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### News

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# \*NEPAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION MEETINGS HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 14th ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON SOUTH ASIA, MADISON, WISCONSIN

Members of the Nepal Studies Association met at noon on Nov. 1, 1985 in Madison, Wisconsin. Kathryn March and David Holmberg reported on the status of the HRB and announced that Ted Riccardi of Columbia University would be taking over the responsibilities for editing and distributing the HRB beginning after the Monsoon issue, 1986. They encourage everyone to continue supporting the HRB as they have in the past. The second major item of business was the election of a new chairman of the Nepal Studies Association. Krishna Pradhan of the University of Wisconsin ran unopposed and won the election by unanimous acclaim. Those attending the meeting briefly discussed future plans for the NSA. An ad hoc steering committee took form at the close of the meeting to discuss these plans further. This committee will continue informally to advise Krishna Pradhan and help with NSA business. Those who participated in the committee meeting were: Terry Cooke (Berkeley), David Holmberg (Cornell), Linda Iltis (Wisconsin-Madison), Todd Lewis (Columbia), Kathryn March (Cornell), Krishna Pradhan (Wisconsin-Madison), Mohan Shrestha (Bowling Green). This ad hoc steering committee welcomes assistance from those who are interested in keeping the NSA going and improving. Get in touch with Krishna Pradhan or any of the committee members if you have any suggestions or would like to become more involved in the NSA.

Those present at the meeting heartily thanked Manindra Verma, chairperson of the conference for once again staging an excellent conference. Special thanks was also directed to Judy Patterson, conference coordinator who is always a great help for us Nepal enthusiasts. For abstracts of relevant papers presented at the meetings see below.

## \*TRADITION AND CHANGE IN THE HIMALAYAS, CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITIES CONFERENCE ON SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The first annual California Universities Conference on South Asian Studies will be held April 5-6, 1986 at the University of California, Berkeley.

The Center for South and Southeast Asia Studies invites individual paper and panel proposals from scholars working in the Himalayan regions of Bhutan, China (Tibet), India, Pakistan, and Nepal. Presentations by scholars working in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences are welcomed. The Center intends to organize a South Asia conference annually, shifting geographical and topical emphasis from year to year. Proposals, papers and panels should be forwarded to:

Eric Crystal, Program Coordinator Center for South and Southeast Asia Studies 260 Stephens Hall University of California Berkeley, CA 94720 USA

#### \*DR. LEELA DEVI AWARDED TEACHING FELLOWSHIP

A distinguished educator in Home Economics, Dr. Leela Devi, has been awarded a teaching fellowship at Oregon State University for the Winter and Spring terms, 1986, and will be teaching special internationally-oriented courses in Home Economics during that period. She has an MEd degree from the University of Oregon and her Ph.D. in Home Economics from Southern Illinois University. She has served in both the public schools and in higher education in Nepal, and she spent four years as a UNESCO "Home Economics Expert" at Banumba Teachers College in Sierra Leone. Currently, she is Associate Professor and Research Advisor at the graduate level, Department of Home Science, Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University.

Dr. Devi will be available for other assignments while she is in the United States, and after May 30, 1986 when her OSU assignment is finished. Anyone interested in utilizing her services while she is in the U.S. may write to her at Oregon State University.

It should also be noted that ANEF maintains a list of distinguished Nepalese who are available for similar assignments in the various disciplines. If interested in hosting one of these professionals on your campus, write to Dr. Wood for further information, at:

Dr. Hugh Wood Executive Director of the American Nepal Education Foundation 2790 Cape Meares Lp Tillamook, OR 97141 USA

#### \*LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF NEPAL CONFERENCE

The Linguistic Society of Nepal held the Sixth Annual Conference on Kirtipur Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal on 26-27 November, 1985. The Conference focused on the following areas:

- Language Families
- Tibeto-Burman and Indo-Aryan languages and linguistics
- Morphology, Syntax and Semantics
- Phonetics and Phonology
- Historical and Comparative Linguistics
- Sociolinguistics & Psycholinguistics
- Orthography and Lexicography
- Applied Linguistics
- Dialectology and Nepali dialects
- Linguistics & Literature
- Communication Studies
- Semantics & Pragmatics

#### \*CNAS SEMINAR ON "REGIONAL SECURITY" IN SOUTH ASIA

CNAS held an international seminar on "Regional Security in South Asia" from November 3 to 6, 1985 at Everest Sheraton Hotel, Kathmandu.

