

ABAN Newsletter: Year 20, Volume ECM 9 –10, Issue No. 26, Month: May-June 2018

## Revisiting Nepal- UK Relations

Diplomat Pradhuma Shah



Mr. Pradhuma traced the history of Nepal-UK relations that started in 1816 with the Treaty of Sugauli and has remained cordial and friendly ever since. In 1923 a new treaty of friendship between Great Britain and Nepal was signed and it declared Nepal in writing as an independent nation. In 1934, Nepal established a legation in London.

UK has supported Nepal for democracy and peace process. Its contribution to the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF), and support to the peace process in Nepal deserve appreciation.

**British aid** to Nepal started in 1961 and British volunteer program since 1964. The Department for International Development (DFID) opened its office in Kathmandu in March 1999 and its main areas of support are governance and security, inclusive wealth creation, human development (education & health) and climate change/ disaster management. Currently, UK's development cooperation budget to Nepal stands at around £ 100 million, which is one of the highest cooperation budgets to Nepal.

Based on the technical cooperation agreement signed on 31st May 1994, DFID's Operational Plan 2011-15 had committed up to £ 331 million assistance.

The Bilateral Consultation Mechanism (BCM) established under an MOU signed in London

on 7 January 2014 had three round of meetings to support the Government of Nepal to graduate from Lease Developed Nation status, focusing on the barriers to growth and their causes. DFID's support program consists of 3 pillars: Harnessing Nepal's opportunities for transformative change, delivering immediate benefits to the poor and safeguarding Nepal's future.

Nepal has welcomed UK's continued support to upgrade trainings in UN Peace Keeping operations.

**UK is one of the top ten trading partners of Nepal**, worth Rs.11.58 billion export and Rs.13 billion imports in 2016. Nepal's major exports are pashmina shawl, goatskin, leather goods and Nepalese paper and paper products, woolen carpets, handicrafts, ready-made garments, silverware and jewelry. UK's major export items are copper wire rod, machinery and parts, aircraft and spare parts, scientific research/ office equipment and stationaries. The level of trade is however way below its potentials. The TIFA framework signed in 2011 encourages our businesses and investors for Beneficial trade and investment in the highly potential areas of tourism, hydropower, agro-based products, herbal products, IT and technology transfer.

.....continued in page 3



Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) is a not-for-profit social

organization, registered with District Administration office on February 04, 1998 and is affiliated with the British Council. The Association is actively engaged 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.

## Knowing More About PRADHUMNA



Mr. Pradhuma Bikram Shah is a career diplomat since 1979 and was the Ambassador of Nepal to Brazil, South America. He also served as the first Consul General in Nepalese Consulate in Hong Kong in 1997 and also served in the Nepalese embassies in Pakistan and India. He has completed M.A and MPA from Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu and post-graduate in International Relations & Development from National Autonomous University of Mexico in 1981-82. He did Contemporary International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi in 1990 and Graduate of the College of Security Studies APCSS Hawaii in 1999 and Senior Executive Course, NESA Defense University, Washington DC in 2002.

**Please Log on to:**

[www.aban.org.np](http://www.aban.org.np)

ABAN website is now featured in  
[www.britishcouncil.org.np](http://www.britishcouncil.org.np)



# Prince Harry Weds Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle tied their knot on May 19 in Windsor castle. The new Duke and Duchess of Sussex exchanged their vows at the altar in St. George Chapel in an emotional service that brought the US TV star into the heart of British monarchy. Harry and Meghan were declared husband and wife at the chapel in the medieval Windsor castle by Archbishop of Canterbury Justine Welby, the Church of England's spiritual leader.



Meghan' Markel's mother, Mrs. Doria Ragland experienced an emotional moment in the chapel



Meghan entered the chapel unescorted, dressed in flowing white wedding gown created by British designer Clare Waight Keller and wearing a veil and diamond tiara. Prince Charles accompanied Meghan to the altar from the middle of the chapel. Meghan's mother, Doria Ragland shed tears. A gospel choir sang American soul singer Ben E. King's 1960s hit "Stand by me"



More than 100,000 people packed the sun-baked Windsor street. Queen Elizabeth II and the royal family were joined in the chapel by some 600 guests and star celebrities. US bishop Michael Bruce Curry told the congregation in an energetic passionate address about the "Power of Love"

The royal couple, who met on a blind date in 2016 and fell in love in a tent under the stars in Botswana, tied the knot in a castle that has been home to 39 British monarchs since 1066 AD. All ABANians wish the royal couple a very happy conjugal life.





