

Dr. Prem Singh Basnyat Highlights Historical Events in Nepal - Britain Relations

**MEET FAMILIES (मित परिवार)
OF THE BATTLEFIELD:
A Historical Event in the
Britain-Nepal Relation**



Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) is a not-for-profit social organization affiliated with the British Council, active for the welfare of the Nepalese, who studied in UK and pursue an interest in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

ABAN also works for cultural and educational exchange between Nepal and Britain.

Dr. Prem Singh Basnyat, professor of Leshan University, China and visiting professor in Kathmandu University, Nepal, addressed ABAN gathering on December 11, 2016 at the British Council hall, on the "Meet Families of the Battlefield: A Historical Event in Nepal- Britain Relation".

Dr. Basnyat, a Chevening scholar of UK and the potential Life Member of ABAN, stressed on the special relations between Nepal and Britain even before the Treaty of Sugauli. The English wanted to have good relations with Gorkhalis and the Nepalese rulers also wished to better the ties with the English. Bada Kaji Thapa and Col. Ochterlony had a meeting in Nepali land and both sides proposed to convert

the meeting into a friendly relation, which were established on November 11, 1813. Bada Kaji's son Ramdas and Col. David Ochterlony's son Ochterlony Junior became an **intimate friend** (Meet in Nepali language), a special bond of friendship forged through rituals to keep it lasting for generations. And the two military commanders were fathers of the close mates. In cashing on the friendship relations tied with Bada Kaji Amar Singh's son, Col. Ochterlony requested the governor of Palpa Chautara Bam Shah and the Kathmandu Palace through Amar Singh not to allow anyone to promote terrorism against the East India Company in the Nepali soil.

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MOU With MSMT

A Memorandum of Understanding is being signed between ABAN and Mrigendra Samjhana Medical Trust (MSMT) for the provision an endowment fund of Rs.500,000/- with ABAN to undertake a support program for Senior Citizen Home at a selected location every year from the interest income of the endowment fund.

ABAN will undertake senior citizen support program regularly from this year in the name of MSMT who will also provide Rs.30,000/- for this year's support program separately, while the income from the endowment fund will support in the subsequent years. Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey has facilitated this arrangement for mutual cooperation between ABAN and MSMT on a long term basis.

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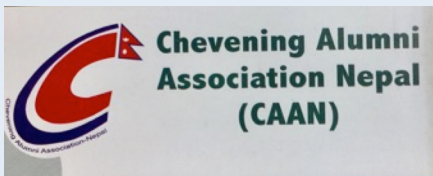
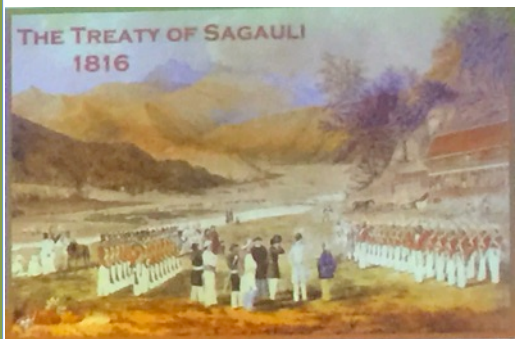
Continued from page 1

In a letter addressed to the Government of Nepal, Ochterlony called for arresting and extraditing the kings and Rajautas, who would be against the English or submit their heads to him. The Government of Nepal issued instructions to its authorities accordingly. Therefore, the English were expanding their colonialism fearlessly in India.

Besides, Ochterlony was well aware that English had to fight against Nepal in near future. They had already faced the consequences of the war techniques and bravery of the Nepalese. So, he was looking for a hole to enter Nepal in order to take stock of the actual situation of the Nepalese Army and to get mixed up with the Nepalese people.

Bowing down before Bada Kaji Amar Singh through the friendship relations, he was able to open up the door to that end. Thus, the English took advantage of it. Comparing the friendship relations with others, it was a landmark event in Anglo - Nepal diplomatic history. The relationship is also responsible for limiting Nepalese boarder between the Mechi and the Mahakali rivers. Nepal was great in terms of size following the unification campaign led by King Prithvi Narayan Shah, his daughter-in-law Rajendra Laxmi and youngest son Bahadur Shah and others.

The English were scared of the Gorkhali fighters as they were beaten up and chased away during the time of King Prithvi Narayan.¹ They wanted to take revenge against Nepal. But it was not an easy task. It is impossible for one nation to take revenge against another nation without knowing the capabilities, behaviours and attitudes of its military troops. Anyway, the *MEETERI SAINO* helped the English to know Nepalese military strength and weaknesses.



