The cultural program was the focal point of the convention and this was coordinated by Mr. Shaubhagya L. Shrestha. The program was presented by 100 different performers from various part of the world. The program provided opportunities to show different and distinct talents. On the stage, there were first time performers as well as professional performers. The ages of the performers ranged from 7 years to 70 years. The programs performed by children were much acclaimed by the audience.

The two-day cultural programs consisted of melodious bhajan, songs, dances, band performances, comedy

stand ups, and fashion shows. The cultural program symbolized every aspect of the Nepalese culture. The dances with Nepali songs represented Nepali national and modern songs, while the Hindi songs' dances represented bollywood's influence in Nepal. The Newari, Tamang selo, Bhote selo, and Lakhe dances informed audience of the diversity among the Nepalese culture. In addition to dances, songs were also performed. The songs that were sung with the help of a madal symbolized the uniqueness of Nepali music. The flute, violin, sitar, and Hawaiian guitar gave different flavor in the program. The skit performance on Romeo and Juliet was a unique and humorous presentation. The bands with modern equipment symbolized the modernization of Nepali music talents. Modernization (diversification) was also vivid in the fashion show through the display of western outfits. Daura surwal and saris costumes exhibited traditional wear of Nepal. The fashion show ended with displaying outfits worn in the wedding by bride and groom. The comedians informed the audience of notorious habits of Nepalese people. Mr. Chip Carter, President of Friendship Force International, also attended the

cultural program. Mr. Carter spoke how his father, former President Jimmy Carter, feels about Nepal and expresses Nepal as his second home. This sentiment was very much appreciated by the audience. The performance hall was fully packed with over 1000 people. This was the first time in history that so many Nepalese people were in one place to see the performances and to show their talents. A popular "Nepali Babu" film was also shown in the first evening of the convention.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Community Service Excellence Awards (COSEA) were presented to four distinguished Nepali volunteers. **The COSEA award winners of 2000 are:**

- Dr. Hari Sharma •Dr. Prahlad Pant
- Mr. Veda Bhakta Joshi •Mr. Dibya Hada.

The award was recommended by

Dr. Dharmendra Dhakal, Award Committee Chairman, and presented by the Former Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba. The Convention also awarded a thousand-dollar donation to



The Carter Center in appreciation to the Center's excellent contribution in human rights and democracy throughout the world.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONVENTION

The core of this convention was to create an environment based on our common beliefs and values, to pave a path for our future generation with some set of examples so that our future generation will have a focused but broad-based endeavor to preserve and enhance the Nepalese culture and heritage wherever they are residing. In order to achieve these goals, ten resolutions were ratified. The gist of these resolutions is as follows:

The First International Convention of Nepalese Associations of 2000 :

- 1) Supports human rights and democracy as a way of life in Nepal or anywhere else.
- 2) Adopts non-violence as a means to world peace, which should be practiced by Nepalese in Nepal and abroad.
- 3) Supports equal opportunity for all regardless of age, gender, race, color, religion, or economic status for economic, political, or social benefit for all in Nepal or abroad.

4) Opposes any social injustice such as caste system, bonded laborer, women trafficking, inhuman treatment of animals including animal sacrifice, as detrimental to the advancement of Nepalese society.

5) Realizes environmental issues are critical for the survival of humanity and therefore recommends that we individually seek to practice, show and teach others examples of good environmental practices.

6) Understands the importance of volunteerism and recommends to our community members of all ages to become involved in community services whatever communities they reside and by whatever means they can employ.

7) Supports all non-destructive research, and any endeavor to explore space and computer technologies. We also support technology transfer to improving quality of life worldwide.

8) Calls on all in the Nepalese community to protect, and disseminate our heritage, culture, and common interests of the Nepalese people throughout the world. For this, we shall support the on going cultural center project in Washington, D. C., and any other similar projects around the world.

9) Supports the idea of an international convention and recommends a standing committee be formed with the representatives from each known Nepalese Associations worldwide to establish the location date and agenda for the next convention.

10) Agrees to forming a World Nepalese Organization which will promote Nepalese culture, be a voice for human rights and democracy, and raise voice for common causes, i.e., act for the betterment of Nepalese community. The headquarters of this body will be decided accordingly, and a committee will be formed with a representation from different associations.

CONCLUSIONS

The concluding meeting of the convention was held on the morning of July 4, 2000 with representatives from six main organizations: ANA, ANMA, FNA, NCNC, NST, and NASEA. All unanimously expressed that the convention was a big success and decided to plan for such a meeting in the future. The finance committee presented an advance report on revenue and expense. The preliminary audit showed a deficit of approximately \$3,000.00 which is to be taken care by NASEA.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2001 GREETINGS FROM

Mr. & Mrs. Hari & Rebecca Dhungana
 Dr. & Mrs. Bishwa & Renu Acharya
 Mr. & Mrs. Shaubhagya & Ganga Shrestha
 Mr. & Mrs. Subodh & Pratima Gautam
 Mr. & Mrs. Bala Ram & Tracy Pant
 Mr. & Mrs. Girwan & Rupa Pandey
 Drs. Prakash & Anju Malla
 Dr. & Mrs. Bhaskar & Inu Dawadi
 Dr. & Mrs. Kedar & Rose Shrestha
 Dr. & Mrs. Samanta & Rashmi Thapa
 Dr. & Mrs. Dharmendra & Sharada Dhakal
 Dr. & Mrs. Govinda & Nistha Lohani
 Dr. & Mrs. Ram Chandra & Kusum Baral
 Mr. & Mrs. Suman & Marlene Silwal
 Mr. Tilak Shrestha
 Drs. Ramesh & Sudha Amatya

The expenses of printing and distributing this newsletter were sponsored
 by the above listed NASEA members.

