



Trivani (त्रिवाणी)

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Association of Nepali Teraians in America (ANTA)

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It is our great pleasure to present TRIVANI, a quarterly newsletter, on the occasion of 10th Anniversary of the Association of Nepali Teraian in America (ANTA). Since its formal announcement at the ANA (Association of Nepalese in America) convention in Dallas (2005), ANTA has already seen 10 springs. Over the years, ANTA has achieved several milestones. No matter, where ever they are, the Teraians are confident that through their hard work they can achieve what they dream for. That's the reason why Teraians who have come to North America are now progressing in different fields, including academics, entrepreneurship and technology. Specifically, Teraian women who are stereotyped as shy and reticent in their homelands are showcasing their skills and intelligence. They have progressed in education and entrepreneurship, and have also engaged themselves in beauty contest to NASA's technology, considered to be the symbol of socio-cultural advancement and scientific innovation, respectively.

I believe that empowerment comes through social integration and economic development. ANTA has provided us such opportunities to feel that we are one family, and to join hands in celebrating our festivals like Holi and Chhatha, helping each other here in US, and extending our helping hands to fellow Teraians in Nepal. To extend humanitarian service is inherent in Teraian culture. In the past, ANTA family has contributed at the time of natural disasters like

flooding, cold wave, etc. as well as for education and socio-economic development in Terai. However, humanity does not see the differences among people of different colors and origins. That is why ANTA was in the forefront of news in providing humanitarian help thorough 'Meals on Wheel' and 'Free Health Camp' programs to the earthquake victims in the mountains. All these missions have become possible due to hard and dedicated efforts of several ANTA family members and donations from ANTA's friends and best wishers who deserve great applaud from all of us.

TRIVANI signifies the three major languages, Maithili, Bhojpori and Awadhi that are mother tongue of the people living on the plain of Nepal Terai where great souls like Sita and Gautam Budha were born. While the languages the Teraians speak differ, they share common culture, and their identity is unique among the people of diverse culture in Nepal. Both the common culture and unique identity have evolved over millennia while generations by generations living in the same environment, no matter how harsh it was. Their generations have collectively fought the natural odds, and I believe that they are capable of using such collaborative character to maintain their identity and culture against any calamities, natural or anthropogenic, in modern era too. Thus, ANTA, a symbol of unity among Teraians in America, has become household word in

Teraian families in its home country as well as its members' motherland. Today, ANTA's newsletter TRIVANI has become a reality only because of collaboration among ANTA members and dedication of several of them organized in form of the Editorial Board of the Newsletter. The members of the Editorial Board are looking forward to receive your feedbacks so that upcoming issues of the TRIVANI can come as a cleaner mirror in which fellow Teraians can see their own thoughts emitting from its shining pages. With this, I, on behalf of ANTA family, assure that we always remain on the right path to achieve the ANTA's great mission of enhancing Nepalese Teraian's Identity, Integration and Empowerment, and we are more socio-culturally integrated with different communities and organizations in North America.

Sincerely,

Jay P. Sah, Ph.D.



ANTA's presidents (from left): Mr. Ratan Jha, Dr. Binod Shah, Mr. Lalit Jha and Dr. Jay P. Sah

Editorial Message

Association of Nepali Teraian in America (ANTA) proudly presents the first issue of its Quarterly Newsletter "TRIVANI", launched on the auspicious occasion of its 10th anniversary. ANTA's Executive Committee chose the name TRIVANI with keen interest for inclusiveness and unity of diversity. Through our quarterly publications, we are optimistic to strengthen ANTA's network for Teraian Identity, Integration and Empowerment.

On behalf of ANTA's editorial board, I express my sincere appreciation for your contributions with articles, celebratory messages, and images in actions...picture speaks thousand words, and congratulatory greetings. It is our best interest that in the form of an e-publication, TRIVANI is conveniently accessible to wider population that exhibits a transparency of ANTA's progresses with its activities and financial updates including articles, greetings as well as business ads for sustainability. Enjoy reading it, and please feel free to contact us with your constructive comments or suggestions for improvement. I would conclude by thanking the members of editorial board for their dedication in initiation towards TRIVANI. Managing editor, Mr. Dhiraj Chaudhary deserves special thanks for bringing this newsletter to great completion.

With best regards,

Annapurna Deo
Adeo6433@gmail.com

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**Association of Nepali
Teraians in America (ANTA)**

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www.facebook.com/pages/ANTA/](https://www.facebook.com/pages/ANTA/)Twitter: [https://twitter.com/
antaexcom](https://twitter.com/antaexcom)**ANTA: An Introduction**

The Association of Nepali Teraian in America (ANTA) is a non-political and non-profit organization, and was registered with the State of Texas on March 31, 2005. ANTA was formally announced at the ANA Convention of 2005 held at Dallas, Texas.