Scholars from the South Asian Region presented eight papers on the following topics:

K. Subrahmanyam (India): "Security Issues in South Asia."

Pervaiz I. Cheema (Pakistan): "Growing Defense Expenditures and its Implications for Economic Development in South Asia."

Lok Raj Baral (Nepal): "Changing Political Demography of South Asia and its Implications for Regional Security."

Sridhar K. Khatri (Nepal): "Foreign Policy and Security Perceptions of South Asian Nations."

S.D. Muni (India): "Geo-strategic Implications of SARC."

B.M. Abbas (Bangladesh): "Water Resources and South Asian Regional Cooperation:

Development Prospects or Security Problems."

Selton U. Kodikara (Sri Lanka): "Role of Extra-Regional Powers and South Asian Security."

Madhukar Rana (Nepal): "Economic Dimension of Regional Cooperation: A Strategic Perspective."

Selected individuals from the following list of scholars commented on the papers: Le. Gen. A.I. Akram (Pakistan), Talukder Maniruzzman (Bangladesh), K.B. Singh (Nepal), R.R. Subramanian (India), Syed Anwar Hussain (Bangladesh), Bharat Sharma (Nepal), V.S. Murti (India), B.P. Uprety (Nepal), M. Rasgotra (India), S.K. Upadhyaya (Nepal), A.P. Rana (India) Sajjad Hyder (Pakistan), K. Khanal (Nepal), Bashir Ahmad (Pakistan), Binayak Bhadra (Nepal), Bhabani Sen Gupta (India), M.M. Hussain (Pakistan), Dhruba Kumar (Nepal), Mizaur Rahman Shelly (Bangladesh).

(Courtesy of CNAS Newsletter).

#### \*INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HERITAGE OF THE KATHMANDU VALLEY

A three-day International Conference on the Heritage of the Kathmandu Valley was held in the historic city of Lübeck, West Germany, jointly sponsored by the German Commission for the UNESCO and the German Research Council. The Conference was attended by well over 30 scholars from West Germany, France, Britain, Sweden, Australia, Japan, India, USA, and Nepal -- all of them interested and active in academic research on the heritage of the Kathmandu Valley.

Twenty-four papers were presented in five sessions devoted to different subject-areas such as art, religion, ritual, architecture, dance, painting, social structure and social change, development of settlements, and traditional historiography.

Four Nepali participants attended the conference: Professor Kamal P. Malla (Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences), who chaired the first session and presented a paper on traditional historiography of Nepal; Mr. Dhana-vajra Vajracarya (Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies), who presented a paper on the development of settlements in the Kathmandu Valley; Mr. Sant Bahadur Gurung (Research Division, Tribhuvan University), and Dr. Saphalya Amatya (Deputy Director, Department of Archaeology, HMG).

The proceedings of the Lubeck Conference is scheduled to be published from West Germany next year in the series called Nepalica, edited by Dr. B. Kölver and Dr. S. Lienhard. The Conference elected a committee to organize another follow-up conference in Kathmandu in the near future. It consists of the following members:

Dr. Kamal P. Malla (Convener), Dr. Niels Gutschow (West Germany), Dr. Robert Levy (USA), Dr. Gerard Toffin (France), Dr. Hiroshi Ishii (Japan), and Dr. Mary Shepherd Slusser (USA) --co-opted.

The conference decided to explore the possibilities of setting up a centre for documenting all the post-1950 research on the Heritage the Kathmandu Valley. It also identified the following areas as "priorities requiring scholarly attention:"

- 1. Inscriptions and Vamsavalis.
- 2. Archaeological survey and inventories.
- 3. Studies on the crafts and craftsmen of the valley.
- 4. Musical traditions and repertoire.
- 5. Dance and drama.
- 6. Oral traditions -- myths, legends, riddles, and proverbs.
- 7. Language, dialects, and the literary heritage of the Valley.
- 8. Place-names and other species of toponyms.
- 9. Various forms of interactions between the Newars and non-Newars in the Valley.

(Courtesy of CNAS Newsletter).

#### \*THE SIX-HUNDRED YEAR OLD CHRONICLE OF NEPAL PUBLISHED

In collaboration with the National Archives, Kathmandu, the Nepal Research Centre has recently published a facsimile edition of the <u>Gopālarājavamśāvali</u> -- a nearly six-hundred year old chronicle of Nepal. This edition is a result of a cooperative venture, in which the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies and above all two university scholars, Dhanavajra Vajrācārya and Kamal P. Malla have contributed.