Economic Development of Nepal

By Krishna Gyewali, Former Secretary, Government of Nepal

Chevening Alumni Association Nepal president Mr. Laxmi Kanta Poudel invited ABAN president Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha and vice president Mr. Tulasi Prasad Uprety to the talk program on the Economic Development of Nepal by Mr. Krishna Gyewali, former secretary, government of Nepal on December 9, 2016 at hotel Yellow Pagoda, Kathmandu.

Mr. Gyewali presented a non-economist perspective to development and said Nepal is at a crossroad of development. He referred to the five dimensions of development, namely economic/ GDP growth, Social access, Political good governance, environmental sustainability, and spiritual happiness (inner satisfaction)

He postulated Nepal's strengths in terms of Nature, History and Culture (rich resource endowment, favorable climate, manageable demography, tolerance and coexisting society, proud history and culture). Nepal faces innumerable challenges of structural social inequality & discrimination, political instability (with 24 prime ministers in 26 years), non-performing bureaucracy, unskilled/ untrained workforce, rising expectations and high dependency on foreign aid.

Nepal's strategic opportunities (way forward), as also indicated by Prof. Sachs, are hydro-electric power for South Asia, China-India-South Asia Integration, industry (agro, labor intensive), information and communication technology, social services (health, education and governance) and smart urbanization. "Appropriate regulation, good governance and political stability were essential preconditions for development", Mr. Krishna Gyewali said.

Another ABAN Member in National Planning Commission

Dr. Prabhu Budhathoki, Life Member of ABAN (ID no. 458) has also been appointed as honorable member of



National Planning Commission in October 2016, responsible for Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Environment.

Dr. Budhathoki holds MSc degree from the Bangor University in environmental resource management in 1990-91 and Ph. D. on resource governance from the University of Greenwich, UK.

For last three decades Dr. Budhathoki worked with the government agencies, international organizations and NGOs. Dr. Budhathoki was Country Representative of IUCN in Nepal during 2006-08 and worked for UNDP and FAO in Nepal, Iran and Bangladesh as Chief Technical Advisor for over a decade to design and implement various natural resource management policies and programmes for sustainable environment, livelihood improvement and climate change resilience. Previously, he was associated with the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation of 13 years.

ABAN Participates in ANAA AGM



ABAN President Mr. Maheswor B. Shrestha and Vice President Mr. Tulasi Pd. Uprety attended the 18th Annual General Meeting of Association of Nepalese Alumni from Australia (ANAA) on January 21, 2017 as invited by ANAA president Prof. Dr. Damodar Prasad Pokhrel. His Excellency Ambassador of Australia Mr. Glenn White was the Chief Guest of the AGM of ANAA.

Ambassador Dr. Subedi Presents Credentials to HM the Queen



Ambassador of Nepal to the United Kingdom His Excellency Dr. Durga Bahadur Subedi presented the letter of credence to Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace on 01 December 2016.

In line with the sub-article (1) of article 282 of the Constitution of Nepal and upon the recommendation of the cabinet, the Right Honorable President Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari had appointed Dr. Durga Bahadur Subedi, a Joint-Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the Nepalese Ambassador to the United Kingdom on 6th of September 2016.

Addressing a welcome reception, Ambassador Dr. Subedi assured that he will work for the dignity and welfare of all Nepalese, who are already brave, honest and friendly, and now we have to prove that we are compassionate and resilient as well. He called upon all Nepalese diaspora to work as ambassadors of Nepal for the common cause of uplifting Nepal's dignity and image high.



His Excellency Dr. Durga Bahadur Subedi assumed his office on 29th September 2016 at the Embassy of Nepal, London as an Ambassador of Nepal to the UK.

ABAN and its members wish His Excellency a very successful tenure.



Nepal Embassy in London, UK



200 Years of Nepal-Britain Relations



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh at the Hanuman Dhoka gate of Kathmandu, considered as the center of Nepal.



British Council Nepal celebrates Diversity Week

To celebrate Diversity Week and to ensure Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) as a priority, British Council Nepal organized several events during 12-16 December. Deputy Regional Head of South Asia for British Council and EDI Champion Robin Rickard gave a workshop to British Council staffs on unconscious bias at work place, gender issues and inclusion.

On 13 December the Council did equality screening and impact assessment on SMT charter and invited its key vendors to share their experiences of working with British Council. On December 14, the workplace came live in colours, where a British Council staffs came to in work their ethnic attires.

Head of Programs, Rhona Brown taught . Scottish dance, British Council invited group of people who showcased their dancing and singing skills and shared about their lives. The celebration concluded with parents and Children of British Council staffs visiting office pre and indulging in fun activities.

ABAN DAY and 19th AGM of ABAN on February 04, 2017

The 13th Executive Committee meeting of ABAN held on December 11, 2016 and 14th meeting on January 12 2017 reviewed the arrangements made for ABAN DAY and its 19th Annual General Meeting on Saturday 4th February 2017. The AGM will also approve Auditor's Report for FY 2072/73 as required by District Administrative Office for renewal of ABAN's registration. The ECM approved the Life Membership application of Mr. Ramesh Lal Maskey (postgraduate diploma in Aeronautical Science from College of Aeronautics, Cranefield during 1968-70), Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Joshi, Mr.