**Nepal- UK Relations***continued from page 1 . . .*

An agreement on **promotion and protection of investment** between Nepal and UK signed on March 2, 1993 provides a framework to further expand cooperation in foreign direct investment. A new FDI policy of Nepal 2915 has identified priority areas for foreign investment as: hydropower (generation and transmission), infrastructure development in transport sectors such as fast track, railway, tunnel, cable car, metro rail service, flyovers and international airports: agriculture based food processing, and herbs processing industries, tourism industries, mining and manufacturing industries. Given our historical linkages, UK is among the primary tourism generating markets for Nepal, sending some 50,000 tourists in 2017.

**Educational and cultural cooperation:** British assistance in education continued through the 1950s, when the British government provided scholarships to Nepalese to study in UK. Britain continues to provide scholarships to civil servants, teachers and Nepal Army through Chevening scholarships to pursue higher studies in UK. British fellowship programs have significantly contributed to address Nepal's need for skilled, specialized manpower and develop important links between the two peoples. Establishment of Budhanilkantha school and Administrative Staff College are among the glaring examples of cooperation in educational sector.

**The British Gurkha connection** remains one of the enduring and unique strands in the traditional and close bonds of friendship between Nepal and Great Britain. The Gurkha service in the British army officially started on April 24, 1815 after the treaty of Sugauli between Nepal and the British India in 1814. After the independence of India, the recruitment of Gurkha Army was organized by way of the Tripartite Agreement of 1947 among Nepal, India and the UK. The agreement distributed 2nd, 6th, 7th and 10 Gorkha Rifle to be part of the British Army. The British Gorkhas service men from Nepal have won 13 Victoria Cross, the highest British gallantry honor.

**Cambridge CELTA**

CELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) is an internationally recognised English teaching qualification for people with little or no previous teaching experience. It is one of the most widely taken qualifications of its kind and it is essential for anyone hoping to work for a reputable English language teaching institution such as the British Council. Our intensive, four-week CELTA course helps participants acquire the language awareness, lesson planning and classroom management skills needed to teach English to adult learners. It is a full-time course that is challenging and rewarding in equal measure. Candidates' performance is assessed on a daily basis and they are expected to meet regular deadlines. CELTA is awarded by **Cambridge English Language Assessment**, part of the world-famous University of Cambridge.

On this course you will:

1. train as part of a small group and receive individual support and attention
2. attend sessions focusing on language awareness & teaching methodology
3. plan and deliver 6 hours teaching & receive feedback on your performance
4. produce 4 written assignments on language, learning and teaching theory
5. observe other course participants & experienced British Council teachers
6. find out what it is like to work in a busy and successful teaching centre.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE COVER?

**Core CELTA input sessions cover:**

- Methods of presenting and practicing language
- Correction techniques
- Lesson planning
- Classroom management
- Using learning technologies.

You will work with a group of trainees to teach part of a lesson every day and gain experience of teaching learners at different levels.

WHY AT THE BRITISH COUNCIL IN NEPAL?

As a follow up to the course you will have an opportunity for a paid internship programme at **RTC**, a reputed English Language training center in Kathmandu, where you can practice what you learnt on the course.

*The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organization for cultural relations and educational opportunities. British Council is a registered charity: 209131 (England and Wales) SC037733 (Scotland).*

## ABAN Executive Committee Meets 11th time since 2017



11th Executive Committee meeting of ABAN was held on 10 June 2018, approved a new Life Member Mr. Naraya Raj Pandey and discussed/decided following issues:

### Picnic and Magazine 2018 Accounts

ABAN Family Picnic on May 05 generated a surplus of Rs.1,000/- to ABAN fund.

ABAN Magazine 2018 generated a net surplus of Rs.137,751. After collection of receivables the surplus can increase to a record level of Rs.194,000 to ABAN fund.

### ABAN Accounts & Bank Balances

Receipts and expenses until June 7, 2018 was reported. The meeting approved to pay payables of Rs.16,170/- and waived Rs.11,882.73 shown as payable to Mr. Uttam Pant during FY 2016-17 with consent of Mr. Pant.