ANTA was formed to promote Advancement and Awareness of the Teraian's Identity, Linguistic and Cultural heritage, and facilitate close ties, cooperation and networking among Nepali Teraians in North America. It will also promote cooperation and strengthen ties with other Nepali Organizations in North America.

By cultivating closer relationship with different organization, ANTA will seek to promote harmony, better cooperation and greater unity amongst all people of Nepali origin living in North America.

We cordially invite all Nepali Teraians living in North America and also all those who would like to participate in our association's noble mission, to join ANTA.

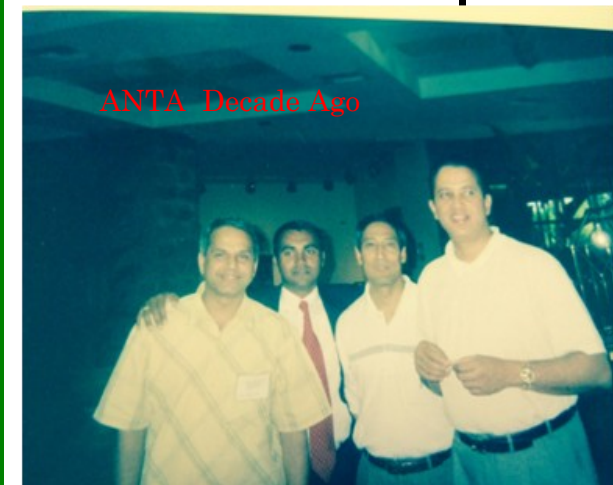
We hope your support to ANTA by becoming one of its members. We look forward to receiving your constructive comments and suggestions to further better ourselves.

Let's Join hands !!!

ANTA - A Founder's Memoir of Creating ANTA a Decade Ago!

Jay P Mandal , Bay Area, California

Let me shed light with a little story about how ANTA was founded and where the root source of creation of ANTA came from. I came to USA in 2000 in Chicago on H1B working visa as an IT-Network Engineer knowing no one from Dubai. Before Dubai, I left Nepal in 1991 for higher study in China for pursuing my engineering degree. Being Madheshi with not much connection in Nepal, I envisioned that I would like to live a corruption free life, so I pursued my mission of remaining in a clean career environment by looking for job in foreign land. In '96 with red hot Industrial Engineering degree in Hong Kong, I missed an excel-



lent opportunity of getting a good job. Then I start pursuing my master degree and kept looking for job in American Company in China which led me to Dubai to America.

When I landed in USA for the first time, my American boss came to pick me up at the airport and my first roommate was an



American Japanese. I didn't know anyone so I had to stay in hotels for weeks.

Then I started American life rituals from all new things learning from how to drive to finding apartment to getting settled. It took me three months. In three months, I figured out everything about how to settle in USA as a new comer. During that time I prepared a complete manual of getting started in USA and shared with some people. By the end of the year 2001, I started to have some connections with Nepali people living in America. That time I used to live in Evanston, IL near North Chicago. One day, I went to find Indian food, I got to know a newly opened Nepali -

Indian Restaurant in 2001 called Mt. Everest Restaurant. Then slowly I got to know other Nepali people around local area and started going to their functions. At each function, I used to be amazed facing people asking me, "where are you from", in spite of the fact that I was speaking fluently Nepali language with them. Then I remembered my

days at ASCOL in Kathmandu, where majority treated me that I didn't belong there. This is reality with many Madheshis.

Since then, I had decided for finding other Madheshi or people looking like me; in my shoes and help them to get settled in Chicago surrounding. My mission was to help few Madheshi people get settled in

Chicago area so that I can have my own functions because I was tired to be treated with educated fellow Nepali like that as if they think people from Madheshi are foreigners. But there were not enough Madheshi people in Chicago area. Then, I decided to take leadership role in Nepali organizations and rest is history. I thought that if the organization head is Madheshi looking guy, then no one will ask me where I am from. But even being the head of local organization, the same questions kept repeating and I kept educating them along the way.

The seed of ANTA started in an elevator meeting at hotel in Denver, Colorado at ANA convention in 2003 when I met with Ratan ji from Austin, Texas and Lalit ji from Lincoln, Nebraska. There at the convention, I also met ANA convention's chief co-ordinator and ANA's past President Naveen Datta ji. Since being Madheshi who are highly visible in any Nepali convention as of rare, we connected quickly and I expressed desire of opening our fellow Teraians association and we all left. We discuss the idea but nothing happened for a while. I had also attended another convention of Nepali in Mid- west

ANTA - A Founder's Memoir of Creating ANTA a Decade Ago!