Moti Prasad Thapa (M Sc. in Crop Physiology from Reading University) with ID numbers 503,504 and 505 respectively. Dr. Prem Singh Basnyat (Chevening scholar) is proposed as Members of ABAN with ID no. 506.

A 3 member Election Committee, to elect the 10th Executive Committee of ABAN for 2017-19, will be headed by IPP Mr. Shankar Prasad Paudel and past president Mr. Rabi Jung Pandey and lawyer Mr. Radha Krishna Bhandari will be the members of the committee.

The ECM reviewed expenses of the family Picnic held at Doleshwor on 19 November, 2016 and approved total expense of Rs.46,000/- Total amount of member's contribution was Rs.41,550/- and the balance deficit was made up by the president.



ABAN Calendar of Events 2015-2016

Month of 2015-16	Main Activities
2015 April 11 2015 April 13	Election of 9 th Executive Committee at the British Council 1 st Executive Committee Meeting. ABAN Newsletter 01 issued
2015 August 21 2015 August 2015 August 29	2 nd ECM, Takeover and Formation of Sub-committees Publication of ABAN Newsletter No. 02 issue Talk Program on Human Trafficking by Dr. Ruchira Gupta
2015 September September 11 September 22 September 24	Publication of ABAN Newsletter No. 03 issue Meeting with the British Council Director Dr. Jovan Ilic 3 rd ECM meeting. Audit Reports for 2069-70 and 2070-71 Talk Program by Dr. Tsering on Support to Earthquake victims
2015 October	Publication of ABAN Newsletter No. 04 issue
2015 Nov./Dec. December 17 December 26	Publication of ABAN Newsletter No. 05 issue 4 th Executive Committee Meet at Dillibazar Visited Old Age Home and supported with food and medicines
2016 January 17 January/ February	Talk Program on Happy Living by Mr. Tulasi Prasad Uprety Publication of ABAN Newsletter No. 06 issue
2016 March/April 2016 April 01	Newsletter no.7 and Release of Membership Directory 5 th Executive Committee meeting. Handover of Bank accounts
2016 May 08 2016 May 2016 May 23	6 th Executive Committee Meeting Publication of ABAN Newsletter no.8 7 th Executive Committee meeting
2016 June 21 2016 June 25 2016 June 25	8 th Executive Committee meeting. 18 th Annual General Meeting of ABAN. Release ABAN Membership Directory 2016.
2016 July	ABAN Newsletter no. 9
2016 August 28	9 th Executive Committee meeting. ABAN 10th Newsletter
2016 September 11 2016 September 29	Tax clearance of past 3 years till 2071/72 10 th Executive Committee meeting
2016 October 10 2016 October 21 2016 October 23	Release of 11 th ABAN Newsletter for Sept.-October 2016 11 th Executive Committee meeting. Audit Report of 2072/73 Talk by Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey on British Education
2016 November 01 2016 November 15 2016 November 19	ABAN Newsletter no 12 12 th Executive Meeting. Meeting on Edu. Fair proposal ABAN Family Picnic at Doleshwor area Bhaktapur
2016 December 01 2016 December 11	ABAN Newsletter 13 Executive Meeting Talk Program by Dr. Prem Singh Basnyat on Historical Events in Nepal- Britain Relations
2017 January	14 th Executive Meeting ABAN Newsletter 14
2017 February 04	ABAN Day & 19th AGM proposed



New Life Members Joining ABAN since August 2015

1. Dr. Nastu Prasad Sharma (ID 491)
2. Miss Sanjivani Shrestha (ID 492)
3. Mr. Punya Prasad Paudel (ID116 Ord. to Life)
4. Mr. Govinda Neupane (ID 493)
5. Mr. Janak Sharma Paudel (ID 494)
6. Mr. Shakti Kumar Golyan (ID 495)
7. Dr. Dhruva P. Acharya (ID143 Ord. to Life)
8. Mr. Ushik Shrestha (ID 496)
9. Miss. Pratigya Thapa (ID 497)
10. Mr. Laba Prasad Tripathi (ID 498)
11. Mr. Subin Man Pradhan (ID 499)
12. Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey (ID 500)
13. Mr. Prateek Man Singh (ID 501)
14. Mr. Rabindra Mananda Bajracharya (ID 502)
15. Mr. Ramesh Lal Maskey (ID 503)
16. Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Joshi (IM 504)
17. Mr. Moti Prasad Thapa (ID 505)
18. Dr. Prem Singh Basnyat (ID 506)

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