Published by Franz Steiner Verlag, Wiesbaden, West Germany, the edition of the chronicle contained a facsimile reproduction of the 48-folio palm-leaf manuscript, now preserved in the National Archives, Kathmandu. Mr. Dhanavajra Vajrācārya has transliterated the manuscript from the <u>bhujinmola</u> script into Devanāgarī. He has also translated the text into the Nepali language. Both these components were completed by Vajrācārya under the auspices of the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies of Tribhuvan University. Professor Kamal P. Malla has rendered the text into English and contributed an introduction, which gives an outline of the contents of the Sanskrit and medieval Newari texts, demonstrating the importance of the chronicle, as well as providing a survey of the present state of

research into this chronicle. Professor Malla has also prepared a glossary of the medieval Newari words used in the chronicle, which will prove of great value.

The chronicle consists of two loosely related texts -- one in Sanskrit and the other in Newari. It was compiled during the reign of Sthitirajmalla around A.D. 1390. It is regarded as one of the most important, if not the most important, piece of evidence for the history of Nepal's Middle Ages (ca. A.D. 750-1380s). Commenting on this chronicle, Professor Luciano Petech wrote in 1958, "it is more well-known than understood....Its edition and translation is at present the foremost desideratum in the field of Nepalese history."

Although the text was discovered 86 years ago, so far there was not even a reliable transcription of it, let alone its translation or critical edition. The present facsimile edition is certainly not the final word about the chronicle. But it is hoped that it has created a solid basis for future work by historians and philologists -- to correct, expand and deepen the state of our knowledge of this complex text.

(Courtesy of CNAS Newsletter).

#### \*ANEF SEEKS MATERIALS FOR NEPAL LIBRARIES

One of the lesser-known, but major, activities of ANEF is collecting good used books, magazines, and other learning materials, and sending them to the Libraries of Nepal. In the past thirty years, more than 50,000 well-selected items have been sent.

#### Basic Criteria

- 1. Any material that would be useful to a college student or staff member (May include upper-level high school texts as well as both undergraduate and graduate level materials)
- 2. Any, and all, disciplines
- 3. Good physical condition (rebound, if necessary)
- 4. Reputably authored and published (omit propaganda, proselytizing materials, "off-color" fiction)
- 5. Magazines: professional journals in any field, plus Readers Digest (complete volumes, regardless of age, are fine, as well as singles)
- 6. Duplicate copies, fine (up to ten copies each item, at present)

#### Shipping Instructions

- If less than 50 items, send to the American Nepal Education Foundation, 2790 Cape Meares Lp, Tillamook, OR 97141, by: Library Rate, U.S. Mail; UPS or other service -- use the cheapest method (ANEF can reimburse you if requested and paid-receipt is sent)
- 2. If more than 50 items, can you combine your collection with those of your colleagues? If so, contact Dr. Hugh B. Wood (foregoing address) for instructions for shipping the materials directly to Nepal from your institution. (Or phone (503) 842-4024)
- 3. Additional information: contact Dr. Wood, as above

These contributions are tax-deductible; ANEF will issue receipts on request.

#### \*FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON SOUTH ASIA -- UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON

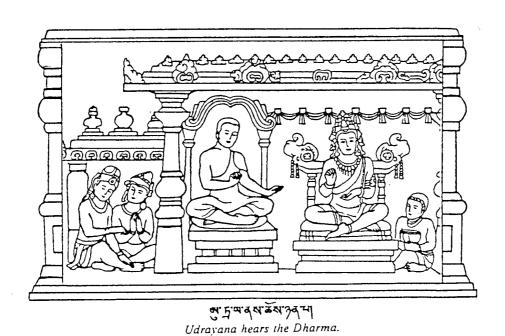
The fifteenth annual conference on South Asia will be held November 7, 8 and 9, 1986 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Deadlines for papers or panel proposals is May 1, 1986. Contact the conference coordinator at 1236 Van Hise Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706 for more details.

#### \*TIBETAN TEXT PROCESSING SYSTEM

A new Tibetan text processing system has been developed for creating reproduction-quality Tibetan typesetting with an IBM-PC or compatible computer and certain dot matrix printers. The Tibetan characters were fashioned after models taken from a wood block edition of the Buddhist Sutras printed in Lhasa, Tibet. Roman and italic fonts with a complete set of Sanskrit diacritical marks are also supplied and may be interspersed with the Tibetan. The program and manual are available for US\$ 30.00. For more information and a list of Tibetan-English bilingual publications contact:

Mahayana Sutra and Tantra Press 216A West Second Street Howell, New Jersey 07731 USA

## ब्र रे.च.चेतु.द्रेचेश्वरूटी



Sample of Tibetan Text Processing System.

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