..... Cont'd from previous page

ANMA on Memorial Day of May 2003 in Chicago, where I met Mukesh Singh ji and with his connection. I also met Dr. Pramod Kantha ji there. In order to expand my network and in search of finding more leaders, I went to NASEA convention in Birmingham, AL on Labor Day weekend in September 2003. Where there was a lady speaker speaking in Nepali and English, but as she started speaking she spoke few words in Maithili saying that I am from Rajbiraj and then I found our current Sr. ANTA Mrs. Annapurna Deo from Cary, North Carolina. Fellow Madheshi were so few that time and if there were some they had no connection with Nepali Organizations. Now we started talking and decided to do a brain -storming meeting at ANMA convention in 2004 which was held in Columbus, OH. Since Mukesh Singh was chief coordinator, we got one hour session for ANTA formation meeting at Columbus and at that meeting we created 7 leaders founding members ad-hoc team. Ratan Jha fom TX as President, Jay Mandal- IL, Vice President, Mukesh Singh- OH General Secretary, Lalit Jha NB, Treasurer, Dr. Promod Kanth MO, Naveen Datt, CO and Annapurna Deo, NC as founding members and board members. Then we kept attending other ANA convention Phoenix, AZ- 2004, NASEA convention in 2004 to recruit more ANTA paid members.

Then we created the by-laws and logos, website, and decided to register ANTA in TX since Ratan ji was in charge of creating legal entity in TX and he was living there. Then we decided to do formal announce-

ment in Dallas ANA convention 2005. We did not have enough members. So we decided to pick people on the way to go Dallas to bring enough people from other part of county. Mukesh Singh ji flew from Columbus to Chicago, we rented a

ANTA Decade Ago



big van, so we started to a road trip of 16 hour drive from Chicago to Lincoln to Dallas with the Chicago Chapter President Jagdish Yadav, Surendra Chaudhary, Lalit and Ratan from Austin, and we had our first ANTA session in 2005 at ANA convention. After two years of hard work it was finally creating dream of ANTA was fulfilled. Rest is history.

Reason, I am sharing with you all this story of ours to let you all know, that we see ANTA family growing, Many Madheshi family coming out together and having fun and celebrating the culture of togetherness, which makes us as the founders, specially me very happy. I met people like Vijay Yadav, who heard the name of ANTA in Nepal and coming to USA and settling here. We have helped many other folks in Nepal and here in USA in many ways. Let's keep the tradition of connecting and helping each other's.

Thanks to Ratan ji for taking leadership and moving forward. After ANTA's formation, it was leadership of other awesome leaders like Dr. Binod Shah, Lalit Jha, Suneel Sah, Amit Shah, Satendra Shah, Binay Shah, Ritesh Chaudhary, Dharmendra Thakur, Dr. Vijay Jha and many other leaders, which I cannot mention all the names in here, and now Dr. JP Sah are taking ANTA into next stage and leading from the forefront. I do read all the ANTA's emails and I would like to thank DC and NY chapter presidents

being active and doing great job and leading the community members in respective areas. I would like to thank all those folks from all areas and other organizations who actively or passively contributed for the ANTA's success. Let's keep moving the leadership batons to next generation and connecting and impacting people worldwide.

**Long Live ANTA,
Happy Birthday ANTA!!!**



ANTA Personality of the Quarter: Dr. Ram Ishwar Mahato

Born in a Madheshi community and educated through secondary school in Janakpur, Dhanusha, Nepal, Dr. Ram Ishwar Mahato has acquired the instinct and fortitude to tackle challenges – however monumental -- in his personal as well as professional life. He left Nepal for Mainland China at the age of 20 to study pharmaceuticals at the China Pharmaceutical University in Nanjing, even though he had to first master Chinese in a record short period of time. He then followed his calling to undertake advanced study in formulations of nanoparticles under Professor Gavin Halbert at the University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom, where he earned his Ph.D. in drug delivery in 1992. After another five years of vigorous postdoctoral training in world-leading drug delivery laboratories in the United States and Japan, Dr. Mahato joined the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis as an Assistant Professor in 2001 and was swiftly promoted to Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Biomedical Engineering in 2009. In the same year, the University of Ten-



He has published 83 original research articles, 31 invited reviews, 14 editorials, 17 book chapters, 8 books, 11 invited journal theme issues, and two issued patents. This impressive record of research achievement resonates with an *h* index (an index of scientific research impact) of 44. On the basis of his impressive research record, he was and is highly sought after by eight journals as an Editorial Board Member.

Dr. Mahato is a leading expert in the area of nucleic acid and gene delivery research worldwide. His election to the Controlled Release Society (CRS) Fellow (2011) and American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Fellow (2010) is testament to his scientific stature. Moreover, his service as a Permanent Member of Bioengineering, Technology, and Surgical Sciences (BTSS) study section of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (2009-2013), as a Scientific Advisor of the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy

(ASGCT) (2006-2009), and as a Feature Editor of *Pharmaceutical Research* (2006-2013) are an indication of the sponsors' confidence in his scientific judgement and in his prominent role in shaping the future development of macromolecular therapeutics.