### Advisory Council Meeting & AGM

Advisory Council meeting was proposed in August 2018 and the 21st AGM of ABAN to be completed before September 16 (Bhadra 2075).

### Talk on Nepal-Britain Relations

Mr. Pradhuma Bikram Shah, former Ambassador and Diplomatic Analyst made an interesting Talk program and referred to the 1923 agreement signed by Nepal with UK, where the British have acknowledged Nepal as an independent nation in writing. He also raised the need of reviewing the tripartite treaty of 1947 between Nepal-UK and India about the terms of Gurkha recruitment, as some of the terms are redundant and some others not followed any more.



## Why Join ABAN ?

1. Rare opportunity to **network** with fellow ABANians, who also studied in UK,
2. Share the expertise and experience gained in UK for Nepal's development,
3. Meet and greet British scholars and authorities for mutual enrichment,
4. Be in touch with British events, activities and openings for shared happiness.
5. Identify as a British Scholar.

## Life Members Joining ABAN from July 2017

1. Mrs. Rama Dahal (ID 507)
2. Mr. Eureka Ranjit (ID 508)
3. Mr. Saraju Baidya (ID 509)
4. Mr. Prafulla Man Singh Pradhan (ID 510)
5. Dr. Durga Bahadur Subedi (ID 511)
6. **Dr. Mahodadhi Pradhan Shrestha (ID512) Hon**
7. Mr. Suman Kumar Wagle (ID 513)
8. Mr. Ram Thapa (ID 514)
9. Mrs. Reshma Rajthala (Associate ID 515)
10. Mr. Bijendra Bade Shrestha (ID 516)
11. Dr. Badri Prasad Bastakoti (ID 517)
12. Mr. Hari Ram Koirala (ID 447 Ordinary to Life)
13. Mr. Naresh Man Shakya (ID 518)
14. Mr. Bijaya Jaishi (ID 519)
15. Mr. Riway Bhanju (ID 520)
15. Mr. Narayan Raj Pandey (ID 521)

### Membership Sub-Committee Chair:

Mr. Tulasi Prasad Upreti, Mobile: 9851035007

Email: [t\\_upreti@yahoo.com](mailto:t_upreti@yahoo.com)

### General Secretary

Mr. Uttam Pant, ULCI Dillibazar

Cell: 9851020918 [uttampant@hotmail.com](mailto:uttampant@hotmail.com)

### Treasurers:

Mr. Hariom Dhoj Joshi, Cell 9851088446, Cell

9841214021 Email: [hariomdjoshi@gmail.com](mailto:hariomdjoshi@gmail.com)

Mrs. Siba Kafle Email: [shibakafle@hotmail.com](mailto:shibakafle@hotmail.com)



## ABAN Calendar of Events during 2018

Month of 2018	Main Activities
January 07 January 30	7th Executive committee meeting of the 10th ECM. 8th Executive meeting discussed 20th AGM celebration 22nd issue of ABAN Newsletter issued
February 03 February 04 February 20	Support the Senior Citizens of Tapasthali Briddhashram, Chapali 20th AGM of ABAN at the British Council hall, Lazimpat. 23rd Issue of ABAN Newsletter February 2018 published
March 25 March 28	9th Executive meeting of 10th ECM held 24th Issue of ABAN Newsletter March 2018 launched
April/ May May 05 May 12	10th Executive meeting held on May 5, 2018 ABAN Family Picnic at Tiger Lily Sirutar, Bhaktapur 25th Issue of ABAN Newsletter (April-May) launched
June 10	Talk Program on Nepal-UK Relations/ 11th Executive meeting 26th Issue of ABAN Newsletter June 2018 launched
July	12th Executive meeting / 27th Issue of ABAN Newsletter Annual Closing month
August	Advisory Council Meeting of ABAN 13th Executive meeting/ 28th Issue of Newsletter

Published by:

### ABAN President

Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha

[mahesworbs@gmail.com](mailto:mahesworbs@gmail.com)

Cell: 9851094345

### Publication Coordinator

Punya Prasad Paudel

[punya.paudel@gmail.com](mailto:punya.paudel@gmail.com)

Cell: 9841797451