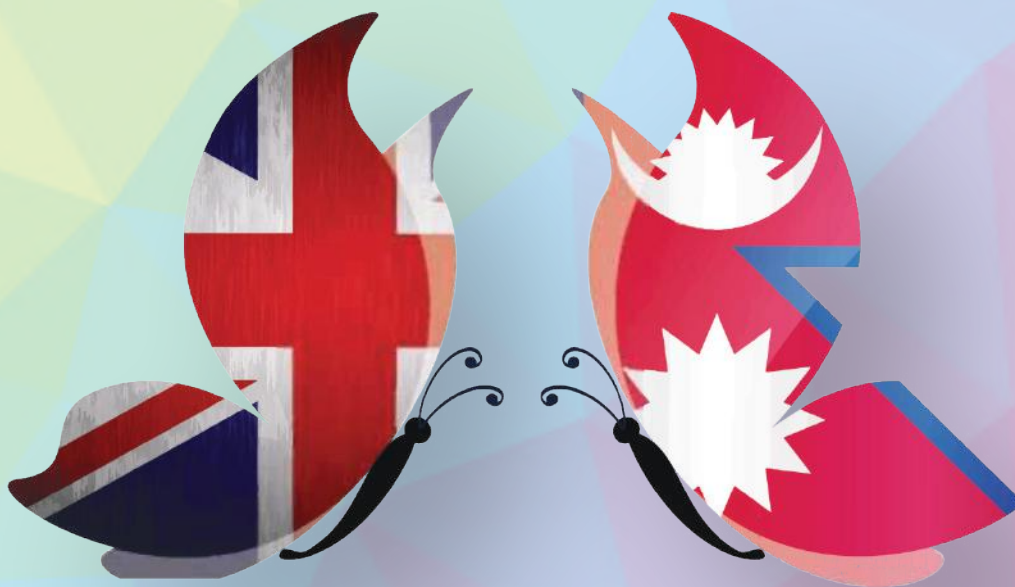


ABAN

ESTD. 1997

ASSOCIATION
OF
BRITISH
ALUMNI
IN NEPAL

MAGAZINE 2023



25th Anniversary of ABAN 1998 - 2023
February 4, 2023, Kathmandu

ISSUE

11

ABAN

ESTD. 1997

ASSOCIATION
OF
BRITISH
ALUMNI
IN NEPAL

MAGAZINE 2023



Editor & Publication Coordinator
Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha

13TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS And Honorary Members as Advisors

President	Mrs. Padma Vaidya (ID 51)
Vice President	Mrs. Shiba Devi Kafle (ID 171)
General Secretary	Mr. Gobinda Neupane (ID 493)
Treasurer	Mr. Uttam Lal Pradhan (ID 305)
Asst. General Secretary	Mrs. Meenu Shrestha Hada (ID 524)
Asst. Treasurer	Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhat (ID 68)
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Member	Mr. Subin Man Pradhan (ID 499)
Member	Mr. Purna Bahadur Chemjong (ID 548)
Member	Mr. Rabindra Manand Bajracharya (ID 502)
Member	Mr. Ghana Shyam Khadka (ID 556)
Member	Dr. Lok Bhattarai (ID 557)
Immdt. Past President	Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant (ID 144)
IT Advisor	Mr. Hemanta Baral (ID 527)

Honorary Members as Advisors

Mr. Maheswor B Shrestha	PP & Honorary Member (ID 189)
Dr. Mrigrndra Raj Pandey	Honorary Member (ID 500)
Dr. Mahodadi Pradhan Shrestha	Honorary Member (ID 512)
Dr. Badri Raj Pandey	Honorary Member (ID 58)
Mr. Lal Krishna KC	PP & Honorary Member (ID 158)
Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant	PP & Honorary Member (ID 144)
Mr. Shanker Prasad Paudel	PP & Honorary Member (ID 265)



Association of British Alumni in Nepal 13th Executive Committee Members (2023-2025)



Mrs. Padma Vaidya
President



Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant
Immdt. Past President



Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
Past President/ Advisor



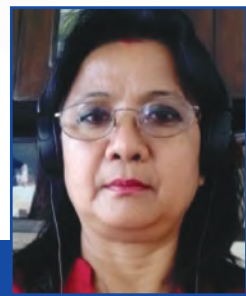
Mrs. Shiba Devi Kafle
Vice President



Mr. Gobinda Neupane
General Secretary



Mr. Uttam Lal Pradhan
Treasurer



Mrs. Meenu Shrestha Hada
Asst. General Secretary



Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhatta
Asst. Treasurer



Dr. Nastu Sharma
Member



Ms. Sanjivani Shrestha
Member



Mr. Subin Man Pradhan
Member



Mr. Prem Bahadur Chemjong
Member



Mr. Rabindra Bajracharya
Member



Dr. Ghana Shyam Khadka
Member



Dr. Lok Bhattarai
Member



Mr. Hemanta Baral
IT Advisor

Past & Present President of ABAN



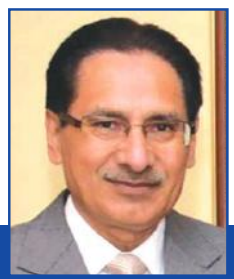
Dr. Narayan B Thapa
1997-2000



Dilli Raj Joshi
2000-2002



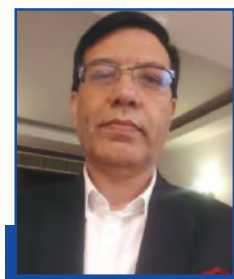
Namrata Sharma
2002-2004



Rabi Jung Pandey
2004-2006



Raghu Pant
2006-2008



Lal Krishna KC
2008-2010



Dr. Uma Shrivanthava
2010-2012



Shanker Prasad Paudel
2013-2015



Maheswor B Shrestha
2015-2019



Uttam Prasad Pant
2019-2021



Padma Vaidya
2021-2023

Honorary Members of ABAN



Dr. Mrigendra Raj



Dr. Mahiodadi Pradhan



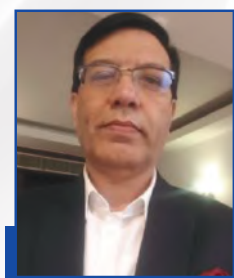
Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha



Uttam Prasad Pant



Dr. Badri Raj Pandey



Lal Krishna KC



Shanker Prasad Paudel

Message from

Shahida MacDougall

Country Director
British Council Nepal



Lainchaur, PO Box 640 | Kathmandu | Nepal

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<https://facebook.com/BritishCouncilNepal> | [@npBritish](https://twitter.com/npBritish) | <https://youtube.com/BritishCouncilNepal>

Friendly connections and linkages are essential components for building trust and creating opportunities for progress and development. Here in Nepal, the British Council has been privileged and proud to be working with the Government of Nepal and membership organisations, like the Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN), to develop and sustain strong partnerships to create such opportunities for over 63 years now - working together for the development of the education sector and a more inclusive society in Nepal.

British Council strongly believe that young people, especially girls and those from marginalised communities and less privileged backgrounds, should have every opportunity to enhance their skills, knowledge and networks, to become truly global citizens, learning, adapting and working across borders and without boundaries for a more equitable and peaceful world.

We are therefore particularly excited to see a significant increase in Nepali students choosing to study in the UK, benefiting from exposure to UK education and lifestyle and using what they have learned for the betterment of Nepal on their return. Our 2021 student data shows an increase of 367% compared to 2019 student numbers. We are proud of having been instrumental in contributing to these numbers through our Study UK services, our examinations, English language certifications and scholarships in Nepal.

On behalf of British Council Nepal, I would like to congratulate ABAN for all their achievements to date and thank its members for playing a crucial role by bringing together alumni and promoting the UK as the destination of choice to aspirants for over 25 years.

Looking to the future, we continue to encourage ABAN to develop and diversify its membership and representation, build new alliances and deepen ties with old friends to develop even stronger, more inclusive and productive partnership between Nepal and the UK for the next 25 years and beyond.

Message from

Mrs. Padma Vaidya
President, ABAN



Dear ABAN members,

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks for supporting the newly elected Executive Committee of ABAN for the next 3 years. ABAN has come a long way ahead since its establishment and reached its milestone of 25 years. We are going to celebrate Silver Jubilee event on 4th February 2023. During all these years several respected members contributed their time and

knowledge to make ABAN a successful institution. It helped ABAN in promoting people to people relationship between Nepal and Britain, creating educational awareness and helping the needy people with limited funding capability.

I am confident that with your full cooperation and support, we will be able to extend our wings little further creating few milestones in the field of education and social cares. I assure you that newly elected executive committee will always follow the guiding principles of our ABAN. We would like to have sincere cooperation and advice from the members to accomplish the objectives of ABAN. We would continue to maintain deep relationship ever better with the British Embassy in the coming years. We will also approach some INGO for funding our future activities.

Lastly I would like to express our sincere gratitude to outgoing members for their contribution to ABAN. I hope everyone will enjoy this ABAN magazine, a mirror reflection of our activities over the years and means of communication between the members.

I wish everyone a success in coming years.

Thank You

Message from

Mr. Uttam Pan

Immediate Past President, ABAN



Happy New Year!

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your active participation and contribution to ABAN this year. Your efforts have been crucial in helping our organization to achieve its goals and make a positive impact on Nepali society. I am grateful to have had the privilege of serving as your President for two consecutive terms, and working alongside such talented and dedicated individuals.

2022 was a successful year for our organization. Our members consistently demonstrated their commitment to sharing their knowledge and experience with one another and the broader Nepali community through a variety of platforms. In addition to these efforts, we were also able to further strengthen our relationships with the British Council and the British Embassy in Nepal. Their support has been invaluable in helping us to achieve our mission of promoting the exchange of knowledge and ideas between Nepal and the UK.

As we move into 2023, we have a particularly exciting milestone to celebrate: the 25th anniversary of ABAN. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all of our members that we have been able to thrive and grow for a quarter of a century. I look forward to commemorating this achievement with all of you in the coming year.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this edition of our magazine and that it will provide you with valuable insights and inspiration. As we move forward into the new year, I wish you all the best and look forward to continuing to work with you to build a bright future for ABAN.

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Proceedings of 25th Annual General Meeting of Association of British Alumni in Nepal, January 7, 2023

Welcome Address by Mrs. Padma Vaidya

Respected President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant, Chief Guest Dr. Badri Raj Pandey, Past Presidents: Mr. Shankar Prasad Paudel, Mrs. Namrata Sharma & Mr. Lal Krishna K.C.

Immediate Past President Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha, General Secretary Ms. Shiba Devi Kafle, Treasurer Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhatta, executive members, life members, media friends, distinguished guests and friends

On behalf of the Association of British Alumni in Nepal, I would like to take this opportunity, with honor and pleasure, to welcome you all to this 25th Annual General Meeting today


I would like to thank all those who have spent their crucial time to pursue advanced studies in the Great Britain in order to contribute to the development of Nepal. And therefore, I am very fortunate for giving your valuable time to make this AGM a grand success.

As you know, ABAN was established in 1998 as an autonomous body. Our main activities include strengthening, professional, educational, cultural relations between ABAN members and British scholars.

The year 2021-22 have been successful in inducting new members, carry our service activities, talk and discussion programs despite Corona disturbances. It is due to sincere and active participation and cooperation of our Executive members and past Presidents. In addition, we also organized some social activities to support the helpless students and needy senior citizens of old age home. We provided these supports from endowment funds provided by Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey and Dr. Mahodadhi Pradhan.

We were also able to further strengthen relationship with British Council and the





The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)

२५ औं वार्षिक साधारण सभा बारे सूचना



मिति २०७९ कार्तिक १५ गते बसेको बाह्य कार्यकारिणी समितिको तेईसौं बैठकको निर्णय अनुसार देहायको मिति, समय र स्थानमा निम्न प्रस्तावहरू उपर छलफल गरि निर्णय गर्ने यस एशोसिएशनको २५ औं साधारण सभा हुने भएकोले एबान विधान २०६८ को दफा ११ (ख) अनुसार सदस्य महानुभावहरूको उपस्थितिको लागि यो सूचना प्रकाशित गरिएको छ ।

मिति, समय र स्थान:
मिति: २०७९ पौष २३ गते शनिबार (January 07, 2023 Saturday)
समय: दिउँसो ३:०० बजे
स्थान: Universal Language and Computer Institute, Dillibazar, Kathmandu, Nepal

प्रस्तावहरू:

१. वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन पारित गर्ने ।
२. आर्थिक वर्ष २०७८/७९ को लेखापरीक्षकको प्रतिवेदन छलफल गरि पारित गर्ने ।
३. आर्थिक वर्ष २०७९/८० को लागि लेखापरीक्षकको नियुक्ति र पारिश्रमिक तोक्ने ।
४. तेही कार्यकारिणी समितिको निर्वाचन र नयाँ कार्यसमितिको गठन
५. अन्य

द एशोसिएसन अफ ब्रिटिश आलमुनाई ईन नेपाल
काठमाडौं । फोन नं. ९८५२०२०९२८



British Embassy in Nepal during this period.

With these few words, I once again welcome you all to this gathering and expect your full support and participation in the activities of ABAN in the coming years as well.

Thank you all and Namaste!!

Annual Activity Report 2022

By Assistant General Secretary Mr. Hemanta Raj Baral

Respected President of ABAN Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant, Immediate past president, Chief Guest, honorary members, past presidents, ABAN Executive Committee Members, ABAN Members, Media Advisor of ABAN and guests, I would like to welcome you all to the 25th Annual General Meeting of ABAN and thank you for giving your valuable time to attend the meeting today. Ladies and gentlemen, we all are aware that year 2022 also faced hard time due to nationwide Dengue infection. Accordingly, ABAN's activities for the review year also got affected during the second half of the year. Now, let me summarize the activities performed during the year 2022.

Executive Committee Meetings

During the review year, the 12th Executive Committee of ABAN had 8 meetings, all in physical levels.

Activities during 2021/22

Following programs were organized during the review year:

- 23rd ABAN Day Celebration on 4th February 2021
- Update of ABAN Website.
- Video Biographies have been prepared and released on YouTube covering the story of ABAN Past Presidents, Life Members and Guests as below:
 - a. Honorary Member Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey
 - b. Past President Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa
 - b. Past President Mr. Raghu Pant
 - d. Past President Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
 - e. Life Member Dr. Badri Raj Pandey
 - f. Guest speaker Dr. Ram Prasad Pokhrel
 - g. Guest speaker Mr. Purushottam Shamsher JB Rana,
 - h. Guest Speaker Dr. Min Bahadur Shrestha

IELTS Exam Registration

ABAN has started registering candidates for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination since April 11, 2019 after an agreement with the British Council. During 2020, ABAN registered



104 candidates for IELTS exam. During the review year, more than 200 candidates were registered for this exam. This activity has supported ABAN financially from the service fee. The potential candidates have received and are satisfied with - administrative supports for admission to academic and professional programs facilitated by ABAN.

Examinations of academic and professional programs conducted locally on behalf of British Institutions.

Market for British professional education and training programs in local market was explored and established from both demand and supply sides. British professional education and training programs facilitated in the local market on behalf of British Institutions. Capacity development programs for ABAN members and their institutions was designed and delivered. Social activities – health camp, medicine/food/medical equipment was handed over to the old age home and child care home, Budhanilakantha. Meetings with The British Council: ABAN has conducted meetings with The British Council and obtained a good suggestions for going on web base reporting and publication. ABAN adopted the web-based reporting and record keeping from this year.

New Life Membership Joining the Association: During 2021-2022, altogether 18 new Life Members joined ABAN. Life membership fee was increased to NRs 5,000 from 24th AGM in February 2021. Talk Programs: During 2021-22 five talk programs and weeklong Yoga and Wellness program were organized physically and online, due to Covid/ Dengue restrictions, as listed below:


Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)
cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAMME
ON

**Role of Youth in Science, Technology
and Innovation in Nepal**

By:
Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel
ABAN Life Member and former Vice-Chancellor
of Nepal Academy of Science and Technology.



Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!

Date: Friday April 2, 2021
Time: 3:00 PM (Sharp)

Meeting ID: 886 1277 9111
Passcode: 12345


ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL

Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)
cordially invites you to the

7 Days Yoga and Wellness Program

By:
Er. Karuna Amatya,
Instructor of Jeevan Vigyan



Date:	Time:
8 - 14 Ashad, 2078 (June 22 - 28, 2021)	5:50 - 7:50 A.M.

Meeting ID: 816 1309 6609

ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL


Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)
cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAMME
ON

**Enhancing Emotional Health and
Spiritual Well-Being**

By:
LP Bhanu Sharma
Life Coach of Jeevan Vigyan



Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!

Date: Ashad 06, 2078 (June 20, 2021)
Time: 8.15 - 9.15 A.M.

Meeting ID: 870 6067 8368

ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL

Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)
cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAM
ON

**'Learning to live sustainably: Reflecting on a
community gardening project in Norwich, UK'**

By:
Dr. Mahesh Pant
Founder - Sustainable Living Initiative

Dr. Pant is the founder of Sustainable Living Initiative - a registered charity in the UK. He is experienced in social research and community development and has worked in Nepal and the UK. His PhD thesis applied Sen's capability approach in studying the nature and extent of poverty in East Nepal.

Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!

Date: 14th January 2022; Friday
Time: 2:00PM (Sharp)
Venue: Universal Language and Computer Institute
Dillibazar, Kathmandu, Nepal Tel: 01-5970036

ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL

Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) cordially invites you to the

PANEL DISCUSSION
ON

Opportunities for Nepalese Nurses to work in the UK

PANELLISTS

Her Excellency Nicola Pollitt
British Ambassador
Ministry of Labour, Employment And Social Security

Dr. Thaneswor Bhusal
Under Secretary

Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme! See you there!

Date: Thursday, 22nd September 2022 (Asoj 6, 2079)
Time: 12:45 PM Sharp
Venue: Universal Language & Computer Institute (ULCI-HALL) ☎01-5970036

ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL

Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)
cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAMME
ON

**'Can Trade Deficit of Nepal be Reduced by Enabling
Electricity Consumption?'**

By:
Prof. Dr. Jagan Nath Shrestha
Founder Director
Center for Energy Studies, Institute of Engineering, TU

Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!

Date: Monday, 22nd August 2022 (md 4, 2080)
Time: 2:00 PM Sharp
Venue: Universal Language & Computer Institute ☎01597003

ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL

Treasurer's Report 2021/2022

By Mr. Madav Prasad Bhatta

Rich in academic qualifications and experience, ABAN is weak in financial position. Due to lack of any regular and reliable source of income, most of the programs, events and activities have been carried out through contributions or donations at an ad hoc basis.

Onetime life membership fee and donations from some honorary - members have been the main contributing factors of income so far. As these are not the real solutions of the problems of financial sustainability of the Association, there is a need to explore new sources of income- generating activities in the years to come.

During the review year ABAN earned a total of Rs.164 thousand from membership fees, interest from banks and donations. Last year's total earnings were Rs 184 thousand.

On the expenditure side, the total expenses (administrative and general expenditure) were Rs 79 thousand as compared to Rs 150 thousand last year. The main expenditure headings were audit fees, bank charges, office expenses, printing & stationery, and website expenses.

As this year's expenses were significantly lower than last year, net income this year was Rs 85 thousand compared to the net income of Rs 35 thousand last year.

By the end of the review year, ABAN had a total of Rs 1670 thousand as cash and bank balances as compared to Rs 1529 thousand during the previous year.



ABAN is currently banking with Mega Bank, NABIL Bank, Central Finance and Shree Investment and Finance Company.

As a treasurer, I, on behalf of the executive committee, request to all in general and to the past presidents particularly to generously contribute towards augmenting ABAN fund. Also request to all stakeholders suggest measures towards making the Association financially sound and sustainable.

I thank Sandeep Shrestha, CA, for auditing ABAN accounts and propose for your approval for his continuation auditing the accounts for the coming year also on the existing terms and conditions.

I also thank president Uttam Prasad Pant for the continuing logistic support to ABAN for the last several years. Thanks to all the executive members of 12th and 13th ABAN committee for the kind cooperation during my tenure as a treasurer and wish the new treasurer all the best in his endeavors.

Thank you all for listening me so patiently.

Audit Report 2078-2079



**SANDEEP SHRESTHA
AND ASSOCIATES,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**



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Firm No.: 845

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Association of British Alumni in Nepal,

Kathmandu

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Association of British Alumni in Nepal, which comprise the Balance sheet as at Ashad 32, 2079, and the income and expenditure statement, Statement of cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Association of British Alumni in Nepal as at Ashad 32, 2079, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Standards on Auditing (NSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ICAN's Handbook of Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Nepal, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ICAN's Handbook of The Code of Ethics For Professional Accountants. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with NSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.


SANDEEP SHRESTHA
& ASSOCIATES



Registered address: Shivanagar, Tarkeshwor - 10, Kathmandu
Corporate address: Gyaneshwor, Kathmandu

As part of an audit in accordance with NSAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

For Sandeep Shrestha & Associates, Chartered Accountants,


Sandeep Shrestha, CA
Proprietor



Membership No: 1244

UDIN No. 221225CA01244ZwtXL

Date: 26th Mangsir, 2079

Place: Kathmandu

ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)
Kathmandu, Nepal

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As on 32nd Ashadh, 2079 (July 16th, 2022)

(Amount in NRs)

Particulars	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Fixed Assets		-	-
Total Non-Current Assets		-	-
Current Assets			
Prepaid, Loans and Advances	1	95,988.95	81,841.13
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	1,670,229.47	1,528,950.04
Total Current Assets		1,766,218.42	1,610,791.17
Total Assets		1,766,218.42	1,610,791.17
Funds and Liabilities			
Funds	3	1,001,864.38	917,012.13
Total Funds		1,001,864.38	917,012.13
Current Liabilities	4	764,354.04	693,779.04
Total Current Liabilities		764,354.04	693,779.04
Total Funds and Liabilities		1,766,218.42	1,610,791.17

Notes to Financial Statement


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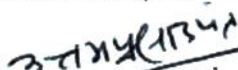
Schedule 1-6 form an integral part of this financial statement

As per our report of even date

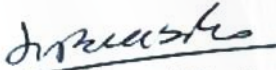
For Association of British Alumni in Nepal,


For Sandeep Shrestha and Associates,


Padma Vaidya
(Vice President)


Uttam Prasad Pant
(President)


Sandeep Shrestha
(Chartered Accountants)


Madhav Prasad Bhatta
(Treasurer)


Shiba Devi Kalle
(General Secretary)


SANDEEP SHRESTHA
& ASSOCIATES

Date: 20th Kartik, 2079

Place: Kathmandu



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)
Kathmandu, Nepal

STATEMENT OF INCOMES AND EXPENDITURES

For the period from 1st Shrawan 2078 to 32nd Ashadh 2079 (16th July 2021 to 16th July 2022)

(Amount in NRs)

Incomes	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
Membership Incomes		20,000.00	13,900.00
Interest from Banks		94,318.77	127,999.54
Donation Incomes		50,000.00	42,500.00
Other Incomes		-	-
Total Incomes		164,318.77	184,399.54
Expenditures			
Administrative and General Expenditures	5	79,466.52	149,638.00
Total Expenditures		79,466.52	149,638.00
Excess of Incomes over Expenditures		84,852.25	34,761.54

Notes to Financial Statement

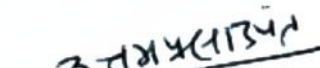
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For Association of British Alumni in Nepal,


As per our report of even date
For Sandeep Shrestha and Associates,


Padma Vaidya
(Vice President)


Uttam Prasad Pant
(President)


Sandeep Shrestha
(Chartered Accountants)


Madhav Prasad Bhatta
(Treasurer)


Shiba Devi Kafle
(General Secretary)


SANDEEP SHRESTHA
& ASSOCIATES

Date: 20th Kartik, 2079

Place: Kathmandu



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)
Kathmandu, Nepal
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 16 JULY 2022

(Amount in NRs)

Receipts	Current Year	Payments	Current Year
I. Opening balances:		I. Expenses:	
a) Cash in hand	-	Administration and General Expenses	79,466.52
b) Bank balances			
- in Current Accounts	1,528,950.04		
II. Fees Received			
Membership Fees	20,000.00		
III. Interest Received			
a) Bank Deposits	94,318.77		
b) Loans, Advances	-		
IV. Other Income		II. Other Payments	(56,427.18)
a) Other Incomes	50,000.00		
		III. Closing Balances	
		a) Cash in hand	-
		b) Bank Balances	
		- in current Accounts	1,670,229.47
Total	1,693,268.81	Total	1,693,268.81


Notes to Financial Statement

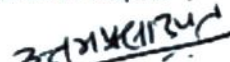
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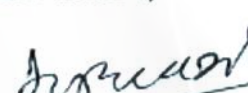
For Association of British Alumni in Nepal,

As per our report of even date
For Sandeep Shrestha and Associates,


Padma Vaidya
(Vice President)


Uttam Prasad Pant
(President)


Sandeep Shrestha
(Chartered Accountants)


Madhav Prasad Bhatta
(Treasurer)


Shiba Devi Kafle
(General Secretary)

Date: 20th Kartik, 2079
Place: Kathmandu



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)

Kathmandu, Nepal

Statement of Cash Flows

For the period from 1st Shrawan 2078 to 32nd Ashadh 2079 (16th July 2021 to 16th July 2022)

Amount in NRs

Particulars	Current Year	Previous Year
	2078/079	2077/078
A Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Surplus for the Year	84,852.25	34,761.54
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation	-	-
Change in Value of Investment Property		
Increase / Decrease in Current Assets	(14,147.82)	59,107.19
Increase / Decrease in Current Liabilities	70,575.00	(137,980.37)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	141,279.43	(44,111.64)
B Cash Flow from Investing Activities		
Acquisition of Property, Plant and Equipment	-	-
Disposal/Transfer during the year		
Net Cash flows from Investing Activities	-	-
C Cash flow from financing activities		
Increase in capital fund		
Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities	-	-
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	141,279.43	(44,111.64)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning 1 Shrawan	1,528,950.04	1,573,061.68
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end 31 Asadh 2078	1,670,229.47	1,528,950.04

Notes to Financial Statement

6

Schedule 1-6 form an integral part of this financial statement

For Association of British Alumni in Nepal,

As per our report of even date
Sandeep Shrestha and Associates,

Padma Vaidya
Padma Vaidya
(Vice President)

उत्तम प्रसाद पन्त
Uttam Prasad Pant
(President)

Sandeep Shrestha
Sandeep Shrestha
(Chartered Accountants)

Madhav Prasad Bhatta
Madhav Prasad Bhatta
(Treasurer)

Shiba Devi Kafle
Shiba Devi Kafle
(General Secretary)

Date: 20th Kartik, 2079
Place: Kathmandu



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)
Kathmandu, Nepal
Fund Accountability Statement

			Amount in NRs
Particulars	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
Surplus Carried Forward.		917,012.13	882,250.59
Incomes Received		164,318.77	184,399.54
Total Available Fund (A)		1,081,330.90	1,066,650.13
Administrative Expenses	6	79,466.52	149,638.00
Total Application of Fund (B)		79,466.52	149,638.00
Balance of Fund (A-B)		1,001,864.38	917,012.13
Represented by			
Cash & Bank Balances	2	1,670,229.47	1,528,950.04
Advances and Receivables	1 & 2	95,988.95	81,841.13
Payables	4	(764,354.04)	(693,779.04)
Balance		1,001,864.38	917,012.13

Notes to Financial Statement

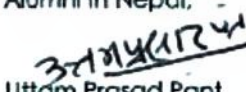
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For Association of British Alumni in Nepal,

As per our report of even date
For Sandeep Shrestha and Associates,


Padma Vaidya
(Vice President)


Uttam Prasad Pant
(President)


Sandeep Shrestha
(Chartered Accountants)


Madhav Prasad Bhatta
(Treasurer)


Shiba Devi Kalle
(General Secretary)

Date: 20th Kartik, 2079
Place: Kathmandu



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)
Kathmandu, Nepal

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the period from 1st Shrawan 2078 to 32nd Ashadh 2079 (16th July 2021 to 16th July 2022)

Particulars	Current Year				Previous Year	
	Invested In Capital Assets	Endowment	Internally Restricted For Special Projects	Unrestricted	Total	Total
Balance, Beginning of the Year	-	-	-	917,012.13	917,012.13	852,445.49
Excess/(Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	-	-	-	84,852.25	84,852.25	34,761.54
Balance, End of Year	-	-	-	1,001,864.38	1,001,864.38	887,207.03

Notes to Financial Statement
Schedule 1-6 form an integral part of this financial statement

For Association of British Alumni in Nepal,

Pagima Vaidya
Pagima Vaidya
(Vice President)

Uttam Prasad Pant
Uttam Prasad Pant
(President)

Madhav Prasad Bhatta
Madhav Prasad Bhatta
(Treasurer)

Shiba Devi Kafle
Shiba Devi Kafle
(General Secretary)

Date: 20th Kartik, 2079
Place: Kathmandu

As per our report of even date
For Sandeep Shrestha and Associates,

Sandeep Shrestha
Sandeep Shrestha
(Chartered Accountants)



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL (ABAN)

Kathmandu, Nepal

Schedules forming part of the financial statement**Current Liabilities****Schedule- 4**

Particulars	Current Year	Previous Year
TDS on Audit Fees	150.00	150.00
Audit Fees Payables	11,150.50	11,150.50
TDS- Rent	-	3,920.00
TDS- Proprietorship Firm	-	2,524.00
TDS- Company	75.00	3,355.27
Uttam Prasad Pant	216,000.00	216,000.00
Others Payables	536,978.54	456,679.27
Total	764,354.04	693,779.04

Administrative and General Expenditures**Schedule- 5**

Particulars	Current Year	Previous Year
Audit Fees	11,300.00	11,300.00
Program Expenses	46,896.52	19,316.00
Bank Charges	300.00	300.00
Printing and Publication Expenses	1,620.00	102,772.00
Office Expenses	13,700.00	10,300.00
Website Maintenance Expenses	5,650.00	5,650.00
Total	79,466.52	149,638.00



Handwritten signature

SANDEEP SHRESTHA & ASSOCIATES

Concluding Remarks

By President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant

First and foremost, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our esteemed chief guest Dr. Badri Raj Pande, as well as to the members of our executive board, our Past Presidents, and all the members of ABAN who have joined us here today. Your presence here is a testament to your commitment to the ABAN community. We are all united by our mission of promoting the sharing of knowledge, expertise, and experience among Nepali citizens who have studied in the UK, and of using these insights for the betterment of Nepal.

It gives me great pleasure to report that 2022 has been a successful year for ABAN. Our members have had numerous opportunities to share their knowledge, expertise, and experience with the wider community, and to engage in meaningful discussions and debates about how these insights can be used to benefit Nepal. I am also happy to say that our relationships with The British Embassy and The British Council have continued to strengthen, and we have numerous shared events and discussion sessions for further collaborations. ABAN is very grateful to both The British Embassy and The British Council for their continued support to the organization.

I know that many of you are interested in our financial and operational matters, and I am confident that our respective executive board members will provide a thorough update on these matters. However, I am happy to share that ABAN's financial and operational situation remains healthy. We are grateful to our members and donors for their consistent support of our organization.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that 2023 marks a special year for ABAN, as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of our organization. We will be holding ABAN Day celebrations on February 4, 2023, and I hope that you will all join us in marking this important milestone. Additionally, I am



pleased to announce that the ABAN Magazine and Membership Directory for 2023 are almost ready and will be published soon. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the contributors who have made this possible, and I look forward to sharing these publications with you all.

Serving as the President of ABAN for two consecutive terms has been an experience that I will treasure for the rest of my life. I am deeply grateful to all our members for their constant support, guidance, and encouragement. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the Past Presidents and executive board members with whom I have had the privilege of working so closely. The achievements of ABAN during my term have been the result of a team effort, and I am thankful to have had such a dedicated team by my side.

As I am nearing the end of my term as President, I would like to extend my advanced congratulations and best wishes to the incoming President and executive board. I have every confidence in their abilities to continue to make this organization great and to increase its impact on the Nepali community at all levels. I am confident that, under their leadership, ABAN will continue to thrive and to make a positive difference in the community.

Thank you again for your time and attendance.

Vote of Thanks

By IPP Maheswor B Shrestha

Thank you for being with us here to celebrate the 25th Annual General Meeting of the Association of British Alumni in Nepal. I am deeply humbled to extend this Vote of Thanks message. Ten Past and present Presidents have served the Association in 12 Executive Committees. All the 10 Past and present Presidents and their team, have contributed to the success, growth and development of ABAN to the present stage. I extend respectful thanks to them for their valuable contributions.

Turbulence to Stability: After the very challenging Corona virus pandemic period, we have crossed the difficult time in our history. ABAN activities during the 12th ECM, as reported by the General Secretary, have been quite notable despite the difficult period. We must thank the 12th Executive team led by president Mr. Uttam Pant for their appreciable efforts for the cause of ABAN. Young and professional members more exposed to technology had better communication and greater presence in social media. The president Mr. Uttam Pant was very enthusiastic with fresh ideas, dynamic and result oriented actions. Executive Member Mr. Gobinda Neupane has helped recruit 9 new life members on March 26, 2022. The team has also maintained ABAN's financial strength with Rs.16.70 lacs in bank balance, from Rs.15.73 lacs last year. The Association has been able to consolidate its activities, membership growth and financial strengthen to a more comfortable situation now. New members are added continuously and the future looks promising.

Directory Periods	ABAN Life Members	Executive Committee	Bank balance
		ECM 5/2008	Rs.4.48 lacs
2001	154	ECM 6	Rs.4.93 lacs
May 2005	210	ECM 7	Rs.4.96 lacs
June 2010	283	ECM 8	Rs.2.89 lacs
March 2016	314	ECM 9 &10	Rs.15.3 lacs
Jan, 2019	353	ECM 11	Rs.15.73 lacs
Jan. 2023	381	ECM 12	Rs.16.70 lacs



British Ambassador H.E. Nicola Kathryn Pollitt on ABAN discussion program Sep. 22, 2022.

Silver Jubilee Year: ABAN is now preparing to celebrate 25th Anniversary on ABAN Day on February 4. A new ABAN Magazine 2023 and a new Membership Directory 2023 will be published to commemorate the occasion.

Special Thanks: The Association is very grateful to British Ambassador Her Excellency Nicola Kathryn Pollitt for her support to the Association, involvement of ABAN officials in Embassy functions/activities and for her visit to ABAN discussion program on Nepalese Nurses to work in the UK on September 22, 2022. We wish to thank her for her support. Similarly, ABAN is indeed very thankful to Country Director of the British Council Nepal Ms. Shahida MacDougall for her online meeting with ABAN on February 17, 2021 and again physical meeting for visit to ABAN on November 11, 2021 when we discussed areas of mutual cooperation. Thank you very much for your support.

We must express our special thanks to the first Two Honorary Members, namely Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey and Dr. Mahodadi Pradhan Shrestha for their significant contribution to create endowment Funds for service to the Senior citizens and medical health camps. A new Endowment Fund will be created in near future for educational support. Special thanks to the Chief Guest of this AGM Dr. Badri Raj Pandey for gracing this occasion and for his valuable suggestions.

Thank you once again for your valuable participation in this AGM. Your support and good wishes means a lot for the success of ABAN.

ABAN Sub Committee Plan for 2023-2025

Sl	Objectives of ABAN	Strategies/Main Functions	Sub-Committees	Coordinator/ Member
1	Strengthen professional, educational, cultural and collegial relations between ABAN members and the British professionals in Nepal and the UK	Annual Picnic, Fellowship dinner, Cultural activities, Vocational training,	Cultural and Social	Ms. Padma Vaidya Jagannath Shrestha
		Health camps, Blood donation, Service to Senior citizens. Support the destitute women and children, and emergencies	Health/ Medical	Dr. Nastu Sharma Uttam Lal Pradhan
2	Promote the knowledge of British education in the important sectors of Nepal's development. Discussion on national issues like environment, regional and international aid	Seminar, Debate, Workshop, Professional Interactions, Institutional visits, Thematic Talk programs, alumni stories focused on British education. Essays, Student Scholarships books	Promotion	Ms. Padma Vaidya Gobinda Neupane
3	Mobilize ABAN member's resources for serving the community in need.			
4	Frame and review policies, strategies and programs and coordinate with various communities for program development and evaluation	Policies, strategies, program implementation & progress review. Minutes, AGM, ABAN Day, Group Mails, Social media, Registration Renewal	Policy, Program and Coordination	Shiba D. Kafle Madhav Bhatta
5	Design, print and disseminate various publications to keep members informed and to promote institutional image.	ABAN Membership Directory, Newsletters, ABAN Magazine, Why ABAN booklet, Press/ Media Releases/ relations, Skill Roster, brochures etc.	Publication	Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha Punya Prasad Paudel Hemanta Baral
6	Protect the interests of ABAN members and coordinating with the concerned government agencies for due recognition of their academic qualifications and trainings in UK. Create platforms for the use of their competencies and experiences acquired in the UK, and increase the membership base of ABAN.	Members expansion drive, skills roster, advocacy programs and campaigns, representations to the govt. agencies, member-to-member (M2M) interaction platform, Exchange visits,	Membership Development	Gobinda Neupane Meenu Hada
7	Develop relations with regional and British institutions relevant to the nature and purpose of ABAN for strengthening its institutional capacity.	New members, Safeguard their interest, Directory, Skill Roster. Link with British Council, Embassy, Nepal Britain Society and others	Institutional Networking	Uttam Prasad Pant Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
8	Raise funds for financing operational activities to ensuring the sustainability and growth of ABAN and its programs.	Fund raising event, fund allocation, utilization and coordination with internal/ external agencies.	Fund Raising	Kamal Nayan Pradhan Deepak KC
9	Provide supports for educational and professional development programs for Nepali students/ trainees on behalf of the British educational institutions and deliver some programs in Nepal in collaboration with or affiliation to them.	Administration of admission, examination, registration and training of UK based Diploma, Certificate and training programs	Education Development	Uttam Prasad Pant Rabindra Bajrachareya

एशोसिएशन अफ ब्रिटिश एल्युमनाई इन नेपाल (एबान)

विधान-२०६८

(द्वितीय संशोधन)

(जिल्ला प्रशासन कार्यालय, काठमाडौंबाट मिति २०५८।१०।२२ मा स्वीकृति प्राप्त)

(चौधौ तथा चौबिसौ बार्षिक साधारण सभाबाट संशोधित प्रावधान समेत मिलाइएको रूपमा)

प्रस्तावना:

नेपाली प्राज्ञ तथा विद्यार्थीहरूलाई संयुक्त अधिराज्यमा अध्ययन गर्नको लागि बेलायत सरकारद्वारा गत चार दशक देखि लगातार छात्रवृत्तिहरू उपलब्ध हुँदै आईरहेको र नेपालको सर्वाङ्गीण विकासको लागि विभिन्न महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रहरूमा यस प्रकारको सहयोगबाट ठोस योगदान पुग्न गएको साथै संयुक्त अधिराज्यबाट विभिन्न विषयहरूमा विशेष दक्षता तथा ज्ञान प्राप्त गरेका नेपाली र नेपालको लागि विशेष योगदान दिने बेलायतमा प्रशिक्षित व्यक्तिबाट बनाईने संघले नेपाल र बेलायत दुई देशका बिच शैक्षिक, सामाजिक, व्यवसायिक, सांस्कृतिक तथा अन्य पारस्परिक सम्बन्धलाई अभि र्दरिलो पार्नुको साथै भविष्यमा समेत यस दिशामा विशेष भुमिका निर्वाह गर्न मद्दत पुर्याउने आवश्यक महसूस गरीएकोले, यो संघको प्रारूप, संगठन, काम कर्तव्य र अधिकार को व्यवस्था गर्न वाञ्छनीय भएकोले यो विधान बनाईएको छ।

१. संक्षिप्त नाम : यस विधानको नाम “एशोसिएसन अफ ब्रिटिश एल्युमनाई इन नेपाल (एबान) (प्रथमसंशोधन) विधान-२०६८” रहने छ।

२. प्रारम्भ : यो विधान संघको साधारण सभाको बैठकले पारीत गरी स्थानीय अधिकारीबाट स्वीकृति प्राप्त भएको मिति देखि लागु हुनेछ।

३. परिभाषा : “विधान” भन्नाले “एशोसिएसन अफ ब्रिटिश एल्युमनाई इन नेपाल (एबान) (प्रथमसंशोधन) विधान-२०६८” सम्भन्नु पर्छ। “मूल विधान” भन्नाले “एशोसिएसन अफ ब्रिटिश एल्युमनाई इन नेपाल (एबान) को स्थापना गर्ने विधान विधान-२०५४” सम्भन्नु पर्छ।

परिच्छेद (१)

१. परिभाषा:

- (क) विषय वा प्रसंगले अर्को अर्थ नलागेमा यस विधानमा (क) संघ भन्नाले दफा २ मा उल्लेखित उद्देश्यहरू प्राप्त गर्न गठित एशोसिएसन अफ ब्रिटिश एल्युमनाई इन नेपाल (एबान) सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (ख) कार्यकारिणी समिति भन्नाले दफा ९ बमोजिम साधारण सभाद्वारा गठित कार्यकारिणी समिति सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (ग) सभापति भन्नाले संघको सभापति सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (घ) उप सभापति भन्नाले संघको उपसभापति सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (ङ) महासचिव भन्नाले संघको महासचिवलाई सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (च) सहायक महासचिव भन्नाले संघको सहायक महासचिवलाई सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।

- (छ) कोषाध्यक्ष भन्नाले संघको कोषाध्यक्षलाई सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (ज) सहायक कोषाध्यक्ष भन्नाले संघको सहायक कोषाध्यक्षलाई सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।
- (झ) सदस्य भन्नाले संघको सदस्यता प्राप्त गरेको व्यक्तिलाई सम्भन्नु पर्दछ सो शब्दले कार्यकारिणी समितिको सदस्यलाई समेत जनाउने छ।
- (ञ) ऐन भन्नाले संस्था दर्ता ऐन, २०३४ सम्भन्नु पर्दछ।

२. संघको पूरा नाम ठेगाना:

यस संघको नाम “एशोसिएसन अफ ब्रिटिश एल्युमनाई इन नेपाल” (एबान), रहने छ। संघको केन्द्रिय कार्यालय काठमाडौं उपत्यकामा रहनेछ। आवश्यकता अनुसार यसका शाखा कार्यालयहरू नेपालको अन्य कुनै पनि स्थानमा स्थापना गर्न सकिने छ।

३. संघको स्थापना :

संघ एक मूनाफारहित, गैरराजनैतिक, अविच्छिन्न उत्तराधिकार वाला स्वशासित संगठित संस्था हुने छ। यसले व्यक्ति सरह चल अचल सम्पत्ति प्राप्त गर्न, उपभोग गर्न, वेचबिखन र दानदातव्य गर्न सक्ने छ। संघले आफ्नो नामबाट व्यक्ति सरह नालिस उजूर गर्न सक्ने छ र यस उपर पनि मुद्दा चलाउन सकिने छ। संघको आफ्नो छुट्टै छाप, भण्डा र व्याज अनुसुचि १ बमोजिमको हुने छ।

४. संघको उद्देश्य:

प्रचलित ऐन तथा नेपाल सरकारको नीति निर्देशनको अधिनमा रही सम्बन्धित निकायसँग समन्वय राखी कार्यक्रम संचालन गर्ने गरी संस्थाका निम्न उद्देश्यहरू रहने छन्।

- (क) संघका सदस्यहरू तथा बेलायती व्यवसायीहरू विचको व्यवसायिक, शैक्षिक तथा सांस्कृतिक एवं अन्य सम्बन्धलाई अभि मजबुत बनाउने।
- (ख) नेपालको व्यवसायिक क्रियाकलापहरूमा सदस्यहरूले बेलायतबाट हासिल गरेका विशेष ज्ञान तथा सीपको सदुपयोगको लागि आवश्यक कार्य गर्ने।
- (ग) नेपालको विकासमा महत्वपूर्ण भुमिका निर्वाह गर्ने क्षेत्रहरूमा बेलायती शैक्षिक ज्ञानको प्रवर्द्धन तथा सदुपयोग गर्ने।
- (घ) क्षेत्रीय तथा अन्तराष्ट्रिय सहयोग र वातावरण संरक्षण जस्ता राष्ट्रिय महत्वका विषयहरूमा छलफलको लागि अवसर सृजना गर्ने।
- (ङ) एल्युमनाईहरूको व्यवसायिक हक हितको संरक्षण र प्रवर्द्धन गर्ने सम्बन्धमा संयुक्त अधिराज्यबाट हासिल गरिएको शैक्षिक योग्यता तथा तालिमहरूको पहिचान मान्यता सम्बन्धमा नेपाल सरकारका सम्बन्धित निकायहरूसँग आवश्यक कार्य गर्ने।
- (च) माथि उल्लेखित उद्देश्यहरू प्राप्त गर्न आवश्यक अन्य कार्य गर्ने।

५. संघका क्रियाकलाप :

संघले निम्नलिखित क्रियाकलापहरूको आयोजना गर्न सक्नेछ :

- (क) सदस्यहरूको हितको लागि भेटघाट कार्यक्रमहरूको आयोजन गर्ने ।
- (ख) राष्ट्रिय तथा अन्तराष्ट्रिय महत्वका विषयहरूमा छलफल गर्न व्यवसायिक एवं प्राज्ञिक जमघट तथा छलफलको व्यवस्था मिलाउने । साथै त्यस्तो छलफलबाट आएका निष्कर्ष र सुझावको कार्यान्वयनको लागि सिफारिस साथ सम्बन्धित निकायमा अनुरोध गर्ने ।
- (ग) सदस्यहरू बिच सुमधुर सम्बन्ध कायम राख्न एवं “(एबान)” को कृयाकलाप बारे जानकारी गराउने उद्देश्यले नियमित रूपमा न्यूज लेटर प्रकाशित गर्ने ।
- (घ) संघका सदस्यहरू तथा संघले उपयुक्त सम्भेका अन्य व्यक्ति, संस्था सम्बन्धित विशेषज्ञहरू विच एक आपसमा भेटघाट गर्न जाने तथा आउने कार्यक्रमहरूको (एक्जचेन्ज भिजिट) को व्यवस्था गर्ने ।
- (ङ) आवश्यकता अनुसार संघको एनुयल म्यागाजिन, सोभिनियर, क्यालेण्डर, प्रोसिडिङ्ग, पुस्तक, पत्रपत्रिका, ब्रोशियर तथा संघका सदस्यहरूको डाइरेक्टरी एवं प्रोफेशनल डाइरेक्टरी प्रकाशित गर्ने ।
- (च) नेपाल र नेपाल संग संवन्धित विषयहरूमा प्राज्ञिक छलफल गर्ने गराउने,
- (छ) संघले आफ्नो उद्देश्य अनुरूप विभिन्न कार्यक्रम, क्रियाकलाप तथा कार्ययोजना बनाई सल्लाहकार तथा परामर्श सेवा (Consultancy) आवश्यकता अनुसार आफैले वा अन्य कुनै सरकारी तथा गैरसरकारी संघ, संस्था वा निकायसँग सहकार्य गरी त्यस्तो कार्यक्रम, क्रियाकलाप वा कार्ययोजना एवं परामर्श कार्यान्वयन गर्ने गराउने ।
- (ज) ब्रिटिश काउन्सिलको सौजन्यता बाट प्राप्त विभिन्न सहयोगहरू रचनात्मक उद्देश्य पूर्तिको लागि प्रयोग गर्ने ।

६. संघका थप क्रियाकलाप:

- (१) संघले आवश्यकतानुसार सेमिनार, गोष्ठी, कार्यशाला, प्रदर्शनी, चलचित्र प्रदर्शन, सामाजिक भेटघाट, सामाजिक विकास, वातावरणीय संरक्षण तथा जनचेतना मुलक कार्यक्रममा ऐक्यवद्धता जस्ता कार्यक्रमको आयोजना गर्न सक्नेछ ।
- (२) संघले आफ्नो उद्देश्य अनुरूप दैवीप्रकोप पिडित समुदाय, असहाय वृद्ध बृद्धा, अनाथ बालबालिका, अपाङ्ग तथा अन्य यस्तै सहयोगको अपेक्षामा रहेका व्यक्ति, संस्था, समुदायको सहयोग गरी आवश्यक आर्थिक, भौतिक तथा अन्य सहयोग उपलब्ध गराउन सक्नेछ ।

७. सदस्यता:

मानार्थ सदस्य र सह-सदस्यहरू बाहेक अन्य सदस्यहरूको लागि सदस्यता प्राप्त गर्न संयुक्त अधिराज्यमा गई त्यहाँबाट कम्तिमा १२ हप्ताको स्नातकोत्तर तह (पोष्टग्राजुएट) वा स्नातक तह (अण्डरग्राजुएट) को अध्ययन गरेको वा विशेष प्रकारको वा व्यवसायिक तालिम हासिल गरेको, नैतिक पतन देखिने फौ जदारी अभियोगमा दोषी प्रमाणित नभएको नेपाली नागरिक हुनुपर्नेछ । साथै

आफुले प्राप्त गरेको अध्ययन वा तालिमको प्रमाणपत्र पनि अनिवार्य रूपमा पेश गरेको हुनुपर्नेछ । सदस्यता शुल्क निम्न प्रकारको हुनेछ ।

अ) आजिवन सदस्यता रु. ५,०००/-

आ) दर्ता शुल्क रु. १००/-

संघलाई विशेष सहयोग पु-याउने जोसुकैलाई पनि कार्यकारिणी समितिले आवश्यकता महसूस गरेमा सह-सदस्यता प्रदान गर्न सक्ने छ । संयुक्त अधिराज्यमा अध्ययन गरेका जो सुकै विदेशी विशेषज्ञहरूलाई संघले आवश्यक ठानेमा सह-सदस्यता प्रदान गर्न सक्नेछ ।

सह-सदस्य:

यस्ता सदस्यहरूलाई मताधिकार प्राप्त हुने छैन । (यस्ता सदस्यहरूले आजीवन वा साधारण सदस्य बन्न सक्ने छन् तर कुनै पनि पद भन्ने ग्रहण गर्न सक्ने छैनन) ।

मानार्थ सदस्य:

- (१) संघलाई रु.१,००,०००। (एक लाख) नगद वा सो बराबरको अन्य आर्थिक सहयोग प्रदान गर्ने जुनसुकै व्यक्तिलाई कार्यकारिणी समितिले सदस्यता दिन सक्नेछ ।
- (२) संघलाई असाधारण सहयोग प्रदान गर्ने जो सुकै व्यक्तिलाई कार्यकारिणी समितिले मानार्थ सदस्यता प्रदान गर्न सक्नेछ । सदस्यहरूले सदस्यता बापत बुझाउनु पर्ने वार्षिक शुल्कहरू प्रत्येक वर्ष शुरु अर्थात बैशाख १ गतेदेखि गणना गरी लागु गरिनेछ ।

८. कुनै पनि सदस्यको सदस्यता देहायका

अवस्थामा कायम रहने छैन :

- (क) मानसिक असन्तुलन भएमा वा मृत्यु भएमा ।
- (ख) राजीनामा दिएमा ।
- (ग) लगातार दुई वर्षसम्म आफुले तिर्नु पर्ने वार्षिक शुल्क नतिरे मा । तर यस्ता सदस्यले पुनः सदस्यता प्राप्त गर्न चाहेमा दर्ता शुल्क समेत तिरी सदस्यता प्राप्त गर्न सक्नेछन ।
- (घ) नैतिक पतन हुने कुनै फौजदारी अभियोगमा कसुरदार ठहरिएमा ।
- (ङ) कुनै किसिमको अनैतिक कामहरू ठहर भएमा ।
- (च) दफा ७ बमोजिम योग्यता नभएको ।

परिच्छेद (१)

८. साधारण सभा :

सम्पूर्ण सदस्यहरू समावेश भएको साधारणसभा संघको सर्वोच्च अधिकार प्राप्त निकाय हुनेछ । यस साधारणसभा द्वारा कार्यकारिणी समितिको गठन गरिने छ । यस प्रकारको कार्यकारिणी समितिमा देहायका सदस्यहरू समावेश रहने छन् ।

सभापति	१ जना
उपसभापति	१ जना
महासचिव	१ जना
सहायक महासचिव	१ जना
कोषाध्यक्ष	१ जना
सहायक कोषाध्यक्ष	१ जना
सदस्यहरू	७ जना

१०. साधारण सभा देहायका कार्यहरूको लागि

जिम्मेवार हुनेछ :

- (क) कार्यकारिणी समिति गठन गर्ने,
- (ख) कार्यकारिणी समितिको क्रियाकलापहरूको सुपरिवेक्षण तथा मुल्याङ्कन गर्ने,
- (ग) कार्यकारिणी समितिद्वारा तयार पारिएको वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन साथै लेखा परीक्षण भई सकेका आर्थिक प्रतिवेदन उपर पनि छलफल गर्ने र अन्य वार्षिक कार्यक्रमहरू पारित गरी स्वीकृति प्रदान गर्ने,
- (घ) यदि कुनै सदस्यलाई संघको सदस्यताबाट हटाउनु पर्ने भएमा उक्त विषयको निर्णय गर्ने,
- (ङ) विधानको संशोधन गर्नु पर्ने भएमा सो विषयमा पनि निर्णय गर्ने ।

११. वार्षिक साधारणसभा :

- (क) कार्यकारिणी समितिले तोके अनुसारको मिति समय तथा स्थानमा वर्षको एक पटक साधारणसभा गरिनेछ । तर कार्यकारिणी समितिले चाहेमा वा संघका एक तिहाई सदस्यहरूले लिखित अनुरोध गरेमा आकस्मिक साधारणसभा बोलाउन सकिने छ । यस्ता सभाहरूको सभापतित्व र संचालन कार्यकारिणी समितिको सभापतिले नै गर्ने छ ।
- (ख) वार्षिक साधारणसभा बोलाउनको लागि सदस्यहरूलाई कम्तीमा २१ (एकाइस) दिन अगाडि सूचना दिई सक्नुपर्नेछ । तर आकस्मिक बैठकको लागि ७ (सात) दिन अगाडि मात्र सूचना दिए पुग्नेछ ।
- (ग) साधारण सभाको गणपुरक संख्याको लागि एक तिहाई सदस्यहरूको उपस्थिति आवश्यक पर्ने छ यदि सदस्यहरूको संख्या ३०० भन्दा बढी भएमा केबल १०० जना सदस्यहरूको उपस्थितिले पनि गण पुरक संख्या जनाउने छ । तर तोकिएको स्थान र समयमा यदि गणपुरक संख्याको उपस्थिति नभएमा अर्को तिस मिनेटको समय सदस्यहरूको उपस्थितिको लागि थप गरिनेछ । तत्पश्चात् पुनःसभा बोलाइनेछ र उक्त समयमा न्यूनतम पचास जना सदस्यहरू उपस्थित भएमा गणपुरक संख्या पुगेको जनिनेछ ।

१२. कार्यकारिणी समिति :

- (क) साधारणसभाद्वारा हरेक तिन/तिन वर्षमा १३ सदस्यीय एक कार्यकारिणी समितिको निर्वाचनद्वारा गठन गरिने छ ।
- (ख) आफ्नो सम्पूर्ण क्रियाकलापहरू सम्बन्धमा कार्यकारिणी समिति साधारणसभा प्रति उत्तरदायी रहने छ ।
- (ग) कार्यकारिणी समितिका कुनै पनि सदस्य विना सूचना लगातार तीन पटकसम्म बैठकमा अनुपस्थित भएमा निज स्वतः कार्यकारिणी समितिको सदस्यबाट हट्ने छ ।

१३. कार्यकारिणी समितिको कार्यहरू :

कार्यकारिणी समितिलाई साधारणसभाद्वारा संघको उद्देश्य अनुरूप कार्यहरू संचालनको लागि अधिकारहरू प्रदान गरिनेछ र कार्यकारिणी समितिले देहायका कार्यहरू गर्नेछ :

- (क) साधारणसभाबाट पारीत गरिएका निर्णयहरूलाई कार्यान्वयन गर्ने ।
- (ख) विशेष कार्यक्रमहरू सम्पन्न गर्नको लागि समिति वा उप समिति गठन गर्ने ।
- (ग) संघको आर्थिक कारोबारको लागि कोषको संचालन गर्ने र आवश्यक चल अचल सम्पत्तिहरूको खरिद वा बिक्री गर्ने । तर घर जग्गाको कारोवार गर्दा साधारणसभाद्वारा स्वीकृति प्राप्त गर्नु पर्नेछ ।
- (घ) यस विधानको अधिनमा रही विभिन्न सदस्यता प्रदान गर्ने र कुनै सदस्यलाई हटाउने विषयको प्रस्ताव साधारणसभा समक्ष पेश गर्ने ।
- (ङ) राष्ट्रिय वा अन्तराष्ट्रिय सभा, सम्मेलन, बैठक तथा सेमिनारहरू नेपालमा आयोजना गर्ने र देश विदेशमा भाग लिन सदस्यहरूको छनौट गर्ने ।
- (च) संघको उद्देश्य प्राप्तीको लागि राष्ट्रिय वा अन्तराष्ट्रिय संघ संस्थानहरूसँग सम्झौताको लागि वार्ता गर्ने ।
- (छ) यदि कुनै कारण बस कार्यकारिणी समितिको कुनैपनि पदाधिकारीको पद रिक्त हुन आएमा त्यस्ता पदहरू कार्यकारिणी समितिका सदस्यहरू वा अन्य पदाधिकारी बाट पूर्ति गर्ने ।
- (ज) रजिष्टर्ड लेखापरीक्षकको नियुक्ति गर्ने, पारिश्रमिक तोक्ने ।
- (झ) मानार्थ सदस्यता र सहसदस्यता प्रदान गरी उक्त व्यक्तित्वबाट के कस्तो किसिमको विशेष योगदान प्रदान भएको छ सो बारे अध्ययन गरी आवश्यक निर्णय गर्ने ।
- (झ१) संघको क्रियाकलाप तथा अन्य कार्यमा उल्लेखनिय सहयोग पु-याउने कुनै पनि व्यक्ति, संस्था वा निकायलाई त्यस्तो उल्लेखनिय सहयोग पु-याए वापत संघको तर्फबाट उपयुक्त पुरस्कार, उपहार, कदरपत्र, प्रशंसापत्र तथा सम्मान प्रदान गर्न सक्नेछ ।
- (ञ) यस विधान अनुरूप आइपर्ने अन्य निर्णयहरू गर्ने ।

१४. कार्यकारिणी समितिको बैठक :

- (क) कार्यकारिणी समितिको बैठक वर्षमा कम्तीमा ६ पटक बस्ने छ ।
- (ख) साधारणतया बैठकको लागि ७ दिन अगाडी सूचना प्रदान गरिने छ तर आकस्मिक बैठक बस्नु पर्ने भएमा २४ घण्टा अगाडी मात्र सूचना प्रदान गरिने छ ।
- (ग) बैठकमा कुल सदस्य संख्याको सामान्य बहुमत भएमा गणपुरक संख्या पुगेको मानिने छ ।
- (घ) बैठकमा उपस्थित पदाधिकारी तथा सदस्यको बहुमतको निर्णयलाई कार्यकारिणी समितिको निर्णय मानिनेछ ।

१५. कार्यकारिणी समितिका पदाधिकारीहरूको काम, कर्तव्य र अधिकार :

कार्यकारिणी समितिका पदाधिकारीहरूको काम, कर्तव्य र अधिकार देहाय बमोजिम हुनेछ ।

सभापति

- कार्यकारिणी समितिको बैठकको सभापतित्व गर्ने ।
- कार्यकारिणी समितिले गर्नु पर्ने सम्पूर्ण कार्यहरूको लागि नेतृत्व प्रदान गर्ने ।
- मत बराबर भएमा निर्णायक मतको प्रयोग गर्ने ।

- राष्ट्रिय वा अन्तराष्ट्रिय संस्थासँग भएको क्रियाकलापहरूमा जिम्मेवार रहने ।
- कार्यकारिणी समितिले गर्नु पर्ने कार्यहरूको लागि निर्देशन दिने ।

उप-सभापति

- सभापतिलाई सहयोग गर्नुको साथै सभापतिको अनुपस्थितिमा कार्यवाहक भई कार्य गर्ने ।

महासचिव

- कार्यकारिणी समितिको निर्णयलाई कार्यान्वयन गर्ने, गराउने । निज उल्लेखित कार्यहरू प्रति जिम्मेवार हुने छ ।
- कार्यकारिणी समितिको दैनिक प्रशासनिक कार्यहरू गर्ने ।
- कार्यकारिणी समितिको बैठक तथा साधारणसभा बोलाउने यस्ता बैठकहरूको माइन्ट लेख्ने ।
- कार्यकारिणी समितिबाट पारित गराई साधारणसभामा संघको वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन पेश गर्ने ।
- कार्यकारिणी समिति र अन्य संस्थाहरू बिचको सम्पर्क कायम राख्ने ।
- संघको सम्पत्तिको लगत राख्ने र संरक्षण गर्ने कार्य जिम्मेवारीपूर्वक निर्वाह गर्ने ।
- संघको हितको लागि सभापतिले लगाए, अह्राएको सम्पुर्ण कार्यहरू गर्ने ।

कोषाध्यक्ष

- संघको आय व्यय, सम्पुर्ण आर्थिक, भौतिक साधन र श्रोतको लेखा अध्यावधिक राख्ने ।
- संघको लेखा परिक्षण समयमै सम्पन्न गराउने र कार्यकारिणी समितिबाट पारित गराई साधारण सभा समक्ष वार्षिक लेखा प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत गर्ने ।
- संघको आर्थिक कारोबार प्रति पुर्ण जिम्मेवार रहने ।

सहायक महासचिव

- महासचिवलाई मद्दत गर्नु र निजको अनुपस्थितिमा कार्यवाहक भई कार्य गर्ने ।

सहायक कोषाध्यक्ष

- कोषाध्यक्षलाई मद्दत गर्नु र निजको अनुपस्थितिमा कार्यवाहक भई कार्य गर्ने ।

१६. संघको कोष :

- (१) संघको आफ्नो छुट्टै कोष हुनेछ । संघको कोषमा आम्दानी बाँधिएको रकम संघको नाममा काठमाडौं उपत्यका भित्रको कुनै पनि वाणिज्य बैंक , वित्तिय संस्था, विकाश बैंक, फाइनेन्स कम्पनीमा खाता खोली जम्मा गरिनेछ ।
- (२) संघको कोषमा देहायका श्रोतबाट प्राप्त रकमलाई आम्दानी बाँधिने छ :
 - (क) संघका सदस्यहरूबाट प्राप्त सदस्यता शुल्क र चन्दा
 - (ख) संघका विभिन्न प्रकासन तथा क्रियाकलापमा हुने विज्ञापनबाट प्राप्त रकम, उपहार, सहयोग आदिबाट प्राप्त हुने र कम,
 - (ग) संघको लोगो अंकित क्याप, जर्सी, टाई, व्याज, पिन आदि जस्ता सरसामानको बिक्रीबाट प्राप्त रकम,

- (घ) राष्ट्रिय तथा अन्तराष्ट्रिय संघ संस्था, निकाय, व्यक्ति आदिबाट प्राप्त हुने जुनसुकै प्रकारको रकम, तर विदेशी संघ संस्था, निकाय, व्यक्ति आदिबाट आर्थिक सहयोग प्राप्त गर्नु अघि नेपाल सरकारको पुर्व स्वीकृती लिइनेछ ।

१७. संघको खर्च :

- (१) संघको कोषमा आम्दानी बाँधिएको रकम देहायका कार्यक्रम तथा क्रियाकलापमा खर्च गरिनेछ :
 - (क) संघको प्रशासनिक कार्य तथा कार्यालय संचालन,
 - (ख) विधानको दफा ५ र ६ मा उल्लेख भएका संघका क्रियाकलाप र थप क्रियाकलाप,
 - (ग) संघको लागि आवश्यक घर भाडा तथा आवश्यक सामानको खरिद तथा भाडा , र
 - (घ) कार्यकारिणी समितिले उपयुक्त ठानेको संघको उन्नति एवं प्रगति हुने अन्य आवश्यक कार्यहरू ।
- (२) कोषको खाताको संचालन संघको सभापति वा महासचिव मध्ये कुनै एक र कोषाध्यक्षको संयुक्त दस्तखतबाट गरिनेछ । तर सभापतिको अनुपस्थितिमा मात्र महासचिवले कोषको खाता संचालनमा दस्तखत गर्नेछ ।

परिच्छेद (३)

विधान संशोधन :

१८. विधानमा कुनै संशोधन गर्नु पर्ने ठानी कुल मतदाता सदस्यहरू मध्ये पाँच प्रतिशत सदस्यहरूले कार्यकारिणी समिति समक्ष लिखित अनुरोध पेश गरेमा कार्यकारिणी समितिले उक्त प्रस्ताव आगामी साधारणसभामा पेश गर्नुपर्नेछ । यसरी पेश गरिएको प्रस्ताव संशोधन हुनको लागि साधारणसभाको बैठकमा उपस्थित सदस्यहरू मध्ये दुई तिहाई सदस्यहरूको बहुमत प्राप्त गर्नु पर्नेछ ।
१८. (क) कार्यकारिणी समितिले विधानमा कुनै संशोधन गर्न आवश्यक ठानी सर्वसम्मतीबाट सो सम्बन्धि प्रस्ताव पारीत गरी विधान संशोधन मस्यौदा सहितको प्रस्ताव साधारण सभाको बैठकमा प्रस्तुत गर्न सक्नेछ । यसरी पेश गरिएको प्रस्ताव उपर छलफल भै साधारण सभामा उपस्थित दुई तिहाई सदस्यहरूबाट स्वीकृत भएमा सो प्रस्ताव साधारण सभाबाट पारीत भएको मानिनेछ ।
१९. विधानमा संशोधन गर्नु परेमा साधारणसभाको बैठक बस्नुभन्दा ३५ दिन अगाडी सो बारे लिखित निवेदन कार्यकारिणी समिति समक्ष पेश भई सकेको हुनु पर्नेछ र कार्यकारिणी समितिले संशोधन गर्नको लागि सिफारिश गरी साधारणसभाको बैठक सुरु हुनुभन्दा दुई हप्ता अगाडी नै सो संशोधन गरिने विषय बारे सम्पुर्ण सदस्यहरूलाई जानकारी गराई सक्नुपर्नेछ ।
२०. विधानको संशोधन प्रस्ताव माथि लेखिए बमोजिम पास भएपछि उक्त संशोधन लागु हुन ऐनको दफा ८(२) बमोजिमको स्थानिय अधिकारीको स्वीकृति प्राप्त गर्नु पर्नेछ ।
२१. कार्यकारिणी समितिको निर्वाचन : कार्यकारिणी समितिले साधारणसभा हुनुभन्दा तीन महिना अगाडि नै “संघका आजीवन सदस्यहरू मध्येबाट एकजना संयोजक सहितको तीन

सदस्यीय निर्वाचन समितिको गठन गरी देहाय बमोजिमको निर्वाचन सम्पन्न गराउनु पर्नेछ :-

- (क) निर्वाचन समितिले गोप्य मतदानद्वारा हरेक दुई/दुई वर्षमा साधारणसभाद्वारा निर्वाचन गराउनेछ। यस निर्वाचनमा निर्वाचन समितिको निर्णय लाई अन्तिम निर्णय मानिनेछ । निर्वाचन समितिको गठन गर्ने कार्य कार्यकारिणी समितिले गर्नेछ ।
- (ख) यसरी हरेक दुई/दुई वर्षमा हुने निर्वाचन कार्यकारिणी समितिका सम्पूर्ण सदस्यहरू छनौटको लागि हुनेछ।
- (ग) संस्थापक सदस्यहरूको पहिलो बैठकबाट एउटा तदर्थ समिति गठन गरिनेछ ।
- (घ) तदर्थ समिति गठन भएको ६ महिना भित्र हुने साधारणसभामा पहिलो कार्यकारिणी समितिको लागि निर्वाचन हुनेछ ।

परिच्छेद (८)

विधि

१२. अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव :

- (क) कुल मतदाता सदस्यहरूको एक तिहाई सदस्यहरूले दस्तखत गरी कार्यकारिणी समिति वा यसका कुनै सदस्यहरू विरुद्ध अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव कार्यकारिणी समिति समक्ष पेश गर्न सक्नेछन । तर जे सुकै भएतापनि निर्वाचन सम्पन्न भएको ६ महिना भित्र कार्यकारिणी समिति वा यसका कुनै सदस्यहरू विरुद्ध अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव पेश गर्न पाइने छैन ।
- (ख) अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव पेश गरिएको खण्डमा कार्यकारिणी समिति वा कुनै सदस्यलाई आफुमाथि लागेको अविश्वास विरुद्ध सफाई पेश गर्नको लागि एक हप्ताको समय प्रदान गरिनेछ र लिखित सफाईको साथ कार्यकारिणी समितिले उक्त अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव साधारणसभा समक्ष पेश गर्ने छ ।
- (ग) यसरी अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव आएमा आकस्मिक साधारणसभाको बैठक बोलाइने छ र सो बैठकमा गणपुरक संख्या पुरा भएपछि उक्त प्रस्तावमा छलफल भई उपस्थित दुई तिहाई सदस्यहरूको मतबाट अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव पारित भएको ठहरिने छ ।
- (घ) यदि कुनै सदस्य माथि अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव पारित भएको छ भने निजले आफु रहेको पद स्वतः त्याग्न पर्नेछ ।
- (ङ) यदि अविश्वासको प्रस्ताव सभापति विरुद्ध छ भने बैठकको सभापतित्व कार्यकारिणी समिति अन्तर्गतको उपसभापति वा अन्य कुनै मताधिकार प्राप्त सदस्यले गर्ने छ ।

१२. (क) लगातार एकै पदमा रहन नहुने :

- (क) कार्यकारिणी समितिका पदाधिकारीहरू एकै पदमा लगातार दुई कार्यकालभन्दा बढी निर्वाचित हुन पाउने छैनन् ।
- (ख) सल्लाहकार सभा : संघका पुर्व सभापतिहरू सबै स्वतः संघको सल्लाहकार सभाको सदस्य हुनेछन । यस्तो सल्लाहकार सभामा कार्यकारिणी समितिले निर्णय गरी तोकेको संघका मानार्थ सदस्यहरू समेत सदस्य रहने छन् ।

२३. कार्यकारिणीको अवधि थप हुने व्यवस्था :

कार्यकारिणी समितिको पदावधि समाप्त भईसक्दा पनि विशेष परिस्थितिवस समयमा निर्वाचन हुन नसकेमा कार्यकारिणी समितिले बढीमा एक वर्षसम्म आफ्नो कार्य अवधि थप गर्न सक्ने छ ।

२४. कार्यकारिणी समिति विघटन र भङ्ग हुने अवस्था :

कुल मतदाताको पचहत्तर प्रतिशत सदस्यहरूबाट कार्यकारिणी समिति भङ्ग गरिएमा संघ भङ्ग हुन सक्नेछ । संघको विघटनपछि यसको चलअचल सम्पत्ति प्रचलित कानून बमोजिम नेपाल सरकारको हुनेछ ।

२५. तदर्थ समितिका सदस्यहरू :

यो संघ स्थापना भएको ६ महिना भित्र पहिलो निर्वाचन नहुञ्जेल सम्मको लागि देहायका व्यक्तिहरूद्वारा एक अन्तरिम कार्यकारिणी समिति गठन गरिने छ :

सभापति: डा.नारायण बहादुर थापा

उप-सभापति: श्री राम शक्ति मास्के

महासचिव: श्री उज्ज्वल प्रधानाङ्ग

कोषाध्यक्ष: श्री नरेश शंकर पालिखे

सदस्यहरू : श्री चण्डीका प्रसाद भट्ट, श्री डिल्ली राज जोशी, श्री रवि जङ्ग पाण्डे, श्री अविन भक्त प्रधान, श्रीमती नम्रता शर्मा

२६. यो विधान नेपाल सरकारको सम्बन्धित निकायबाट प्रचलित कानून अनुसार स्वीकृत भएपछि लागू हुनेछ ।

२७. कुनै कारणवश संघ संचालन गर्न नसकिएको खण्डमा यस संघको सम्पूर्ण सम्पत्ति एबान जस्तै उदेश्यले गठित अन्य संस्थालाई सम्बन्धित निकायको स्वीकृति पश्चात दिईनेछ ।

२८. संघको विघटन भएको खण्डमा संघको सम्पूर्ण जायजैथा नेपाल सरकारमा सार्नेछ ।

२९. यस विधानमा उल्लेख भएका कुराहरू यदि नेपाल सरकार को प्रचलित नियम कानूनसाग बाकिभएमा स्वतः सारेज भएको मानिनेछ ।

३०. बाधा अड्चन फुकाउने अधिकार:

यो विधानको कार्यान्वयनको सिलसिलामा कुनै बाधा अड्चन पर्न आएमा विधान प्रतिकुल नहुने गरी कार्यकारिणी समितिले कानुनी सल्लाहकारको परामर्शमा बाधा अड्चन फुकाउन सक्नेछ ।



Twenty Five Years of ABAN

(ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL)

The Beginning

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN), having been duly registered with the District Administration Office, Kathmandu under registration number 547/05/55 as a non-government organization, has successfully completed 25 years of its existence since February 04, 1998, serving the alumni members and the people of Nepal. ABAN is an autonomous body, having the authority to acquire properties, collect funds etc. with rights to protect its name and property.

We are celebrating 25th Silver Jubilee Anniversary on February 4, 2023. So, it is time to look back on the journey so far in retrospect. Here is how the founders of the Association had conceived this Association in the beginning of the millennium:

Founder President Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa wrote in August 2000: “ABAN came into being with well thought out objectives.....we wished to foster cultural, academic and economic ties between Nepal and the UK. We wanted to help our members in their quest for fruitful careers while working towards national development... we specifically wanted to develop a social network of the potentially huge membership. In the first 1000 days, the members have interacted socially on a number of occasions. We have bettered our relationship with the British Council and the British Embassy. We have learnt the ongoing development process of Nepal through Talk program. We have had some inputs in the ongoing activities of the British Council providing British education for Nepalese students. I have little doubt for ABAN to make an impact, the future lies in exploring new ideas and pushing them forward.



Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha

ABAN President 2015-2019
and Honorary Member

We have the talent, we have the ambition and diversity and I am certain that ABAN will make an impact”.

British Ambassador to Nepal H.E. Mr. Ronald P. Nash wrote: “Since its inception in 1997, ABAN has been working steadily to develop its role in providing a forum for the networking of a vast number of Nepalese professionals trained in the United Kingdom. Various talk programs on the issues and topics of national importance and interest have been held and those have been well attended. There appears to be no dearth of talent among the ABAN members. I would like to assure ABAN of British Embassy’s continued support and cooperation in fulfilling our common goals.”

The British Council Director Barbara Wickham had said: “The British Council believes that ABAN is a very important organization in fostering mutual understanding and benefit between our two countries. This key group of individuals plays an important role in strengthening existing relationship and developing new ones – partnership no less

important in development community than in the world of business”.

The situation now is aptly summarized by **British Ambassador HE Mr. Richard Morris** in his January 2017 message: “....our (Britain-Nepal) relationship has many pillars: political, military/Gorkha, development assistance, people to people cultural. But one important pillar that we must not forget is the educational pillar- a really important link between our two countries. Thousands of Nepalese have completed UK qualifications in Nepal. We have provided development assistance in the field of education. And, importantly, various Nepalis have studied in UK, I am delighted, so many want to maintain their connections with Britain and each other..... Nepalis who studied in UK have risen to positions of influence and contributed substantially to Nepal....”

At the same time, **the British Council Country Director Dr. Jovan Ilic** wrote.... It (ABAN) was formed to link professionals working in different sectors in Nepal, who had the common bond of having studied in the United Kingdom. ABAN fosters cultural, educational and academic interaction between Nepali and British professionals. There are now several hundred British alumni working in Nepal”. He further adds on “why is ABAN and this relationship so important? Well, primarily it enables returned scholars to establish contact with each other and to network more effectively thereby using the professional training and knowledge gained in the UK for the greater benefit of Nepal, and it is also of value to UK business community. Perhaps you want to further develop contacts with Nepal and are looking for someone who has access to this local knowledge. Perhaps you need a highly trained and skilled individual to help develop your business or to exploit commercial or investment opportunities or are searching for someone with particular skill or experience that are hard to come by in Nepal. ABAN, through its membership, and specially with its Directory is just such a collection of information”.

The present Country Director Ms. Shahida McDougall said the British Council has established programmes to support Women

and Girls in STEM around the world, designed with a lifecycle approach in mind, from inspiring young girls to stay in STEM to supporting women working in STEM fields reach positions of leadership and network with their peers in their region and the UK. Expanding on our current work, we are launching the British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM, for women from South and South East Asia, and the Americas.

Historical Background

Over the past six decades, the British government has funded studies in Great Britain for the Nepalese students and scholars under the schemes administered by the British Council. In recent years, an increasing number of Nepalese students are studying in British educational institutes on private funding besides a limited number of Chevening scholarships every year. The British alumni covering a wide range of specialization needed a forum for building on these studies as also to increase educational and cultural relationships between Nepal and Britain. So, an ad hoc committee was formed under Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa with eight enthusiastic British Alumni members in 1997 to establish the Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN):

ABAN Objectives

The Association was established to achieve the following stated objectives:

- 1) To strengthen professional, educational, cultural and other relations between ABAN members and the British professionals,
- 2) Take up necessary steps for proper use of special knowledge and skills acquired by ABAN members in the UK for their professional activities in Nepal,
- 3) Promote the knowledge of British education for its proper use in the important sectors of Nepal’s development,
- 4) Create opportunities for discussion on issues of national interest like environment protection, regional and international cooperation,
- 5) Ensure that the relevant government agencies of Nepal recognize and grants due

status and privileges to the qualifications and trainings gained in the United Kingdom, and

- 6) Represent and protect the professional interest of ABAN members.

Credentials

The Association is registered with the Office of Chief District Office, Kathmandu in 1998 and with Internal Revenue Department for PAN (Permanent Account Number 302035951) in May 2005. The Association has also obtained Tax Free Certificate from Internal Revenue Office, Kathmandu in August 2008. The Association is recently registered also with Kathmandu Metropolitan City Ward no. 29 office in September 2016. The Association has received Tax clearance with recommendation for renewal of its registration with the District Administration office, Kathmandu on submission of annual report and audited statements. The legal status of the registration

has thus been renewed annually. Now, the audit report for fiscal year 2021/22 is ready and once it is ratified by the annual general meeting proposed on January 7, 2023, the registration document will be further renewed and updated.

ABAN Statute 2064

The ABAN Statute 2054.10.14 (January 27, 1998), subsequently amended by its annual general meetings in 2008, 2012 and in 2021 provides for:

General Body as the highest authority, including all members of the Association and the general body will elect 13-member Executive Committee body,

Executive Committee consisting of a president, vice president, general secretary, assistant general secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer and 7 members elected for a three years term.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) is conducted every year as listed below:

ABAN Annual General Meetings Held

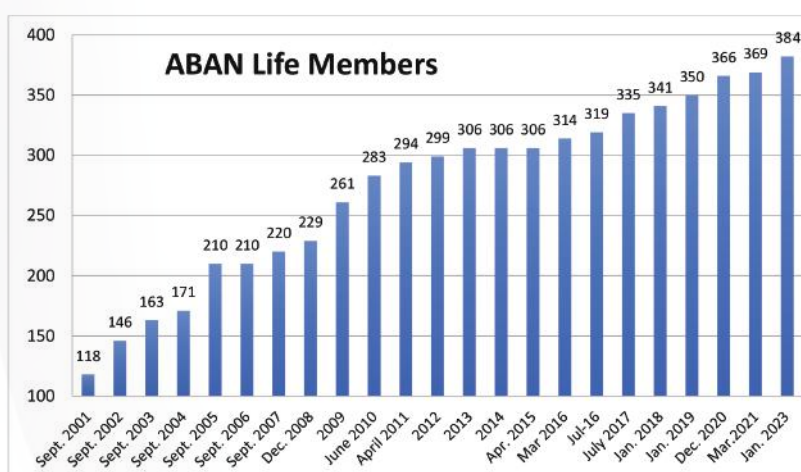
Sl	Year & Date	Venue	President
1st	1998	The British Embassy Hall	Dr. Narayan Thapa
2nd	1999	The British Embassy Hall	
3rd	2000	The British Embassy Hall	Dilli Raj Joshi
4th	2001	The British Embassy Hall	
5th	2002	The British Embassy Hall	Narmada Sharma
6th	2003 November 23	The British Council courtyard	
7th	2004	Hotel Shanker, Lazimpat	Rabi Jung Pandey
8th	2005 December 10	SOS GH School, Sano Thimi	
9th	2007 January 6	The British Council Hall	Raghu Pant
10th	2008 February 8	The British Embassy Hall	
11th	2009		Lal K.C.
12th	2010 March	The British Council Hall	
13th	2010 December 20	Indreni Complex, Baneshwor	Dr. Uma Srivastava
14th	2011 January 28	The British Embassy Hall,	
15th	2012		
16th	2014 March 15	SOS GH School, Sano Thimi	Shankar Prasad Paudel
17th	2015 April 11	The British Council Hall	
18th	2016 June 25	Universal LCI, Dillibazar	Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
19th	2017 February 4	The British Council Hall	
20th	2018 February 4	The British Council Hall	Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
21st	2019 February 2	The British Council Hall	
22nd	2019 October 15	Universal LCI, Dillibazar	Uttam Prasad Pant
23rd	2021 January 2	Online Zoom meeting	
24th	2022 March 26	Universal LCI, Dillibazar	Uttam Prasad Pant
25th	2023 February 4	Universal LCI, Dillibazar	

ABAN Membership Development

Membership is the main strength of any institution. ABAN's membership is open for persons having completed at least 12 weeks studies or training in the UK. The eligible candidate can become Life Member or Honorary Member of ABAN by paying applicable fees.

ABAN Membership Directory published in 2001 listed 246 members, including 118 Life members. Subsequently, ABAN Life Membership increased to 210 by March 2005, 283 by June 2010, 314 by March 2016 and 353 by January 2019. The new Membership Directory being published in January 2023 has listed 384 Life

ABAN Membership Development	
Directory Published in	Life Members
2001	118
May 2005	210
June 2010	283
March 2016	314
June 2017	335
January 2018	342
January 2023	384



Members. They had studied in 76 different specialty areas in the UK.

Despite huge potential for recruiting new members in the Association from the large pool of British trained people in the country, ABAN's membership growth has stagnated in the recent past. Out of some 400 members enrolled, quite a number of them are out of Kathmandu on assignments and are not available for ABAN's activities. Some nine of the listed members of the Association have expired. Nepalese students are returning home after their study in UK every year. So, a concerted effort is needed to attract new members in the Association in order to enrich its professional and financial strength. British scholars through British Council have been replaced by Chevening scholarship for some 30 persons annually administered by the embassy, and a new Chevening Alumni Association in Nepal is operational.

ABAN Statute has a provision for Honorary membership by the decision of the Executive Committee for any person who has donated cash or equivalent worth more than Rs.100,000/- (Rupees one hundred thousand) to ABAN or any person who has made a special contribution to the Association. ABAN conferred the first Honorary Membership to Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey on January 27, 2017 for contributing an endowment fund of Rs.500,000 for the support of senior citizens on annual basis plus Rs.30,000 to meet the expenses of the first year. Second honorary membership of ABAN was conferred to Dr. Mrs. Mahodadhi Pradhan Shrestha on October 27, 2017 for her contribution of Rs.500,000/- for the welfare activities of ABAN as decided by its executive committee. The third Honorary of Member of ABAN has been PP Maheswor

The main office bearers of ABAN in the past Executive Committees:

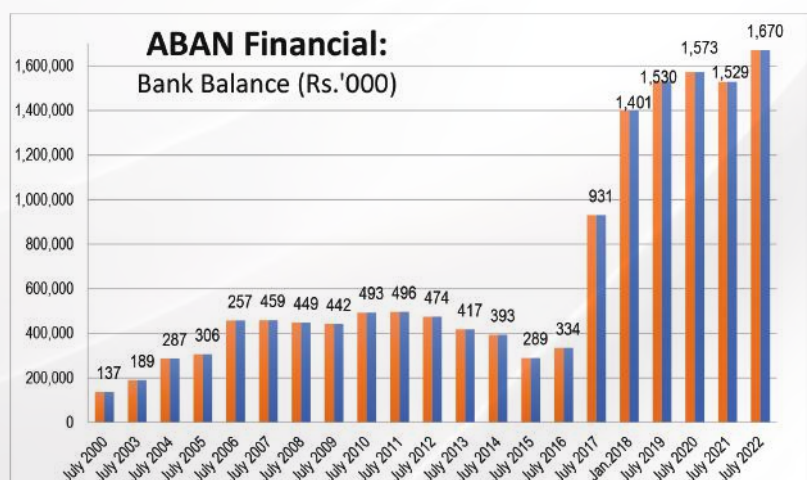
ECM	Year	President	Vice President	General Secretary	Treasurer
1	1997-2000	Narayan Bdr. Thapa	Ram Shakti Maskay	Dilli Raj Joshi	Rabi Jung Pandey
2	2000-2002	Dilli Raj Joshi	Namrata Sharma	Lal K.C.	Rabi Jung Pandey
3	2002-2004	Namrata Sharma	Rabi Jung Pandey	Raghu Pant	Prem Ratna Sthapit
4	2004-2006	Rabi Jung Pandey	Raghu Pant	Maheswor Shrestha	Prem Ratna Sthapit
5	2006-2008	Raghu Pant	Maheswor Shrestha	Shanker Paudel	Prem Ratna Sthapit
6	2008-2010	Lal Krishna K.C.	Uma Shrivantava	Deepak Chalise	Hari Shanker Shrestha
7	2010-2012	Uma Shrivantava	Madhuri Karki	Prabhu Budhathoki	Binaya Hari Maskey
8	2013-2015	Shanker P. Paudel	Tulasi Prasad Uprety	Mahendra Khanal	Rupa Basnet
9	2015-2017	Maheswor Shrestha	Tulasi Prasad Uprety	Uttam Prasad Pant	Hariom Dhoj Joshi
10	2017-2019	Maheswor Shrestha	Tulasi Prasad Uprety	Uttam Prasad Pant	Hariom Dhoj Joshi
11	2019-2021	Uttam Prasad Pant	Padma Vaidya	Shiba Devi Kafle	Madhav Prasad Bhatta
12	2021-2023	Uttam Prasad Pant	Padma Vaidya	Shiba Devi Kafle	Madhav Prasad Bhatta
13	2023-2025	Padma Vaidya	Shiba Devi Kafle	Gobinda Neupane	Uttam Lall Pradhan

The term of 9th and 11th Executive Committees was extended for a second term in order to continue the good works done by the team and to ensure seamless continuity of thoughts and priorities of the Association.

Bhakta Shrestha by virtue of his contribution to ABAN fund in 2020. Life Member Dr. Badri Raj Pandey and Past Presidents Mr. Uttam P Pant, Mr. Lal Krishna KC and Mr. Shanker Paudel have also become Honorary Members of ABAN in January 2023.

Financial Strengths

The Association is not a very resourceful organization as its funding sources are limited to membership fee of Rs.5,000 for Life membership, member's contributions, donations, surplus of advertisement revenue in its publications, grants from sponsors and other fund- raising activities. Financial resource is needed to undertake various activities including service projects, annual general meeting and for its sustainability. ABAN's audited balance sheets of the past years reveal that the Association had the highest cash/bank balance of Rs.496,380 in July 2011, which was gradually diluted in the subsequent four years to Rs.289,607 by July 2015. With concerted efforts the cash and bank balance of the Association has been reversed since 2017 and the balance has reached the highest of Rs.1,679,229 in July 2022 including the trust fund of Mrigendra Samjhana Medical Trust fund of Rs.500,000 for serving the senior citizens and another Rs.600,000 endowment fund from Dr. Mahodadi Pradhan and Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha for organizing health camps annually. The financial situation of ABAN as reflected by its bank balances in various fiscal years as reported by its statutory auditors is presented below till July 2022.



Support and Cooperation

The Association has forged cooperation with other social organizations to undertake support projects jointly. One such organization is Mrigendra Samjhana Medical Trust, which has provided an endowment fund of Rs.530,000/- to undertake annual support to senior citizen homes in Kathmandu since January 2017. The Trust has also set aside another fund of Rs.500,000/- for supporting Nisahaye Sewa Sadan through ABAN from its annual interest income. Other Honorary Members Dr. Mahodadhi Pradhan Shrestha and Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha have provided an endowment fund of Rs.600,000/- for supporting annual health camp and other activities. The British Council has greatly supported ABAN in its publication of Membership Directory 2016 and 2019; and the annual Magazines 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019-20 by covering its printing costs. The Council has also provided meeting hall occasionally when requested for annual general meetings and talk programs. ABAN is very grateful for the British Council, notably its country Directors and officials Ms. Suchita Shrestha and Ms. Julen Pradhan for their instant response and attitude of cooperation for facilitating ABAN wherever possible. The blessing of the British Embassy is equally spontaneous and important for the furthering the cause of ABAN.

Gratitude

The Association has an active executive committee supporting every steps of ABAN activities and the greater strength of a strong team has given an opportunity for continuing its good works for a long time. The 25th Silver Jubilee Anniversary celebration of the Association on February 4, 2023 has given further impetus to pursue further growth and prosperity of the Association in future. The Association is grateful to all its supporters, donors, members and other well wishes who have significantly contributed to the further growth and development of ABAN.♦♦♦

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ

- कम लागतमा धेरै फाइदा लिन सकिने प्रविधि

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ भनेको क्लाउड सेवा प्रदायक संस्थाहरूले क्लाउड प्लेटफर्म मार्फत सुरक्षित रूपमा प्रदान गरिने भर्चुअल सर्भर (कम्प्युट - प्रोसेसर, मेमोरी), स्टोरेज, डाटावेस तथा एप्लिकेशनहरूको समिश्रण सेवा हो। यससलाई युजरले इन्टरनेट वा इन्ट्रानेट मार्फत आफूलाई आवश्यकता अनुसारको श्रोत तथा साधनहरू आफूले प्रयोग गरे बमोजिमको रकम भुक्तानी गरि सजिलै सर्वसुलभ तरिकाले प्राप्त गर्न सक्छन्। क्लाउड निजी र सार्वजनिक दुबै हुन सक्छ। निजी वा सार्वजनिक जुनसुकै भएपनि क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङको एकमात्र उद्देश्य भनेको सहज र स्केलेबल सेवा दिनु हो। क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङमा स्टोर गरेको कुनै पनि श्रोत साधन तथा एप्लिकेशनहरूलाई इन्टरनेट प्रयोग गरेर जहाँबाट पनि पहुँच पाउन सकिन्छ। उक्त श्रोत साधन तथा एप्लिकेशनहरू लाई आफ्नो इच्छा अनुसार आफूलाई चाहेको बेलामा प्रयोग गर्न सकिन्छ। त्यसकारण पछिल्लो समय क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङको प्रयोग बढ्दै गएको छ।

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङका फाइदा

धेरैले क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ प्रयोग गर्न थाल्नुको मुख्य कारण हो, फाइदा। क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङमा थोरै खर्च गरेर धेरै फाइदा लिन सकिन्छ। क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ सस्तो पनि हुन्छ। क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङको प्रयोग गर्न हार्डवेयर, सफ्टवेयर, सेटअप केही आवश्यक पर्दैन। यसका फाइदा निम्ननुसार छन्:

१. कम लगानी (एकमुष्ट लगानी गर्नु नपर्ने)
२. आवश्यकता अनुसार स्रोतको प्रयोग
३. प्रयोग अनुसारको मासिक, त्रैमासिक, अर्धवार्षिक या वार्षिक रूपमा रकम भुक्तानी
४. लचिलो (आवश्यकता अनुसार स्रोतको थपघट गर्न सकिने)
५. सुरक्षित
६. डाटा नोक्सानी हुन बाट सुरक्षित
७. व्याकअपको राम्रो प्रवन्ध
८. आफ्नै नियन्त्रण

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङका प्रकार

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ २ प्रकारका छन्। एक प्राइभेट अर्थात निजी क्लाउड र दोस्रो पब्लिक अर्थात सार्वजनिक क्लाउड। आउनुहोस् प्राइभेट र पब्लिक क्लाउडबीच फरक बुझौं।

१. प्राइभेट क्लाउड

प्राइभेट क्लाउडलाई आन्तरिक वा इन्टरप्राइज क्लाउड पनि भनिन्छ, जसमा क्लाउड सेवा प्रदायक संस्था मार्फत तपाईंलाई चाहिने सम्पूर्ण स्रोतहरू सुरक्षित तवरले सुरक्षित नेटवर्क (इन्ट्रानेट तथा इन्टरनेट भिपिएन) मार्फत प्राप्त गर्न सकिन्छ। यससमा तपाईंले आफूलाई



हेमन्त बराल

(सर्टिफाइड डाटा सेन्टर प्रोफेशनल)

डाटासेन्टर कन्सल्टेन्ट तथा चिफ अपरेटिङ अफिसर
सिन्धुभरलाईनिङ डाटा सेन्टर, काठमाडौं, नेपाल।

चाहिने एप्लिकेशनहरू सहजै इन्स्टल गरी प्रयोग गर्न सक्नुहुनेछ। सबै डाटाहरू फायरवाल पछाडी सुरक्षित रहन्छ। यसको सम्पूर्ण कन्ट्रोल तपाईंमा निहित रहन्छ र पब्लिकले सहज एक्सेस पाउँदैनन्। क्लाउड सेवा प्रदायक संस्थाले तपाईंलाई केवल तपाईंको आवश्यकता अनुसारको स्रोतहरू सुरक्षित रूपमा उपलब्ध गराउँदछन्।

२. पब्लिक क्लाउड

पब्लिक क्लाउड इन्टरनेट मार्फत उपलब्ध हुन्छ र यो पब्लिक आईपी मार्फत प्राप्त हुने हुँदा यसमा पब्लिकको पहुँच रहन्छ। प्राइभेट र पब्लिक क्लाउडको मुख्य भिन्नता भनेको व्यवस्थापन हो। प्राइभेट क्लाउडको व्यवस्थापन तपाईं स्वयंले गर्नुपर्ने हुन्छ भने पब्लिक क्लाउडको सम्पूर्ण व्यवस्थापन सेवा प्रदायकले संस्था आफैले गर्दछ। साथै तपाईंको सम्पूर्ण डाटाहरू सेवा प्रदायक संस्थाको डाटासेन्टरमा स्टोर हुने गर्दछ र सोको व्यवस्थापन तथा मर्मतसम्भार स्वयं सेवा प्रदायक संस्थाले गर्दछ। ठूला ठूला कम्पनीले प्राइभेट क्लाउड रोज्न सक्छन् भने सानो व्यवसायकर्ताहरूले पब्लिक क्लाउड रोज्न सक्छन्।

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ सेवाका प्रकार

क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ सेवाका विशेष गरी ३ प्रकारका छन्। कुनै पनि कम्पनीले आफ्नो आवश्यकता अनुसार सेवा उपयोग गर्न सक्छ। क्लाउड कम्प्युटिङ सेवाका प्रकार यस अनुसार छन्।

१. इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर एज अ सर्भिस

यस अन्तर्गत कोलोकेशन (अनवरत पावर र कुलिङ भएको सुरक्षित स्थान तर स्रोत आफ्नै), बेयर मेटल सर्भर (सर्भर पनि सेवा प्रदायक संस्थाले भाडामा उपलब्ध गराउने), म्यानेज्ड प्राइभेट क्लाउड, पब्लिक क्लाउड (भर्चुअल प्राइभेट सर्भर - प्रोसेसर, मेमोरी, स्टोरेज), नेटवर्किङ, सेक्युरिटी, स्टोरेज आदि पर्दछन्।

२. प्लेटफर्म एज अ सर्विस

यस अन्तर्गत एप्लिकेशन डेभलपर्सलाई चाहिने प्लेटफर्महरू जस्तै पाईथन, रनटाईम ईन्भारोमेन्ट (जस्तै जाभा रनटाईम), डिजाईनिङलाई आवश्यक पर्ने विभिन्न युटिलिटीहरू, डाटावेश (एसक्युल, अरेकल), वेब सर्भर (टमक्याट), केहि अपरेटिङ सिस्टमहरू आदि पर्दछन् ।

३. सफ्टवेयर एज अ सर्विस

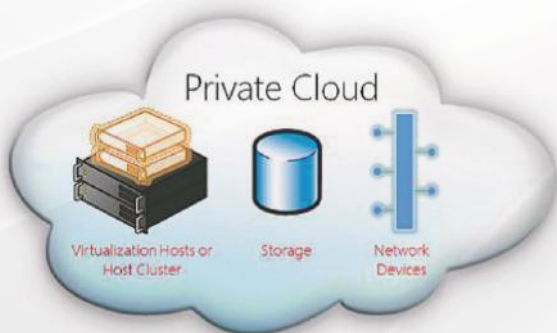
यस अन्तर्गत रेडिमेड एप्लिकेशनहरू जस्तै ईआरपी, सिएमएस, शिक्षा/स्वास्थ्य/अकाउन्टिङ आदिका एप्लिकेशनहरू, माईक्रोसफ्ट ३६०, गुगल ड्राईभ, जिमेल, भिडियो कन्फरेन्सिङ, सोसल नेटवर्किङ आदि पर्दछन् । यसका अलावा सेक्युरिटी एज अ सर्विस, फायरवाल एज अ सर्विस, वेब एण्ड ईमेल होस्टिङ आदि सेवाहरू पनि क्लाउड मार्फत सजिलै प्राप्त गर्न सकिन्छ ।

क्लाउड डाटा सेन्टरको आवश्यकता किन ?

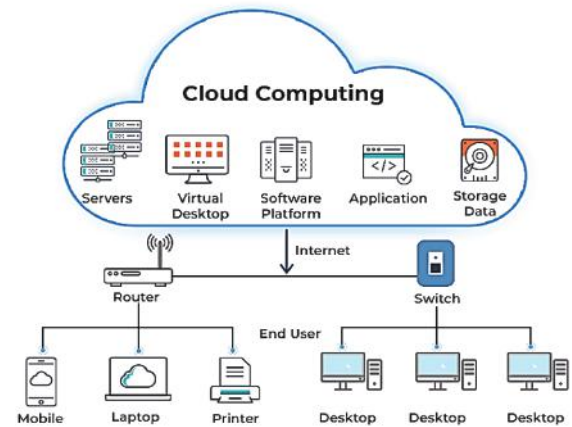
क्लाउड डाटासेन्टरमार्फत आफ्नो आवश्यकता अनुसारको सर्भर, मेमोरी, स्टोरेज, नेटवर्क, फायरवाल आदि रिसोर्सहरू सजिलैसँग रेन्टल (भाडा) का आधारमा प्राप्त गर्न सकिन्छ । यसबाट स्रोतमा हुने प्रारम्भिक लगानीको बचत हुनुका साथै आफुलाई आवश्यक पर्ने स्रोतहरूलाई सजिलै बढाउन सकिन्छ । क्लाउड डाटासेन्टरमार्फत इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर एज अ सर्विस अन्तर्गत कोलोकेशन सर्विस, भर्चुअल प्राईभेट सर्वर, स्टोरेज एज अ सर्विस, सफ्टवेयर एज अ सर्विस, फायरवाल एज अ सर्विस तथा प्लेटफर्म एज अ सर्विस अन्तर्गतका सेवा तथा सुविधाहरू सहज रूपमा प्राप्त गर्न सकिन्छ । साथै म्यानेज प्राईभेट क्लाउडको सुविधा समेत पाउन सकिन्छ । यसबाट ठूलो धनराशिको बचत हुनुका साथै प्राविधिक जनशक्ति तथा डाटासेन्टरका भौतिक उपकरणहरूको आवश्यकता पर्दैन । सजिलै सँग बुझ्नको लागि यदि अन प्रिमेसेस डाटासेन्टर बनाउनको लागि छुट्याईएको बजेट स्वयं आफूले लगानी गरी सो बाट प्राप्त हुने ब्याज मात्रै पनि भुक्तानी गरी क्लाउड डाटासेन्टरबाट सजिलै सँग सेवा तथा सुविधाहरू प्राप्त गर्न सकिन्छ ।

क्लाउडलाई बुझ्ने सजिलो तरिका

क्लाउडलाई सजिलो भाषामा बुझ्नको लागि एउटा उदाहरण हेरौं । मानौं कि तपाईंलाई नयाँ अफिस सेटअप गर्नु पर्नेछ । सुरुमै कत्रो अफिस बनाउने, कति स्टाफहरू राख्ने, के के फर्निचर राख्ने भन्ने कुराको अन्यौल हुन सक्छ । त्यसको लागि कुनै अपार्टमेन्टमा गएर आफुलाई चाहिने स्पेश भाडामा लिन सकिन्छ र आवश्यकता अनुसार त्यसलाई बढाउँदै लैजान सकिन्छ । क्लाउडलाई एउटा अपार्टमेन्ट



CLOUD COMPUTING ARCHITECTURE



या फ्ल्याटको रूपमा बुझौं, जहाँ सुरक्षित नेटवर्कको साथमा धेरै कोर भएको प्रोसेसर, धेरै मेमोरी अनि धेरै स्टोरेजहरू भएको सर्वर, अनि एप्लिकेशन बनाउन चाहिने प्लेटफर्म, रनटाईम ईन्भारोमेन्ट, विभिन्न सफ्टवेयरहरू रहेका हुन्छन्, जसलाई आवश्यकता अनुसार भाडामा प्रयोग गर्न सकिन्छ । प्रोसेसरको मुख्य कार्य भनेको दिईएको निर्देशन अनुसार छिटो तरिकाले डाटा तथा अन्य आन्तरिक प्रोसेसिङ गर्नु हो । मेमोरीको काम भनेको एकसाथ एकभन्दा बढि एप्लिकेशन खोलेर कार्य गर्नको निमित्त सहजता गर्नु हो भने स्टोरेजको काम वर्तमान या भविष्यका लागि डाटा स्टोर गर्नु हो । यसलाई एउटा पसलको रूपमा पनि बुझ्न सकिन्छ । तपाईं यदि एउटा मात्र कोठा अनि एकजना मात्र पसले भएको पसलमा जानु भयो अनि तपाईं सँगै अरु ग्राहक पनि गए भने, सेवा पाउनको लागि ग्राहकले प्रतीक्षा गर्नुपर्ने हुन्छ । एकजना मात्र पसले भएको कारण प्रोसेसिङ ढिला हुन्छ । साथै एउटा मात्र कोठा भएको कारण तपाईंले सामानहरू हेरेर रोजेर किन्न कठिनाई हुन्छ, भनेजति सामानहरू उपलब्ध नहुन पनि सक्छ । तर तपाईं त्यही कामको लागि डिपार्टमेन्टल स्टोर जानुभयो भने त्यहाँ तपाईंले सुरक्षाकर्मीको साथै धेरै जना स्टाफहरूको सेवा लिन सक्नुहुन्छ र तपाईंको सपिड चाँडो हुन्छ साथै तपाईंले छानि छानि रोजी रोजी भनेजति सामानहरू किन्न सक्नुहुन्छ । यसमा सेवा दिने पसले वा स्टाफहरूलाई प्रोसेसर अनि डिस्प्ले गर्नको लागि राखिएको स्थान लाई मेमोरी अनि स्टोर/गोदामलाई स्टोरेज अनि सुरक्षाकर्मीलाई सेक्युरिटीको रूपमा बुझ्न सकिन्छ ।

कति छन नेपालमा डाटा सेन्टर ?

सरकारी स्तरबाट संचालनमा गरेको सिंहदरबार भित्रको जिआईडिसी (गभर्मेन्ट ईन्टिग्रेटेड डाटा सेन्टर) सरकारको एक मात्र डाटा सेन्टर हो । यसको डिजास्टर डाटा सेन्टर हेटौँडामा छ । प्राईभेट रूपमा संचालनमा रहेका भैरहवाको ओम डाटा सेन्टर नेपालको निजीस्तरको पहिलो डाटा सेन्टर हो । अन्य डाटा सेन्टरहरूमा दरबारमार्गको सिल्भर लाईनिङ डाटा सेन्टर, थापाथलीको डाटा हब, कुमारीपाटीको एक्सेस वर्ल्ड, थापाथलीको क्लाउड हिमालय, पुतलीसडकको डाटास्पेस, बालुवाटारको सुबिसु आदि रहेका छन् ।

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Nepalese Economy

- Some Policy Options for Betterment

Nepalese economy is not in a good shape. The undercurrent in macroeconomic fundamentals are in bad shape. The larger twin deficits of fiscal and current account balance, the first exceeding 10% and the later exceeding 13% of GDP, poses a big threat to the structure of the economy and its sustainability.

The prolonged hike in interest rate has not only killed investments in the economy threatening growth this year and next but also reduced consumption sharply. The result - a lower growth to 4-4.5 % this year, if a strong measures in boosting investments and domestic demand are not taken at the earliest. Although, World Bank projected a 5.1% growth this year, there is no strong basis for that. All indicators shows it difficult to attain even 4.5% this year and may be lower next year.

The higher revenue dependency on imports led shrinkage in revenue collection this year that is difficult to compensate. The high fiscal deficit of 10% or more is not sustainable. This needs to be brought down to 6% or less this year and further to 5% or so next year. Therefore, call for a hefty cut down in expenditures. A across the board cut down of the tune of 15-20% on all governmental expenditures including transfers to state and palikas are warranted immediately. At the same time, the need for promoting capital expenditures requires identification of only 10-15 projects of high importance to focus and differ the rest. A concentrated effort to complete these projects in time may outpace the disbenifits caused by differing less important and scattered projects.

The unsustainably higher current account balance calls for a serious review of items which is dragging more foreign currency expenditures. One such item is expenditures on foreign study and travel. Increasing number of young students going for undergraduate degrees in foreign colleges not only helping shoot up foreign currency expenses but also threatening viability of undergraduate colleges in the country. It may not sound good, but policy changes are called for allowing graduate study only in overseas colleges. At the same time, franchises of foreign colleges should be allowed in only those areas where government gives more priority.

The higher interest rates in the last several months has not only caused a decline in aggregate demand thereby, reduction in domestic economic activities sharply but also discouraged domestic investments



Prithvi Raj Ligal

Former Vice Chairman of
National Planning Commission

that help future growth and employment creation. Among others, tourism industry particularly, hotels and restaurants have not fully come out from the devastation caused by COVID. The high interest rates affected the sector further threatening to its viability. Given the decelerating trend in inflation rates, it is high time that NRB reduce bank rates gradually, say by 25 basis point or so lowering rates in lending. However, keeping view of increasing interest rates in fixed deposits in India, interest rates on fixed deposits below 9% is not advisable for the time being.

Given that the monetary policy transmission in Nepal is neither effective nor efficient a serious review for the adoption of a better system is called for. The present system of base rates of 11% plus premium of 6% on top of it will neither help promote investments nor increase domestic economic activities. The system is overly biased towards commercial banks making it less efficient at the cost of domestic economy. The concept of base rate and premium should therefore, be replaced by a system that put pressure on increasing competition and efficiency gain of CBs as well as efficient transmission of policy by NRB.

To sum up, in an environment of stagnating/ decelerating investments and industrial production, uncertain export prospects, and lower domestic resource mobilization, promotion of high multiplier sectors such as, construction sector including housing along with higher domestic consumption is vital for economic growth. Lowering twin deficit supported by increasing domestic demand for consumption and investments can only sustain growth at this difficult times. ♦♦♦

Source Facebook January 20, 2023

Development Impasse and UK's ODA (Official Development Assistance) in Nepal

The underlying value principle behind higher education is shared and common across the world. More than anywhere, we, as graduates of British university system, are trained, among other things, to be fair and offer unbiased judgement on anything we deal with. By outlining the key value principles and attributes of higher education, I intend to relate it to my observation of the development initiatives in Nepal also with reference to British/UK overseas assistance. However, this paper is conceptual in nature which is why arguments are based just on observation and experiences.

Like other developed countries in the world, UK has also undergone numerous challenges in economic front specially after Brexit. However, UK, being a country of profound history and civilization has kept its legacy intact in global leadership, global awareness, responsibility and generous assistance. The continuation of British ODA is the expression of the same value principle this country embraces. While, the primary remit for the administration of UK Official Development Assistance (ODA) rests on the UK's Department for 'Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office', assistance in Nepal is delivered under different project banners and institutional channels. Government to government support is the first and most important one. Then, the 'UKAid Direct', 'UKAid Connect' 'UKAid Match' are some other channels providing supports through small and medium Civil Society Organizations (CSO). The third in line is British Investment Partnership, which primarily aims at supporting partner countries by capitalizing UK's financial expertise and the strength of the city of London by streamlining them with 'PM's vision for clean green initiatives'.

If one look at the portfolio of British assistance in Nepal in the last one or one and



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half decade, they can note a pattern on it and reach a general understanding in what UK government believes the best fit for Nepal. I recently performed a search on AMIS (Aid Management Information system) to review 'UK government's assistance to Nepal' in recent decades within the limit of three parameters as to 'bilateral assistance' (excluding contribution in multilateral package), projects that has been completed (not include on-going commitments), and their disbursed values were above 10 million USD. The search returned with 46 hits totaling worth of above 666 million USD. There were 6 projects each of which spent more than 30 million USD in values. Peace, mitigation of natural disaster, health, rural access, governance, educational reform, livelihood and climate adaptation appears to have been on the upper side of the priority area for those completed projects.

The figure quoted above is substantial for a decades or so. And, if one work out total supports by including all channels of disbursement including British portion in multilateral supports, all time-frames (not just last 10-15 years only) and supports of all sizes, then the British ODA for Nepal may stands in several digits in value.

Nepalese people have always appreciated and are thankful to British government for such generous support. At the same time, we must evaluate these supports for their real impact

on people and the time has come to bring this into a public discourse. By doing so, we can identify corners of weaknesses be that in policy, processes, priorities, activities, management or in delivery of activities and find ways to address them for the best or replicate success stories when that is the case.

Historically, there were projects supported by British ODA which had immense positive impact in easing people's life. Without getting into detail whether those impactful projects were cost effective, equitable, sustainable and the best alternative investment of that time, I am naming some of them just because of their positive impact in everyday life. Dharan-Dhankuta road is one of those examples that provides lifeline at times when there was almost no meaningful connection between the hills and the plain district in Koshi region. DFID/UK supported Safer Motherhood Projects (later Safe Motherhood Program), had delivered marvelous results from institutionalizing and reforming healthcare services by enabling it in saving millions of lives of mothers and newborn at risk. Support in crisis such as during 2015 earthquake and COVID recovery has always been valuable in every respect. Whoever the donor is but the support in 'school launch program' for the students in public school and supporting girls with cooking oil for retaining them in school had mazing impact not just in Nepal but in other countries too. Direct support for food can work both way—helping poorer students survive in school and learn the skill they need and cope food security and hunger especially in those countries where food security has been the issue.

People's perspective and observation on development

The perception and experience of general public is the first thing any development initiatives should and must be able to address. Development activities is impactful if and when great majority of public consider it as a vehicle of desired change; and most of them can connect themselves to the development activities under question or to its impact.

Nepalese people has a general framework of 'development understanding' and that apparently is widely shared and collective. Let me share some examples here. Once known as a major pillar of economy, agriculture sector in this country has witnessed a massive wind down in recent decade. Nepal has a history of exporting agro-produce/commodities to a number of countries in the region. But, in the present time, this country increasingly depends on imported foods to feed its population. Food import is one of few major import items to add on the 'balance of payment' to be considerably negative. But at the same time, a big number of young people are leaving this country in pursuit of employment and they are leaving even for low paid and unsafe job. A big percentage of traditional farming families have stopped farming endeavor leaving their own land without any alternative use. And, there is a justifiable reason behind this shift from their contextual viewpoint. Let me put it in different way. Vast tracts of agricultural land are left barren, waters from thousands of rivers left untapped for irrigation, whereas a significant portion of population are job-less. People are bound to pay substantial part of their earning to buy foods and consumables. So, the question is what is missing here? Should we blame local people for not growing foods without understanding deeper realities? I say, no, and I will discuss it further below.

Balance of payment of this country is heavily negative with skyrocketed import portfolio year after year. Foreign currency reserve is depleting at an alarming rate due to declining exports of goods and services. No Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is coming at noticeable volume which, otherwise, could have potentials for local employment creation. There is a mountain of regulatory hurdles as well as policy lapses that discourage new and prospective entrants into entrepreneurship and startups. Health and education services are being so much discriminatory and even the basic services are being unaffordable for families in low income bracket. This is just a few snapshots of the socio-economic scenario prevailing in this country. In this

context, people find little meanings in any development programs and activities which do not address or has the potential in altering this landscape and offers hope. Despite some positive cases of development initiatives outlined earlier, there is, in general, a question among Nepalese scholars as well as the general public about the efficiency, priority and real impact of ODA in this country. This is not just about ODA received from British government but may generally apply to all ODA support received from different donors. While we do not have a large-scale, comprehensive, sector-wise systematic study on this subject, we can still gauge this discontent being based upon public response to donor supported project, impact observed in people's everyday life, and the narrative produced in media/social media. This situation warns for a strong and balanced initiatives to correct status quo. In order to do that, we must think on the ecosystem of this problem and the nexus underlying it.

ODA support process: British ODA

In terms of British aid, much supports are generally channeled through bilateral agreement being UK government in the donor's side and the Nepalese government in the recipient end. Therefore, A significant portion of British aids are spent within Nepal government's budgetary practice and procedures. Government ministries in their respective sectors identify priorities, develop project details and communicate it to the respective donor agencies, in this case FCDO. Endorsement of National Planning Commission and coordinating role of the Ministry of Finance comes in between. At the donor's end, there are some predefined conditions. Firstly, they incline to make sure that if requested project fall within the donor agency's priority area and available budgetary limits. And, interestingly, consultant and officers working for the Nepal government in preparing project proposals generally find one or other ways to justify proposed project activities comply donor's priority line. On the other hand, the officers in donor agency may have an organizational mandate in processing

a number of projects in a given time frame. In other words, they might be under pressure to find a number of projects to commence in any given time period. In that contextual trade-off, projects proposed by government ministries has high chance of approval. There is a general trust amongst officers to rely on anything presented by recipient government and that is why government requested projects are approved in higher rate. Once approved, it is less likely that any stakeholders (national planning commission, beneficiary communities, or even the Nepal parliament) raise any issues on the merit, rationale, efficiency and the delivery of the proposed project. Therefore, it is not a surprise that majority of the projects see their project cycle completed, monitoring and evaluation done and projects gets wrapped up.

In such a procedural fallacies, there is often a severe lack of provision for impact assessment. Often impact assessment is reduced to the provisions of monitoring and evaluation whereas these two are clearly different in purpose, scope, and methods. Projects, in many cases, are pushed forward without proper evaluation by a third party evaluator independent of either agencies (donor and the recipient government). One of the biggest problem in government-commissioned projects is the structure of the project components and their loose or no connection to the expected outcomes. Often, a significant portion of project funds are spent on poorly designed trainings, unnecessary events on the softside and unjustified capital-intensive hardware projects on the other. Beneficiary people—the key stakeholders are either seriously left out in the project cycle or involve just in a tokenic manner. Beneficiary participation are often limited to the formation of users committee or head counts of trainees in trainings organized locally. To add on, there is no need to exaggerate government agencies' lethargic process, paper-work culture, and rampant corruption. Noteworthy is that many projects, even donor-supported projects, are pinpointed for irregularities in every years' Auditor General's Report.

NGOs and CSO-led initiatives

Portion of ODA is also spent by using NGOs and CSOs as delivery partner. Programs and activities they deliver do have some optimistic feature such as them being less bureaucratic in process and are little more cost-effective. But, they do have some other areas of weaknesses even worse than the government partner. They often lack required expertise in various areas of project planning, design and delivery. Many NGOs and CSOs spent significant portion of budget in overhead cost –such as staff salaries, office-rent, transportation, trainings, consulting fees leaving a negligible portion for the goods and services that is directly connected to their beneficiaries. NGOs and CSOs are away from government's financial compliance system and immune from the surveillance of the Commission of the Abuse of Authority. There is a huge question of continuity and sustainability in anything they commissioned. They severely lack root in the community as most NGOs do not have local representative in their governance structure selected from democratic election.

Donor's perspective on activities they support

To donor's end including FCDO, the matters raised here may sound mind-boggling. It is a paradox that they have spent significant amount of funds to help Nepalese people to fight problems they are facing. True, that the priority donors or Nepal government who else fixed such as health, education, climate-adaptation, disaster response, rural-access are on average not bad on their own. Donors, in this case FCDO, allowed recipient government to select priority projects depending on their national need and offer leeway in how to spend available resources. And, a regular monitoring and evaluation were in place and in most cases everything were reported to be in right direction. So, at times, question may come as to what went wrong in between? Why, despite all measures for good governance and compliance measures, funded efforts failed to deliver intended outcomes. A line of excuse could be that a project in question cannot resolve all issues at once.

What went wrong?

Let me share one common and general example here. Nepal has continuously lay a priority on agricultural transformation from the very inception of the planned state-intervention some 65 years ago. It was a fact that this country Nepal is endowed with abundant lands for growing crops and do have abundant water for irrigation. So, planners and policy makers, in the starting decades of planned intervention, emphasized to establish a well-equipped agricultural college in Rampur with an expectation that the college would be a knowledge hub and can provide technological leadership for agri-modernization in this country. Belief was that a 'dream of transformation' can be achieved with a fusion of new knowledge and technology with the land and water we already have. However, that expected transformation did never happen, has never happened. The crux of this is that the policy and plan never rightly gauged the dynamics of people, social fabric, cultural practices and macro-economic realities. They failed to identify and develop right human institution that plays central role in such envisioned transformation. There were a numerous missing links in that simplistic and linear wishful thinking. And, key policy maker has not yet seen this elusive and minor-looking factors underlying all and entire failure. If the government officials/planners could not differentiate this then how could we expect an officer in donor agency, often a foreigner see this and screw it?

A number of donors supported rural access program with an expectation that an enhanced accessibility will be instrumental in connecting local produce to a value chain. Increased produce, access to market, better price for the produce, and basis for innovation and small entrepreneurship along with numerous other social benefits was argued in support of the investment in accessibility program. However, in reality, increased accessibility in most remote hinterlands simply became instrumental in disrupting local production ecosystem, pushing communities to deeper dependence, and facilitate migration for unskilled job amongst young people. Looking

from this point, we can clearly see missing links and can confirm why simplistic and linear understanding did not work according to the project concept outlined above.

As a former student of British university system, I have the substantial experiences and understanding in how British education system thrive. I have visited a number of universities and colleges up and down the country. In most cases, they do not have fancy new building to run their programs. Some are still running from a small and old building but that does not prevent British universities to be a world-class university. However, in Nepal, there is a tendency in government department to spend big some of money in contractable hard-ware projects including a construction of fancy school building. I do not, however, mean to undermine a genuine need of a school building in some particular places. A big hard ware project would be easier to administer, as most part of the project-activities would be taken care of by a hired contractor. On the other hand, little is considered in why public education was so poor in quality, who are those who goes to public school and why can't they go to private school, what social and psychological problem those students are facing who cannot perform well in their study and a series of question of this type during project selection. Hard-ware syndrome does exist in the health-sector as well. A substantial sum of donor funded money is also spent on hi-tech equipment even when the technical expertise is not available to operate such high tech machine. Low-cost-high impact health education, and preventive side of intervention are in the bottom of priority in medically-dominated health ministry. Another crucial issue is about skill transfer. What is always observed is that floods of cross-country missions and study-tours are supported under donor-funded projects in the name of skill-transfer. In most cases, government officers, senior politicians, officers not related to the sector and community representative are sent out in such missions and study tours. Rarely any farmers, workers, entrepreneurs, technicians, business developers, operators are selected for such missions who otherwise

could learn relevant skills to their trade and apply in their operation on their return back home. For example, the Nepalese embassy in the UK has listed as much as 7 high level delegation/visits from Nepal to UK for year 2018 and 2019 each, and 17 such events in 2017 only. Noteworthy is that almost all of these delegations are often led by high level dignitaries such as Prime-minister, Ministers, Secretaries, Head of parliamentary committees, Head of constitutional bodies and so on. Going abroad is taken as an privilege and have been badly misused due to corrupt mentality and weak regulatory measures. And there is no clear evidence or evaluation in what exactly those delegations achieved for the development of this country. There is also a lot of criticism to the project selection practice in government's side (MoF and NPC). Those who criticize believe that personal, professional, political network badly influence this process. It is argued that the process of final screening and approval from government side is not often objective and transparent. If that is true, then the project requested by government's side may not always be the best amongst available alternatives. The problem goes on and on and exists more or less in the same degree in almost all sectors.

Why British ODA?

True that the issues and problem outlined above are general and shared between different projects funded by different donors. But, I chose to take reference of British ODA, as FCDO as one of the leading agency in this landscape that can introduce reform or change when they wish. When FCDO do something, it is highly likely that others follow too.

What is lacking: what can be done?

So, a question arises here as to what can be done to correct this trend and how to make any ODAs including British ODA work for local need.

Depending on my own personal experiences of working for the Government of Nepal coupled with substantial research in development policies and programs, I would like to outline some potential measures to improve

development planning as well as delivery arrangement that potentially deliver better results.

- A separate, arms-length entity is recommended between donor agencies and the government of Nepal with a mandate at assessing and screening project proposals in their own merit. The entity should be independent of and be able to resist influence of the government's side. At least, there must be three independent organizational arrangements (organizational layout) to take care of three major steps in project cycle --project approval, project commissioning, and project evaluation (process monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment). Active roles for the federal parliament's finance committee and a focused communication between Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the committee can help select candid projects and improve their outcome.
- Proposed development projects, programs or activities should be fiercely scrutinized in reflection to the project's problem definition and if conceptualized pathway for change is realistic and impeccable (no missing link), and proposed instruments for intervention are available, accessible and affordable.
- There is a serious knowledge gaps in most line ministries in Nepal government in recognizing what 'development' is and how that can be achieved. Development, in essence, requires truly multi-disciplinary inputs, insights and contribution which is often missing in our history of development planning and management. Most ministries are dominantly staffed with a narrow trajectories of specializations or just generalist from public administration schooling. For example, agricultural transformation is not just a business of an agricultural scientist. On the contrary, surprisingly, they have limited scope for contribution to achieve expected outcomes in agrarian transformation. So, donor agencies must ask for this multi-disciplinary capabilities throughout the

project cycle before approving any project for funding.

- Apart some exception, neither the government route nor NGOs/CSOs in Nepal have demonstrated impressive capabilities in planning and commencing development activities. So, aid agencies should think to work with newer forms of institutions such as cooperatives, federation of cooperatives, industry associations, professional organizations and so on because these new forms of institutions are rooted in community; they understand problems and solutions better than anyone do; and are often less bureaucratic. They can comfortably hire additional expertise if and when needed or partner with any organizations that could have subsidiary roles.
- A strict and improved measures for process monitoring and interim evaluation must be an integral and key component in project cycle. A responsive arrangement must be in place to appropriately address issues identified by monitoring and evaluation. Impact assessment must be conducted by an independent assessor at the end of the project cycle.
- Enhancement of human capability should be the central element in all kinds of development projects and sectors. Capital-intensive infrastructure project should be funded only when there is a sound evidence for it and that has direct, visible linkage to expected outcome.
- A lot of shortfalls in design and delivery of the development program/activities is also because of knowledge comprises by the home-grown professionals. This is partly because of skill deficiency and partly also because of the pressure from existing socio-political network they are part of. Aid agencies, especially FCDO do have an strong alternative to mitigate this problem. FCDO can engage graduates of British universities, perhaps British alumni in Nepal, to overcome knowledge compromises and deficiencies and (Association of British Alumni in Nepal) ABAN can surely coordinate this endeavor.

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British Gurkhas Nepal (BGN)

Major Ranjankumar Badgami

Gurkha Major – BGN

British Gurkhas Nepal (BGN) operates in Nepal from its three camps in Kathmandu, Pokhara and Dharan. BGN's primary mission is to maintain the firm base in Nepal to enable Gurkha recruiting and welfare services. With its very first days in Pakhlihawa and Dharan in 1960, BGN expanded to Pokhara and then to its current Headquarters in Kathmandu in 1989.

A majority of the British Army Brigade of Gurkhas recruiting is carried out at British Gurkhas Pokhara (BGP) while welfare services are delivered to serving and retired personnel from BGN camps and Area Welfare Centres (AWCs) based across Nepal which operate under Gurkha Welfare Trust (GWT) – a partner organisation of BGN.

As the unit of the British Army based in Nepal, BGN works in support and cooperation programmes with the Nepali Army and other security bodies of Nepal. In this respect, Commander BGN also assumes the roles of the British Defence Attache' to Nepal - working with the Nepal Government, and Director of the Gurkha Welfare Trust (Nepal).

Recruitment

BGN's primary task of Gurkha recruiting has evolved over the years. In contemporary times, 218 finest new Recruits joined the British Army Brigade of Gurkhas after tough selections under Recruit Intake 2022. They took the oath and swore allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen amidst the Attestation Parade held on 23 Feb 2022 at British Gurkhas Pokhara.



British Defense Covid support to the Nepali Army

Her Majesty's Ambassador to Nepal Her Excellency Nicola Pollitt, Lieutenant General Richard Wardlaw OBE, Colonel Commandant Brigade of Gurkhas; Brigadier The Rt Hon the Lord Lancaster TD VR, Deputy Colonel Commandant Brigade of Gurkhas, Colonel Paul Smith Commander BGN and Colonel David Robinson, Colonel Brigade of Gurkhas took the Attestation of the new Recruits.

Between 18 January and 23 February 2022, British Gurkhas Pokhara (BGP) delivered Central Selection to select the next generation of soldiers into the Brigade of Gurkhas, working throughout the year to continuously deliver a "free, fair, and transparent" cycle of recruiting. Following the announcement of results, the PRs were handed to Gurkha Company, ITC Catterick, to prepare for their attestation parade.

The Recruit Intake 23 recruitment cycle is broken into 3 phase of execution – Phase 1 (Registration), Phase 2 (Initial Selection) and Phase 3 (Final Selection). Phase 1 (Registration) concluded on 29 July 2022 and provided a call forward list of Potential Recruits (PRs) from 19,385 down to 5,056 PRs for British Army (BA) and 2,879 PRs for Gurkha Contingent Singapore Police Force (GCSPF) for attendance at Phase 2 (Initial Selection) from across all districts of Nepal. Phase 2 (Initial Selection) concluded on 27 September 2022 for GCSPF and 15 December 2022 for BA. Call forward lists of 280 PRs for GCSPF and 420 PRs for BA were published on the BGN Recruiting Website.



Tribute at Queen's Funeral in Nepal

A total of 204 trainee riflemen for BA and 144 trainee policemen for GCSPF will be inducted after Phase 3 (Final Selection) under RI23.

Veteran Services and GVAC

BGN delivers welfare services to British Gurkha veterans in Nepal on three key elements of pension, records and UK settlement.

With the aim of easing the dissemination of Gurkha veteran services in Nepal with centralised service centres, BGN has introduced structural changes. The separate offices of these services will be centralised and brought under an umbrella unit with the 'one-stop-shop' concept from 2023.

Gurkha Veterans' Advice Centres (GVAC) and Darjeeling Veterans' Advice Centre (DVAC) will start operation from 3 January 2023 and provide all 3 elements of veteran services (Records, Pension Payment and Settlement) from the camps in Kathmandu, Pokhara and Dharan and Darjeeling Welfare Trust (DWT) in Darjeeling. The new initiative aims to provide easier and centralised access to the veterans' community and better coordination and management for stakeholders, partners and BGN's veterans' service departments.

Community Engagement

Headquarters British Gurkhas Nepal (HQ BGN) is a well familiar location at Manbhawan in Ward 5, Lalitpur, better-known to many as 'British Camp'. Since its establishment long ago, BGN has always valued its close relationship with the local authority and people and looked to contribute in whatever way it can to help them. To achieve that, there have been numerous activities involving support and cooperation between BGN and the local communities. This has mainly involved financial, medical, logistical supports to the local authorities and different people and organisations trying to make a positive difference in the communities.

This relationship reflected strongly during the difficult times induced by the Covid-19 pandemic. BGN felt it a need to step up and support its neighbours when the livelihood of

the people itself was hit hard by the standstill situation. BGN made an effort to help in the situation by providing support of finance and distribution of essential commodities.

Joint activities involving cooperation between BGN and the local entities in one form or another are a core part of BGN's engagements. A few recent ones included providing support to the staff of Patan Hospital by the BGN Wives' Club, logistical support to Nepal Police and Armed Police Force hospitals, installation of dustbins in Jawalakhel-Kumaripati area and cleaning of the vicinity, etc.

Major Events at BGN

British Gurkhas Nepal paid tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at the National Botanical Garden, Kathmandu on 19 September – the day of the Queen's funeral. Her Majesty's Ambassador (HMA) to Nepal, Nicola Pollitt and Colonel Paul Smith, Commander BGN laid wreaths at the tree which Her Majesty planted on her visit to Nepal in 1986. The tree grows beside another tree which was planted by the late Prince Philip.

On the same day, Gurkha veterans and BGN officers and staff took part in a condolence ceremony organised by the British Embassy at the White Monastery in Kathmandu where HMA to Nepal and Maj (Retd) Yam Bahadur Rana MVO MBE, representing the British Gurkha veterans' community, lit lamps together in prayers for The Queen. Buddhist monks recited prayers and performed rituals at the ceremony.



Attestation Parade

Many Gurkha veterans turned up for the funeral programme screening held at the British Embassy premises in Kathmandu which brought the events to a close. HMA to Nepal thanked everyone for their attendance and for coming together on such an occasion.

Her Majesty's Ambassador to Nepal, Her Excellency Nicola Pollitt, Defence Attache' Colonel Paul Smith and Deputy Commander British Gurkhas Nepal (BGN) Lt Colonel Simon Townsend, along with Dr Buddi Sagar Poudel, Director General Department of Plants and Resources, Nepal and Dr Mark Watson, Head of Major Floras, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh marked the Queen's Green Canopy in Nepal on 24 March 2022 commemorating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee to ascension. The dignitaries commenced the programme at the National Botanical Garden, Nepal by planting the Nepali Holi tree 'Punwale' (Aquifoliaceae). They were joined by other guests after that who helped plant 70 saplings – marking The Queen's 70 years of reign - at the site.

The Serving Members, dependents and Civilian Staff of British Gurkhas Nepal were among the guests at the programme.

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) initiative is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". The event also ties into the historic tree planting that her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II conducted in 1986 at the National Botanical Garden.

On 08 September 2022, awards were presented



Remembrance Parade



Regimental Association, British Gurkha Nepal

to BGN's deserving staff as Her Majesty's Ambassador to Nepal Her Excellency Nicola Pollitt and Col Paul Smith, Commander BGN addressed on the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal (QPJM) Parade at BGN Kathmandu. In their address, they underscored the special relationship between the United Kingdom and Nepal which the role of Her Majesty The Queen had been so important to foster and which stands on a foundation built by the British Gurkhas.

The Attestation Parade is most probably the biggest annual event at BGN. After months-long rigorous selection process of potential recruits covering most part of the year, the successful candidates take the oath and swear allegiance to His Majesty The King on their attestation. The event is witnessed by high level dignitaries of both the UK and Nepal.

The number of recruits who are inducted varies in different years ranging more or less in a few

hundreds. For example, while the 2019 intake was the largest in 35 years which saw 432 trainee riflemen sworn in, 218 recruits joined the British Army in 2022.

Remembrance Day, on 11 November, marks the end of World War 1 in 1918. Services in honour of the sacrifices in all lines of duty are held in different parts of the world including Nepal at HQ British Gurkhas Nepal in Kathmandu, British Gurkhas Pokhara and British Gurkhas Dharan.

On 2022 Service, Col Paul Smith, Commander; Lt Col Rajesh Gurung, Deputy Commander and Major Ranjankumar Badgami, Gurkha Major – BGN laid the wreaths at the Gurkha monument in Kathmandu.

Major Phil Lambert, OC and Captain Ganesh Kumar Gurung 2IC – BGP led the service held at the Gurkha Memorial Museum in Pokhara, while Maj Jit Hamal, DCOS BGN led the service at the cemetery for British Gurkha soldiers in Dharan.

Maj (Retd) Bhim Bahadur Gurung, Chair, Regimental Association Nepal (RAN); Lt Col (Retd) J. P. Cross and Maj (Retd) Jhaptaman Limbu, RAN East Chair laid the wreaths in Kathmandu, Pokhara and Dharan respectively on behalf of the Gurkha veteran community in Nepal.

Officers and staff present at the Services observed a two-minute silence in tribute to those who gave their lives in service and who remain in our memories, traditions and ethos.

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Learning to live sustainably:

Reflecting on a community gardening project in Norwich, UK

Introduction

This short article is based on the presentation I gave at the Association of British Alumni in Nepal on 15th April 2022.

Personal profile

I come from a small village called Tarkutar (which is now called Sundar Bazaar) in Lamjung District. At the time of my childhood, the nearest road-head was Bharatpur, Chitwan. When the Kathmandu-Pokhara highway opened in BS 2030, we still had to walk six long hours to Dumre to get access to a motor road.

My parents were subsistence farmers producing almost all their food organically. Ours was one of the few families in the entire village of about 300 households able to produce surplus food from our farm. In those days, such a family was called a self-sufficient family (ek manako bandobasta bhayeko).

My journey into the outside world began in 1975 when I came to Kathmandu to go to university. After completing my graduate study, I worked for year in a government job in Kathmandu. After that, I joined a UK government-funded integrated rural development programme in East Nepal. This was an opportunity for me to understand the nature, causes and extent of poverty in Nepal. It was also the beginning of a long journey exploring the meaning of development. The journey continues.

Why do we need to live sustainably?

'Sustainable development' has become a commonly used term in international development. Without getting into the details of the internationally agreed sustainable development agenda, I would like to focus on why we need to live sustainably.

Firstly, there is a confusion about needs and wants: fundamental human needs are limited; we have enough resources in this



Dr. Mahesh Pant

planet to fulfil those needs. However, our wants are unlimited and can never be fulfilled. Happiness, the ultimate human goal, cannot be achieved simply by having more goods and services; if that was the case, all the rich people in this world would have been the happiest of all. It is our relationship with family, friends and the wider community that make us happy. A longitudinal study carried out by Harvard University in the US for over 80 years has revealed that embracing community helps us live longer and be happier.

Secondly, unlimited economic growth is neither feasible nor desirable. The Limits to Growth: A Report for the Club of Rome's Project on the Predicament of Mankind, first published in 1972 by Earth Island and its subsequent updates, have confirmed with evidence that unlimited economic growth is unsustainable. It is not just about carbon reduction but making sure that we only take our fair share of resources without harming people, the economy and the regenerative capacity of the planet earth.

Thirdly, those of us who have managed to attain basic freedoms (to have enough food, proper shelter, opportunity to get education, to exercise our civil and political rights) should be willing to help others who have not. It is our common responsibility to create a just society. We cannot and should not think only about our

own wellbeing but also about the wellbeing of our community and the environment. Bearing in mind these rationales for sustainable living, I decided to set up a community gardening project in Norwich which is the focus of my next section.

The start of Grow-Our-Own (GO2), an allotment project, in Norwich in 2004

In England, local Councils provide a small plot of land, called an allotment, to enable local residents to grow fruit and vegetables for a small annual rent. Started in 1845, the system was designed to provide allotments for poor families to grow food. Now anyone can apply for an allotment. The standard allotment plot size is 250 meter squares. When our family of four moved to Norwich in 2000, I applied for an allotment and got one straightaway. I started growing vegetables that I was familiar with such as spinach, potatoes, all organically without using any chemical fertiliser and pesticides. Gradually, I started growing most common English vegetables such as kale, parsnips, purple sprouting broccoli and fruit, including strawberries, raspberries and gooseberries. While I was surprised by my own success in producing plentiful fruit, vegetables and herbs for our family, I was also saddened by the fact that so many allotment plots around my own plot were left overgrown. Then I started asking questions to myself: Why were people here not interested in growing their own fruit and vegetables on allotments? Maybe people were not aware of the allotments or lacked the support or know-how needed to start growing their own fruit and vegetables? Maybe people found overgrown allotment plots unwelcoming? Maybe the plots were too big for novice gardeners to manage on their own? I wanted to find out what were the real reasons behind so many overgrown and neglected allotments, which once produced half of the country's supply of fresh produce during the second world war. To this end, I started a pilot initiative called 'Grow-Our-Own (GO2)' in the autumn of 2004.

Concept of GO2

The idea was to make the allotments attractive, manageable and sociable, promoting an ethos of growing our own food together and helping each other. Likewise, it was about growing organically and promoting biodiversity.

I initiated a pilot project in the autumn of 2004 by getting an extra plot from the Norwich City Council. I divided the 250 sqm. plot into mini-plots measuring 6 meters by 1.2 meters and started spreading the news about the pilot project through word of mouth. Soon, I received applications from eight novice gardeners interested in growing vegetables.

I personally met the growers once a week offering help and advice and made seed, seedlings, tools and growing aids available to the growers for an annual fee of £5. Most of the growers had good success in growing vegetables, some for the first time in their life.

The news about the pilot scheme spread and as a result, the following year, I received applications from 30 people wanting to join the scheme. This led to the establishment of a formal organisation, Sustainable Living Initiative (SLI), registered as a charity. For more information about SLI, please visit: www.grow-our-own.co.uk.

Main features of GO2

The main features of GO2 schemes are manageable size plots, sharing tools, seeds, plants and information and provision of basic facilities such as toilets and a meeting space (see facilities available on site below). To elaborate further, by subdividing the standard-size Council plots into mini plots as mentioned earlier, it was less daunting for anyone to have go. It also meant that people wanting to try to grow vegetables for the first time did not have to wait for a long time as they would normally have had to in order to get a Council plot. In GO2, we never had a waiting list. Likewise, the provision of tools, seeds, plants, manure and other growing aids were all included in the annual membership fees and meant the first time growers did not have to invest a huge sum of money in buying all the inputs.

Communal facilities available on site (from SLI archive)



Vegetable plants' nursery



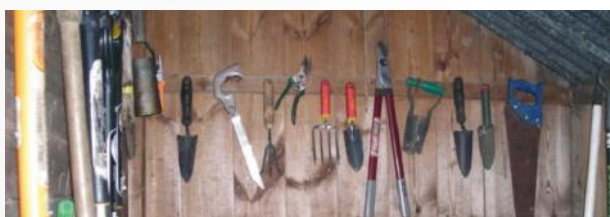
Information centre



Wheelchair accessible raised-beds



Composting toilet



Shared tool-shed



Picnic area

User-friendly gardening information, regular practical trainings and help and advice from the experienced members of the team all encouraged novice gardeners to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs. The scheme succeeded in widening participation of young children and people with mobility issues by creating specially-designed growing areas.

The provision of on-site facilities such as a toilet (most allotment sites in England have no toilets), meeting space, tea-making facilities, regular events such as food-sharing, open days, volunteering days all helped make gardening sociable and enjoyable. Members gradually became part of a growing community of growers and in turn helped manage the scheme.

7. GO2 keeps growing

The success of the pilot scheme led to an exponential growth in membership of GO2 - from 8 members in 2004 to 180 in 2011. Nearly two-thirds of our members were women. Young children, people with mobility difficulties and people from different nationalities joined GO2 scheme.

As a result, SLI acquired seven and half acres of land in 2013 to expand the project. This new project is in one of the deprived areas of Norwich. In addition to the provision of mini plots for individuals, families, schools and community groups, this new site has an orchard, herb garden, forest garden, bee hives and a wild flower meadow (see Picture below). The project provides a model for a sustainable community garden.

8. Reflections

8.1 The role of culture in development

As mentioned earlier, I come from a tropical, mid-hill area of Nepal where my family used to grow food – fruit, vegetables and cereal - for subsistence. I grew up in a community where sharing surplus fruit and vegetables, seeds and tools was prevalent. When I started growing fruit and vegetables in Norwich, I not only had to learn to adapt to the temperate and variable weather pattern of England, but also



had to find out about plant species that I had never known. I remember when I first learned to grow chard and to make jam from reading a book. Eventually, I was not only making jam and growing fruit and vegetables for my family, but was also running training workshops on making jam and writing fruit and vegetable growing manuals for GO2 members. After all these years running the project, I now can see where the idea about setting up a community gardening scheme with a sharing ethos came from: it was informed by my cultural values and the experience of growing food in Nepal.

When I started working in development aid projects in Nepal in the 80s, we had “experts” coming from Western countries (Europe, Americas, Australia) to tell us what to do. Obviously, they came with their own baggage of cultural values and they were often blamed for not understanding Nepali cultural values when a project failed. Here in Norwich, UK, I was teaching people what to grow, how and when, how to cook simple meals using fresh produce from the allotment. Although I was not working as a paid expat from a Western country or leading a donor-funded development aid project, I was knowingly or unknowingly promoting my cultural values in a society which had over the decades become more individualistic and consumerist. Relationships here are very formal, private spaces are more important and the culture of sharing surplus garden produce is disappearing. During my 16 years in GO2 project, on so many occasions, I noticed fruit and vegetables being wasted despite our efforts in encouraging our members to share.

8.2 Impact of modernisation

Although modernisation may help people improve their living standards, in the process we may also lose basic skills needed for survival. It was reported in the media that a huge increase in cases in hospital emergency departments in England in recent years was due to young people not knowing how to cut open avocados! (The Guardian, 30 January, 2020. Danger! 'Avocado hand' is on the rise – here's how to stay safe ..). Because of the easy availability of ready meals and cheap junk food, quite a lot of people these days do not know how to cook a simple meal using fresh produce. I hope Nepalis will continue their dal-bhat cooking culture and eating meals together instead of totally relying on fast-foods delivered to their doors! It is also important to prepare our children with basic survival skills - be it growing, picking and chopping vegetables or cooking meals and preserving fruit and vegetables. Although learning is a never-ending process, the path from knowledge to attitude and to practice is never straightforward.

9. Conclusion

The example of a small community gardening project in Norwich discussed in this article highlights the importance of connectedness between people as well as between people and the environment. Gardening is good for health and wellbeing on its own, but gardening together is even better as it helps to grow not only plants but community. In the process of learning to grow fruit and vegetables in GO2, members have also made friends and developed a sense of community.

Similarly, growing at least some fruit, vegetables and herbs organically in our own gardens is good for our health and wellbeing. By adopting organic practices, we not only look after our health and wellbeing but also the health and wellbeing of our environment. For all of us, it is a very small price to pay to make our planet a better place to live in. ♦♦

Making Academia-Industry Interface in Tourism & Hospitality

Introduction

After stronger than expected recovery in 2022, the year 2023 could see international tourist arrivals return to pre-pandemic levels worldwide. Based on United Nations World Tourism Organisation's (UNWTO) forward-looking scenarios for 2023, it is expected that international tourist movements could reach 80% to 95% of pre-pandemic levels this year. UNWTO anticipates a strong year for the sector even in the face of diverse challenges including the economic situation and continued geopolitical uncertainty. Preliminary figure show that, more than 900 million tourists travelled internationally in 2022, which was double the number recorded in 2021 though still 63% of pre-pandemic levels. Over 1.5 billion international tourist arrivals recorded worldwide before pandemic in 2019. Due to this, the rapidly developing knowledge based service economy had an increased demand for professionals to manage the tourism business effectively. And this is precisely the reason why amongst various other fields of knowledge, desire for acquiring management qualifications is growing, both amongst the fresh graduates and working executives.

Tourism & hospitality education in Nepal has been on a rapid rise in last one and half decade. Before late 1990's, tourism and hospitality education was not offered as a separate area of specialization. Employees in the tourism businesses were mostly from locally trained in vocational fields or graduates from universities abroad.

Literature show that before 2008 there were about 32 types of training packages being offered in Nepal in the tourism areas by different institutions (Table 1).

It is also claimed that all types of training packages run that time were by various



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institutions and were focused on the local community/ people, tourism entrepreneurs/ professionals and tourism development workers. Those training programs were broadly classified as 6 main disciplines related to tourism development and management. They included: (a) Trekking, Mountaineering and Tour Guide (Nature, Culture, Heritage based), (b) Travel/ Tour and Hospitality Management, (c) Food/ Lodge (Accommodation) Services, (d) Destination Planning, Development and Management, (e) Tourism Interpretation, Promotion and Marketing, and (f) Enterprise/ Entrepreneurship/ Leadership Development & Management.

All those training packages were ranging from 1 day to 9 months duration. Majority of the training courses have been offered by Government owned Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management (NATHM) together with some private institutions. In addition, some of the tourism colleges were offering few specific tailor-made tourism trainings upon special demands.

At present, tourism education and training activities are booming in Nepal. There are

Table 1: Tourism training packages offered by various institutions

SN	Name of the training course	Duration	Special target groups of the training	Training providers
I. Trekking/ Mountaineering/ Tour Guiding (Nature, Culture, Heritage)				
1.	Tour/Local Tour Guide	2 weeks	Interested persons in guiding	Pokhara Tourism Training Center (PTTC)
2.	Mountaineering	Various duration	Climbers, Mountaineering Guides	Nepal Mountaineering Instructors' Association (NMIA)
3.	Training on Religions to Guides	5-7 days	Guides	Tourist Guide Association of Nepal (TURGAN),
4.	Senior River Guide (Higher Level)	1 week	S.L.C. pass	Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management (NATHM) Nepal Association of Rafting Agencies (NARA)
5.	Junior River Guide (Middle Level)	2 weeks	S.L.C. pass	NATHM/NARA
6.	River Guide (Basic Level)	5 weeks	Literate	NATHM/NARA
II. Travel/ Tour/ & Hospitality Management				
1.	Front Office (Desk) Operation/ Hotel Reception	7 Months	SLC	PTTC, Private institutions,
2.	Travel Trade (Agency) Operations	1 to 9 months	Graduates	Kathmandu Academy of Tourism and Hospitality (KATH), Private institutes
3.	Tour Package Designing and Costing	1 week	10+2 pass	KATH,
4.	Airlines Ticketing	1 week to 3 months	SLC	PTTC, Private institutions, KATH
5.	IATA Basic Training (Ticketing and Fare Construction)	1 week	BA	Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents (NATTA)
III. Food/ Lodge (Accommodation) Services				
12.	Cooking/ Bakery (Food Preparation and Control)	10 days to 1 month	8 class passed	PTTC, Private institutions,
13.	Hotel/Lodge Management*	1-2 weeks	SLC	PTTC, Private institutions,
14.	Butchery	1 week	Interested butcher/ kitchen staff	Kathmandu Institute of Hospitality Management (KIHM),
15.	Waiter/ Waitress (Food and Bev. Service)	2 weeks to 6 months	10 class passed	PTTC, Private institutions,
16.	Dining Etiquette	1 day	Parliamentarians, VIPs	Silver Mountain School of Hotel Management (SMSHM),
17.	Housekeeping	3 to 6 months	Housekeeping staffs	PTTC, Private institutions,
18.	Bartender	2 weeks	10 class passed	PTTC, Private institutions,
19.	Bell person (boy?)	2 weeks	10 class passed	PTTC
20.	Hotel Representative	1 week	SLC	PTTC
21.	Customer Care	1 week	Hotel and Travel Agency Staff	KATH
22.	Domestic Helper	8 weeks	8 class passed	PTTC
IV. Destination Planning, Development and Management				
23.	Tourism and Environment Awareness (TEAP) Training	2-3 days	Local stakeholders	Nepal Tourism Board (NTB)
24.	Sustainable Tourism Development and Management	1 week	Tourism development workers, professionals	KATH,
25.	Tourism Development Planning	Various duration	Tourism development workers/ professionals	KATH
26.	Eco-tourism and Biodiversity Conservation (ToT)	15 days	Development Workers, Trainers	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)
27.	Eco-tourism Development	1 month	Development workers	Nepal College of Travel and Tourism Management (NCTTM)
28.	Tourism Measurement	Various duration	Tourism professionals	KATH
V. Tourism Interpretation, Promotion & Marketing				

29.	Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Management	1 week	Persons affiliated with VIC management	Kathmandu Environmental Education Project (KEEP),
30.	Tourism Marketing	Various duration	Tourism development workers/ professionals	KATH
VI. Enterprise/Entrepreneurship/ Leadership Development & Management				
31.	Hotel and Travel Trade Account Keeping	3-5 days	Hotel staff, Travel/Trade staff, other interested	KATH
32.	Tourism Enterprise Development Training	5-7 days	Tourism entrepreneurs, development workers etc.	International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Source: Pandey, 2008

more than half a dozen colleges and private companies offering tourism education and tourism-related short training courses, some courses are directly affiliating with international colleges.

The academic courses being run by various colleges include: 10+2 in Hotel Management (HM), Certificate in Food and Beverage Management (F&BM), Dip/ PG Diploma in HM/ Tourism Management, Bachelor in Hotel Management (BHM), Bachelor in Travel and Tourism Management (BTTM)/ Bachelor in Travel and Tourism Studies (BTTS), Bachelor in Science (honors) in Hospitality Management, B.Sc. (honors) in Culinary Art Management,

BBA in HM, Master in Tourism Studies (at KATH), Masters in Tourism Management (proposed by NCTTM), Masters in Tourism and Hospitality Management (proposed by NATHM & ISTHM) (NATHM 2008, PTTC 2008, NTHMC 2008).

NATHM, in addition to three academic courses (MHM, BHM and BTTM), run short training courses targeting to rural destinations and the people from disadvantaged communities including women, Dalits and conflict affected people from different parts of the country. Among the institutions, NATHM runs about 2 dozens, of tourism training courses in Nepal (Table 2) (NATHM 2019).

Table 2: Training packages offered by NATHM (including academic courses)			
S.N.	Title/ Types Courses	Duration	Minimum criteria for the participants
A.	Master in Hotel Management (MHM)	2 yrs (4 semester)	Bachelor or equivalent
B.	Bachelor in Hotel Management, (BHM)	4 yrs (8 semester)	10 +2 or equivalent with minimum 45% in aggregate marks
C.	Bachelor in Travel and Tourism Management. (BTTM)	4 yrs(8 semester)	10 +2 or equivalent
D. Hotel Sector Basic Training			
1	Food Preparation & Control	6 months & 3 months	S.L.C. Pass
2	Food & Beverage Service	6 months	S.L.C. Pass
3	Housekeeping	6 months	Test Pass
4	Front Office Operation	6 months	10 + 2 Pass or Equivalent
In-service Training (Basic)			
5	Food Preparation & Control	4 weeks	Employed in industry & must have 1 year experience
6	Food & Beverage Service	4 weeks	Employed in industry & must have 6 months experience
7	Housekeeping	4 weeks	-do-
8	Front Office	4 weeks	S.L.C. pass with 1-year experience in tourist standard hotel.
9	Bar Man	2 weeks	Employed in the hotel industry & must have 1 year experience
Supervisor Training			
10	Food Preparation and Control	3 weeks	S.L.C. pass with 5 years experience in related field.
11	Food & Beverage Service (Captain)	6 months	1 year experience with basic training from NATHM or work experience as a waiter trainee captain or barman with S.L.C. pass
12	Housekeeping	6 months	I.A. pass or S.L.C. with basic training from NATHM and 1 year experience in 3 to 5 star hotel.

E. Tour/Travel & Trekking Sector			
13	Tourist Guide	10 weeks	Graduate in any discipline
14	Tourist Guide Refresher Course	1 week	Minimum 3 years of guiding experience
15	Travel Agency Ticketing and Fare Construction	24 weeks	I.A. pass or equivalent
16	In-service Ticketing for travel agency personnel	2 weeks	I.A. pass or equivalent with 1 year working experience in travel trade area recommended by NATA.
17	Trekking Cook & Waiter	4 weeks	To understand and speak Nepali and English and should have 1 year of cooking experience in a Trekking Agency.
18	Trekking Guide	6 weeks	To understand and have basic knowledge of English communication with 2 years of work experience.
19	Senior River Guide (Higher Level)	1 week	S.L.C. pass with 2 years work experience on river as a trainee between 18-30 years of age, certified by NARA
20	Junior River Guide (Middle Level)	2 weeks	S.L.C. pass with 12 years work experience in rafting as a river guide or in the management position in Rafting Agency recommendation from Nepal Association of Rafting Agencies
21	River Guide (Basic Level)	5 weeks	Able to read, write & communicate English, 2 years working experience, sound knowledge of swimming and recommendation from NARA
F. Other Training			
22	Mobile Outreach Training on Hotel & Lodge Management, Home Stay, Local Guide etc.	10 days	Working in related field
23	Housewife	2½ weeks	Should be able to read and write Nepali.
24	Hotel Maintenance	2 weeks	Working in the same field in a hotel.
25	Indian Cookery	3 months	S.L.C. Pass
26	Chinese Cookery	3 months	S.L.C. Pass
Source: Pandey 2008, NATHM 2019			

Need for Academia-Industry Interface

Academia - Industry Interface is an interactive and collaborative arrangement between academic institutions and business corporations for the achievement of certain mutually inclusive goals and objectives. Previously, tourism and hospitality business schools were looking for placements and internships for their students and the industry for fresh recruits who are well trained and equipped with the right KSA (knowledge, skills and attitude) to be able to contribute to organization's growth. Now the tourism business organisations are placing growing emphasis on finding the "right person" for the right job. Hence, it forces the tourism business institutions to think more carefully on their quality, and similarly, the academic institutions to move forward as per the need of the tourism industry.

Today, globally, it is seen that the academic institutions have realized the importance of

'working closely with employers' mainly for the following reasons:

- there being increasing complexity in academic and business world and constantly changing needs of the industry;
- Increasing criticality of human competence in creating and sustaining competitiveness of the organizations;
- Shift in management paradigm of tourism institutions from earlier academic models to revenue based models. ;
- Growing competition for student placements and industry mind-share, with rapid increase in the number of tourism schools and hence the management graduates;
- Growing pressure from industry to make their fresh recruits productive from day one to reduce the subsequent training costs.
- Increasing interdependence between academia and industry to satisfy need for sustenance and innovation in their respective areas.

Type of Interface Needed

Many industry in the successful tourism nations think that rather than just being the employers of tourism and hospitality institutions output, today they have become stakeholders and partners in progress. Industry on the other hand has also discovered the advantages of collaborative learning opportunities. Business corporations seek to play increasingly important role in activities of academic institutions to incubate the talent they need. The shift towards the short-term performance metrics and shareholders interest has led to a number of changes in conduct of business, which has translated its effect on tourism schools.

So, it is argued and recommended towards increasing and enhancing academia-industry interface, which may broadly include the following types:

- Greater degree of industry-tourism school collaboration to integrate employer's needs into the programmes on offer;
- Real involvement with industry to allow students to gain valuable practical experience and also to facilitate development of business;
- Improve the programmes by encouraging the participation of a number of guest speakers who can offer their own practical experiences;
- Academic staff should be encouraged to keep their skills updated by undertaking practical consultancy on regular basis.

There are other number of avenues, through which tourism institutions could collaborate with industry. Some of the common globally used avenues are:

1. Guest Lectures by industry representatives.
2. Suggestions in curriculum and content designing.
3. Executive Education and Management Development Programmes.
4. Joint seminars by academia and industry both for executives and students.
5. Consulting on tourism development, management and related issues by academia;

6. Academia generating ideas and acting as incubators to new business.
7. Inclusion of tourism industry experts in governing councils and other board of studies.
8. Tourism industry providing financial and infrastructure support to tourism schools for their development.
9. Funding academic and applied project research works.
10. Organising training programmes according to industry requirements

It is observed that the major objective of academia-industry partnership and initiatives taken in this direction revolves around getting lucrative and better job opportunities for graduating students.

It is also argued that Academia-Industry collaboration is a must if industry has to benefit from research and development activity at tourism schools, and such a relationship should be encouraged across cultures for the benefit of global tourism promotion. More and more opportunities need to be provided to the faculty through applied research, and case writing to keep them abreast of changes in the tourism world and hence enhance the overall teaching-learning experience.

Likewise, Tourism and Hospitality institutions have to move beyond the phenomenon of 'working with employers' towards the concept of 'working with partners'. The collaboration between the two is dynamic and complex. A synergistic relationship has to be carved between the tourism schools and the industry so that both can benefit and also contribute to enhancing the entire teaching-learning process.

Future Actions

Academia-Industry Interface is a less researched area in tourism and Hospitality education in Nepal. Though regarded as a critical challenge to tourism and hospitality education in Nepal, less has been suggested on the right path and strategy of cashing on this partnership and aligning it for the benefit of both industry and the academics.

The potential areas of collaboration need to be explored in detail to identify the nitty-gritty of the Nepalese tourism industry and developing a right strategy to make them work. Every tourism school follows a different model and hence need to adopt the Industry partnership model, which best suites their academic model and objectives. One cannot do everything but need to concentrate on some areas to derive the best of them. Researchers can formulate the hypothesis to test the suitability of various modes for different academic models and develop a flexible Industry Partnership model, which can be adapted by tourism institutions according to their own set-up.

Learning can be defined as a process of progressive change from ignorance to knowledge, from inability to competence, and from indifference to understanding. In much the same manner, instruction-or education-can be defined as the means by which we systematize the situations, conditions, tasks materials, and opportunities by which learners acquire new or different ways of thinking, feeling, and doing. This systematization can be brought about in tourism and hospitality education only through right synergy between Academia and the Industry.

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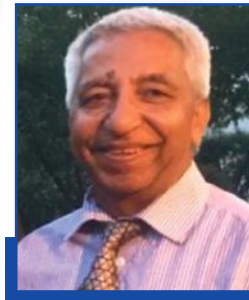
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International Relations and Networking In the Context of ABAN

It is a matter of great happiness and immense pride that Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) has been celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year. It is also associated with profound relationship between Nepal and the United Kingdom that formally started in 1816 AD and has ever since remained friendly and cordial. These two friendly countries have already celebrated the bicentennial (200 years) of the establishment of diplomatic relations throughout the year 2018 with a number of commemorative programs and exchange of visits. "British Gurkhas" being a cardinal feature of the friendship between the two countries, there have been several activities of mutual benefits over the years.

In fact, the United Kingdom has been a reliable partner in the development of Nepal. The relationship has been longstanding, full of trust and mutual understanding. Among others, there have been several and solid contributions from the UK in the field of education in Nepal. Quite a number of scholarships, provided for the Nepalese nationals, paved the way to obtain an international level of education and exposure in different universities and colleges of the United Kingdom. It ranges from education, law, engineering, medicine to tourism, journalism and many more. The knowledge and skill obtained by the high and middle level human resource have been widely involved for nation building in Nepal.

ABAN is an umbrella and common platform to unite the alumnus who did short or long periods of studies in the UK and devoted themselves in various sectors and services of Nepal. As ABAN is celebrating



Shanker Prasad Paudel
Past President, ABAN

the silver jubilee of its inception this year, it is now high time to further strengthen and extend international relationships and networking with mother institutions and other like-minded organizations.

Immediate link of ABAN with the British government in Nepal is through the British Council and the British Embassy. The registered office of ABAN is still located at the British Council Lazimpat, which obviously denotes true patronship. Several ABAN events like Annual General Meetings, talk programmes, conferences and orientations took place in the premises of the British council and largely sponsored by them. The then HE British Ambassadors in Nepal and the British council country directors would attend the events as





chief guest and guest of honour respectively. Most of the ABAN magazines and Directories were sponsored either by the British Council. There had been easy access for ABAN executives to the British embassy and ABAN members had the privilege of attending receptions of Queen's Birthday celebrations and other important British festivals. However, such opportunities are limited in recent years. It is now the responsibility of we ABANIANS to maintain the relationship and regain the facilities for mutual benefits.

The ABAN Statute also outlines the following objectives, among others, in regard to International relationship and Networking:

- Maintain contact with the British Educational institutions, the British Council and the British embassy.
- Strengthen Professional, Educational, Cultural and build other relations between ABAN members and the British professionals.

The objective of our association also demands active connection with the British Council, the British Embassy and other like-minded individuals, institutions and associations, including the Nepal Britain Society, Chevening Alumni in Nepal etc. Besides, we may join hands with other international associations like Association of Nepalese Alumni from

Australia (ANAA), America Nepal Society (ANS), and many others such associations.

ABAN may also extend working relationships with Rotary international Lions International, professional organizations like National teachers association, Private and boarding school organizations etc. with whom we can partner to achieve our objectives like :

- arrange professional/ educational gatherings and debates on the topics of national and international interests.
- Organize academic discourse on topics related to Nepal and any other cultural and social activities.

More importantly, ABAN needs to approach government organizations like the Ministries of Education, Foreign Affairs and Civil Aviation and Tourism etc. for joining hands and partnering for professional inputs especially to address the needs of the people of Nepal.

Finally, one of the collective commitments of ABAN Silver Jubilee celebration and of the present executive committee is to further strengthen and elaborate international relations and networking. Let's join hands in hands to fulfill our objective more effectively. It is believed that the initiative will activate current members and motivate potential ABAN members as well. ♦♦♦

Remembering Ms. Margaret Milroy:

The Lady from Edinburgh and Her Set of Spoons

One fine evening during the month of autumn in 1975 I meet Ms. Margaret Milroy at Edinburgh International Club, located somewhere between the famous Royal Mile and the Princess street, the main thoroughfare of the city overlooking the garden of the historic Castle. I was then a graduate student studying at University of Edinburgh. The club organised several cultural programs and it gave us the opportunity to mingle with locals and take part in the Scottish dancing classes.

Margaret told me that she has been to Kathmandu as a tourist during the spring of 1974, and did stay at Hotel Crystal then operating at the heart of Kathmandu. Obviously, the hotel location, she told me, gave her enough opportunity to walk around the historic Hanuman Dhoka Palace Square, one of the seven world heritage sites of the Kathmandu Valley, and the traditional old city of Kathmandu. Kathmandu, half a century back, was obviously quite different with a tranquil atmosphere retaining much of the traditional urban character with the lesser population and lesser number of automobiles. She seemed to like her Nepal visit, which paved the way for developing our relationship. She was on her sixties, where as I was in my thirties.

I was in my second year writing a thesis for the M. Phil program at the Department of Urban Design and Regional Planning within the University. At times, Ms. Milroy used to invite me for dinner at her house. Possibly, she wanted me, as a foreign student far away from home, to feel at home, and I did appreciate her understanding and friendly gesture. I also occasionally did help her with some shopping for her household goods. I was then living in a house near the Botanical Garden of Edinburgh, and the land lady, a French lady from Belgium



Umesh Bahadur Malla

married to a Scottish gentleman, and separated later on, used to serve us with breakfast and dinner.

She lived at one of those nice residential enclaves, called Belgrave Place, at the proximity of the west end of the Princess Street, the main thoroughfare of Edinburgh city centre, and about 15 minutes' walk from the Charlotte Square, the western section of the Edinburgh New Town built around later part of the 18th century during the Georgian Era. The residential area consisted of 3 to 4 storeys tenement houses along with a basement consisting of 2 to 3 bedrooms as



Dinner at Ms. Milroy Apartment with Nargis Islam of Bangladesh and myself, (1974)

one family residence, and was endowed with an ample open space consisting of a well maintained lawn with trees. The open space which was bounded by a railing that enclosed the greenery and by a street network on the periphery was only accessible to the residents. The architectural harmony of the buildings was obvious with the stone façade, a common roofline, and common repeating elements of windows, doors and columns reflecting the characteristics of the typical Scottish towns. This was my reflection as a student of urban planning at that time.

Even today after a period of last 200 years those houses still seem to be the liveable quarters in Edinburgh. I made several visits to the Belgrave Place during my short trips to UK from Nepal spanning a period of three decades from the year 1990 to 2018. The nostalgic memory of the enclave is still fresh in my mind even to this day,

Another aspect of my association with Ms Milroy was more of a sociological interest. I did not know much about her past life. She seems satisfied with her life as a spinster. Once I asked her whether she had any relatives. She told me that she had one in London who was not in touch with her since a long time. This was a quite revelation to me as someone belonging to a joint extended family in Kathmandu with three generations under one roof, and with a strong family bond. My association with Ms. Milroy helped me to



Our apartment at Philip Henmen Hall, Royal Mile, Edinburgh (1974)

understand the individualistic norms of the western society. She, however, has had friends and neighbours in her locality on whom she could count at times of needs and emergency.

My wife Sarala joined me from Kathmandu in the fall of 1974. The university allotted us a married couple apartment at the Philip Henmen Hall, one of the University of Edinburgh owned student accommodations. It was at the proximity of the Edinburgh Castle. The Henmen Hall environment was very much international as it accommodated a lot of students from various countries. Meanwhile, my thesis was going on at the steady, but sluggish pace, and my wife's part time job took up some of her time too.

As time went by, and destiny would have desired, we were soon going to be blessed with a girl child. We had to look for a new accommodation as the Henmen Hall as per the university regulations did not allow the couple with children. The health workers did frequently visit our apartment to check on the health of my wife since she was on the way to giving birth to the child, and it appears, we were well covered by National Health Service provisions backed by the insurance. In due time, the baby girl was born at the local hospital, in the month of August 1975.

The arrival of the baby girl, I still have the vivid memories, created a flurry of excitements among my classroom colleagues, a majority from Latin American countries. They visited our apartments with their spouses. I particularly do remember my Mexican colleague Manual Esparza and his wife¹ who were keen to give a Spanish name 'Sama' to the baby girl. Meanwhile, Ms. Margaret Milroy, who was also excited enough to give the baby a name 'Heather' – the name of a Scottish flower. So we compromised with the name –Sama Heather Malla to the baby, and her passport carried this name.

Ms. Milroy visited us, and also invited us to her place. She was keen to see that the baby, hardly few months old, is taken a good care of. In this context, we also would like to recall an interesting episode – an unexpected arrival of



Ms. Milroy, Sarala and myself along with the baby carrier at the Belgrave Place Lawn with the buildings on the background. (1975)

our old colleague in the Nepal Government and a family friend in our apartment at St. Mary Street of Edinburgh. She was no other than Dr. Chhatra Amatya, (All India Institute of Medical Sciences) a medical doctor joining the advances course in psychiatry at Edinburgh University. She hailed from Dharan, Eastern Nepal, and got her medical degree from a prestigious medical college in New Delhi. Her uncle Mr. Jib Lal Shrestha, the English teacher, and who came to study English language in Edinburgh did accompany her. He later on received a lot of acclaims as the renowned educationist in Dhankuta, a traditional town in Eastern Hills. Their arrival was a big moral support for us in a foreign environment, and we have had Nepalese dinner 'Dal Bhat' a couple of times. We did also introduce Dr. Chhatra to Ms. Milroy, and they seemed to go along quite well with Dr. Chatra invited a couple of times by Milroy at her place.



Mrs. June Ross, Margaret's Neighbour and friend at her residence at Belgrave Place, Edinburgh. A set of spoons left for us by Ms. Milroy.

After coming back to Nepal, I lost touch with Ms. Milroy. In 1980s, when I got to visit Edinburgh, I came to learn that she is taken care of in the senior citizen home, and is not in good health. During a brief visit to Edinburgh, I could not manage to go and meet her. Her friend and neighbour Ms. June Ross communicated to me in January 2005 that Ms. Milroy has passed away. A pang of grief overtook me to learn about the sad passing away of Ms. Milroy. She was our dear friend radiating much warmth and inspiration to our stay while in Edinburgh. Those little parting gifts were a pleasant surprise for us!

I requested the items to be sent to my son Pritesh who was already in Reading at that time. A transcript of her letter addressed to Pritesh follows below. ♦♦

4 Belgrave Place, Edinburgh EH4 3AN

14.5.00

Phone: 0131-3322144

Dear Pritesh

Here are the little spoons for you to take, please next time you are going home. They are the promised remembrance of your parent's friend, Margaret Milroy.

I hope, all is going well for you at college. Do contact me if you are ever in Edinburgh with time to spare.

With best wishes.

June Ross

The Life and Times of Madam Tussauds

For any visitor at the display section of London's famous Madam Tussauds at Marylebone road, the place never fails to leave them reeling with amazement as they step out to the street. The story behind the place is no less stirring and starts with six year old girl Mary. Born in 1761 at Strasbourg in France, Mary grew up without ever knowing her father who was a soldier in the Austrian army who died before his daughter was born.

After her husband's death, Mary's mother began working in Bern, Switzerland for Dr. Philip Corcious who was a designer of wax figurines. In those days, Prince of Conti was a rich Parisian art enthusiast who invited artists from various countries to promote arts and literature in France. When he heard of Dr. Corcious and his work, the latter was invited to Paris who in turn brought Mary and her mother along. In those days, Paris was a far cry from the cleanliness of Switzerland; its narrow streets squalid and muddy with the rain which started reeking when the sun was up. The squalor and unhygienic water took many to an untimely death.

In Paris, Mary's mother would cook food while Mary played in the doctor's workroom. He taught Mary to call him 'uncle' instead of 'Sir', which would have been the norm. Mary had a good eye for detail which she used to observe particulars about the faces, limbs and hair of guests and visitors to the home and have a mental sketch of it.

Of the many personalities that Philip made acquaintances in his life, the most important proved to be the King of France, Louie XV and his lover, Jean Du Berry. Du Berry lauded Philip's work which served to increase his fame even more. Famous personalities from all across the world including US President Benjamin Franklin continued to meet Philip



Dr. Rama Bashyal

Email: bashyalrama@gmail.com

even after the death of his patron, the Prince of Conti.

All the while, Mary was quietly honing her skill and worked with diligence and excellence. She was now able to fashion full length wax statues and at the age of 17, she crafted a wax figurine of Voltaire, the famous French writer. Her success drew attention of the royal family and she was introduced to the sister of the French king, Madam Elizabeth. Elizabeth later invited Mary to Versailles at the age of 19. During the eight years that Mary spent at the palace, she was treated as part of the royal family. There she sculpted the statues of the king and queen at dinner.

During the time of French revolution, anti-establishment sentiment was bubbling over due to the ever widening gap between the rich and the poor, it was unsafe to be associated with the royal family, let alone speak of their name. Mary then left the palace and returned to Philip's workroom where she continued to make wax statues of various leaders that ruled post-revolution France. Mary and her mother were arrested once, and tortured inside a prison in France, but were released soon after.

With almost no knowledge, Philip who had been a father figure, mentor and friend to

Mary, suddenly fell ill and passed away. He bequeathed his property and his studio to Mary. After a while, Mary married Francoise Tussauds, of whom little is known, saves for the fact that Mary took up his family name. Her last work before leaving France was a statue of Napoleon Bonaparte. The mother of two left for England along with her elder son and some equipment, leaving her younger son behind with her mother and husband in France.

In London, Mary established herself as a successful professional wax sculptor. At a time when newspapers weren't easily available to the masses, the novelty of seeing a lifelike figurine of famous personalities was immense. After perpetrating a failed bid on the life of the then king of England, a soldier of the British army was to be executed. Madam Tussauds promptly arrived at the prison with some oil and plaster and prepared a model of the prisoner. Kings or criminals, Mary went on with her work without prejudice. Her younger son also arrived in England some years later and with the help of her two sons, Mary remained busy holding exhibitions of her sculptures and became a prominent self-made female personality, no mere feat in those days.

On entering the exhibition room in London, one can see a wax statue of a petite elderly woman in a black dress and hat - Madam Tussauds. She crafted a statue of herself at the age of 81. On the other side is a statue of a woman of exquisite beauty whose body gives the appearance of slight movement. This is probably the oldest specimen in the exhibition room and is the statue of Jean Du Berry, made by Philip.

The room remains closed on only two days in a year, Christmas and New Year's Day. It remains open seven days a week and it is estimated



that more than 2.5 million people visit the place every year. The officials at Tussauds' are constantly contemplating new world figures to add to their growing collection. The figures, with painstakingly designed make up and clothes appear very lifelike. The hairs are regularly washed, faded paints reapplied and figures cleaned.

A bus stop in London is named after her husband, Francoise Tussauds.

While studying in the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow in 1994 we had two weeks London visit program including the parliament of United Kingdom. So we had an opportunity to visit Madam Tussauds gallery and many other historical places in London. ♦♦

Investing in the Early Life Years:

Who Benefits and where is the Equity?

Every year more than a half million maternal deaths and around four million perinatal deaths occur in low –and middle- income countries, mostly among the poorest groups within these countries. Vaccines will halt some diseases, and larvicides will wipe out some vectors, but such approaches have no bearing on prenatal care and child birth. For these, a robust, functioning health system with equitable access is crucial for good results. Despite important gains in population stabilization and improved maternal –child health there are still major unfinished agendas in lowering high maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity in many poor countries including Nepal.

Data from 56 low and middle-income countries indicate that along with the infectious diseases, maternal and neonatal conditions account for substantial parts of the health gap; between rich and poor countries and the richer and poorer sections of population. For example 99 percent of maternal deaths occur in the developing world. Death rates during the neonatal period also revealed vast differences between rich and poor countries. Only one percent of all neonatal deaths occur in high-income countries, where the neonatal mortality rate averages 4 per 1000 live births. In low-income countries, the average is about 33 per 1000 live births. Having recognized this, interventions during pregnancy, around birth and in the early life years produce large and immediate benefits by reducing risk of adverse outcomes in short term, but also create the conditions for improved outcomes and more effective interventions at the subsequent stages. The role of the international development agencies such as the World Bank is to maintain and increase its support to strategies, programs and interventions that have been proven effective in preventing and



Nastu P Sharma, Ph. D.

mitigating risks during the earliest years of life. Within these, more attention should be paid to areas that appear key to the achievement of the MDGs which require scaling up (nutrition, child health, early child development linked to early support to parenting skills), or have been relatively neglected such as essential newborn care, prevention of domestic violence, and children's environmental health.

Key Words: Maternal and child health, low- and high-income countries,

Who Are Beneficiaries?

The financing institutions like World Bank and Asian Development Bank provided assistance in MCH over 30 years and has contributed more than \$3.5 billion to these issues. In many countries in East Asia and Latin America, fertility has declined rapidly. A number of countries in Europe and Central Asia have low or even negative population growth rates. Life expectancy has increased dramatically for many countries, as has child survival. Some countries have been able to reduce maternal mortality. Despite important gains in population stabilization and improved maternal –child health, there are still major unfinished agendas in :

- High maternal mortality and morbidity, unwanted pregnancies and poor women's

- health continue in many poor countries including Nepal.
- Nearly 500,000 women die every year from pregnancy-related causes. For every woman who dies, another 15-30 suffers a debilitating injury, often with life-long consequences.
 - Gaps in sexual and reproductive health care account for nearly one-fifth of the worldwide burden of illness and premature death, and one-third of the illness and death among the women of reproductive age; maternal mortality is the leading cause of death among women age 15-44.
 - There are approximately 75 million unplanned pregnancies a year a third of which result in unsafe abortion.
 - Poor women still lack access to information about their health and their own bodies, and lack access to basic life-saving services.
 - Demand for contraception is growing and an estimated 120 million women want to space or limit further childbearing but lack access to family planning. This number is expected to grow.
 - Each year 2 million girls suffer from harmful traditional practices like female genital cutting.
 - At least 30-40 % of infant deaths are the

result of poor care during pregnancy and delivery.

- Gender and financial inequality persists as women are disproportionately affected by ill health and poor education.
- Adolescent health and development needs are growing as the largest –ever cohort enters their childbearing ages.

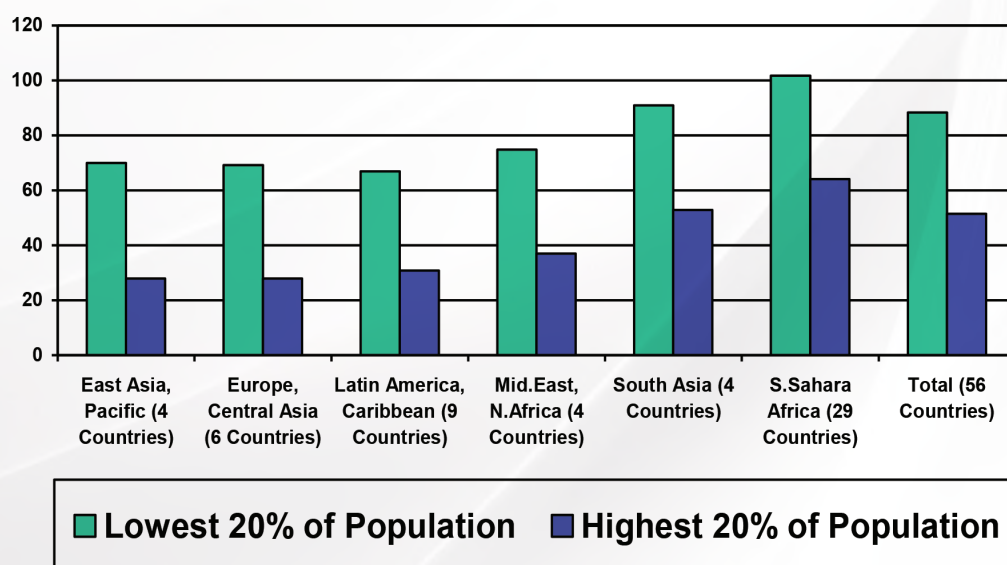
As shown in the figure 1, reported from different studies, the gap in infant mortality rate (IMR) is consistently large in every region where data are available. The gap between the rich and the poor is evident not only in measures such as IMR, and under-five mortality; it extends to measures of malnutrition, such as stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, as fertility outcomes. This disparity of health gains in the past between richer and poorer sections of population in many developing countries despite of huge financial input from internal and external sources has helped

What About Equity?

Where health systems are poor and populations consequently lack appropriate care, a much higher proportion of pregnancies can result in complications, illness, permanent disability, or death of the mother and child. The experience of Sri Lanka shows how this can be averted. In the 1950s, estimates indicated that Sri Lanka's maternal mortality ratio was 500 to 600 per 100,000 live births. By 2003 it had plummeted

to 60, and skilled practitioners were attending 97 percent of births. This was an outcome of continued, dedicated efforts by the government to extend health services, including essential maternal health care, equitably. The success of Sri Lanka is related

Figure-1 INFANT MORTALITY RATES, among Lowest and Highest 20% of the Population, 56 Low- and Middle-Income Countries



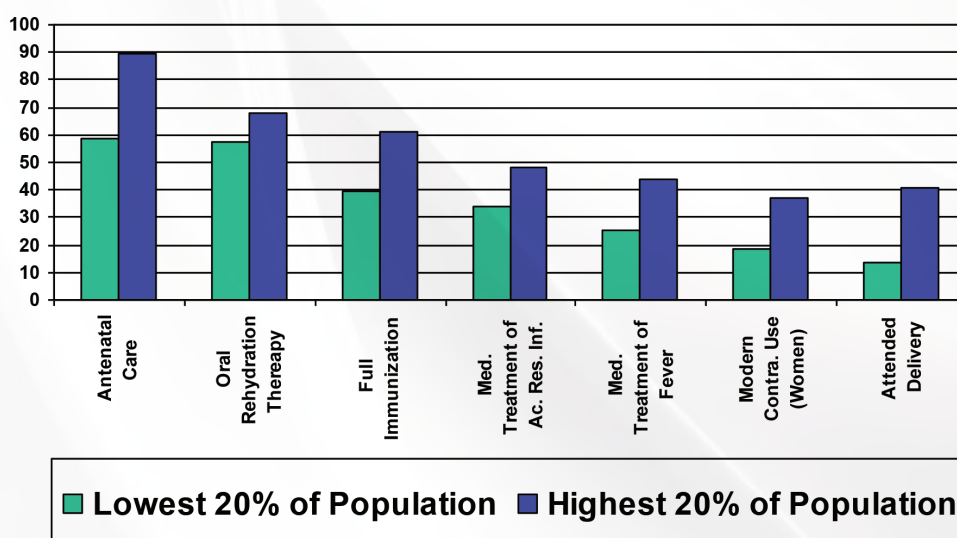
to maternal health specifically, but it could not have been achieved without building a robust, equitable health system overall. It has pursued its goal of building a system accessible to all in many different ways: it has purposely located facilities in rural areas, made care universally free, provided transportation networks, and strengthened referral systems. In developing human resources, it has paid particular attention to midwifery. Other basic attributes of the Sri Lankan system have been making good use of information for monitoring and planning, improving the quality of care, and targeting underserved population.

Along with the infectious diseases, maternal and neonatal conditions account for a substantial part of the health gap between rich and poor countries; for example, more than 99 percent of maternal deaths occur in the developing world. This differential represents the largest single disparity in public health statistics between low-income and high-income countries. Overall, the average lifetime risk of maternal death is 1 in 4,000 in high-income countries, 1 in 61 in middle-income countries, and 1 in 17 in the lowest-income countries.

Death rates during the neonatal period

Figure-2 USE OF BASIC MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

Coverage Rates among Lowest and Highest 20% of the Population, 56 Low- and Middle Income Countries



(from birth to 28 days old) also reveal vast differences between rich and poor countries. Only one percent of all neonatal deaths occur in high-income countries, where the neonatal mortality rate averages 4 per 1,000 live births. In low-income countries, the average is about 33 per 1,000 live births. The majority of neonatal deaths occur in South Asia because of its sizable population; however, 20 of the countries with the highest neonatal mortality rates are in Sub-Saharan Africa.

International agreements have recognized the importance of reducing maternal and child mortality in low- and middle-income countries. Indeed, two of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) address these issues: the fourth goal calls for reducing mortality among children under five by two-thirds and the fifth calls for reducing the maternal mortality ratio by three-fourths, both by 2015. The neonatal deaths account for 40 percent of all deaths of children under five, that the first week of life is when 75 percent of these neonatal deaths occur, and that 50 percent of maternal deaths occur in the first week after childbirth.

The maternal and infant mortality rates in a particular country may reveal more about the state of its health system than any other figures. Achieving low maternal and infant mortality rates requires an integrated and well-functioning health care delivery system

that reaches communities with education and counseling, helps people avoid unwanted pregnancies, promotes good nutrition, screens for risks, assists healthy births, and responds to obstetric emergencies effectively and equitably.

As shown in figure 2, coverage rates of almost all the public health interventions for mother and children are relatively higher for richer section of population as compared to poorer 20 percent. Immediately one would ask why this does happen despite all our efforts to reach to targeted groups of population (i.e lowest 20% of population). As we also know that most maternal deaths and disabilities are preventable, and the interventions required to prevent them are known. So what are the barriers that keep women and children from utilizing interventions? Poor health sector performance is one reason: lack of trained personnel, poor deployment of personnel, ineffective referral, substandard treatment at referral centers, lack of suitably equipped transport facility, lack of medicines and equipment, and so on. Economists refer to them as supply –side-barriers.

The risks children and youth face vary greatly among regions and countries. Moreover, the local economic and cultural conditions of a country may determine its understanding of issues concerning childhood, adolescence and youth. Thus, there is the need to respond with tailor-made approaches, without predefined packages.

Investing In Early years

Interventions during pregnancy, around birth and in the early life years produce large and immediate benefits by reducing the risk of adverse outcomes in the short term, but also create the conditions for improved outcomes and more effective interventions at subsequent stages. For example, chances of school enrollment are increased, and risk of vertical transmission of HIV/AIDS is reduced. Moreover early interventions are the most effective in improving equity and breaking the poverty cycle because the disparity of vulnerabilities, risks, and adverse outcomes between the poor and the better off is greater among infants and young children than at older ages.

The role of international financing agencies in health such as the World Bank is to maintain and increase its support to strategies, programs and interventions that have been proven effective in preventing and mitigating risks during the earliest years of life. Within these, more attention should be paid to areas that appear key to the achievement of the MDGs which require scaling up of nutrition, child health, early child development linked to early support to parenting skills, or have been relatively neglected areas of essential newborn care, prevention of domestic violence, and children's environmental health.

Recent evidence supports the need for this new focus:

Newborn deaths represent almost two-thirds of infant deaths and over one third of under five deaths in many countries. Neonatal diseases produce often severe and permanent damage. Effective and low-cost interventions to reduce neonatal deaths and disease exist and need to be integrated into health systems.

Early support to at-risk parents can improve the health, nutrition and cognitive development outcome for the child, contribute to prevent child abuse and neglect as well as improve the health of the mother.

A substantial proportion, more than 40%, of the global burden of child death and disability is environment related. The proportion is even higher in the poorer countries. Ensuring better water and sanitation and reducing exposure to indoor air pollution and hazardous chemicals would help to prevent many of these deaths, reduce cognitive impairment during the early years and avoid long term adverse outcomes.

Increased efforts in the above areas imply complementing various sectoral investments and are consistent with the strategic directions of acting as early as possible along the life cycle. The recommendations of international forums also provide support for action in these areas.

♦♦♦

Glimpses of ABAN Newsletter



NEWSLETTER

No.1: January 2023

ABAN Newsletter: Year 25, Volume ECM 13, Issue No. 1, January 2023

Ms Padma Vaidya Elected 11th President of ABAN



Twentyfifth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) was held on January 07, 2023 at ULCI, Dillabazar, Kathmandu, with Dr. Badri Raj Pandey as the chief guest. The meeting was chaired by the outgoing president of ABAN Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant.

ABAN Past Presidents Mrs. Namrata Sharma, Mr. Lal Krishna KC, Mr. Shanker Prasad Paudel and Immediate Past President Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha were present along with the 12th Executive committee members, Life Members, media advisor and guests. Assistant General Secretary Mr. Hemanta Baral conducted the program and Vice President Ms. Padma Vaidya welcomed the participants and guests to the meeting. In the absence of General Secretary Mrs. Shiba Devi Kafle, Mr. Hemanta Baral presented the annual report (details in the page 4). Treasurer Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhatta presented the financial and Auditor's Report.



Chief Guest Dr. Badri Raj Pandey shared his experience of travel to and education in the UK during early 1960s. He also shared his experience of working in the health sector of the government, particularly in the family planning program. His contributions in the Nepali health sector is exemplary. His expertise and experience, gained through training and work in the UK, have been instrumental in making a positive impact in the health sector of Nepal.

ABAN president Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant made his concluding remarks and IPP Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha gave the Vote of Thanks to conclude the AGM. In the election, Mrs. Padma Vaidya was declared the 11th president of ABAN for 2023-2025.



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Introducing Newly Elected ABAN President Padma Vaidya



Mrs. Padma Vaidya has been serving ABAN since 1998 as executive member and during 2019-2022 she served as Vice President.

She holds M.Sc. in Chemistry from the Tribhuvan University in 1978.

Padma was a British Council Scholar for advanced post graduate studies in the field of Organic Geochemistry back in 1986-87. She did other advance studies in Canada, Italy, Norway, Israel, Iran, India and China for relevant courses in petroleum technologies, geochemistry, energy management, preventive conservation and heritage management.

Padma worked as senior chemist (Under Secretary) at the Department of Mines and Geology for 22 years and as Chief Conservator for 10 years at the Department of Archaeology, Ministry of Tourism. She has active interests in preservation of social and cultural heritage and restoration.



ABAN Newsletter: Year 23, Volume ECM 12, Issue No. 13, Nov. - December 2022

ABAN ECM on AGM and Silver Jubilee Celebration



The Board meeting of the 12th Executive Committee of ABAN held on Nov.01 and 10 made the following decisions:

- Book Talk on "Impressions and Expressions" by Prof. Subas KC and another Talk program will be scheduled after on November 20 general election,
- 24th Annual General Meeting of ABAN will be held on 7th January 2023 and election for the 13th Executive Committee will be done,
- 25th Year: Silver Jubilee will be celebrated on February 4, 2023.

The meeting formed a Silver Jubilee Subcommittee consisting of the following: Coordinator: VP Ms. Padma Vaidya, Members: Treasurer Mr. Madhav Bhatta, Assistant general secretary Mr. Hemanta Baral, ECM members Mr. Uttam Lal Pradhan, Mr. Gobinda Neupane and IPP Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha. Past Presidents Mr. Shanker Poudel and Ms. Namrata Sharma will support as advisors. The President and General Secretary will be the ex officio members of the sub-committee. If necessary, other members will be requested to assist. ABAN Media Advisor Mr. Hari Thapa will assist to organize the celebration.

ABAN Membership Directory and a Souvenir will be published and IPP Maheswor will assist in this task.

Mr. Hemanta Baral suggested to update ABAN website and the meeting approved a budget of Rs.25,000 for it. ABAN President Mr. Uttam Pant proposed to publish a research document about the Nepali students going to the UK for further studies, and how that journey has transformed over the years. Mr. Gobinda Neupane will coordinate the collection of materials from different sources about the UK-Nepal relations to elaborate how the UK education system has contributed to the Nepali society.

Executive Committee meetings held on December 9 and 19 made the following decisions:

- Condolence message to the bereaved family of ECM Member Mrs. Kamal Nayan Pradhan on her mother's untimely demise was issued,
- New website of ABAN designed on dynamic format was approved and instructed to complete it with all data and information about the Association.
- Ms. Padma Vaidya, the coordinator of the Silver Jubilee Committee briefed the development of the activities.
- The President briefed about ABAN's participation in the 47th annual program of Mrigendra Samjhana Medical Trust on December.



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British King Charles III



All the members of the Association of British Alumni in Nepal heartily congratulate HM the King Charles III of the United Kingdom and wish His Majesty good health and long life for a successful reign.

Notice to All ABAN LIFE MEMBERS

1. Interested Life Members of ABAN are hereby invited to apply for serving in the 13th Executive Committee of ABAN for a period of three years from the Annual General Meeting being held on January 07 2023. All Life members of ABAN are eligible to apply for membership of Executive Committee which consists of 13 members, including six office bearers, plus advisors.
2. All ABAN Life Members are invited to the Silver Jubilee celebration on February 4, 2023, and also to contribute article/ write up on the Silver Jubilee Souvenir being released/ published on the occasion.

Contact: mahesworbs@gmail.com

ABAN Newsletter: Year 23, Volume ECM 12, Issue No. 12, September 29, 2022

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) cordially invites you to the

PANEL DISCUSSION

ON

Opportunities for Nepalese Nurses to work in the UK

PANELLISTS

Her Excellency Nicola Pollitt

British Ambassador

Dr. Thaneshwor Bhusal

Under Secretary

Ministry of Labour, Employment And Social Security

Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme! See you there!

Date: Thrusday, 22nd September 2022 (Asoj 6, 2079)

Time: 12:45 PM Sharp

Venue: Universal Language & Computer Institute (ULCI-HALL)

☎01-5970036



The Association of British Alumni in Nepal organized an interactive panel program discussion on September 22 on the Opportunities for Nepalese Nurses to work in the UK at Universal Language & Computer Institute, Kathmandu. Her Excellency Nicolas Pollitt, British Ambassador to Nepal and Dr. Thaneshwor Bhusal, Under Secretary, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security were the panelists on the discussion session moderated by ABAN Past President Mrs. Namrata Sharma.

On August 22, The governments of United Kingdom and Nepal had signed a bilateral agreement on health partnership, opening the door for Nepali nurses to work in the UK.

Under the arrangement, Nepali citizens aged between 20 and 45 years are eligible to apply for the high paying nursing job under the National Health Services in the UK for a term of five years. Nepali citizens will receive the same rights, privileges, protection and dignity as health professionals from the UK, as per the agreement.

The goal of this discussion session is to address key questions about the agreement that interested candidates would have regarding eligibility, application requirements, facilities and other terms of employment under the UK National Health Service.



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Her Excellency Nicolas Pollitt addressed the discussion session and also responded as panelist to questions raised from the floor to clarify about the terms of the agreement and the policy of the British government in dealing with the employment of the Nepalese nurses working in the UK.



ABAN Newsletter: Year 23, Volume ECM 12, Issue No. 11, September 2022

The Queen is Dead, Long Live the King



"Your Excellency,

On behalf of the ABAN family, I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the British people for the demise of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. As the longest reigning monarch in British history, she led an incredible life of service, dedication and dignity towards the British people and the world. She will always be fondly remembered for her innumerable contributions to society around the world. May the departed soul rest in peace, and the British people have the strength to deal with this significant loss."

ABAN President Mr. Uttam Pant wrote to the British Ambassador to Nepal, and also lead a team of ABAN Executives to the Embassy on September 13 to sign the condolence book on the sad demise of the Queen Elizabeth II.



Queen Elizabeth – The Memory Remains

Queen Elizabeth II, the longest serving monarch of the United Kingdom has died at the age of 96 years (1926 April 21 to 2022 September 8). One of the legendary personality of the 20th century, Her late Majesty was famous for her graceful demeanor.

A sweet smile on her face was like an eternal sunshine in the gloomy weather of Britain. Elegance of her attire was the envy of all fashionists. Great Britain had lost its greatness after Second World War, having lost the jewel in its crown-colonial India.

Britain suffered from decades of difficulties - urban decay, rebellious coal miners, threat of communists, Islamic terrorism, and that infamous Irish Republican Army (IRA) bombing, which almost killed her.

She survived the bomb, she survived the Cord War. She survived the parasite paparazzi who hunted her family's privacy. She survived rising Republican sentiment among communist sympathizers. She survived the unreasonable uproar against her after the tragic death of her estranges daughter-in-law Dianna on August 31, 1997. She survived the corona pandemic.

Queen Elizabeth II was a great survivor. Throughout all the turbulent days, she always maintained an elusive sense of calm. Her gentle voice was calm, clear and confident. Unlike the former royalties of Nepal, notorious for ego and arrogance, Queen Elizabeth was an ocean of humility. The Nepali people have nostalgic memory of Her Majesty. She showed so much courtesy to king Mahendra when he arrived in London.

During the 70 years as the monarch of the UK, Queen Elizabeth visited Nepal twice. She had visited Nepal in 1961 at the invitation of king Mahendra, and in 1986 during the reign



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"God Save the King" King Charles III of England



Prince Charles has stepped in as the new King Charles III of England. He has tirelessly worked for the promotion of art and architecture inside and outside the UK. He has written a very interesting book entitled "A Vision of Britain".

The enormous experience the new king has gathered looking at the performance of the departed Queen. People will be looking forward to the days of Charles III with keen interest.

Charles I had a troubled time as he dissolved the parliament on a number of occasions. He was unfortunately beheaded in the year 1648. Charles II was reinstated as the King in the year 1660, following a dismal performance of the Republicans led by Oliver and later his son Richard Cromwell.

The new King will take the coronation oath in front of the watching world. During this elaborate ceremony he will receive the orb and scepter as symbols of his new role and the Archbishop of Canterbury will place the solid gold crown on his head.

ABAN Newsletter: Year 23, Volume ECM 12, Issue No. 10, July - August 2022

Talk Program: August 22, 2022

Dr. Jagan Nath Shrestha on Alternative Energy
Can Trade Deficit of Nepal be Reduced by Enabling
Electricity Consumption?



Nepal's trade deficit during FY 2078/79 has reached Rs.1,72 trillion, 23% up from Rs.1.4 trillion the previous year. About a quare of Nepal's budget is spent on importing food stuff mainly from India.

The Main Issues are:

- **Chemical Fertilizer Plant** requires Ammonia plant using atmospheric air, Hydrocarbons and Water, which are available in Nepal. 53 cement factories in Nepal produce 8.5 million tons of cement/ year or 10.6 million tons of CO₂e emission needed to produce urea. Nepal imports \$130 million worth of Urea.

The concept of fertilizer plan in Nepal to increase crop yield was initiated in 1966, but has not taken off the ground yet.

- **E Cooking to replace LPG**
Nepal imports 504,000 metric tons of LPG for cooking (100,000 cylinders per day) and the government subsidize Rs.3 arba per month. Electric Induction cooking is found to be the most cost effective method.
- **CNG from biodegradable waste**

- Rooftop Solar PV System

Way Forward

- R&D related to production of GREEN Urea be funded for a PILOT Project,
- Generate Green Energy and help reduce trade deficit,
- Let us all invest in solar electricity,



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Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAMME

ON

'Can Trade Deficit of Nepal be Reduced by Enabling Electricity Consumption?'

By:

Prof. Dr. Jagan Nath Shrestha
Founder Director
Center for Energy Studies, Institute of Engineering, TU

Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!

Date: Monday, 22nd August 2022 (Wed & Eve)

Time: 2:00 PM Sharp

Venue: Universal Language & Computer Institute ☎01597003

ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL

Introducing Dr. J.N Shrestha

Dr. Jagan Nath Shrestha is a visiting Professor and Founder Director of the Center for Energy Studies, Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University, where he worked from 1972 to 2012. He is an Academician at Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Nepal. He is the current President of Nepal Solar Energy Society and coordinator of Technical Sub-Committee on Electronics and Renewable Energy, National Skill Testing Board, Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training, Government of Nepal.

He received M. Sc. (Engineering) from Moscow Telecom Institute in 1972, M. A. (Educational Technology) from Hull University, U.K. in 1986 and Ph.D. (Physics/Solar Energy) from LNM University, India in 2006.

He has published 4 books/manuals on Renewable Energy Technology, and published 50 papers on Renewable Energy, biodegradable wastes, telecommunications and engineering education, supervised three Ph. D. students and about 50 Masters Level students. His current research includes application of modern energy sources and energy generation from bio-degradable wastes for socio-economic development in rural areas of Nepal.

Guest Talk Program

Learning to Live Sustainably: Dr. Mahesh Pant



Dr. Mahesh Pant was the guest speaker in ABAN on 15th April 2022, when he spoke on 'Learning to Live Sustainably: Reflecting on a community gardening project he developed in Norwich, UK'. He earned his Ph.D. degree in the UK with a thesis on applying Sen's capability approach in studying the nature and extent of poverty in East Nepal.



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Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAMME

ON

'Learning to live sustainably: Reflecting on a community gardening project in Norwich, UK'

By:

Dr. Mahesh Pant
Founder- Sustainable Living Initiative

Dr. Pant is the founder of Sustainable Living Initiative - a registered charity in the UK. He is experienced in social research and community development and has worked in Nepal and the UK. His PhD thesis applied Sen's capability approach in studying the nature and extent of poverty in East Nepal.

Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!

Date: Friday, 15th April 2022 (8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)
Time: 2:00 PM Sharp
Venue: Universal Language & Computer Institute ☎ 915970036

ABAN ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ALUMNI IN NEPAL



Introducing Dr. Mahesh Pant

Dr. Mahesh Pant is the Founder of Sustainable Living Initiative – a registered charity in the U.K. He is experienced in social research and community development and has worked in Nepal and the U.K.

Dr. Pant came to Kathmandu for higher study in 1975. Later he worked in UK Aid projects in East Nepal during 1979-1985, and went to UK in 1986 for post graduate study. Then he came back to Nepal and worked in various international organizations during 1987-1990. He set up a charity and worked with "Dalits" in Parbat district, western Nepal during 1990-93. Dr. Pant went to the UK again in 1993 for PhD study in Development Studies and stayed there for the past 27 years.

ABAN Celebrates 23rd ABAN Day



The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) celebrated its 23rd ABAN DAY on 2020 February 04, the day when ABAN was registered 22 years ago in 1998. The British Ambassador Her Excellency Ms. Nicola Kathryn Pollitt graced the occasion as the Chief Guest of the ceremony in Hotel Shangri-la, Kathmandu.

ABAN President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant and other executive members and past presidents welcomed the British Ambassador HE Ms. Nicola Kathryn Pollitt on the occasion by offering flower bouquet and ABAN hat.

Past President Ms. Namrata Sharma was the master of ceremony of the program, which started with the national anthem of Nepal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain on her welcome speech. Vice president of ABAN Mrs. Padma Vaidya formally welcomed the guest and also highlighted the purpose of ABAN Day. She thanked the three Honorary Members who have contributed to the endowment fund of ABAN.

Chief Guest Her Excellency Ms. Nicola Kathryn Pollitt, the British Ambassador to Nepal inaugurated the event by lighting the oil lamp in *Panas* in the background of *Mangal Dhoon* (auspicious tunes). She also released ABAN Magazine 2019-2020. President of ECAN Mr. Prakash Pant felicitated ABAN and said ECAN would love to work more closely with ABAN in promoting the British education in Nepal. We can create more awareness about the quality of the UK education and promote the British education for the development of Nepal.

First Honorary member of ABAN Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey traced his happy memory of the UK visit in 1957 to study Tropical Medicine and he later became the first MRCP in Nepal.



Her Excellency Ms. Nicola Kathryn Pollitt inaugurating the ABAN Day function

Her Excellency Ms. Nicola Pollitt on her inaugural speech said that the UK offers world class education and now students have the opportunity to work for two years after studying. We have two of the three best universities in the world, and 57 current world leaders studied in Britain. The large number of international students educated in UK universities have also helped to build strong people to people relationship in their respective countries. They bring back knowledge they share in international level towards responding greater challenges at home.

ABAN

President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant thanked HE Nicola Pollitt for her gracious presence as the chief guest and for their continued support.

He also thanked the past and present executive members, who made it possible to bring ABAN to the present stage. He said, ABAN has come of age to become a possible bridge between Nepal and the UK in the areas like Education, Social development and Cultural exchange. Other possible areas of cooperation in Education and Examination sectors only to administer the PLAB 1 & 2 exams for the Nepali doctors to be eligible to apply for UK visa. Currently, the UK requires over 5,000 medical professionals to fill the vacuum created after Brexit and some Nepalese are willing to apply.

... continued in page 2



ABAN Newsletter: Year 21, Volume ECM 12, Issue No. 8, January- March 2022

ABAN celebrates 24th AGM and Family Picnic



24th Annual General Meeting of ABAN was held on 26th March 2022 at Green Valley Resort, Shivapuri National Park. ABAN President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant called the meeting to order and Vice President Ms. Padma Vaidya welcomed the participants and guests. General Secretary Ms. Shiba Devi Kafle summarized the activities performed by the 12th Executive Committee during the year 2021/22 in the following lines:

1. 18 **Executive meetings** were held during the year (including 8 in virtual mode),
2. 23rd **ABAN Day** Celebration was done on 4th February 2021,
3. **Meetings with British Council** on 17 February 2021, and again on 11 November with Country Director Ms. Shahida Dougall and Ms. Suchita Shrestha
2. Three **Talk Programs** were conducted on: 'Role of Youth in Science, Technology and Innovation in Nepal' by ABAN Life Member Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel on 2nd April, 2021 virtually, 'Enhancing Emotional Health and Spiritual Well-Being' by Mr. LP Bhanu Sharma, Life Coach of Jeevan Vigyan Foundation, Nepal on June 20, 2021 virtually, 'Diabetes Mellitus : An Overview' by Dr. Dipak Malla, Assistant Professor, National Academy of Medical Sciences, on 26th June 2021 virtually
3. 7 days **Yoga and Wellness Program** by Er. Karuna Amatya, Instructor, Jeevan Vigyan Foundation, Nepal, during 22-28 June 2021 virtually
4. **Medical support** to Children Care Club, Pasikot, Budhanilkantha, Kathmandu on August 14, 2021 (36 medical equipment and supplies), stationaries and fruits in January 2022 and electric kettle to Tapasthali Briddhashram.
5. **Publications:** ABAN News Letters regularly, ABAN Diary 2020-21. ECM Member's Profile in 2021-22, ABAN Information Leaflet, and updated ABAN website. Magazine will be published in 2022-23 to celebrate 25th Silver Jubilee of ABAN.
6. **Video programs** have been prepared and released on YouTube covering the story of ABAN Past Presidents, Life Members and Guests as below:



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Nepal and supports them to contribute to
national development.

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

Invitation

24TH AGM & PICNIC PROGRAM

Let us fill our lives with beautiful memories...

A Picnic is more than eating a meal, it is a pleasurable state of mind

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022
GREEN VALLEY RESORT, SHIVAPURI NATIONAL PARK

Meeting point: ULCI, Dillibazar, Sarp @ 8:00AM
*Transportation available

Contribution: NRs. 2500/Person
NRs. 5000/Couple
PS: Breakfast/Lunch/Snacks will be served.

Please contact for more details:

Uttam Prasad Pant - 9851020918	Gobinda Neupane - 9851014640
Maheshwar B. Shrestha - 9851094345	Hemanta Baral - 9843067142
Padma Vaidya - 9849263885	
Shiba Devi Kafle - 9848295472	
Madav Prasad Bhatta - 9841544517	

For online payment, please scan given QR code.

Organized by:

- Honorary Member Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey
- Past President Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa
- Past President Mr. Raghu Pant
- Past President Mr. Maheswar Bhakta Shrestha
- Life Member Dr. Badri Raj Pandey
- Guest speaker Dr. Ram Prasad Pokhrel
- Guest speaker Mr. Purushottam SJB Rana,
- Guest Speaker Dr. Min Bahadur Shrestha

7. ABAN is **registering students for IELTS** Exam by the British Council since April 11, 2019. ABAN registered 104 candidates for IELTS exam during 2020 and 17 so far in 2021/22. This activity has supported ABAN financially to some extent. Examinations of academic and professional programs were conducted locally on behalf of British Institutions.

Meeting With the British Council **Partnership with the British Council**



From left: Deepak KC, Gobinda Neupane, Maheswor Shrestha, Padma Vaidya, Shahida Dougall, Uttam Pant, Madhav Bhatta

ABAN Executive members met British Council Country Director Ms. Shahida Dougall and Ms. Suchita Shrestha of the Council on 11th November at ULCI Hall, Dillibazar Height to discuss the following agenda items:

- 1 Welcome and introduction
- 2 Request to initiate PLAB exam in Nepal, ABAN to be the venue for it.
- 3 Request for sponsorship for upcoming ABAN Day celebration.
- 4 British Education courses (short and/or long) in Nepal. ABAN eager to conduct such courses in coordination with the British Council.
- 5 Continued financial assistance for publication of upcoming ABAN Magazine.

ABAN President Mr. Uttam Pant cordially welcomed the British Council Country Director and Ms. Suchita to ABAN and introduced ECM members present there. He presented the areas of cooperation between ABAN and the British Council as per the agenda items intimated earlier.

Ms. Shahida reconfirmed the meeting decisions in her message the next day:

"It was good to finally get a chance to meet you and other members of the ABAN Executive team in person yesterday and thank you again for your hospitality and flowers. Please see below a list of agreed actions and British Council updates:

1. ULCI premises for British Council test venue: British Council exams team will liaise with you to arrange a test venue inspection.
2. IELTS MOU extension to Life Skills exams: British Council cannot pay commission for Life Skills registrations because they can only be made through the public registration portal and not through registration partner access links, i.e., British Council are unable to monitor registrations made by agents on behalf of customers.
3. PLAB tests in Nepal: GMC, who own the PLAB test, are unable to expand the network of countries they offer the test due to operational constraints. They are aware of increasing demand in many places around the world and hope to roll out testing in more countries when they can.
4. Linking UK universities visiting Nepal with ABAN for organising talk programmes: Shahida to connect ABAN and DIT to explore options.



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Nepal



Introducing Shahida Mc Dougall

The British Council Nepal Country Director
Since September 2020

Ms. Shahida MacDougall, has over 15
years of experience of leadership and
management of education and
development, civil society, accountability
program in public and private sector in the
UK, Asia, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

On 25 November 2020, Rt. Hon'ble Prime
Minister K.P. Sharma Oli presented the
"Award of Honour" to Ms. Shahida
MacDougall, Country Director, British
Council Nepal for the generous support in
programmes and projects in the efforts for
the socio-economic development of Nepal
through private-sector led economic
development and for strengthening effective
policies in the Technical and Vocational
Education and Training sector.
Privileged to be part of the mentoring
programme for these amazing future female
leaders and excited about the opportunity to
work & learn together and to raise
awareness and inspire action on gender
empowerment, inclusion and diversity.

ABAN Newsletter: Year 21, Volume ECM 12, Issue No. 6, Month: July-August 2021

ABAN Goes Spiritual **Yoga and Wellness Program for ABAN**



Engineer Karuna Amatya of Jeevan Vigyan Foundation, Kathmandu conducted a week long Yoga and Wellness program specially designed for ABAN members and guests during June 22-28, 2021 online in zoom platform. The one and half hour program every morning was well attended and very much appreciated by ABAN members, family and guests attending the program.



Yoga is an integrated approach: holistic and scientific approach to Living. It empowers for emotional and spiritual well-being. Access your inner reservoir of divine knowledge, love, affluence, beauty and bliss that exist as seed within each of us.

This highly acclaimed program organized on the auspices of 7th International Yoga Day on June 20, 2021 was aimed at improving the state of wellbeing by practicing guided Yoga, Pranayam and Dhyan (meditation). Yoga Teacher Er. Karuna Amatya explained the purpose of the exercise and guided participants through the yoga practices, breathing techniques and meditation techniques to control our conscious mind, sub-conscious mind and super conscious mind- described as a "Journey towards Self".

Dhyan (meditation) helps to energize the energy centers within the body. It takes the mind to different parts of our body, feel the in and out flow of the breath and experience the vibration created by the breath, and activate the feelings inside the mind. In this process, Dhyan helps to open up the third eye to see the inner realities of our body and mind.

Dhyan also helps create a feeling of love and compassion and release of happy hormones in our body. Oxytocin hormone removes stress and gives a feeling of happiness. The excitement of achieving our goal, passion or creativity help release Dopamine hormone (also called reward chemical) for happiness and positive thoughts.



Our mind is a factory of creating different thoughts, some 60,000 thoughts in a day, most of which (about 80%) are negative thoughts. In meditation, when we reach a thoughtless state, our pineal glands release a different kind of hormone called Amritas and Somras (DMT) which give us supreme happiness to keep our body, mind, heart and emotion healthy.




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Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) cordially invites you to the


7 Days Yoga and Wellness Program



By:
Er. Karuna Amatya,
Instructor of Jeevan Vigyan

Date:	Time:
8 - 14 July, 2021 (June 22 - 28, 2021)	6:30 - 7:30 A.M.

Meeting ID: 816 1309 6609
zoom





Instructor Er. Karuna Amatya is a renowned Yoga Teacher /Guru in Jeevan Vigyan Foundation Kathmandu

The Jeevan Vigyan is a science based spiritual Foundation, to teach the art and science of living a happy and spiritual life through meditation, yoga, psychological science and management development programs.

Life is the reservoir of infinite knowledge, love, affluence, beauty and mystery that exists as a seed within us. Science (Vigyan) is the body of knowledge that is free from all dogmas, faith assumption and preoccupations. Jeevan Vigyan is the eternal and melodious flow of truthful, simple and liberating knowledge. One of the Foundation's most popular online program is "SwoSambad" attended globally by thousands of participants.

Enhancing Emotional Health And Spiritual Wellbeing



Spiritual Guru Mr. L.P. Bhanu Sharma, Life Coach and Founder President of Jeevan Vigyan Foundation presented a very enlightening discourse on the topic virtually on June 20, 2021 to the members and guests.

ABAN president Uttam Prasad Pant welcomed the distinguished guest speaker for the discourse on Spirituality on the auspicious 7th International Yoga Day of June 20, and media advisor Hari Thapa briefly introduced the guest speaker as an accomplished Spiritual Leader.



Guest speaker Mr. L. P. Bhanu Sharma thanked for the opportunity to address ABAN members and guests. He stressed on the spiritual wellbeing through creativity. We have to live a creative life, not become the victim of situation and circumstances; and focus on present life, not repent on

the past and worry about the future. Each one of us have the ability of creative choices, what we want to achieve. Creative life is an "Inside Out" process and not the other way round. We must not be the victim of circumstances, because our mind and consciousness is our identity that has the potentiality for our creative life.

"We must focus on the "Content of our consciousness" and follow the path of three Yogas:

- 1) Gyan yoga 2) Karma yoga and 3) Bhakti yoga.

"Gyana" is the thought process to determine what we want to achieve and how we want to live our life. Death is inevitable but we should plan how we live our life, quality of life. Plan your life consciously for your Spiritual health and wellbeing. Life is a creativity, ability to create happiness. We have the ability to focus on what we want to achieve despite several adverse circumstances. Focus on the present and on what we want to achieve. It is possible to achieve with our internal strength. Life is not outside it, but its inside out, being able to create a life we want to live. What is inside will manifest outside. Focus on your "content of consciousness": ability to achieve. A bigger heart creates positive emotions.

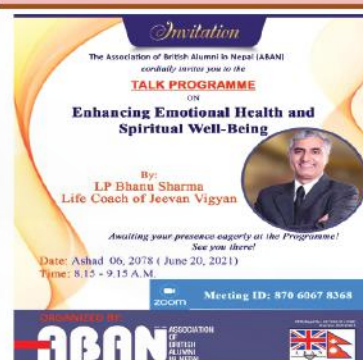
"Karma" is to determine what and how to achieve our goal. Outline activities to achieve the objectives of life. The path to success and prosperity is through dedication, which determines our physical health and wellbeing.

"Bhakti" is the relationships we develop that determine our Leadership. Loving and compassionate emotions create Leadership. It enhances our emotional wellbeing. scientific approach to living. Life is a congregation of three phases of Yoga:

- a) Yogabhyas, b) Pranayam and c) Dhyana



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Mr. L P Bhanu Sharma is a renowned spiritual leader, educator, life and executive coach and social worker. He is also the founding president and Spiritual Guru at Jeevan Vigyan Pratishthan, Nepal- a leading institution in spirituality and leadership.

He is the director at Apex Life school and the principal of Apex College in Nepal. During his spiritual journey, he has guided over 800,000 people in spirituality, success, and meditation in Nepal, India, Myanmar, Malaysia and USA. He is an enlightened mystic, forum leader on leadership, meditation, positive and right living programs.

As an academican and teacher he has taught over 60,000 students. A CA by professional qualification, he received his Chartered Accountancy education from The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Currently, he is providing teaching courses on Accounting and Finance to CA, MBA and BBA students for over 15 years now. His literary contribution has seen over 150 published articles covering Management, Spirituality, Yog and Positive Living, Geeta Mahagyan: Commentaries on Geeta.

Talk by Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel

Role of Youth in Science, Technology & Innovation in Nepal

Science is about the observation of natural phenomena and making theories.

Technology is about using the scientific theories for the benefit of the mankind.

Innovation is about making it more efficient.

In Nepal Science & Technology students in higher education is just 24% (88,847 out of 371,184 students enrolled in higher education). Ideally, the ratio should be around 40% - 60%.

In Global Innovation Index, Nepal has jumped from 109 to 95.

Sn	Countries	Rank 2020	Rank 2019	Rank 2018
1	Switzerland	1	1	1
2	UK	4	5	4
3	China	14	14	17
4	India	48	52	57
5	Nepal	95	109	108

Science and technology is dominated by civil engineering and architecture. **Raj Kulo** of the 6th century is an example in Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur. Kailashkut Bhawan in Syanga of 608 AD is another example.

In Malla period, Amiko went to China and constructed a white pagoda in 1279 AD. Nyatapola temple was constructed by king Bhupatendra Malla in 1702 AD, which was unaffected by the earthquakes of 1767, 1808, 1810, 1823, 1833, 1837, 1869, 1917, 1934, 1988, 2011 and 2015 AD.

Golden Gate of Bhaktapur is a refined workmanship in metalwork.

In the times of Ranas, Mr. Gehendra Shumshere, as the first scientist of Nepal, made a machine gun. The first hydro- power station was built in Pharping in 1911.

SCIENCE IN RAMAYAN AND MAHABHARAT

• **RAMAYAN(BC 5314)**

— ज्ञानं कुरु कश्चिन्मिदं विदुः कुरु तं कश्चिन्मिदं विदुः, न विदुः कुरु तं कश्चिन्मिदं विदुः

• **GEETA**

— इदं नृ ते सुहृदाम् परमेश्वरम् नमस्कृत्य । ज्ञानं विज्ञानमस्ति यन्महात्मा मोक्षमयीकम्पाभात्

• विदुः ज्ञानं विदुः ज्ञानं विदुः ज्ञानं विदुः



During the Rana times several institutional and infrastructure buildings were made:

- Pharping Hydro-power station on 1911,
- Agriculture office in 1921,
- Ayurveda School in 1929,
- Civil Medical School for compounders and dressers in 1934,
- Technical Training School for Overseers and Forest Training Center for Rangers in 1942,
- Ghantaghar Clock Tower, Suspension Bridges, Internal Telephone, Jute Mill
- Tri-Chandra College in 1919.

Science & Technology Development:

The First Five Year Plan accorded priority for scientific research, use of scientific knowledge and technology in the construction of Roads, Irrigation, Hydrology, Meteorology, Mines and Geology. National Council for Science and Technology was established in 1976. In the 7th Plan period National Academy of Science and Technology was established.



Nyatapola temple of Bhaktapur

Continued in page 2



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Introducing Prof. Jiba Raj Pokharel



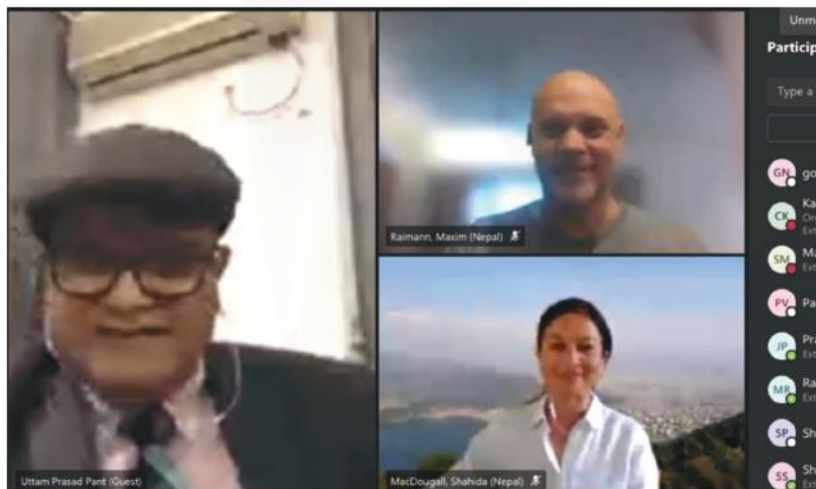
Professor Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel, an ABAN Life Member ID 462, who studied in the University of York, Yorkshire during 1992 to 1995 as a British Council scholar and did his Ph. D. in Architectural Conservation.

A professor of Architecture in the Department of Architecture & Urban Planning, Institute of Engineering, Dr. Pokharel is a former Dean, and President of Nepal Engineers Association. He also has served as Vice Chancellor of the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Government of Nepal.

An architect by Profession, Dr. Pokharel is the designer of the famous Maya Devi temple in Lumbini. He is the writer of books such as Architecture: Oh! Architecture, written in Shakespearean Sonnets, Sikhhak Sisya Sambad, written in classical meters, and Patan Ko Krishna Mandir, written in folk style. He has also written a first ever Disaster epic entitled Maina Bulbul written in folk Nepali style.

Continued on page 2

ABAN Meets British Council Team



The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) had an introductory meeting with the new team of British Council Nepal led by Country Director Ms. Shahida MacDougall virtually on February 17, 2021.

On the occasion ABAN president Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant welcomed Madam Shahida and Mr. Raimann Maxim to Nepal and thanked the other participants from the British Council Nepal Ms. Suchita Shrestha, Mr. Sagun Shrestha, Ms. Christina Kansakar, Mr. Julen Pradhan and Mr. Suvash Thapa, Head of Department for International Trade, British Embassy Kathmandu. He indicated the meeting agendas as to:

- (i) Introduce ABAN, its mission and values,
- (ii) Discuss possibilities of ABAN's involvement in promoting British qualifications and examinations in Nepal.

Promoting UK based qualifications and examinations in Nepal is an important objective of ABAN and it would like to pursue this matter and seek advice and guidance on its visions.

Immediate past president of ABAN Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha made a short presentation on the cooperation between the British Council and ABAN so far in the five areas as listed below:

Continued to page 2

"Dear Uttam,

It was really nice to meet you and other members of ABAN yesterday, albeit virtually this time.

We really enjoyed the presentation and discussion around future collaboration opportunities and look forward to continuing to build on our strong partnership and working together on promoting British qualifications and examinations for prospective candidates in Nepal. Agreed actions:

1. ABAN to invite British Council to join and/or speak at future events as appropriate,
2. British Council (Max) to explore a possibility of offering Plab exams for medical professionals,
3. British Council (Suchita) to share additional information on current UK scholarships and discuss the British Council alumni strategy once finalized, and explore joint common opportunities,
4. ABAN to provide a list of on-line short courses that could be offered by the UK universities or colleges to ABAN members. British Council to facilitate introductions.

Thank you again for reaching out and I look forward to meeting you in person soon.

With best wishes,
Shahida"

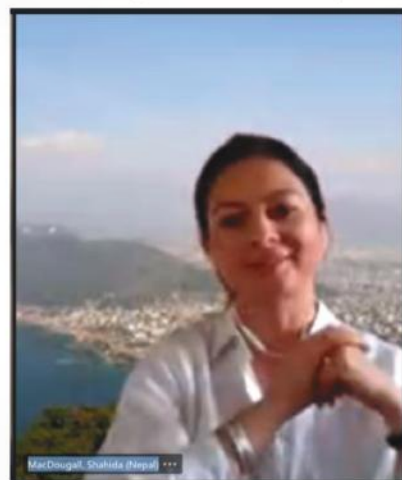
February 18, 2021



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Welcome

Ms. Shahida MacDougall
The new British Council
Country Director in Nepal



The British Council has established programmes to support Women and Girls in STEM around the world, designed with a lifecycle approach in mind, from inspiring young girls to stay in STEM to supporting women working in STEM fields reach positions of leadership and network with their peers in their region and the UK. Expanding on our current work, we are launching the British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM, for women from South and South East Asia, and the Americas.

For further details:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-abroad/in-uk/scholarship-women-stem>

23rd ABAN DAY Celebrated



The Association of British Alumni in Nepal has celebrated 23rd ABAN DAY on February 4, 2021, the Day when the Association was registered with the District Office in 1998.

First Honorary Member of ABAN Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey, presently in Singapore serves as Chief Guest of the event, attended by some 36 members from Nepal and abroad, while 10 members regretted to have missed this online zoom event for their own reasons.

Many like-minded organizations, namely ANNA, JAAN, IEREN, NRNA, NELTRA extended their felicitations with congratulatory messages for the successful activities of ABAN and wished for further growth and development of the Association in the coming days.

ABAN President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant called the ceremony to order and Vice President ABAN Ms. Padma Vaidya formally welcomed the chief guest Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey, other guests, Honorary Members, Life Members, media persons and other participants of the event.

"Due to Covid 19 pandemic, we are all not able to celebrate this special annual event in person but I am very thankful and grateful to you all for giving your valuable time to attend this virtual gathering to make this 23rd Aban Day celebration on the 4th of February, 2021 a grand success" VP Padma said.



Ms. Sushila Amatya, professor of Padma Kanya Campus presented a soothing Sitar recital to enliven the ABAN Day celebration.

On the occasion ABAN President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant released the newly published 12th Executive Committee Member's Profile and ABAN Newsletter no.1/12 January 2021. Printed copies are available in ABAN office.

Immediate Past President and Honorary Member of ABAN Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha made the ABAN Day Address, and narrated how this Association was conceived by its founders in 1997, and registered on February 4, 1998 by an interim Executive Committee headed by late Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa. The objectives of the Association were spelled out and resources mobilized to achieve those lofty objectives.

So far ten presidents in 11 Executive Committees have served the Association and the 12th ECM has just started its 2 years term.

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Presidential Address



On behalf of the ABAN executive board, Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant, President of ABAN thanked all for being here to celebrate the 23rd ABAN Day.

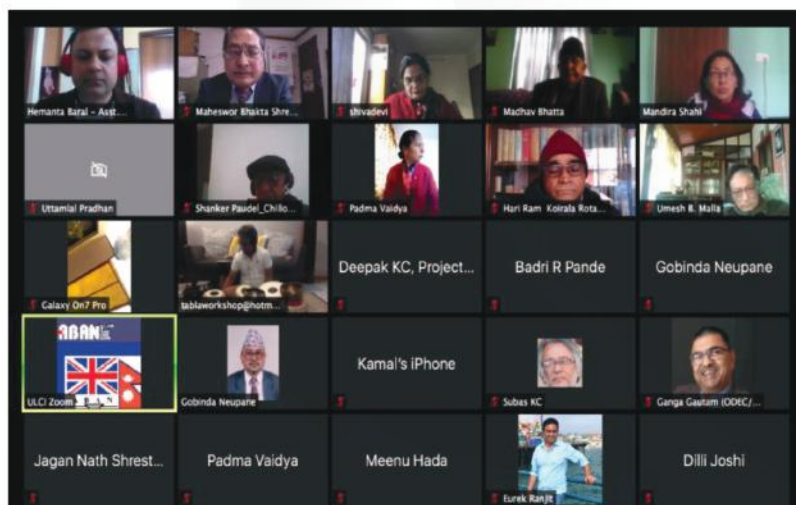
"We have been used to celebrating ABAN day in person every year. However, due to the challenges presented by the pandemic this year, we took a responsible decision to stick to a virtual event. We appreciate your support and cooperation in celebrating the event virtually with us this year" he said.

ABAN is established with the mission of

Continued on page 2



23rd Annual General Meeting of ABAN



The Association of British Alumni in Nepal convened on the virtual platform its 23rd Annual General Meeting on Saturday January 02, 2021, with Immediate Past President Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha as the Chief Guest.

ABAN President Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant called the AGM to order and welcomed all participants and guests. Vice President Ms. Padma Vaidya delivered the welcome address and summarized the objectives of the Association.

The event was enlivened with a musical *Tabala* recital by Mr. Bheeraj Shrestha from Brisbane, Australia. The meeting observed 30 seconds of silent invocation in remembering the great contributions of Charter president Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa and the outgoing British Ambassador Mr. Richard C. Morris who left us to their heavenly abode in 2020.



General Secretary of ABAN Mrs. Shiba Devi Kaffle presented the annual report of the Association. She summarized the activities of ABAN during 2019-20:

- 12 Executive committee meetings held during November 2019 to December 2020,

- Publication of ABAN Magazine no. 10 for 2019-2020,
- Publication of ABAN Diary 2020,
- Publication of ABAN Newsletters no. 7, 8 and 9, and ABAN Leaflet,
- ABAN Day Celebration on 4 February 2020 at Shangrila hotel with British Ambassador Ms. Nicola Kathryn Pollit as the chief guest,
- Condolence meeting on November 21 on the sad demise of the charter president Dr. Narayan Bahadur Thapa,
- Two Talk programmes: My Journey from England to Nepal by Lee Edward John Doman-Hayes on 31st January and पूर्विय दर्शनको पुनर व्याख्या-२०७६ (Reinterpretation of Eastern Philosophy-2019) via zoom on 26th December.
- Yoga Meditation class on May 28,
- The annual visit to Tapasthali Briddhashram (Old Age Home) on 29th December to offer material help in collaboration with Mrigendra Samjhana Medical Trust.
- Updated ABAN website: www.aban.org.np
- IELTS Exam registration, 88 so far,
- 12 new Life members recruited during 2019-20.

Continued on page 3



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Presidential Address



Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant, President of ABAN said "our activities in 2020 have been affected by Covid19. As we have begun to adapt to the new normal, we are looking forward to making 2021 a

more eventful year by giving continuity to our initiatives".

"We are committed to keep the ABAN community engaged. The next event: **ABAN Day** celebration is scheduled for February 4, 2021. I would request all the ABANians to join and share your experiences to strengthen this Association". ABAN can also continue to play an important role in promoting British education in Nepal. We are already registering IELTS candidates for the test. This has made some contribution in raising funds for ABAN. We are pursuing discussion with other British education and international examination service providers to explore the possibility of ABAN's involvement. Doctors from Nepal need to travel abroad to appear for the PLAB examination, which ABAN could administer in Nepal to facilitate the doctors and generate a recurring revenue for ABAN.

ABAN is an organization of many notable professional people who have excelled in their profession. Many of us have our own success stories and have made meaningful contributions towards the betterment of our society and the nation. ABAN will continue to recognize the contributions of its members by featuring them in our publications" President: Uttam Prasad Pant.

Welcome HM Ambassador Nicola Kathryn Pollitt to Nepal



The new British Ambassador to Nepal H.E. Ms. Nicola Kathryn Pollitt submitted her credential to President Bidya Devi Bhandari on December 5, 2019. She is the first lady ambassador of the UK to Nepal since the two countries established diplomatic relations 200 years ago.

"I am extremely happy to have the opportunity to submit my credential to President Bidya Devi Bhandari. I feel proud to be the first lady ambassador of UK to Nepal in our 200 year-old relations," she tweeted in Nepali after submitting her credentials. Ambassador Pollitt speaks Nepali too. She has succeeded Mr. Richard Morris, who left Nepal in November 2019 after completing his 4 year's term in office.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office had announced Ms. Pollitt as new UK envoy to Nepal in May-end.

She was serving as an Additional Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Directorate at the

Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London since 2017. She joined the British foreign service in 2003 and served at the FCO in various capacities including as Somalia Conference Coordinator (2016-17), Assistant Private Secretary to the Prime Minister (2014-16) and Deputy Head of Crisis Management Department (2013-2014).

HE Ms. Pollitt has also served as Senior Policy Advisor for Afghanistan, Pakistan and India for Cabinet Office (2011-13) and Head of Political Team in Kabul (2010-11).

The Kathmandu assignment is her first ambassadorial stint. It will be her second stay in Asia after Kabul. We in ABAN wish her all success in her tenure as HM Ambassador in Nepal.



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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.

Invitation

The Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN)
cordially invites you to the

TALK PROGRAMME
ON
MY JOURNEY FROM ENGLAND TO NEPAL

By:
Mr Lee Edward John Doman-Hayes

*Awaiting your presence eagerly at the Programme!
See you there!*

Date: Friday 31st January, 2020
Time: 3:30PM (Sharp)
Venue: Universal Language and Computer Institute
Dilubazar Height Marg, Kathmandu, NEPAL
Tel: 01-4428486

ORGANIZED BY:
ABAN ASSOCIATION
OF
BRITISH
ALUMNI
IN NEPAL

As part of one of the regular activities, ABAN is organizing a talk program by a British citizen Mr. Lee Edward John Doman-Hayes on "My Journey from England to Nepal" on January 31, 2020.

Mr. Lee came to Nepal the first time with his wife who works in the British School in Lalitpur. He is an ardent lover of music and is very much impressed by Nepal's Spirituality. "As Nepal develops it should not lose its spiritual character, which many western countries would like to treasure" he said. He found Nepal's music scene so very amazing.

With some Nepali musicians, he has formed a group called "Nepa-Lee" and has also sung a Nepali song:
यो मन त मेरो नेपाली हो

22nd Annual General Meeting of ABAN Concludes



Twenty second Annual General Meeting of the Association of British Alumni in Nepal has been successfully concluded on October 15, 2019 at the Universal Language and Computer Language Institute, Dillibazar, Kathmandu. A public notice about the AGM was published three weeks in advance in Aarthik daily paper.

The meeting was presided over by ABAN president Mr. Uttam Pant, where Vice president Mrs. Padma Vaidya welcomed the past president Mr. Dilli Raj Joshi, immediate past president Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha, executive members, life members of ABAN and guests invited on the occasion. Chief guest IPP Maheswor inaugurated the event by lighting oil lamp on panas.

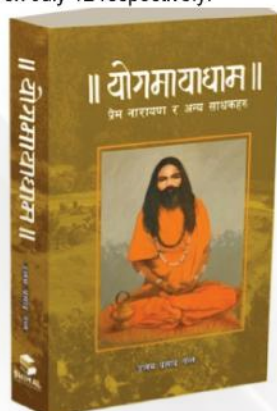
On behalf of General Secretary Mrs. Shiba Kafle, who is presently in Australia, president Mr. Uttam Pant presented annual activity report of the past 8 months since February 2, 2019 and reported six executive commitments and other activities:

- Service to senior citizens at Tapasthali
- Meeting with British Country Country Director Dr. Jovan Ilic on March 8,
- Talk programmes by Mr. Purushottan Shumshere on Nepal- Britain relations, by Dr. Ram Prasad Pokhrel and by Dr. Min Bahadur Shrestha,
- Visit to CVM Kindergarten Preschool,
- Signing of MOU for IELTS registration.

54 candidates have been registered for IELTS during the first 6 months period.

- Family picnic at Dhulikhel Jungle resort, and
- Meeting with ECAN, IERIN and NECA for working together to promote British education in Nepal.

During this period ABAN Membership Directory 2019 and 6 issues of ABAN Newsletters were published. Meanwhile two ABAN members, namely Mr. Bhishma Upreti and Mr. Uttam Pant have released their new book: Tapaiko Pahad Kaha Ho on April 26 and Yogamayadham on July 12 respectively.



In his address, IPP Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha reviewed the recent times in ABAN and expressed satisfaction on the steady growth of membership and financial



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Immediate Past President Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha handed over a cheque of rupees one lac to treasurer Mr. Madhav Prasad Bhatta as donation of ABAN's endowment fund

Strengthening with nearly Rs.1.5 million in the bank account. In this respect special thanks are due to ADBAN's first two honorary members Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey and Dr. Mahodadi Pradhan Shrestha for contributing rupees five lacs each in the ABAN's endowment fund.

WELCOME

**Dr. Jovan Ilic Joins ABAN
as one of newest Life Members**





Association of British Alumni in Nepal

C/o. The British Council, Lainchaur, P.O.Box 640, Kathmandu, Nepal

APPLICATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Surname:			
First Name:		Date of Birth:	
Middle/ Last Name:		Sex: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Nationality:
Blood Group:		Nationality or Passport no./Year:	
Residential Address:			
Home Phone:		Mobile No:	
Email:			

Study in UK

Subject(s) Studied:	
Qualification Obtained: (Degree Obtained)	
University/Institution:	
Address & Period of study: (Year of Graduation)	
Areas of Specialization/ Expertise:	
Felicitation/awards/honors:	

Work Experience

Current position held:		Since:	
Work place/address:			
Office Phone(s):		E-mail:	
Applicant's signature:		Date of Application:	
Introduced by (name):		Membership ID No:	

- Membership Type and Eligibility:** Anyone who has been to Britain for academic, professional or vocational training or studies at post-graduate or undergraduate level of 12 weeks or more will be eligible for ABAN Membership.
- Membership fee: Life Membership:** Rs. 5,000 (One time deposit) in Association of British Alumni in Nepal account in Nabil Bank Ltd; Saving account no.16910017504939, and Nepal Investment Mega Bank Ltd; account no. 09401050001014.
- Honorary Member:** Any person who has donated cash or equivalent worth more than Rs.100,000 (Rupees one hundred thousand) to ABAN, or any person who has made a special contribution to the Association can be given Honorary Membership.
- Attach:** Evidence of eligibility (copy of Degree/Diploma /Certificate), 2 ID size photos, and fee, citizenship certificate, or, license photocopy, or ID photocopy or passport photocopy