A role model of contemporary pharmaceutical scientists, Dr. Mahato has demonstrated how a strong foundation of sound principles of pharmaceutical sciences, together with the latest development in life and material sciences, can be leveraged to solve challenging drug delivery problems in therapeutics. His astute embrace and integration of complementary sciences for solving complex challenges has opened the door to innovations in the design of improved nucleic acid delivery and gene expression systems. His research is currently supported by the NIH, the Department of Defense, the Ottis Foundation, the Buffett Cancer Center, and the Nebraska Research Initiative (NRI) grants, which total \$2 million in funding. Up to now, he has managed to secure over six million dollars in extramural funding to his current university as well as at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center where he served as Professor.

While it is difficult for students and officials of the Madheshi community to reach their maximum potentials due to biased treatment in Nepal and poor support from community leaders, Dr. Mahato strongly believes that one can do many great things to serve the community and country at large if he/she can remain committed to his/her passions and work hard.

...His astute embrace and integration of complementary sciences for solving complex challenges has opened the door to

nessee honored Dr. Mahato with the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Presently, Dr. Mahato is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska, which aggressively recruited him to join in 2013.

Congratulations graduates



Michael Jha
Lincoln Public School

In May 2015, Michael Jha graduated from East High School in Lincoln, NE. Michael will pursue major in psychology at University of Omaha in Omaha NE. Michael Jha is son of Lalit Jha, founding member of ANTA. Michael's grandparents from Nepal came to attend graduation ceremony.



Kritika Jha
Kashika Jha

**Cypress Ridge High
School, Houston, TX**

Kritika Jha and Kashika Jha, daughter of Kaushal and Pushpa Jha, graduated from Cypress Ridge High School, Houston, TX on 4th June 2015. ANTA would like to congratulate them on achieving this milestone and wish them good luck with their next adventure!

My View on ANTA

Mahendra Mahato, PhD, Dallas, TX



I have great pleasure to write few words and share my past experiences with ANTA. Ten years ago when I heard that a Madhesi organization will be formed here in USA, I was very excited to be part of this organization. Since 1992, I was involved with various Nepalese organizations here in USA but I never felt welcomed in their activities. ANTA was born here in Dallas during 2005 ANA convention. Although, I am not one of the founding member, I immediately joined ANTA as a life member after it was formed. The day before its announcement, I also organized a small get together for founding members at my then house located in Denton, TX. I was very happy to see that most of the Madhesi participants were able to join us despite their busy schedule (see inserted photo). However, after few months my excitement started to fade away and later, it reached to

.....future ANTA conventions we should remain focus on our Madhesi culture.....

such a level that I wanted to detach myself from this organization. In recent years, I have noticed that ANTA is trying to recover and move towards the right

direction.

It is very sad to say that our Madhesi culture is disappearing in very fast rate here in USA as well as in home country Nepal. I have noticed that even in Tarai new generation people do not want to speak their mother tongue language, and they feel very proud of not speaking it. Madhesi people are feeling ashamed with their culture and adopting other cultures with pride. Some of us do not want to follow our culture because we feel very embarrassed to practice it. In my personal view, I do not think one culture is better than others. All cultures have their own value and have been modified in this changing world. A change is good, but the core value of the

...ANTA and its chapters should take initiative to celebrate our Chhatth, Holi, and Judsital cultural events and organize picnics in local

culture should remain the same based on their ritual sensitivity. For example, during Chhatth, we can have socializing get together any day convenient for most of the participants but we should not perform Chhatha Puja other than its auspicious day. In recent years, I have seen commercialization of religious functions.

ANTA is a non-profit and non-political organization, and it should remain that way. In my view, the main objective of the ANTA should be to promote and preserve Madhesi culture here in USA as well as in home country Nepal. ANTA has high potential to be a well-recognized global organization if ANTA remains focused on Madhesi culture core value. There are several other political organizations that can be used as a plat-



form for the politics. Recently, ANTA has started few development projects in Terai which is very encouraging and commendable. However, ANTA should focus more on education and protection of our culture. Some of the Madhesi festivals are celebrated in groups (such as Chhatth, Holi, Judsital etc.) and some with their own family members. ANTA and its chapters should take initiative to celebrate our Chhatth, Holi, and Judsital cultural events and organize picnics in local group level so that our next generation will appreciate and able to preserve its value.

Last ANTA convention held in Houston, TX was very successful. I was very happy to see that besides Madhesi several different ethnic groups of people also attended this convention. However, in other Nepalese association conventions, rarely you can find participation of Madhesi people. It is not that Madhesi people do not want to participate, but the reality is they feel unwelcomed in those conventions. Therefore, in future ANTA conventions we should remain focus on our Madhesi culture otherwise there will be a risk to loose Madhesi participants.

Thank you.

ANTA — अनेकता मा एकता.....**Vijay Kumar Singh, Washington DC**

ur culture, which is tens of thousands years old, is indisputably the most preeminent in the world. The legends of mother Sita and Lord Buddha are broadly celebrated on our land, Nepal. Our land has given birth to other celestial individuals who are revered throughout the world. We can proudly proclaim that divine individuals like them were born on the same land as us. Over the course of time, boundaries of our land have changed. However, our culture and tradition have remained intact. Our culture consists of different; castes, languages, and regions. Yet, we are integrated together despite these differences. This union is possible due to the connection of our hearts rather than the mind. We should be immensely proud of our culture, which provides us with our identity. We need our community, which is filled with individuals who share common a identity, from birth to death. In any social or religious activity such as marriage, worship, festival, even last rite, we require the presence of our community. Hence, it can be implied that our community affirms our identity. The community I'm referring to is our Terian community, which is an integral part of our great country. We cover almost half the population of our nation. Yet, we are still dis-

criminated every day. Here, in US, a country that was founded by immigrants, we all have the right to represent our identity.

To unite any community we need a social organization. Through social organization, people can not only bond together but also assist each other. Again, this bond is formed due to our heart (feelings) not the mind (ideas). On the contrary, political organizations are organizations that assemble individuals who share common ideas. In politics, there are many political parties with varying views. To unite these parties, our hearts should be connected. However, it is difficult to isolate society from politics, because every individual has the freedom to hold their belief, ideology, and view. Individuals should not use the banner of the social organization while stating their political views. If a

.....Our culture consists of different; castes, languages, and regions. Yet, we are integrated together despite these differences

view is commonly shared, it can be beneficial for the social organization to adopt that view. Our organization, ANTA, should be modest, broad, and easily accessible.

This will enable all the Terian people to coexist in harmony. Our organization should only focus those concepts that are unanimously supported by

**UNITY IN OUR COMMUNITY**

all the members and are not imposed onto others. If any political organization or individual supports the Terian cause; we should extend our gratitude. The message that our organization should send to the Nepalese Terrain people should be to join as a united voice, not divided one.

**ANTA's
recent events—
Highlights**

- * **Saturday, July 25:** Teraians from Nebraska/Iowa regions gathered to celebrate ANTA's 10th Anniversary & opened a new Chapter.
- * **Sunday, July 19:** ANTA-GNYC's annual picnic/ANTA's 10th Anniversary celebration at Liberty park, NJ .
- * **Sunday, July 5:** ANTA Dallas Chapter's Cultural Event & ANTA's 10th Anniversary celebration at Fun Asia, Richardson, TX
- * **Sunday, June 28:** ANTA DC Chapter's picnic and ANTA's 10th Anniversary celebration at Great Falls Park, VA.

तराई जिल्ला एक परिचय: बारा धिरज चौधरी

नेपालको इतिहास मा घटेका खासगरी तीन वटा महत्वपूर्ण घटनाहरुको साथमा बारा जिल्ला को नाम जोडिएर आउने गएको पाइन्छ । ती घटनाहरु हुन: १) मल्लकालीन डोय राज्य को राजधानी सिम्रौनगढ बारा जिल्लामा पर्छ, २) निरंकुश जहानिया राना शासनका सुत्रधार जंग बहादुर राना बाराको पतहरहटी बाघको सिकार खेलन आउँदा षड्यन्त्रवश मारिएका थिए, र ३) बि.सं. २००७ सालको त्रिपक्षिय दिल्ली सम्झौतापछि श्री ५ त्रिभुवन ले स्वदेश फिर्ती सवारी का बखत बारा जिल्ला को सिमरा एरपोर्ट मा "यसपछि नेपाल अधिराज्यको शासन व्यवस्था जनताबाट निर्वाचित भएको संबिधान सभाद्वारा निर्मित संबिधान बमोजिम हुनेछ " भन्ने

गढीमाई) र गोश्वारा को रुप मा रहेको बारागढी भन्ने स्थान को नाम बाट यस जिल्ला को नाम बारा रहन गएको हो भन्ने भनाइ छ ।

बारा जिल्ला नारायणी अञ्चलको पाँच जिल्ला मध्ये एक जिल्ला हो । बारा जिल्लाको सदरमुकाम कलैया हो । बारा जिल्लामा तीन नगरपालिका छन्: कलैया, गढीमाइ र निजगढ । कलैया नगरपालिका देश कै पुरानो नगरपालिकाहरु मध्ये एक हो र इसबी सम्बत २०११ को जनगणना अनुसार बारा जिल्लाको जनसख्या ६८७,७०८ रहेको छ र १.१९० km^२ क्षेत्रफल मा यो जिल्ला फैलेको छ (श्रोत: विकिपीडिया, २०१५) । बारा जिल्ला को मुख्य भाषाहरु भोजपुरी,



को मुख्य नदीहरु हुन् भने हलखोरिया दह, झरोखर पोखरी र शिव सरोहर यस जिल्ला का प्रमुख तालहरु हुन् । बारा जिल्ला का धेरै जसो सरकारी कार्यालय हरु सदरमुकाम कलैया मै भएपनि केहि कार्यालय हरु सिमरा पनि सारिएका छन् । सिम्रौनगढ, कलैया, पिप्राढी, कोल्हवी, बरियारपुर, पर्सौनी, सिमरा, अमलेखगंज, निजगढ बारा जिल्ला का मुख्य बजार हरु हुन् ।

बारा जिल्ला को मानिसहरु को मुख्य पेशा कृषि नै हो । तर समयमा मल नपानु र सिचाई को उचित आपूर्ति न हुदा धेरै मानिसहरु अरु पेशातिर आकर्षित भैराखेका छन् । श्री तीन चन्द्र उ. मा. वि. , सिद्धेश्वर उ. मा. वि., दुर्गा उ. मा. बी. इत्यादी बारा जिल्लाका प्रसिद्ध बिद्यालय हरु हुन् ।

क्रमसः

भौगोलिक अवस्थिति :

अवस्थिति	:	अक्षांश	:-	२६°५९' देखि २७° २' उत्तरसम्म
		देशान्तर :	:-	८४° ५९' देखि ८५° १६' पूर्वसम्म
सिमाना	:	पूर्व	:-	रौतहट जिल्ला
		पश्चिम	:-	पर्सा
		उत्तर	:-	मकवानपुर जिल्ला
		दक्षिण	:-	भारतको विहार राज्यको पूर्वी चम्पारण जिल्ला
उचाई	:	समुद्र सतहवाट	१५२ मिटर देखि	९१५ मिटर सम्म
क्षेत्रफल	:	१९९० वर्ग कि.मि.	(१२९५६३ हेक्टर)	
हावापानी	:	उष्ण		

हुकुम भएको थियो ।

यस जिल्ला को पूर्व उतरी भाग मा कुनै जमाना मा गढी गौडा (बारा

नेपाली र थारु हुन् । बक्या, जमुनिया, पसाहा, दुधौरा र बंगारी बारा जिल्ला

तराई जिल्ला एक परिचय: बारा

.....Cont'd from previous age

बारा जिल्ला मा पर्यटकीय सम्भावना प्रसस्तै भएपनि नेपाल सरकार को ध्यान नजादा यो जिला धेरै पछाडी परेको अनुभव बारा जिल्लाबाशी र बुद्धिजीवी को रहेको छ । सिम्रौनगढ को राजदरबार यूनेस्को विश्व सम्पदा साइटहरु मध्ये एक हो । प्रत्येक पाँच वर्षमा लाग्ने गढी माई मेला विश्व मै प्रसिद्ध रहेको छ ।

बारा जिल्ला को एक मात्र आन्तरिक बिमान स्थल सिमरा मा रहेको छ । अहिले, बारा को निजगढ मा अन्तर राष्ट्रिय बिमान स्थल निर्माण को क्रम मा छ ।

बारा जिल्लामा प्रसस्त श्रोत र साधन हुदा पनि राज्य ध्यान जान न-सकेकोले बारा जिल्ला को विकास हुननसकेको बुद्धिजीवी को भनाइ छ । अर्को तिर पर्सा जिल्ला को सदरमुकाम बिरगंज सहर ले बारा जिल्ला सदरमुकाम कलैयालाई ओझेल मा परेको स्थानीयबासी को गुनासो छ ।

बारा जिल्लाका ऐतिहासिक धार्मिक तथा पर्यटकीय स्थल हरु को संसिप्त परिचय

(स्रोत: जि. बि. स. बारा)

१) कंकाली मन्दिर: सिम्रौनगढ क्षेत्रको गोलागंज गाबिस वडा न. ७

मा अवस्थित । क्षेत्रफल : करिब १० कठा । श्री ५ गिर्वानयुद्ध बिर बिक्रम शाह देवले निर्माण गराएका । मन्दिर परिसरमा बि.स. १९३५, १९६६, र २०५१ सालमा उथ्खनन गर्दा प्राप्त सामानहरु राखिएको एक संग्रहालय रहेको छ ।

२) श्री चुरिया माई मन्दिर: महेन्द्र राजमार्ग तथा त्रिभुवन राजमार्ग



(बिरगंज - काठमाडौं) को बारा र मकवानपुर जिल्ला को सिमाना मा अवस्थित । ती राजमार्ग मा चलने सवारी साधन र हजारौ यात्रुहरुको रक्षकको रुपमा यो मन्दिर प्रसिद्ध छ । यो मन्दिर को नजिकै बाट चुरे पहाडलाई पार गर्दै हेटौडा नगर प्रवेश गर्न सकिने सुरुङ्ग मार्ग रहेको छ जुन मार्ग अहिले चर्किएको , जिर्ण र बन्द अवस्थमा छ ।

३) श्री जितपुर गढी माई: छाता पिपरा -३ मा अवस्थित । स्थापना बर्ष: २०१२ । त्रिभुवन राजमार्गको बिरगंज - पथलैया खण्ड को सडक छेवै मा रहेको । यो मन्दिर परिसर को करिब

२० मीटर पूर्व मा बग्ने कियासुत नाम को नदीले बारा र पर्सा लाई छुट्याएको छ । यहा प्रतेक बडा दशैं को अवसर मा ठुलो मेल लाग्ने गरेको छ ।



४) गढी माई मन्दिर: बरियारपुर गाबिस मा अवस्थित, कलैया बाट ६किमि पुर्व मा यो मन्दिर रहेको छ । मन्दिर परिसर को क्षेत्रफल करिब ८ कठा रहेको छ । प्रत्येक पाच पाच बर्षमा यहा भब्य मेल लाग्ने गर्छ । यो मेला संसार कै सम्भवत सबैभन्दा धेरै बलि चढाउने मेला हो । मन्दिर स्थापनाको सम्बन्धमा एउटा किबदन्ति रहेको छ । करिब ४०० वर्ष पहिले भगवान दास नाम गरेको निरपराध बन्दि ले मकवानपुर गढकी तलेजु भवानी (अर्थात गढीमाई) लाई रात्री को समय मा ल्याई प्रतिस्थापन गरेको किबदन्ति छ ।

५) ऐतिहासिक हलखोरिया दह : यो दह बारा जिल्ला को रतनपुरी गा.बि.स. मा अवस्थित रहेको छ ।

स्रोत: केन्द्रिय तथ्यांक बिभाग

ANTA Activities

Saptari Fire Victims relief program by ANTA

Friday, June 19th: ANTA reached out to help the Saptari Fire victims. The relief program was organized at Kanchanpur ward 9 (Paremara), Saptari to help the fire victims of 53 households (one of the Dalit community named Batar or Sardar) who had lost in the fire broken out in the month of Chaitra (March). On behalf of ANTA, Mr. KP Singh and Gauri S. Singh (brothers of Mr. Akhilesh Singh, ANTA's General Secretary) went to Saptari from Kathmandu to distribute the relief materials provided by ANTA.

Nepal Batar Kalyankari club, constituent assembly member of that region Mr. Manpur Chaudhari and other people from different organizations and parties. The relief materials (total



worth \$1,870) included a kitchen set distributed to each fire victim's family and a full set of kitchen given to Batar community club for their bigger community function. The speakers in the

program also discussed and suggested the possible precautions, which can prevent from fire hazard in future. ANTA extends words of appreciation to Mr. K.P. Singh and Mr. Gauri S. Singh for their time and efforts, to Mr. Akhilesh Singh, General

Secretary for coordinating the relief efforts, and all the ANTA family for their generous support to ANTA in con-

ducting such a great work.

'Meals on Wheel' ANTA's relief program for Earthquake Victim

Association of Nepali Teraians in America (ANTA), deeply saddened by the extensive damage caused by a Major Earthquake of 7.8 Richter scale occurred at 11:56 NST on April 25th, 2015, quickly responded by bringing out a press release and launching the ANTA's Earthquake Relief Fund drive.

ANTA then provided reliefs to the earthquake victims on the ground. ANTA, under the supervision of its founding president, Ratan Jha, launched "Meals on Wheel" program to provide the food to the earthquake victim in the Khandichaur Bazar near Lamosangu village in Sindhupalchok District when the people there needed the most at the mo-



ment. A group of volunteers from Sisautia, Sarlahi, loaded with chura, rice, dal, salt, vegetables, travelled to the affected area and made the program a reality at the ground zero. ANTA's effort in providing the reliefs to the victim



The relief distribution program was held in the participation of local community,

ANTA Activities

was strengthened by collaborative work with Eejot (Sarlahi, Nepal) and Dev Foundation (Dhangadhi, Kailali, Nepal), who joined hand in hand with ANTA, by



adding both the fund and volunteers in the pool, to make the program successful. The “Meals on Wheel” program went on for a week, and at its later stage distributed grains and vegetables to

humanity, and to the participating organizations for joining hands with ANTA in its efforts to provide relief to the Earthquake victims when needed most.

In addition to the “Meals on Wheel” program, ANTA, together with its collaborative organizations has distributed Tripals (tarf) for providing temporary shelter, and is in process of acquiring more Tripals for distribution. ANTA has also provided medical assistance, by running health camp, and in long-term will contribute to the construction and rehabilitation efforts.

ANTA’s Earthquake Relief Effort is a long-term program. Thus, ANTA re-



the needy households. ANTA is thankful to the volunteers for their compassion and dedication towards service to

requests you all to do whatever you can to help the earthquake victims in Nepal. ANTA is a 501 (3) C organization, and

the donations made to ANTA are exempt from US taxes.

- * We will mail you a payment receipt for use in your tax claims. Please include your address (email and or mailing address) when sending payment.
- * ANTA’s Nepal Earthquake Relief Efforts with account details will be brought out through its outlets (emails, webpage and facebook) periodically.