Nepal Connection Great way to call Nepal

- Great Rate for Domestic and International Calls
- Rate for Nepal As Low as .50¢ min* (with i-plan). Domestic rate as low as 0.05¢ min.
- No Connections Fee / Use your home phone (No Calling CARDS)
- No hassle to use 1-800 number neither you need pin number
- You will received easy to understand bill included with your local phone company
- Apply online it's easy and convenient just visit www.callnepal.net and find suitable calling plan for your need.
- 5% extra discount with i-plan billing system. No hassle to mail your bill again.
- Support NASEA. CallNepal.net Donate 50% to NASEA of its profit coming from NASEA Member.

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India - 0.50	CANADA - 0.05	S.Africa - 0.18	New Zealand-0.06
England - 0.06	France - 0.08	Sweden - 0.06	USA - 0.05

For more information, please visit www.callnepal.net or Call (256)882-8993 [Santosh] e-mail: callnepal@aol.com info@callnepal.net

<http://www.callnepal.net>

Community News



Congratulations!



.....to **Nischal Shrestha & Raminta Dainul** on their engagement on November 18, 2000. Their hands extended from Nepal to Lithuania bringing the two souls and cultures together.

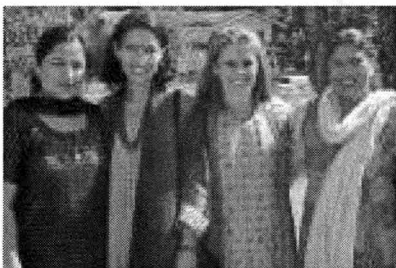
Nischal's parents were present for the ceremony but due to time inconvenience, family members from Lithuania could not be available. However, her family friends were able to join the occasion.

....We wish the newly engaged couple the very best in their love and future life.....

Dashain Festival at Birmingham, Alabama

The Nepalese Community at Birmingham, Alabama celebrated the Dashain festival 2000 with the traditional tika, authentic nepali food, music and dance.

Birmingham Community invited all the NASEA members and friends from southeast region to celebrate the festival.



Visit the Nepali web community of Alabama:
<http://communities.msn.com/alnepali>

Graduations!!

Fall 2000:

University of Alabama at Birmingham
Biswa Pokhrel, BS in Mechanical Engineering

Jacksonville State University
Binod Rayamajhi, MBA
Nagendra Mani Tripathi, BS in CS
Nabin Pradhan, BS in CS

Congratulations!

NASEA Executive Member Dr. Prakash Malla of Thiele Kaolin Company, Sandersville, GA has been allowed (September 21, 2000) a patent titled "Improved Process for Beneficiating Kaolin Clays" by the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office. Dr. Malla is also inventor or co-inventor of 8 other U.S. patents. These patents provide technical know-how on developing improved products and/or processes for space cooling (air-conditioning) systems and paper coating applications.

Prosecution of Charles James Mabry for the Death Of Sudhamshu Nepal

On September 11, 2000, Mr. James Mabry pled guilty to the death of Mr. Sudhamshu Nepal. He received a sentence of 20 years in prison which he began immediately. It was the maximum sentence that he could have received under the charge (manslaughter).



Suman Silwal Young Alumnus of the Year

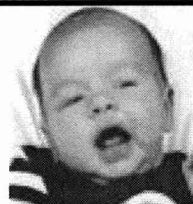
Suman Silwal has been named The Young Alumnus of the Year 2000 at Jacksonville State University. He was presented

the award November 4, 2000.

Suman is the first international student to be honored as an alumnus of the year.

Birth

Shakti and Usha Aryal are blessed with their grandson Deven who was born on July 10, 2000. Their daughter Smita and son-in-law Steven moved from Nashville to Alpharetta, GA.



Manoj and Rachana Silwal are blessed with their daughter Megan who was born on September 17, 2000 at Atlanta, GA.



Govinda and Kanchan Lohani are blessed with their daughter Nistha Lohani who was born on December 2, 2000 at Mena, AK.



First Miss Nepal USA

ANA is proud to announce that the first annual Miss USA Nepal contest will be held on June 30th, 2001 at Valley Forge, PA at the ANA annual convention.

For more information, visit
<http://www.ana-home.org/2001.html>

Fund Raising for Kanku High School

Mr. Hari & Rebecca Dhungana organized a fund raising activity for Kanku High School on 11



December in Atlanta. According to Mr. Dhungana, they met their goal of raising \$1200.00. This money will be sent to the school on January 2001. NASEA is very grateful to all contributors of this fund.

Congratulations!

Jaya Dhakal joined Hiel Environmental Co. at Chattanooga this Fall.



NASeA 2001 Joint Convention

NASeA, NCNC (North Carolina), and FNA (Florida) will have a joint convention in Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina on September 1-2, 2001. We hope that all Nepalese and friends of Nepal could attend this convention to celebrate our culture and values.

We will be posting the details of this convention on our web page

"www.Nepal-America.org".

See you in North Carolina!!!!

If undelivered, please return to:

Ramesh Amatya, Ph.D.
President, NASeA
1205 Hood Drive
Brentwood, TN 37027

To: