

The press and the nation's democracy rise and fall together

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Chief Justice Shrestha prefers Constitution similar to Pakistan

Kathmandu: Chief Justice Ram Prasad Shrestha who was recently on a trip to Pakistan, one of the friendly neighbors of Nepal, has said, "We will take help from the Constitution of Pakistan in designing the same document for Nepal."
Pakistan and Nepal share cordial relations and both are members of SAARC. China, Nepal's northern neighbor with which Pakistan shares brotherly relation has been made observer

of the South Asian regional body with the strenuous efforts of now sidelined King Gyanendra Shah. Shah is paying for the said adventure.
He was talking to media persons during his visit to the mausoleum of the founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah on Sunday, March 13, 2011, in Karachi.
He said in near future there would be a federally administered system in Nepal and that the country was undergoing a process to draft a
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Frightening Playground

Kathmandu: All the instruments and the tricks that the Indian establishment elegantly used for bringing a political change of its preference in Nepal appear to have boomeranged.

This trick though sidelined the Nepali monarchy albeit easily but at a very heavy price. Feeling the brunt.

Inking of these debacles has begun surfacing much to the chagrin of the Godfather of the Nepali Maoists rebels, New Delhi, who very cleverly used and misused the Indian generosity in its favor.

Remarkably, former US Ambassador to Nepal, James F. Moriarty point blank alleges in his secret cable brought to the open by WikiLeaks dated September 22, 2006, that India "Godfathered" the Nepali Maoists.

Now nothing remains a secret. New Delhi must confess that its Nepal policy drafted then was a wrong estimate the glimpses of which have begun coming to the

The democratic world has reasons to tighten their belts as there could be a possibility that if the REDS really united for even half an hour then there are chances that the nation may get soon a RED constitution of the preference of the Communists a la Democratic People's Republic of Korea-DPRK.

Replica of Kim Jung Il's Charter.

Indepth-Analysis

from more so after the formation of UML leader Jhal Nath Khanal's government with the sudden and tacit understanding reached in between Khanal and Nepal Maoists chief Prachanda. Khanal-Dahal secret deal took every body to chew their respective tongue.

The two mavericks. Popular democracies across the world, more so the United States of America and the

Republic of India, have now reasons to get alarmed as very freshly both Nepal PM Khanal and Prachanda at two different locations have ventilated their inner intent that all that Nepal now needed was the formation of a Broader Left Front which brings the scattered Left parties into one single roof.

The developed West with its unnatural ally in this part of the world, the Indian establishment,

must have been in a fix on how to defer this lurking dangerous eventuality simply because if the Left front took a formal shape then, (the likelihood remains) understandably such a RED conglomerate will be a frightening force with no similar match even if the entire Democrats/Liberals form a comparable divergent front-the Broader Democratic Alliance.

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Communications minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara only

the other day provided a slight hint that Nepal will surely get a new constitution within the stipulated deadline of May 28, 2011, but, added Mahara, that the new Charter would be a skeleton one suggesting that the approaching new Charter would certainly be of "people's liking and preference" which apparently meant that a RED constitution in Nepal was round the corner.

A completely disturbed New Delhi establishment very freshly greeted Nepal's top conspiratorial brain, Surya Bahadur Thapa, and may have told Thapa that Delhi now totally banks upon him and that Thapa must devise effective mechanisms and use his conspiratorial intellect in order to defuse the chances for the formation of a broader Left front once and for all.

Thapa is back in Kathmandu

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Chinese PLA Chief Landing Nepal:

Honorary Title of Nepal Army demanded

Kathmandu: Leading a high profile Chinese Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA) delegation, General Chen Bingde-PLA Chief, is landing Kathmandu March 23, 2011.

The PLA delegation is arriving Kathmandu at the invitation of Nepal Army Chief General Chhatraman Singh Gurung. It is likely that China will pledge more military support to Nepal Army, it is revealed through sources.

The high profile visit from Communist China will be the first after 'UML-Maoist Communist Coalition' took to power in Nepal. This has some meaning underneath.

Coincidentally, the visit is taking place few days after followers of
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India's Frankenstein's Monster: Parties-Maoist Alliance, US Embassy cable

Kathmandu: The former US ambassador to Nepal, James F. Moriarty writing to the US State Department, in his cable dated September 22, 2006, disclosed by the Wikileaks says that while New Delhi godfathered the working relationship between the Maoists and the Parties, it does not however want to acknowledge that it might have created a Frankenstein's monster, which the ambassador views, in the cable, will ultimately destabilize the entire region.

To recall, King Gyanendra was by then already sidelined by the



godfather as back as in April the same year.

Moriarty in the cable also refers to his meetings with the then Indian Ambassador to Nepal.

"New Delhi seems oblivious to how close the Maoists are

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Parallel CA for Madhesh

Kathmandu: The Rajdhani Daily March 14, 2011 quotes an unnamed member of the Madhesi Alliance as saying, "Some of our friends (in the alliance) have begun demanding formation of a separate but parallel constituent assembly in Madhesh to draft our own constitution, yet some others are of the opinion that the constituent assembly election should be held once again."

Issues related to plight of Madhesi population remaining unaddressed, peace process and constitution drafting processes being incomplete ahead of May

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Left Unity for Communist Constitution

Kathmandu: Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal's call for Communist Unity will certainly provide some brainstorming exercise for the US administration that considers itself the lone in-charge of state of democracies across the world and its regional unnatural regional partner, India-the so-called largest democracy in the world.

But, observers opine that as long as leaders of the likes of Madhav Kumar Nepal and K.P. Sharma Oli continue to thrive under the structured cover of communist politics there is no reason to worry.

Both, Nepal and Oli of late represent extreme rightist faction in Nepali politics.

Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal was also present at the program wherein Dahal made a call for Left unity.
Look what said Dahal:



"Let us join our hands, let us work towards formation of a single communist party, let us discuss and let us unite", Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal of Unified Maoists Party opined at a discussion program held in Kathmandu, March 12, 2011.

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Thapa speaks Indian mind, claims democratic alliance must

Kathmandu: As if he were the formal spokesperson of the Indian establishment in Nepal, Chairman Surya Bahadur Thapa of Rastriya Janshakti Party told media men at the Tribhuvan International Airport, March 13, 2011, that the Indian government and leaders in Delhi prefer to support the current government led by Jhal Nath Khanal on the basis of its merit and style of functioning.

"In order to counter the extreme left polarization and to create a matching force, we need to strengthen the democratic alliance", so said Thapa. Appears to have

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The Indian Killing Machine

Kathmandu: It has already been 23 days since Harka Bahadur Shahi (52) of Santibasti of Bardia District disappeared. His family members, friends and neighbors are totally unaware of his whereabouts.

In the meantime, Nepal's Kathmandu based "fashionable" Indo-Nepal relations experts feel there is no reason as such to become anti-Indian in Nepal.

"It has rather become a fashion in Nepal to be anti-Indian that by extension is nothing but being a nationalist", this is the funny standard line they reiterate as and when asked if anti-Indianism is for real or fake in Nepal?

"From our eating salt to undergarments for example Rupa Baniyan, everything that we need

for our daily lives come from India. We should rather be totally subservient for the magnanimity they have shown for adding a pinch of iodine into our salts so that our children would have no goiter."

But, the question is whether the Indian magnanimity has come to Nepal for free? Republic of India and free delivery never go together.

Do we get the iodized salt for free from India, the question that we need to ask ourselves is whether the undergarments that we are wearing right now is being



provided in charity under Mahatma Gandhi donation scheme?

Nothing that comes from India or for that matter any third country is for free. There is no need to be subservient to them because we are paying a heavy price for what we are getting from them.

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GYANENDRA'S FATE!

Kathmandu: A pretty saddened Dr. Babu Ram Bhattarai with the preference of panel led by Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal to send another vice chairman Naryan Kaji Shrestha at a party program in the district of Gorkha said that he would rather prefer to kill himself by cutting his throat than to make any compromises.

Both Shrestha and Bhattarai hail from the district of Gorkha. Reportedly, Chairman Dahal had preferred Shrestha over Bhattarai to attend the program however, later Bhattarai took part in the program.

In the course of his speech,

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Constitution and Peace process delay: India blamed

Kathmandu: Less than a week after India's Prime Minister Man Mohan Singh upon meeting one of his cohorts from Nepal, Surya Bahadur Thapa of Rastriya Janshakti Party expressed that lack of seriousness on the part of political parties of Nepal as the main reason behind constitution drafting delay, one of the senior leaders of Unified Maoists' Party instead pointed figures at India and said, "I see there is no possibility of constitution being drafted on time and logical end of the peace process because the Indian establishment and expansionist rulers of India have been interfering in our social,

economic, political and cultural lives."

Vice-Chairman Mohan Baidya Pokharel Kiran of Unified Maoists' Party in the course of his speech also expressed that Nepali Congress Party was the main obstacle to the logical conclusion of peace process and constitution drafting.

The Communists of Nepal take Nepali Congress as an out and out a pro-India party.

The NC leaders make exactly the same allegation on the party Mr. Baidya leads.

Mr. Baidya addressing a program organized by Revolutionary Journalists Organization in Khotang District, March 12, 2011, said that

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Unacceptable security lapses

Deterioration too must have a limit. Too much corrosion that it is already now, perhaps means that the doomsday for this country was round the corner.

Changes must be for the better. Moreover, political changes must be able to check the worsening scheme of things. People anticipate that with each such change which is now in series over the years, law and order situation, apart from the others attached, must be in an enhanced state than the previous one.

Nepal as it stands today is at the porch of whether it should be acknowledged a failed state at the earliest or should be allowed some more time for the declaration of the same as a grace period.

We thus find it unable on how to depict our own country's situation where the chaotically astonishing events have begun to happen in broad day light.

Incredible as it is, the State machinery, including the erratic security agencies, prefer to shift the blame onto the heads of the others and hush-hush the matter. The fact is also that on several occasions in the past, even dangerous events that have rocked the entire country have been either ignored or at best shelved for good.

The people have reasons to get alarmed. No other option left to them other than to shudder, tremble and pray to the Almighty to save their respective lives.

If Kathmandu is not safe then forget the situation in other parts of the country.

Don quixotic faces with bamboozling behaviors have been told to rule the nation. These Don Quixotic political animals have tentatively ruined the nation. All that remains is the tearing apart of the nation-state which could also be round the corner if the same repulsive faces continue to rule this country for long.

Nepal has already become a distinguished destination for being killed. Kathmandu is a killing machine already. Nobody is safe not even the country's President or for that matter the Prime Minister.

If the President or the Nepal PM thinks that they could not be in the "hit list or say target" of the "open alien" contract killers then they are highly mistaken. The tragedy, unfortunate that would be by all means then, may befall on their respective personalities as well and thus both are advised to tighten their belts leaving the laymen to the mercy of the Almighty. Why should they care the people after all?

This became evident the manner an Indian contract killer, Jasjit, easily entered the central jail, last Thursday, March 10, 2011, and directed his Britain made revolver at the Nepali national, Yunus Ansari, must have jolted the entire security machinery and the lame duck government as well. However, if one were to take the already tarnished credentials of the Nepal Police and other related security agencies then what is for sure and could be said safely that Jasjit must not have entered the jail premises and approached Yunus Ansari, the planned target, without the tacit support of the men recruited inside the jail for managing security affairs. The likelihood remains.

This is not to blame the domestic officials. Neither have we the intention to malign their testimonials. But yet one fair question could be asked.

How could this Indian national, Jasjit or whatever he is, receive a red carpet welcome inside the jail premises whether the relatives of the prisoners are being interrogated and searched hundred a times prior they make their way to see their imprisoned relatives?

This is dangerous. Some criminal elements inside the said premises must have facilitated Jasjit's easy entrance or such an unhindered entry can't be made possible.

This speaks of the highly deteriorated law and order situation in this country. This also speaks as to how much laxity prevails inside the security agency paraphernalia. This is too much. It is highly objectionable that so far the government has not taken up the issue in a manner that the gravity of the situation demanded. Simply by making lectures will not work. Some concrete actions were needed to assure the panicked people as they are now.

In sum, blaming the Indian criminal will do little to shift the matter onto the heads of others. In essence, security lapses have been located right inside the Nepali territories and that too in the very heart of Kathmandu which is unfortunately the capital of Nepal.

Total and complete revamp in the security machinery for the time being will work but will not yet assure the people that their lives were safe.

The national population can't wait for an indefinite period and remain in a chaotic situation. All that Nepal PM Khanal needs to do is to find out the moles inside the security agencies and act accordingly or else people's tsunami could greet him and his shaky government soon.

The tsunami, by the way, is already in the making. Be it known to Nepal PM Jhal Nath Khanal. In what form it pounces upon Nepal though is unclear.

आफ्नो अधिकार प्रयोग गर्दा अस्को
 अधिकारप्रति सजग र सचेत हुनु
 असल नागरिकको कर्तव्य हो ।

नेपाल सरकार
 सूचना तथा सञ्चार मन्त्रालय
 सूचना विभाग

Political culture and Development Discourse

Forms and Functions of Civil Society in Nepal-II

Dev Raj Dahal

Political Culture
 Genuine civil society groups lubricate the scope of cooperation, radiate trust among diverse citizens and animate the power of rural society to converse their interests to political power. Civic culture cannot be evolved simply by "making institutional changes or through elite-level maneuvering" rather it is based on the "values and beliefs of ordinary citizens" (Iglehart, 2000:97). Character building, says Gandhi, is the aim of education. One must make a distinction between economic society like chambers of commerce and industries which works under the utilitarian domain but also spares part of surplus to public welfare and those which works only for pecuniary motive such as commercial banks. Similarly, these groups differ exclusively from social and cultural associations in Nepal such as *Guthi*, *Mithila Samaj*, *Rhodi*, *Dalit Uthhan Manch*, literary society, artists' group, etc formed to sustain cultural resiliency and jolt alive civic spirit from deep snooze.

Compared to cultural groups, however, educational and informational associations are more secular but in no way they can claim their autonomous identity above partisan politics. A number of civic groups organized to protect class and professional rights such as trade unions and federations of locally elected bodies, consumer groups, irrigation and community forestry, etc have larger membership and are better organized but their formations are largely partisan rather than holistic as they are group-closed and discipline-bound. Still, unions are struggling for their autonomy from party politics, introduce reform in Trade Union Act and influence the CA process for the inclusion of workers' legitimate rights including social security provisions.

Many advocacy groups such as Nepal Federation of Ethnic Groups and Nationalities, Nepal Dalit Association, Khas-Chhetri Ekta Samaj and the societies formed by Bahuns on the basis of lineage, etc face similar criticism for appearing pre-civil and biological than cosmological as they tend to institutionalize group power and instrumentalize identity conflict. Many doubt whether they represent secular modernity for they resort to primordial form of reactive re-tribalization of society, social differentiation, exclusion and drained out cross-cultural social capital necessary for nation-building, production and peace. Countless civic and human rights groups have played vital role in deconstruction of Nepalese society through individualization and its universalization, democratic movement and peace process. But, they have created a gap between popular consciousness of citizens about their rights and lack state resources for the fulfillment of those rights. They are therefore blamed for making Nepalese politics aspiration-fuelled and offensive. Scores of trusts established to glamorize party leaders follow a politics of clientalism and retreat their democratic contribution into parochial background (Bhatta, 2009:60). Only relief associations, such as Maiti Nepal, Paropakar, Nepal Red Cross Society, Netra Jyoti Sangh, etc seem to offer the prospect for genuine civil society working voluntarily to support the needy and projecting humanistic face of larger Nepalese society. Inspired by spirituality of public service, well off individuals in Tarai, the southern flatlands, have constructed *pati*, *pancha* (resting places), *dharma-shalas* (public ins), Sanskrit schools, colleges, hospitals and public places. These various forms of civil society have difficulty in moving from the particular to general interests to capture the complex interests of society and mobilize social energy of people for their collective well-being.

One can also find the success of stories of Nepalese civil society in a number of areas from inducing CPN (Maoists) to join democratic

politics to April Mass Movement of 2006 to Comprehensive Peace Accord the same year to the provisions of property rights for women and their substantial representation in legislative body and institutions of governance. Women's social movements and their caucus group in the parliament across the party lines have framed all gender mainstreaming efforts within a broader governance framework, recognizing state's responsibilities for creating enabling conditions for political mobilization, participation and influence in decision-making (Acharya, 2008:2-5). They are now seeking to transform paternalistic institutions into socially inclusive, gender responsive, rule-governed and transparent institutions for gender justice. Many laws regarding Local Self-Governance 1999 have been passed due to the lobbying of the federation of elected bodies.

The introduction of Civics Course for school students has been possible due to the efforts of representatives of Higher Education Board, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. Human rights organizations are condemning the violation of human rights in Nepal and exerting pressure on the government to abolish the culture of impunity. Many NGOs have the ability to launch vibrant civic education and civic action whereby citizens can learn rights and duties, actors and institutions, the habits of free assembly, dialogue and social initiative, develop leadership and legislate social transformation. There is constant transfer of knowledge through CSOs, CBOs and NGOs to improve the opportunities for young people and strengthen institutional cooperation (Bhattachan, 2003). Civic groups are reporting about famine, viral influenza, domestic violence, girl trafficking and many ills of society and even providing early warning for an immediate state response.

Development Discourse
 Both the government and international community in Nepal find NGOs and civil society handy partners for development projects considering that they are less bureaucratic, more flexible, adaptable and issue-based. "Many hands approach" is useful to capture the hierarchy and complexity of Nepali society. But if civil society groups become extended arms of either donors or political parties or even the government they cannot become a space for articulation of different, partly competing and partly conflicting, interests and carry out democratic accountability functions. It is also difficult to critically engage them in diverse spheres of mini-publics as autonomous entities and utilize their strength for social transformation. In Nepal, civil society groups are providing useful information to increase public understanding of development goals, policies, strategies and means and have become a partner in development. Many of them are articulating alternative vision, perspectives, priorities and proposals, providing information that are useful in policy formulation, implementation, evaluation and critical review and offering means by which people as stakeholders fulfill their legitimate needs.

Media headlines in Nepal reveal a myriad of themes articulated by civil societies of Nepal such as violence, corruption, poverty, inequality, discrimination, ecocide, increased defense expenditure, girl trafficking, impunity, refugees, etc. By articulating these themes civil societies have offered discursive arenas and interactive forums for solution oriented knowledge-building. The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2006 underlines several basic provisions: sovereignty of people, which means power should spring from bottom-up; right to information which means

conditions of liberty must be established with the transparency of decision-making; social rights including right to work, that is economic and social policies should be geared to social justice; Local Peace Committees for conflict resolution and public-private partnership for development synergy. The contribution of civil society is fully appreciated by 9th Plan Documents and Local-Self-Governance Act, 1999 in problem identification, proposal formulation, approval, operation, supervision, policy dialogue, service delivery, evaluation, monitoring, repair and maintenance, conflict-resolution and feedback.

There are other equally essential considerations. First, civil society groups have provided legitimacy



enough social capital to expand economies of scale, transcend particular interest and minimize transaction cost. This is why stronger parochialism than citizenship in Nepal's political culture has posed a problem in making collective choice.

Similarly, there is uneven distribution of civil society in different geographical regions. The capacity of donors, government and political parties to absorb civil

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(societal acceptability) in policy making and outcome in the preparation of Plan Documents, Country Cooperation Framework, Nepal Development Forum, etc though the outcome is contested by ordinary citizens. The social acceptability of a development policy can limit its polarizing effects and build coherence in different actors' goals, means and strategies. Second, they have offered useful mechanism for the accountability of dominant actors through Public Account Committee, Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority, Auditor-General, media, academia, donors and voters. Third, they have established transparency and openness in decision making and finance through the right to information act and opposed the consent manufacturing of media. Fourth, many civil society groups have helped to establish ownership and representation of diverse interests on Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), Millennium Development Goals and Post-Conflict reconstruction programs by leading stakeholder consultation (workshop, seminars and discussion) and obtaining necessary feedbacks. Fifth, social movement oriented civil society are engaged in fostering equity in the distribution of development outcome (gender, caste, region, age, class, ethnicity etc), environmental sustainability (sustainable development), delivery responsiveness of the development actors and even in partnership and consensus building culture for development synergy.

A vibrant civil society can counterbalance the power of the state and moderate the appetites of government for arbitrary use of power, resource and authority and temper the ferocity of market forces. But, the civil society debates in Nepal have been weakly institutionalized and poorly sustained. Donors and government mostly use clients, consultants, patronage-based NGOs and powerful individuals in the name of consultation with civil society to justify the legitimacy of their initiatives. Many of these groups are detached from the larger public sphere and public action. The challenges for civil society groups in Nepal, however, are varied and complex. Barring exceptions of community forestry, irrigation, local governance federations, cooperatives etc they also suffer from contradictions especially in areas of autonomy, membership, charity work, supporting the marginalized, rural-orientation, transparency of resource utilization and self-governance measures. In this critical juncture of the nation's history, there is a need to redefine what is possible for civil society to do, what is legitimate for them to do and what they should not do. They should definitely not do any action that weakens citizen's capacity for self-governance. Largely atomized and particular form of initiative is unable to create

society has also made them weak in altering paternalistic planning tradition to facilitate their outreach to a broad mass of society. Due to partisan formation these civil society groups are less efficacious in coordination, communication and solidarity building within and across the country. Likewise, they also lack the requisite ability to effect collective action due to tight party control, such as trade unions, students union, human rights organizations and women's associations. They are fissiparous and un-free for free collective bargaining. The popular criticisms labeled against urban civil society are that they are inorganic, donor-dependent, culturally-insensitive and context-free and have anti-state tendencies (especially those of right-based ones). Therefore, they have completely failed to nurture civility, bring the connectors of society for post-conflict reconciliation and establish state-society harmony. Some important issues have yet to be addressed in Nepal: legal status of civil society, its ability to indigenize public policy and its relevance to the state, the market, and international regime.

Conclusion: The responsibilities of Nepalese civil society groups are monumental in scope. Of foremost importance is to compensate the modernity's assault on social fabric. First, democracy building in Nepal requires a political consensus on social contract and establishing the legitimacy of the state action. Second, modernization of the infrastructure of democracy, such as political parties, NGOs, CBOs, public interest groups and the agencies of socialization, is a precondition to democracy consolidation and develop citizens' compliance to the rule of law. Third, capturing the sovereignty of policy domain is another area to enforce the accountability of governance to public and push for conflict-sensitive programs. In a governance regime, however, a sound mechanism of mutual accountability of internal and external stakeholders must be built so that resources can be concerted into humanitarian action to be undertaken at multi-track levels. Fourth, development of the linkages of micro and macro institutions of civil society is essential to enable their efficacy in the realization of the vision of good governance that is both just and legitimate. Similarly, broadening civic awareness of the citizens about the changing nature of the national and local environment for all the actors, their interest positioning and shifting from hostile position to identifying enlightened interests for shared gains for democracy, peace, social justice and progress is crucial. A nation grows with the civility of its citizens and declines with the decay of its civil society. [Concluded]

In memoriam of lost precious Japanese lives

Calamities at times happen without providing any notices or whatsoever.

As and when such natural misfortune do happen or occur, hundreds of precious lives are lost and country's basic infrastructure too get badly damaged.

We in Nepal remain stunned on how to extend our heartfelt grief over the devastating high on the Richter scale earthquake associated with the Tsunami that rocked the friendly nation-Japan which has remained ever steadfast in extending its developmental

support to Nepal without any strings attached.

Japan is being loved by the Nepalese population not only

Japan is a prime destination for those who seek jobs in foreign countries. Later come Republic of Korea and then the countries of

doing all it can to manage the country to be back on its original track and come out from the devastating natural catastrophe.

We wish that the government of Japan becomes able to tackle the suddenly approached situation in a skilled manner so that its population gets out from the current panic of the highest order.

We pray for the departed souls and hope that the Almighty provides them all with eternal peace.

We are with the Japanese people and the government as a friendly nation

SECOND IMPRESSION

N.P. UPADHYAYA

because Japan has been extending support to Nepal in a regular basis but also for the providing jobs to thousands of unemployed youths of Nepal who have been living in Japan.

the Gulf.
Loss of precious lives anywhere in the world is a heart rendering event. Our heart naturally goes to the people and the government of Japan which is

Nepal-India Relation: A Convoluted Business

Bhupal Lamichane
Former Vice President, HURON

New Delhi has always played a vital perceptible role in the tiny Himalayan country Nepal. India's role was sometimes appreciated not only by many Nepali people but also by different countries including archrivals China and Pakistan. It was during 2006 when Nepal was in turmoil, the Maoists were waging war against its own people and the King of Nepal took control of the country in a bloodless coup. During that time the people were so fed up with the violence and disorder in the country, they felt obliged for Delhi's intervention for bringing the Maoists rebels and all other political key players to a conscientious exit for leaving weapons.

However, Delhi has the fame or defame of brokering a 'Peace Pact' between the Nepali Congress, the Rana Rulers, and the King of Nepal in 1951. This tripartite compromise known as the 'Delhi Treaty' is still infamous in Nepali Politics. The leftist politicians, especially the Communists of Nepal, have become champions in denouncing the Delhi Treaty. They are of view that the treaty led New Delhi to intervene in every internal matter of Nepal. Their eyes always see Nepali Congress as mere stooges of Indian hegemony because Nepali Congress was one of the three political forces.

It is true that Delhi hosted the leaders of the communist parties of Nepal, the Maoists and the UML, as well as their archival, the Nepali Congress, the oldest and largest Democratic Party, which they label as pro Indian for deep consultation for finding out a formula for the poor and ignorant people of Nepal. They formulated 12 point understanding and the road map for peace and democracy. On the basis of the same road map, peace initiatives in Nepal have moved forward till today.

In Nepal, so many incidents has happened including formation of Constructional Assembly (the Maoists are the largest party in CA) through election, the ouster of the King and declaring Nepal as a Republic. Prachanda became prime Minister followed by Madhav Kumar Nepal and now Jhala Nath Khanal (all 3 PMs are communists) since Delhi's friendly intervention. The old USSR used the word Liberation for intervention. Did Delhi liberate poor Nepali people from the cruel Monarchy as well as liberal democracy? What do we make out of the communist's acceptance regarding Delhi's role?

Since 1951, a lot of water has flown in the Ganges and in Mechi - Mahakali. Traditionally anti-Indian vocalists in Nepal are the Communists and the Royalists. But ironically, after causing the death of so many thousands of innocent fellow citizens, the Communists

especially the Maoists are now in a transformed ideological concept from one party dictatorial rule to a competitive multi-party political system. Shouldn't the people of Nepal thank India for the transformation of the Maoists communists?

There are still many people who believe that the Maoists of Nepal have been under the sponsorship of Indian intelligence agency even though, Prachanda's party has stood firmly with the anti India rhetoric after his ouster from the Prime Minister's chair.

In Nepal today one can see a school of thought that India's role as a neighboring country is very important in order to restore peace, normalcy and development of the country. Without India's backing a government in Nepal cannot be stable and Nepal's economical progress cannot excel because of geographical reasons. Is this a fact or a rhetoric? No leader can be found in Nepal without uttering the importance of Indian support. The Maoists are not exception. They do have the loudest voices of all political actors.

Then the other side of the loud voice does exist too. What do people make out of the Maoists rhetoric of fight with Indian expansionism? Have they ever fought? The answer is no over. The Maoists never saw Indian expansionism while they were at war with Nepali people and in the government. But as soon as the Prachanda's government fell the rhetoric began to air like mantra of making a new government again.

For the Maoists the government of UML under MP Nepal's leadership was considered a pro India government sponsored by India. But now the Maoists are happy to shoulder the government of JN Khanal who is not only the leader of UML but also the president of the party. For a political observer it is the same coin with two sides. The whole process of peace and normalcy in Nepal is heading as it has been designed in New Delhi the capital of India. Perhaps US and China were also partners in the process of formulating the remedy of Nepali violence.

Nevertheless, the Nepalese are proud of their independence for which they have sacrificed a lot. Never to surrender to unjust is the traditional bloodline of a Nepali person. Whoever he/she is in cast, class and creed every Nepali is an independent by nature and very honest ready to sacrifice everything for a cause. Democracy, Human Rights and National Independence are the dearest entity of Nepalese people. However, constant vigilance for our existence is equally necessary. This is not rhetoric.

Nepal knows the longing for freedom, democracy, and human

rights will never die in spite of great suppression, phobia and conspiracies. Brutal regimes try hard to undermine democracy and freedom, in the name of nationalism, liberty and so forth but never endure in the end. In modern history, one can find many horrifying examples of genocide and crime against humanity sponsored by despotic regimes.

There are some people in Nepal who criticize India for each and every event in Nepal. Among those dubious people the number of communists leaders surpass others. There is no question that many political pundits in Nepal see events in Nepal as the hegemonic role of India. But they do not think that when people are not united, leaders do care for their own interest and are always eyeing to grab power with any kind of available means including taking support of the foreigners; it is obvious that the foreign powers

will play. India has been champion in this connection.

It seems Nepal is facing problems with so many issues. But a vibrant democracy will always have issues. One finishes another comes up. As a new thought arises, people need more and more liberty to address it. What people have not thought today people tomorrow may think and fight for that? EHowever, the need for unity and cooperation of people in constant manner for more democratic rights and national unity will never diminish. This has been a lesson we must learn from the life long struggle of later Krishna Prasad Bhattarai whose press conference in Delhi was the Hallmark of Nepali Nationalism.

The author is former vice president of Human Rights Organization of Nepal (HURON) one of the oldest HR organizations in the country.

En Bref

Skeleton Charter on May 28: Minister Mahara

Kathmandu: There are two alternatives ahead of political parties of Nepal. Those being either a new agreement to resolve outstanding issues or a full-fledged conflict.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Information and Communication Mr. Krishna Bahadur Mahara while addressing a program in Liwang of Rolpa District, March 13, 2011 said that forces been on pushing the country towards another violent conflict have become highly active.

"The transitional period has already reached a climax", he continued adding we need to sincerely urge the Nepali Congress to join the government thus we must address their genuine concerns.

"We are not in a situation to promulgate a complete constitution on May 28, thus we (the government) are planning to promulgate at least a draft-sketch of the new constitution, which will send positive messages among the population, the minister said and added, "Other critical issues could be addressed by the next parliament."

We cannot also immediately settle issues such as that of state restructuring thus promulgating a draft of the constitution is the only viable alternative for the moment, he also said.

'Home Ministry to Maoists confirmed'

Kathmandu: The United Marxist Leninists party politburo member Prakash Jwala- who is taken as one of the close chums of Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal, reveals talking to a vernacular daily that PM Khanal has already made up his mind to award the ministry of home affairs to the Unified Maoists Party.

A move that expectedly will see strong criticism from his own party.

"It has been decided to award the Home Ministry to the Maoists and to provide full shape to the government", he revealed while talking to Rajdhani Daily, March 11, 2011.

The government will take a full shape as the Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF)-Upendra Yadav submits the list of his part men to be represented in the government.

On Thursday, PM Khanal, Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal (Unified Maoists) and Upendra Yadav had held a meeting together.

It is also reported that the MJF splinter led by Upendra Yadav and recently divided splinter of Tarai Madhesh Loktantrik Party led by Mahendra Ray Yadav too will join the government soon.

It is likely that Mr. Upendra Yadav will lead the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with deputy prime ministerial status. The MJF will also head ministry of commerce.

Similarly, Tarai Madhesh Loktantrik Party-Nepal is being offered Ministry of Industries.

Tsunami in Nepalese Politics

— Bijay Kumar Rauniyar

Associate Professor, English Department, T. U, Nepal

Nepal is too vulnerable a country and its politics and politicians are extremely fragile. Consequently, people or civilians are no exception. A little shock or wave can send them off their feet. As a country, Nepal has many rich resources, both natural and human; it, however, fails to exploit them as and when needed. For example, it has not been able to

mobikes, or even hire cabs in queuing up dilapidated and crowded stone taps (*dhunga dhara*), water providing tankers, and water reservoirs with jerry cans, gallons, and other improvised pots and containers. They, nevertheless, carry many undrinkable contents along with water. Most of the time, it is untreated either at the source of production or the site of consumption. It induces many water-borne diseases which takes its own toll and

VIEWS

produce enough power out of its ever flowing water and other alternative energies. Much of its water goes waste or flows across the border, and the power remains unused due to a cunning consumer who haggles to its most. Nor does it sell its power to this intimate neighbor at a reasonable rate. This leads the nation perennially to stark dark. Several quinquennial plans have failed to achieve its projected goals. In addition, even the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) show not much light in any direction. We, therefore, are bound to live in pitch darkness for another five, ten, or infinite years. By then, the situation will further aggravate beyond any cure and correction.

To add salt to injury, KUKL (a new agency that took over Nepal Drinking Water Corporation) recently announced prolonged release of water that is only six days a month. The taps will oblige us with dear drinking water only after five days as against existing four days. People cry dry and rush towards scanty supply of water in their vicinity, if they have any. Every good morning or good evening they walk, ride their own bikes and

which goes unnoticed by the concerned agencies, especially health sectors and medical workers.

In day time, people also manage to hoard gasoline and other fuels for their kitchens, vehicles, and different machineries like generators because power inverters run out soon after they are being charged. Upgrading the current power system or installing another means of energy like solar power is too costly and beyond the reach of general people. Even government offices and official residences of the heads of nation and government remain power-cut during long hours of loadshedding. *Where is the power, by the way?* Visit multiplying markets, malls, halls, hotels, media and corporate houses, apartments, embassies, NGOs and INGOs, schools and colleges, banks and business complexes, and there is a flood of light everywhere. Escalators and excavators, coolers and air conditioners, fridges and refrigerators, scanners and photocopiers, TVs and computers, laptops and printers all run effectively and incessantly.

On the margin, people suffer in absence of good roads, medical

and educational, and other fundamental facilities. The country is churning loads of higher secondary and technical graduates like doctors and engineers and chartered accountants within Nepal and even granting permission to do so abroad. The returnees, however, face a lot of constraints in the country or fail to implement their expertise in the given field. The regulating and executive bodies like Nepal Medical Council (to quote just an example) provide cure but no prevention. *When a cut can be avoided, why spend thousands on stitches? And still what is the guarantee of the success of the surgery which is so rigorously done?*



for some support, some favor, some sum although we might be very vocal again them outwardly,

Indeed, in almost all cases, the nation, the government, the parliament, the parties, and the politicians play puppets or enuchs before the sinister role of a medley of intelligentsia and INGOs in national issues. They all make a cobweb; the more we try to straighten it, the more we get entangled into it. They lure brain drain in their highly paid jobs or abroad works. The entrepreneurs, too, are underterred by the flood of migration of their esteemed consumers who lived in harmony before People's, Madhesh, and Nationalities' Movements that split the nation to the core. *"Who cares?" they say in the tone of the politicians who are sure of their profit pay, perks, and multiple grants and allowances. "We have our own locals sending remittances and becoming our new customers! Our business keeps going."* They are, nonetheless, unaware of the political tsunami brewing underneath that, plussed with this social and ethnic upheaval, might uproot the entire foundation and bury them untraceably. *Then even the musty neighbors will not be able to tolerate the tremors!*

The same is happening in other infrastructures of development. Academics and economics are politicized. So are such sensitive matters like national boundary, cross-border activities, internal security, Indian and other foreign currencies, ever pouring and protesting refugees of Bhutan and Tibet, and so on. Sometimes, the workers and unions disrupt academia and industries; at other times, the investors including honorable Excellencies fulfill their vested interests at the cost of the health and welfare of a large mass of people. While some ethnicities make prompt protest as in the case of defaulting CEO of NAC, Sugat Ratna Kansakar, other ethnicities remain relegated as in the case of jailbird Yunus Ansari, within a span of two weeks right in the heart of the capital, Kathmandu. From the extreme corner, though, Big Brother, some Super Power, or donor agencies or even an influential individual is watching us, every Tom (and Dick and Harry) is peeping into our interior, and often barging right in our yard. And we kowtow or cajole them

Everest

Nepal: Debased "Agrarian Transformation"

By Prof. Upendra Gautam

Consortium for Land Research and Policy Dialogue (COLARP) has published a book entitled *Land, Agriculture and Agrarian Transformation in Nepal*. The editors of the book are Kailash Nath Pyakuryal and Bishnu Raj Upreti.

The book, in all fairness, seems to be the product of a proletarian conscience as it is dedicated to, to quote the editors, "Millions of rural people who nurture the nation but have remained themselves unattended and discriminated against."

In addition to book framework and chapter inputs by the editors, their collaborative efforts, triggered by proletarian conscience, of several like-minded individual contributors, including Yamuna Ghale, Lisha Shrestha, Kalawati Rai, Mahima Neupane, Deependra Bahadur Kshetry, Purna Nepali, Shresthi Singh Shrestha, Samanna Adhikari, Jagat Basnet, Niraj Joshi, Keshav Acharya, Hikmat Bhandari, YB Thapa and Tulasi Sharan Sigdel have helped materialize the publication attempt. The editors must be appreciated for their social capital and competence to mobilize domestic individual contributions and international institutional support in bringing the book out.

While the editors in chapter one provide the "Setting of the context" on land, agriculture and agrarian change, other contributors, individually or jointly, write on the problems like right to food security; land-based relationship between agrarian tension, armed conflict and human insecurity; struggle for existence of the small farms; land reform and agrarian transformation; landlessness and agrarian change; poverty reduction by re-orienting agricultural research, extension and education; macro-economy for agrarian transformation; political economy of agrarian transformations, and political economy of conflict and agrarian change. The editors and contributors have made, to the extent of the availability and relevance, good use of not only official data, but also photos and boxes with cases depicting

marginalization, deprivation, gender inequality, bonded labor, sustainable agricultural practices and land right movements.

In a most precise sense, despite the prevailing 21st century jargon and acuteness reportedly brought by climate change and the insurgency of the Nepali Maoists in land, agriculture and agrarian relations, the greatest value the book possesses in the context of the Nepali society perhaps lies in its ability to comprehensively update the many facets of exploitative land, agricultural and agrarian relations that impact marginalizing the greater number of rural farming people-whatever their caste, ethnic, gender, regional or language affiliation.

Given the historicity of the book, its framework and analyses simply substantiate what John T. Hitchcock (*The Magars of Banyan Hill*, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, New York, 1966), Bedh Prakash Upreti (*"Limbuwan Today: Process and Problems,"*

(Resources and Population, a Study of the Gurungs of Nepal, Ratna Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2003) had in the last forty years variably explained the basic causes of increasing exploitation, deprivation and marginalization of the greater number of rural farming people in Nepal.

Mahesh C. Regmi, a well known Nepali scholar of land tenure system, recognized long ago that systems of land tenure develop within the framework of a political philosophy and its general policies toward property in land (*Landownership in Nepal*, Adroit Publishers, Delhi, 1999, first Indian reprint).

But no government in Nepal has taken consistent and systematic initiative to address the land ownership issue in a fair and productive manner. Even for governments formed after the restoration of multi-party and people's democracy after 1989, land reform essentially meant reduction in the land ownership ceiling. Mere "reductionist" land reform has not made any substantial change anywhere in the anachronistic and deprivatory land ownership



well entrenched since British-Nepal war in mid 1810s, the land reform could not be more than a mere reductionist one. The following words of Yadu Nath Khanal may illustrate the historical nexus and its effects. He writes, "So far as the people are concerned, Anglo-Nepalese camaraderie did not prove beneficial. The Rana reality in Nepal and the British Indian reality cooperated consciously as well as unconsciously in insulating the people from the system of government" (*Nepal After Democratic Restoration*, Ratna Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu, Nepal, 1996).

At this juncture, a question that arises is: Is it the historical nexus between the landed aristocracies at home and abroad, and the Nepali common people and institutions' increased deprivation and say over land that are debasing the Nepali State from its basic element of land and territory? (Upendra Gautam, "Nepal: Politics of Landed Aristocracy", Nepal Post, Dec. 2004-Jan-Feb 2005). The new book not only acts as an expose' of the "agrarian transformation" in Nepal, but also provides a more comprehensive documentary evidence on the hollowness of the political parties' commitment to it. Officials, mainly the policy makers, may be rendered a bit wiser if they read this book for honest "agrarian transformation."

Prof. Gautam, PhD, is associated with Consolidated Management Services (CMS) Nepal PVT. LTD.

DOSSIER

Contribution to Nepalese Studies, Journal of the Institute of Nepal and Asian Studies, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Vol. 3, No. 2, September 1976), Dilli Ram Dahal, Navin Kumar Rai and Andrew E. Manzardo (*Land and Migration in Far-Western Nepal*, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, May 1977), Thomas E. Fricke (*Himalayan Households, Tamang Demography and Domestic Processes*, Book Faith India, Delhi, 1993), Shamima Siddika (*Muslims of Nepal*, Gazala Siddika, Kathmandu, 1993), Ulrike Muller-Boker (*The Chitawan Tharus in Southern Nepal, an Ethnoecological Approach*, Nepal Research Center, Franz Steiner Verlag Stuttgart, 1999), Alan Macfarlane

system because it does not go for agrarian changes in the existing institution of land ownership system. The reductionist land reform never addresses the power structure, which is based on existing institution of land ownership system. The existing land ownership system lives on the interest of the landed aristocracy-old and new. It was unlikely for such a system to introduce agrarian reform that empowers the common people by enabling them to be linked with the local as well as national governance process through participation in resource management and use. As the landed aristocracy at home had a nexus with the colonial expansionist interest that has been

DATELINE KATHMANDU

Niraj Aryal

Being a Nationalist in Nepal: A Fashion only?

Nepal's renowned economist Professor Bishwambhar Pyakurel who was invited to participate at a seminar organized by Ministry



of Foreign Affairs, India in Varanashi-Uttar Pradesh, upon return home in his fresh write-up for a broadsheet daily, March 9, 2011, accepts that during the entire seminar proceeding Nepali

participants virtually failed to explain the Indian experts that "why anti-India sentiments existed in Nepal?"

The failure of Nepali participants to convey the reason behind "the negative public sentiment towards India" - if Professor Pyakurel is to be entirely believed, has come at a time when India's own top political leadership have begun accepting that it was India's own failed policies towards Nepal that is distancing "friends in the neighborhood".

The seminar was organized by the Public Diplomacy Division of Ministry of External Affairs, India and the topic was 'Growing Anti-Indianism in Nepal: Myth or Reality', it was earlier reported.

However, reports claim that other issues related to bilateral relations were also discussed during the four day meet.

Thirteen participants from Nepal, including Maoist leader Hishila Yami, Nepal's Ambassador to India Rukma Shamsheer Rana, Narayan Wagle - editor of Nagrik daily, and Madan Lalmsal, editor of New Business Age, Nepali Congress leader Hari Sharma, economist Dr Biswambhar Pyakurel, former diplomat Shambhuram Shikhhada and Prof Krishna Khanal took part in the said seminar.

"Although the Nepali participants could not explain logically why there were anti-Indian sentiments in Nepal, the issue nonetheless needs to be looked into", writes the senior economist in his fresh write-up.

"There were several alternative views from different stakeholders representing diverse constituencies. Some said Yes, anti-Indian sentiment in Nepal is real, whereas the others stated... it will be injustice to generalize that all Nepalis are anti-Indian. Some went on to say...there were some interest groups both internal and external, who thought India's increased involvement will undermine their influence and therefore injected anti-Indian feelings into Nepali nationalism to serve their vested interests. The general view was rather interesting, which considered it is a fashion, a sense of satisfaction to justify the fact that you are nationalist. But the big question that remained unanswered was *does one have to be anti-Indian to remain pro-Nepal?*", also writes Professor Pyakurel.

"Nationalism is Nationalism...there can't be two differing definitions", analysts contradict.

Difficulty is thus to decide whether Nepalis have to be anti-India to remain pro-Nepal as said by Professor Pyakurel or it was instead that nationalists are being labeled as anti-India by some interested quarters in Nepal? If it were a fashion let it continue, analysts sum up.

China to create largest mega city in the world with 42 million people

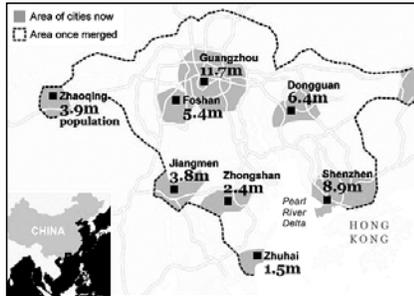
By Teresita Cruz-del Rosario and Phillie Wang Runfei

China is planning to create the world's biggest "mega city" by merging nine cities to create a metropolis twice the size of Wales with a population of 42 million people.

Together, they account for nearly a tenth of the Chinese economy. A mega-city is usually defined as a metropolitan area with more than 10 million people.

Planners in south China have

The world's largest mega-city



laid out an ambitious plan to merge the nine cities that lie around the Pearl River Delta.

The scheme will create a 16,000-square mile urban area that is 26 times larger geographically than Greater London.

The new mega-city will cover a large part of China's manufacturing heartland, stretching from Guangzhou to Shenzhen and including Foshan, Dongguan, Zhongshan, Zhuhai, Jiangmen, Huizhou and Zhaoqing.

is currently Greater Tokyo, with some 34.2 million inhabitants. Guangzhou, thought to be home to almost 25 million people, ranks second, with Seoul third at 24.5 million.

During the next six years, around 150 major infrastructure projects will mesh the transport, energy, water and telecommunications networks of the nine Chinese cities together, at a cost of some 2 trillion yuan. An express rail line will also

connect the hub with nearby Hong Kong.

"The idea is that when the cities are integrated, the residents can travel around freely and use the health care and other facilities in the different areas," said Ma Xiangming, the chief planner at the Guangdong Rural and Urban Planning Institute and a senior consultant on the project.

However, he said no name had been chosen for the area. "It will not be like Greater London or Greater Tokyo because there is no one city at the heart of this megalopolis," he said. "We cannot just name it after one of the existing cities."

"It will help spread industry and jobs more evenly across the region and public services will be distributed more fairly."

Mr Ma said that residents would be able to use universal rail cards.

Twenty-nine rail lines, totalling 3100 miles, will be added, cutting rail journeys around the urban area to a maximum of one hour between different city centres. According to planners, phone bills could also fall by 85 per cent and hospitals and schools will be improved.

"Residents will be able to choose where to get their services and will use the internet to find

out which hospital, for example, is less busy," said Mr Ma.

Pollution, a key problem in the Pearl River Delta because of its industrialisation, will also be addressed with a united policy, and the price of petrol and electricity could also be unified.

It is hoped that the southern conglomeration will wrestle back a competitive advantage from the growing urban areas around Beijing and Shanghai.

By the end of the decade, China plans to move ever greater numbers into its cities, creating some city zones with 50 million to 100 million people and "small" city clusters of 10 million to 25 million.

In the north, the area around Beijing and Tianjin is being ringed with a network of high-speed railways that will create a super-urban area known as the Bohai Economic Rim. Its population could be as high as 260 million.

A new train link between Beijing and Tianjing allows the 75-mile journey to be completed in less than half an hour, providing an axis around which to create a network of feeder cities.

As the process gathers pace, China's total investment in urban infrastructure over the next five years is expected to hit \$1 trillion, according to an estimate by the British Chambers of Commerce, with an additional \$480 billion spent on high speed rail and \$112 billion on urban transport. The Telegraph, London

'North Korea jammed GPS signals in South Korea'

North Korea has jammed in South Korea signals of the global positioning system, or GPS, causing mobile phones and military equipment to malfunction, South Korean government and military sources said Sunday.

The sources added that they detected strong jamming signals from military units in the North Korean cities of Haeju and Kaesong Friday, when GPS signal reception was disrupted at several mobile telecommunications base stations in Seoul and Gyeonggi Province.

"The jamming signals came sporadically every five to 10 minutes," a South Korean intelligence official said, adding that North Korea was likely testing its imported devices.

Around 4 p.m. Friday, GPS signals in Seoul and its suburbs such as Incheon and Paju were temporarily disrupted, causing GPS-based mobile phones to malfunction. Certain military units suffered disruptions in their equipment but the damage was not serious, officials said.

Seoul's military and intelligence authorities say Pyongyang jammed the signals apparently to disrupt the Key Resolve joint military exercise between South Korea and the U.S. According to South Korean military authorities, the North used GPS jammers to disrupt the signals. GPS jammers are based on a key technology for the

development of electronic warfare weaponry that damage enemy electronics equipment.

For three days from Aug. 23 last year, South Korea's military and intelligence authorities also investigated the cause of the disruptions as GPS signals were disrupted sporadically for several hours in certain west coast areas immediately after Seoul and Washington held the Uchi Freedom Guardian joint drill.

Two months after the signal disruptions, then South Korean Defense Minister Kim Tae-yong told the National Assembly that the military believed the North was responsible for some of the disruptions. He said Pyongyang was capable of jamming GPS signals within a 50 to 100-kilometer radius, adding Seoul was drawing up measures to foil Pyongyang's attempted disruption of GPS signals.

Experts say GPS signals are vulnerable to manipulation because satellites send the signals on weak electromagnetic waves.

"If GPS signals are like star lights seen from a mountain with clear air, disruption signals are like a search light beam right next to you," said Lee Sang-uk, a senior analyst at Seoul's state-funded Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute. "GPS signals can be disrupted by the presence of strong disruptive signal in the same frequency." (The Donga Ilbo)

Nepali nationalism needs no questioning

Professor Ananda Prasad Srestha

TGQ1: Some high flying intellectuals opine that Nepali nationalism is nothing more than a "fashion". Is it that what is being said? Your comments please Professor Srestha?
Prof. Srestha: Nowadays it has become quite surprising and "fashionable" that different terms and idioms are being defined and even redefined.

First of all, the term nationalism has its roots in the word nation. Therefore, it is quite common to take in terms of one's own country and exert the national identity so simply put, nationalism does not need to be redefined.

Of course, it is quite common to accuse nationalism as pseudo nationalism or ultra nationalism.

In other words, those who profess to be nationalists are regarded to be conservative and narrow in their approach to views and issues. By the same token, those who redefine the term are categorized as anti-nationalists by nationalists.

So this debate can go on and on without resolution. Take for example, another term democracy.

Today in Nepal we are trying to redefine democracy as complete democracy, inclusive democracy when the term is all complete and inclusive. We are even trying to substitute it as "Loktantra".

Taking all this into consideration, it has raised a somewhat uncalled for definition of democracy which has already been accepted as rule of the people, by the people, for the people.

But coming back to the term nationalism, simply meaning love for one's own country, identity and attachment with the soil and this seeking a redefinition doesn't appear appropriate.

For example, America is a nation of immigrants. These immigrants that have migrated to the US over time have gone there for purposes of economic well being. There is no blood relation with that country as such.

But still, we hear of American nationalism and American interests vested or otherwise.

In this context, Nepal is a "blood" country. Nepalese are born here and have lived here for centuries. So Nepali nationalism itself need no questioning.

The "blood" tie with the soil is enough. It simply means protecting the national interests. Nothing more nothing less.

Nepali nationalism can't only be a fashion

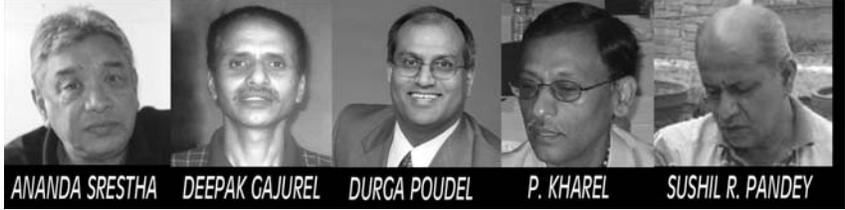
Deepak Gajurel, Associate Professor, T. U

Nationalism is a belief, a heart-deep rooted emotion, among the citizens of a nation that the state is of primary importance, above any individual or organization or institution. Nationalism is not only physical or territorial entity, it is a collective identity towards communities which are not naturally expressed in language, race, culture or religion but rather socially constructed by the very individuals that belong to a nation.

This nationalism can't be a fashion only. It is one's unflinching love and honor towards the soil that gave birth to him or her.

In Nepal's context, nationalism emphasizes collective identity - a 'people' must be autonomous, united, and express a single national culture. But it's not against any other country or society. Nepalese have an honored past of being independent, since the beginning of the history, free from any outside control or say interference. This history has built up, among us, a sense of strong feeling of love towards our Mother Nepal that does not tolerate even a slightest gesture of interference from outside.

Nepali nationalism should remain in the hearts of each and every Nepalese. Loving one's own country doesn't mean that we speak against the other nation. Nationalism is nationalism.



Nepali Nationalism is experiencing a fast-paced downward spiral

Professor Durga Poudel, USA

Prof. Poudel: A close look on the recent waves of expressions on nationalism by political leaders and their cadres at various occasions and relating these expressions with their actions in the ground it clearly appears that these expressions are just the political rhetoric, they are ad-hoc, haphazard, hypocritical, and are counterproductive to Nepalese society and the nation.

There is clearly a competition among the political leaders and their cadres on saying who is most nationalistic in words, while their behaviors and actions are perhaps quite opposite. Nepali nationalism at the moment has become a matter of self-glorification for our political leaders, and there is no doubt that it has been spread among the political sphere as a fashion. Current developments and happenings in the political, economic, diplomatic, societal, and cultural fronts, as well as Nepal's political leader's life-styles, activities, attitudes, behaviors, decision-makings, and especially their public speeches, expressions and the messages given to their party cadres and the common people sufficiently indicate that Nepali nationalism, at this point is dangerously experiencing a fast-paced downward spiral. While nationalism is an ideology that unites all the citizens of a nation for the nation's common good, it is the common responsibility of every citizen for its cultivation, nurturing, fostering, and strengthening.

Currently, Nepalese society is in the whirlpool of differences, disagreements, dissociation, division, and head-on towards disintegration. This unfortunate course of Nepalese society must be immediately reverted back through reconciliation, appreciation, mutual respect, harmony, unity, uniformity, solidarity, and national commitment for peace and economic development. We need to develop a common identity, uniformity, and adopt behaviors and practices that are good for the nation and the society as a Nepalese citizen, not as a client. These nationalistic practices and behaviors may include being proud to our culture, traditions, landscape, people, history, independence, sovereignty, and the society; love for our national resources and infrastructures; putting efforts to protecting and preserving them; recognizing and accepting unity between diversity; following and respecting democratic norms and values; determination and confidence for our own economic advancement rather than seeking perennial support and help from working and tax-paying people outside; and always making decisions considering our nation first. Political leaders' gross negligence, carelessness, disrespect and selfishness, especially on the issue of national uniformity, identity, and uniqueness, preservation of culture and traditions; and utilization of national resources, as well as their superficial and shallow understanding of the complexities of Nepalese society, economy, geopolitics, and global environment are some of the major causes of this downward spiral of Nepalese nationalism. In addition, low level of awareness on nationalism in the part of the general public, massive foreign interest due to geopolitical situations, and the failed political parties and their leaderships in building confidence and uniting diverse Nepalese nationalities, from plains to the high mountains, are other reasons for this downward spiral. However, Nepal's

glorious history, traditions, culture, genuine Nepalese patriotism, common citizens, and the need for a rapid economic development and socio-economic transformation of the nation is calling for all political parties and their leaders to have a national reconciliation and the transformation of the current state of a hollow Nepali nationalism to a concrete and true Nepalese nationalism through peace, democracy, mutual respect and harmony, national integrity, uniqueness and identity, sovereignty and a fast-paced socio-economic transformation of the nation. This is an urgent call from Nepalese society, this is the need of the hour, and this should not be overlooked and missed.

Far from being confined to mere fashion, Nepali nationalism is still live and vibrant

Prof. P. Kharel, Chairman, Nepal Press Institute

TGQ4: Some high flying Nepali nationalists claim that Nepali nationalism is confined to a fashion? What say you in this regard Professor P. Kharel? Your exclusive comments please.

Far from being confined to mere fashion, Nepali nationalism is still live and vibrant. It is only that some of the mainstream political party leaders, who currently rule the roost, have chosen to either put the issue on the backburner or prefer to bury it deep while the vast majority of the Nepali citizens have been intensely concerned about the prevailing state of affairs. There is no doubt that foreign interference through a variety of channels and agencies has heavily penetrated different units and organs of the state structure. In such a situation, it takes time for the boiling water to reach the limits and burst. The humiliating manner in which Nepal suffered at the United Nations in the recent years—first, in its bid for a seat in the Security Council and, recently, in its attempt at having its nominee elected as president of the UN General Assembly. Presently, many Nepalis, across the cross-section of society, have gradually begun to raise their voices. Some new leaders and groups will surely emerge sooner or later to strengthen the issue of national interests that have been gravely affected in the recent years. That will be the time when the current crop of leaders will suffer their true selves and eternal condemnation by contemporary society and posterity.

Nationalism is not a fad or merely it is something to be taken lightly

Professor Sushil Raj Pandey

HoD, Political Science Department, T.U, Nepal

TGQ5: How you Professor Pandey view the notion of Nepali nationalism? Is it a fashion or has some intrinsic meaning inside the term as such? Your exclusive comments please.

Professor Pandey: Nationalism is a strong attachment to State, in particular to the culture, to the political heritage that provides recognition to an individual as citizens.

In the modern context, with the rapid acceleration of globalization, nationalism transcends further to global identity.

For a nation like Nepal, the interface between nationalism and globalization is vital to the protection of its security of the country. Nationalism is not a fad or merely it is something to be taken lightly. For us as the Nepalese the value of nationalism is very very precious.

Averting water wars in South Asia

Momin Ifkhar, PAKISTAN

A thought provoking report, Averting Water Wars: Water Scarcity and Central Asia's Growing Importance for Stability in Afghanistan and Pakistan, recently published by the US Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations, has served to reiterate the looming dangers that are posed by the emerging scenario whereby water shortages are becoming a source of enhanced friction between India and Pakistan. This stark threat to a malevolent potency despite the fact that the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) was signed by the top leadership of India and Pakistan on September 19, 1960 lays down in great details the principles for sharing the waters flowing in the Indus Basin.

The treaty that was signed by the World Bank minutely sets out the procedure for settlement of disputes, which are likely to arise in due course. The conflict resolution mechanism includes the Permanent Indus Water Commission comprising a commissioner from each country and the option to refer disputes to the International Court of Arbitration if the bilateral interaction and even the appointment of a neutral expert fail to resolve the differences. Despite the fact that IWT is widely hailed for maintaining stability in the region by diffusing tensions caused by the water disputes, the US Senate raises questions whether "the IWT can address India's growing use of the shared waters and Pakistan's increasing demand for these waters for agricultural purposes".

Treaties are mere scraps of papers if not backed by respective national resolve and goodwill of the signatories to make these work; and IWT is no exception. The fact that the IWT has functioned for so long is because it is based on practical rationale and fair distribution of resources. The Treaty gives the exclusive right over the waters of three Eastern Rivers: Ravi, Sutlej and Bias to India and of the three Western Rivers: Indus, Jhelum and Chenab to Pakistan. The treaty allows India, as the upper riparian state,

certain specific consumptive and non-consumptive uses in the Western rivers as well. While it circumscribes India's right to build water storage dams on the rivers allocated to Pakistan, it allows construction of run-of-the-river hydro electrical projects without affecting the flow of water into Pakistan - nor altering its timings. Timing is an important issue because agriculture in Pakistan is dependent not only on the quantity but also the availability of water during critical period of the planting season. The underlying spirit of the treaty remains that while India may tap the hydro-electrical potential of western rivers in its territory but without negatively affecting the volume or timings of the water that the IWT entitles Pakistan to. Unfortunately the gap between the ideals and the ground reality is widening with every passing day.

It is becoming manifest that India is expanding the envelope of its allowable usage over the Jhelum and Chenab waters, sanctioned by the IWT, to severely impinge upon Pakistan's share of dedicated waters, which is gross violation of the underlying spirit of the treaty. It was in this context that the differences over design parameters of the Baghliar Hydroelectric project on Chenab River, 147 km upstream of Marala Headwork, saw Pakistan approaching for the appointment of a neutral expert to preclude Indian efforts to retain water storage capability in excess of the provisions of the IWT.

The "determination" by Raymond Lafitte, a Swiss expert, was delivered on February 12, 2007. While the findings were reasonable; upholding many of Pakistan's objections yet the reinterpretation of the Treaty's clauses, based on contemporary engineering practices allowed India a design that allowed India an increased water regulation capability, Pakistan's vulnerability to Indian hegemony was soon on display when India, instead of filling Baghliar during the rainy season, when water is available in abundance, chose to do so exactly at a time when it

inflicted maximum pain on the farmers of Pakistan.

If Baghliar was the only dam being built on the Chenab the problem could be managed. However following Baghliar is a long list of hydroelectric projects - Kisanganga, Sawalkot, Pakuldul, Bursar, Dal Haste, Gyspa etc that are coming up on Chenab and Jhelum. The Senate Report mentions that India has 33 projects at various stages of completion on the Rivers, which will have an impact on the availability and timings of water flow into Pakistan. The report observes, "While studies show that no single dam along the waters controlled by the IWT will affect Pakistan's access to water, the cumulative effect of these projects could give India the ability to store enough water to limit the supply to Pakistan at crucial moments in the growing season." According to expert opinion India is acquiring the capability of substantial cumulative live storage, which could store about one month's worth of low season flow on the Chenab. If it chose to, it could use this storage to impose major reductions on water availability in Pakistan during critical planting season. This capability could also be manipulated by India to regulate the flow of water in Marala Head works which is the foundation of defense related canal network, providing vital lines of defense in the Ravi Chenab Corridor, to suit its aggressive designs at the time of its choosing.

The IWT has served the sub-continent well over the last fifty years. There are however growing indications that by taking maximum leverage out of the legal lacunas created by contemporary advancements in the field of engineering and technology, India may transgress the parameters of the IWT by violating its spirit of fairness in sharing water resources in the Indus Basin. India's location as an upper riparian state puts it in the driving seat to work out a modus vivendi vis-à-vis Pakistan. But it will be wise on our part to assume that, even in the presence of IWT's well laid guidelines, India will choose to adopt a stance marked with empathy and eminence that the region so desperately desires of her. (The News International)

The US Embassy Cable, September 22, 2006: CRUNCH TIME IN NEPAL?

Begin Text Classified By: Ambassador James F. Moriarty, reasons 1.4 (b/d).

1. (S/NF) It looks like we're getting to crunch time here in Nepal. The Maoists are still stringing along talks with the GON, hoping that the GON will follow up on its past four months of unilateral concessions by caving in and allowing an armed Maoist movement into an interim government. The Prime Minister has assured us that the Seven Party alliance to support the Prime Minister on arms management and to push him to use the police against Maoist excesses. I've also created a firestorm of controversy by visiting a couple of military bases (as well as a lot of civilians) out West and publicly condemning Maoist violence. Leftist MPs have called for my expulsion, but at least some of the people here are beginning to debate Maoist intentions.

4. (S/NF) Preparing for the worst: We need to be prepared for the possibility of a Maoist return to violence in November. The key will be to condemn as quickly as possible Maoist violence, while shipping as quickly as possible some 4,500 more weapons that we have in storage for the Nepali Army. Those weapons would have an immediate tactical impact on the government. The worst case would be a government that will be under tremendous pressure to capitulate.

5. (S/NF) The Diplomatic game: The diplomacy here is getting complicated. The Europeans are all over the map with respect to recent developments. The Danes and Norwegians (who have some clout here because of their aid programs) are convinced that lasting peace is just about ready to break out and push the GON to be as accommodating as possible. The Brits, in contrast, seem convinced that the Maoists will soon be coming to no power, and are trying to convince themselves that that might not be so bad. The Chinese seem primarily interested in pushing Tibet issues with the weak, frequently ineffectual GON. The local World Bank rep is so fed up with the corruption in the system that he has become a frequent lunch pal of the Maoist supreme. I'm trying to push

3. (C) Brow-beating: Ultimately, decisions made by Nepal will determine whether this country goes down the path toward becoming a

People's Republic over the next couple of months. That said, we need to increase the possibility that the leaders here will make the right decisions. I've been meeting regularly with the Prime Minister, urging him (so far unsuccessfully) to use the police to enforce law and order and bucking him up to stick to his bottom line of not letting gun-toting Maoists into the government (with greater success so far). We've also been pushing the other members of the Seven Party alliance to support the Prime Minister on arms management and to push him to use the police against Maoist excesses. I've also created a firestorm of controversy by visiting a couple of military bases (as well as a lot of civilians) out West and publicly condemning Maoist violence. Leftist MPs have called for my expulsion, but at least some of the people here are beginning to debate Maoist intentions.

back here on some of this, but it would help if the Department could have a serious, high-level discussion with the Brits on Nepal. We might also want to look at a demarche to the Europeans and others (reminding them that the Maoists are not just agrarian reformers and seem to want power rather than peace). And finally...

Working with India 6. (S/NF) From my perspective, we need to do more to keep the Indians from pulling away from us. We need to coordinate closely with my Indian counterpart here and in private he pushes the exact same message I do: that the police need to enforce law and order and that the GON should not let armed Maoists into an interim government. I was more than a little alarmed to find out, however, that the Indian Embassy had complained to the PM's office about our training activities with the Nepal Army. (The Indian Ambassador assured me that the message had been that those exchanges should occur more quietly and had been delivered without instructions from New Delhi.) The incident underscored the fact that, while worried about current trends, New Delhi seems oblivious to how close the Maoists are getting to victory here. That makes sense: New Delhi godfathered a working relationship between the Maoists and the Parties and doesn't want to acknowledge that it might have created a Frankenstein's monster. Moreover, India's Marxist party (a key supporter of the governing coalition) has proclaimed that everything here is going just fine. In that context, I hope that a discussion on Nepal will feature prominently in future conversations with senior Indian leaders.

Comment 7. (C) The next few months will go a long way to determining whether the Maoists have an intention of coming in out of the cold, or whether there's only goal is absolute power. Up until now, all signs point to the latter. I continue to fear that a Maoist assumption of power through force would lead to a humanitarian disaster in Nepal. Just as important, a Maoist victory would energize leftist insurgencies and threaten stability in the region. It thus behooves us to continue to do everything possible to block such an outcome. MORIARTY End Text

Prevalence of three power centers, President, Army Chief and Government is undesirable

Lila Mani Pokharel
Unified Maoists Party

Q1: You interpret seven point deal in a different way whereas the Nepali Congress takes it as a secret deal to draft a communist constitution and constitute a separate force for the Maoist people's liberation army. The NC also claims that the said deal has gone against the broader peace agreement and the mandate of the people awarded through the Constituent Assembly body. So what say you Mr. Pokharel?

Mr. Pokharel: Is it a crime to propagate socialism, and communism as ideologies? Is there a ban on such propaganda? It has not been mentioned anywhere that one would be denied to disseminate ideological matters. We have several contending ideologies prevailing today. The result will come to the fore when one of the conflicting ideologies wins finally. So nobody has the right to reject the deal signed by Nepal PM Khanaal with Chairman Prachanda which is basically in favor of the welfare of the people and up to their aspirations. We want to frame a constitution that talks of economic prosperity, strengthens national independence and for the formulation of a new model for economic development. Should it be taken as a Congress or communist constitution then?

It is not fair to reject the prevalence of polarization of ideologies. Polarization is inevitable. How the polarization impacts the country's politics all depends upon the very political overtures taken up by the political parties. How they present themselves in front of the people will be important? If we were to abide by what the NC or say but

UML says then why should there be the existence of other parties? Do we need parties then other than the NC or the UML?

We forwarded our motions less than one has to investigate as to what is the freshly cropped up ailment that doesn't allow the vehicle to run. What impedes its speed and motion? One must tell frankly that this is the ailment which has been halting the vehicle to move and this is what we have been doing. At times we could see in such a situation the appearance of the Indian establishment, some local status quoists and at times even the former Royalists. When similar obstructions cropped up at time of the Government formation, we became flexible and extended our support to Jhal Nath Khanaal.

But when Khanaal got elected as new Nepal Prime Minister, the Indian media (precisely The Times of India) and the New Delhi establishment publicized Khanaal's

Q2: Wouldn't it have been fair and more substantial if your party and the UML have invited other parties when you all apparently are concerned for the draft of the constitution and the logical end to the ongoing peace process? Your comments please.

Mr. Pokharel: The other parties now should explain that up to this point we agree to your propositions and we can come to this point. It is their turn to act or forward their own explanations. That's it.

Q3: So what about the new constitution? Will it be drafted on time? Your remarks please.

Mr. Pokharel: We must not talk in a negative manner at this point of critical time. No negative propaganda. If fall of the political parties exhibit their total commitment for the draft of the new constitution then it can be drafted on time. But the commitment must be there.

Q4: Your party has a habit of making tall claims when you bag successes and when you fail then you dump all the blames onto the heads of the Indian establishment. Why is it so? Your opinions please.

Mr. Pokharel: This is only but natural. Those who obstruct,

we are here only to say this force obstructed. When a vehicle is functioning well and has the needed gasoline also then it runs and arrives at its desired destination. However, when all these things remain intact in the said vehicle but yet it becomes motionless then one has to investigate as to what is the freshly cropped up ailment that doesn't allow the vehicle to run. What impedes its speed and motion? One must tell frankly that this is the ailment which has been halting the vehicle to move and this is what we have been doing. At times we could see in such a situation the appearance of the Indian establishment, some local status quoists and at times even the former Royalists. When similar obstructions cropped up at time of the Government formation, we became flexible and extended our support to Jhal Nath Khanaal.

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OPINION

elevation as India's defeat. Why it wrote it so? Why it took the entire Nepali event in that manner? Why it wrote so, I presume, because things did not go as per the Indian preferences and wishes. Though India was not a candidate in Nepal PM election but it provided an impression that it too was a contending party in the Nepalese elections.

Well at times, one has to think that whether the obtaining political situation has been tackled in a fitting manner or not. For

example, take the Nepal Army Chief Katwal's case. Yet the government had the right to change an official under its command. But some eighteen parties rushed in a panicked manner to see the President at the latter's palace. The emerging situation was that the President came face to face with the elected government. We then resigned. One can't imagine the prevalence of three power centers: the President, the Army Chief and the elected Government.

Q5: Your party supported Khanaal to lead the government but yet the ministry of Home Affairs issue remains intact. Why?

Mr. Pokharel: It is an inappropriate question primarily. Yes! It would have been the best had we been awarded this ministry above the rest of the ministries. May be the Prime Minister is under intense pressure from inside his own party and outside not to award this ministry to the Maoists. Let's see how he proceeds. We have told him to abide by the

articles contained in the deal. He too has assured us that he will act as per the accord. Though there was delay in the implementation part of the same pact yet we have fully supported the government. There are several written and verbal agreements. We will keep on watching as to how those written and verbal agreements will be implemented in the days ahead.

Q6: You went to Palungtar and then decided to go on for a revolt. And while back in Kathmandu, your party spent

communist party of the 21st century by discarding our rightist, submissive and status-quoists' mindset", he added.

In Dahal's view one of the major challenges ahead of communist movement was that the Nepali communist leaders prioritize their hobnob with counter-revolutionaries than contributing to the communist movement itself.

"There are already more than 62 per cent communists in the constituent assembly...there are some Madhesi parties that favor Communist ideologies, if communists in the Constituent Assembly unite we can easily draft the constitution of our preference and liking, we can draft a constitution that is against the imperialists and feudalists".

Nara Bahadur Karmacharya, founder leader of Nepal Communist Party was of the view that Communists in Nepal are always in majority but lack of trust between them communists have made the communist movement very weak. To recall, split in Nepali communists began after 1962.

Parallel...

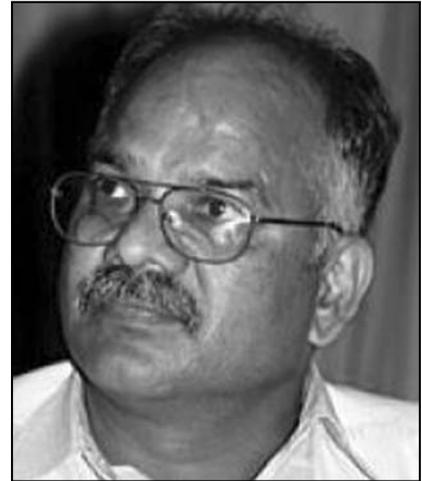
28, 2011, said the three parties associated with the Madhesi Alliance will force them all to resign from their Constituent Assembly memberships.

Co-Chairman of Sadyawana Party Mahato faction Mr. Laxman Lal Karma told the media that three parties in the said alliance, Madhesi Janadhikar Forum-Loktantrik, Tara Mahadhe Loktantrik Party-Mahata and Savawana Party-Mahato are all prepared to tender their resignations if the three Madhesh issues of high import were not addressed/completed.

Mr. Karma also alleged that the government led by Jhal Nath Khanaal in all likelihood will fail to deliver but clandestinely planning to extend the tenure of the Constituent Assembly.

"Those who claim that communists are in majority in the Constituent Assembly will never draft a democratic constitution", also said Karma.

In the meantime, one of the aspirants for joining the current communist coalition government, Tara Madhesh Loktantrik Party, Nepal led by Mahendra Ray Yadav has mysteriously decided not to join the government.



its entire energy for being in the new government. Is it that the people's revolt will commence when being in the government? The people are in sheer confusion. Will you clarify your party's exact stance?

Mr. Pokharel: No! It is not that. The people are not in confusion instead the people are being confused and disillusioned by some quarters. Peace, new constitution and preservation of the national independence are the three major agenda for us. Peace is what the people long and desire for. The new constitution will transform the social, economic, cultural and, independence, nationalism and create national awareness. But if the peace process and drafting of the new constitution is deliberately obstructed and allowed the interference even in matters of national independence and if there prevailed a kind of subservience

then what else we the people have in our possession other than to embrace a fresh people's rebellion? In that eventuality, a strong and sovereign Nepali national will definitely opt for a revolt. We accepted this in Palungtar and will lead this campaign if need be. This is very simple. Don't take the matter in a complicated manner. What at best we have said is that we will act from all available options: street, parliament and from the government in order to draft the new constitution and for the preservation of Nepal's national independence. We will work in all fronts.

Being in the government we will work of permanent peace and the drafting of the new Charter. We will raise the national issue favoring the people from the parliament. And so we will do all for the benefit of the people by taking up to the streets.

Nepali Patra Weekly

Frightening...

and analysts hope that we must have already begun to act as per the loaded Indian sermons and in all likelihood he will encourage sooner than later the so called luxurious Liberals to listen to New Delhi dictators and form the Democratic alliance, earlier the better.

Interestingly, while Thapa was winding up his New Delhi trip, back in Nepal both Khanaal and Prachanda made a clamor call asking the scattered Nepali Communists to come under one single umbrella.

This must have stunned New Delhi to the hilt expectedly. The fresh Nepali jugs too have annoyed other far flung countries who generally possess a sort of distaste for the communists.

Analysts presume that the developed West and the Indian regime will form an "axis" soon to avert this approaching RED, as they may call it, ushering in of terror machine in Nepal.

Khanaal and Prachanda remain undeterred. Both have been mulling seriously over this new idea and working hard to provide it with a real shape and form.

To add insult to injury, the Chief of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, General Chen Bingde, is visiting Nepal beginning March 23, 2011, for some days. The Chinese PLA Chief is expected to provide some substantial military logistics to Nepal Army institution as per the fervent request of the Nepal Army. This is being widely talked in Kathmandu's political circuit.

March 23 is Pakistan's national day, by the way.

It could be a mere conjecture that the Chinese PLA Chief is arriving Nepal close on the heels of the formation of tentatively a RED government in Nepal.

The high level visit of General Chen Bingde to Nepal will surely have its impact on the overall security situation of the entire region.

Nepal Army Chief is expected to visit China at his convenience. The vanishing Indian clout in Nepali politics is visibly being replaced by the Chinese side. For sure, China is comfortably seated in Kathmandu now. The seat is for long time to come unmistakably. Yet India will try its best to

topple this RED coalition. The process could already be in progress, analysts hope so.

Clearly, Nepal has already become a playground of the two neighboring giants. That's all.

India's...

getting to victory here. That makes sense. New Delhi godfathered the working relationship between the Maoists and the Parties and doesn't want to acknowledge that it might have created a Frankenstein's monster. Moreover, India's Marxist party (a key supporter of the governing coalition) has proclaimed that everything here is going just fine. In that context, I hope that a discussion on Nepal will feature prominently in future conversations with senior Indian leaders."

He goes on to say at the end of the cable, "Just as important, a Maoist victory would energize leftist insurgencies and threaten stability in the region. It thus behooves us to continue to do everything possible to block such an outcome".

Analysts recall Ambassador Moriarty, February 16, 2006, while addressing a Rotary meeting organized at Hotel De L'Annapurna had clearly stated that he remained askance as to whether the 12 point agreement signed in New Delhi, November 22, 2005, had brought the agitating seven parties to the fold of the Maoists or the otherwise.

This means that Ambassador Moriarty was skeptical of the 12 point agreement as he guessed in advance that the said agreement may come to the advantage of the former rebels than to the democratic parties.

Moriarty proved his diplomatic acumen and is thus taken as a highly capable diplomat than his successors. (Go to Page 5 for Cable Details)

The Indian...

Interference in our politics, capture of our natural resources and moreover our citizens being killed by the Indian Killing Machine-Shashastra Sheema Bal (SSB) along the border on a regular basis, is the price we have been paying since the creation of Republic of India, 1947. Let us not discuss our thousands of hectares of land that they are currently illegally occupying.

There is still no reason to be

anti-Indian though, this our own high flying nationals beamingly claim. Disguising subservience this!

To come to the matter, the whereabouts of Harka Bahadur Shahi (52) has been known. But, he is already dead. His dead body is under the SSB custody for all along 23 days, reports confirm.

Reports quote eyewitness as saying that Armed SSB men had entered Nepal some days back.

"One of the SSB men chased Shahi, others three gherao him and fired several bullets at his legs, he then fell in the field...they then broke his legs...they would thrash him with the butt of their guns and with their boots, he would become senseless, after few minutes he would try to move his body they would thrash him again...the process continued for almost three hours."

"He was asking for a drop of water...I had my baby along with me...I was frightened if they would also kill me", says Dipa Singh (a local resident) talking to Kantipur Daily.

"They then killed him in the field and put him in a motorbike and took the body towards their camp". Dipa further claims.

The Indian side claims that it was Shahi who had fired bullets at them first, to which local Nepali citizens deny.

Rest we hope that our intelligent readers better understand the response of local administration and police officials that followed the ghastly incident.

Finally, the difference between Colonel Gadhafi's regime and Indian regime is only that the revolutionary Libyan leader is using his 'Killing Machine' to slaughter his own citizens, the democratic of all regimes 'Indian regime' is using similar machine to kill nationals of a weak neighbor. There is no reason to be anti-Indian though.

Left unity...

The topic of the discussion program was 'Challenges of Communist Movement'.

He further said, "Let us build the foundation for unity being practical, let us also abandon extreme ideologies yet not surrender ourselves."

"We need to constitute a

The party chairman Yadav told the media that unless the UML-Maoist decide to correct the controversial 7-Point Deal, our party will not join the government.

Gyanendra's...

said the communist ideologue that to bar him from attending the program was nothing but the revival of mandale attitude of the Panchayat days.

In an indirect manner Dr. Bhattarai equated his own party boss with the Mandaleys of the bygone Panchayat era. This perhaps speaks of the widened gap in between the two Maoist leaders.

"However, let it be known that those Mandaleys that they will cease to exist in the manner similar to Gyanendra Shah- the former king of Nepal", Dr. Bhattarai roared.

"If it were a crime to come to Gorkha, I will commit it thousand times", he said and added, "Prime Minister Bhim Sen Thapa had to kill himself because he wanted to do good to the country, I would rather prefer to cut my throat and kill myself if people want me to do so".

Constitution...

shaky policies adopted by Nepali Congress have been the major source of impediment.

"They have never clearly stated their plans and policies for the peace process", he continued.

Mr. Pokharel making an interesting remark said, "Whether the PLA is integrated in Nepal Army or a separate force is created, the leadership will always remain with the PLA."

Chief Justice...

constitution. In this connection, "We will take help from the Constitution of Pakistan", he added.

Earlier, Justice Shrestha along with Chief Justice of the Sindh High Court, Justice Mushir Alam and other notables visited the Mazar-e-Quaid and paid homage to the great Pakistan leader.

In his brief comments to the media, the CJ informed that he has come to visit Pakistan on the invitation of Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Ifthikhar Muhammad Chaudhry.

The visiting Nepalese CJ said there is full-fledged democracy in

Pakistan.

He was of the view that all the ingredient of an independent nation including democracy and an independent and active judiciary were available in Pakistan.

Shrestha is already in Kathmandu.

Honorary...

Tibetan cleric Dalai Lama demanding 'Free Tibet' March 10, 2011 took to the streets of Kathmandu.

It is reported that the 15 member Army delegation from China will meet among others President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav, Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanaal and most importantly, will hold dialogue with the Nepal Army for possible military exchanges.

To recall, President Dr. Yadav had held a 'secret meeting' with some constituent assembly members of Nepal who had met with the Dalai Lama, June 27, 2009 in Dharmasala, India. The purpose of Dr. Yadav's meeting with the CA members after they met the Dalai Lama is intriguing.

Observers demand that in order to maintain balanced relations between both the friendly neighbors, the Chinese Army chief should also be awarded with the honorary title of the General of Nepal Army.

Nepal has been conferring upon the same title to the Indian Army Chief since decades and decades.

Thapa...

returned Kathmandu loaded with instructions.

Thapa returned home after a weeklong medical trip to New Delhi where he met with Dr. Man Mohan Singh- the Indian Prime Minister, Smt Sonia Gandhi-Congress-I Chairwoman, Indian National Security Advisor Shiva Shankar Menon and other leaders of various shades and colors.

"They are not against a communist government in Nepal because they have the experience of working along with state governments led by communists in their own country", Thapa said.

"I held talks with the Indian leadership over issues such as peace process and constitution drafting", Thapa told.

"Indian leaders want to see timely drafting of a democratic constitution in Nepal", Thapa concluded.