Donation can be made to the ANTA's Earthquake Relief Fund initiated by the following means:

- 1) By clicking this link (<http://www.terai.org/anta-earthquake-relief-f.../donate-paypal>) on ANTA’s website, you can pay using major credit card/PayPal account.
- 2) By sending a check to:

Dr. Kaushal Jha
(Tel. 786-218-0735)
Treasurer, ANTA
10419 Black Sands Dr.

ANTA ACTIVITIES

Health Camp in Earthquake affected Area

ANTA with the help of our medical team (Dr. Subodh Mallik, Mrs. Anita Mallik and Archana Kayastha) successfully organized health camp on Monday June 22nd, 2015 in one of the most EQ affected area of Sindhpalchowk district and



helped about 400 people in health related issues. Medical related materials including medicine was also distributed to the affected people. All of us should appreciate our medical team for their great effort. The health camp was coordinated and organized by Dr. Subodh



Mallik, KP Singh and local Mr. Hem Tamang. The health camp

was set up in Ranitar of Sindhpalchowk district.

The total expense for health camp is as follows:-

Medical related:	NRs. 51,301
Transportation:	NRs. 10,000
Food & others:	NRs. 6,000

Total: NRs. 67,301.00

In a Special Prayer for Nepal's Earthquake Victims at Hindu Temples of North America

ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh attended a special prayer for Nepal's earthquake victims on May 16, 2015, organized by Hindu Temple Society of North America, in Flushing, New York City.

On that occasion, a moment of silence was observed for the earthquake victims and Mr.



ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh at Hindu Temples of North America for Special Prayer of Nepal's Earthquake Victims

Singh was asked to deliver his remarks on behalf of ANTA and Nepali community. Along with ANTA, other Nepalese organizations were also present at the prayer.

ANTA ACTIVITIES

ANTA-GNYC Holi Celebration in New York City

ANTA-GNYC celebrated Holi festival on March 06, 2015 at Astoria Hall in New York City in which more than 300 people were participated from Nepali Teraian and other Nepali com-



munities and Indian communities from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. The Consulate General of Nepal, Durga Parsad Bhattarai was the chief guest of the event and there were also many prominent members of various Nepalese organizations of New York, participated in the Holi celebration. On that occasion, ANTA-GNYC president, Arbind Kumar Singh received a Proclamation from



the New York City Comptroller, Scott Stringer's Office for ANTA's Holi Celebration in New

York City. Mr. Singh received the proclamation from the special envoy of comptroller on behalf of ANTA. On that occasion, Queens Borough's president of New York City, Melinda Katz sent her special envoy to deliver the congratulatory message for the Holi Celebration in NYC by ANTA-GNYC. All these recognition came to ANTA for the first time in its history in New York City.

In Asian Heritage Month Celebration in New York City on May 05, 2015

ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh attended Asian Heritage Month Celebration in Flushing, New York City on May 05,



ANTA-GNYC at Asian Heritage Event with NYC CM Paul Vellone in New York City, May 05, 2015

2015. On that occasion, a moment of silence was observed for Nepal's earthquake victims and Mr. Singh was asked to deliver his remarks on behalf of ANTA and Nepali community. ANTA was given recognition as a co-sponsor of the program

At Haitian Flag Day Celebration on May 17, 2015

ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh represented Nepali community at Haitian Flag Day celebration on May 17, 2015, which was hosted by New York City Councilman Matthew Eugene and New York City Council Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito. On that occasion, a moment of silence was observed in the memory of Nepal's earthquake victims.

At John F. Kennedy Democratic Club Meeting on May 21, 2015

ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh led a delegation of Nepali Teraian community including women and children and represented other Nepali communities in the John F. Kennedy Democratic Club meeting, where New York City's Comptroller, Scott Stringer was the chief guest in New York City on May 21, 2015. On that occasion, a moment of silence was observed in the memory of Nepal's earthquake victims.



ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh with NYC Comptroller, Scott Stringer & others at John F. Kennedy Democratic Club in New York City, 2015

ANTA ACTIVITIES

At Memorial Day Parade in New York City on May 25, 2015

Memorial Day Parade is held in all major cities in USA. ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh represented Nepali community at Memorial Day Parade in New York City on May 25, 2015. Mr. Singh led a group of Nepali Teraian including children and marched at Memorial Day Parade to express sincere thanks to US-Marines who sacrificed their lives in Nepal's earthquake relief efforts.



In a Joint Interaction Program of ANTA & FIPNA, Nepali Teraians Scholar, C. K. Lal was Giving his Speech in NYC on May 31, 2015

ANTA GNYC's Summer Picnic & ANTA's 10th Anniversary Celebration

ANTA New York Chapter organized a picnic program at Liberty park, NJ on July 19, 2015 to celebrate ANTA's 10th anniversary. Almost hundred people from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Boston areas were present in this special occasion. There were some families from Chicago, IL too. We respected to all the children and parents who helped us a lot to raise the donations for the Earthquake victims by showing our respect to them with a certificate. Terains food, dance, songs were main attractions of this event. We



ANTA-GNYC President, Arbind Kumar Singh & Spokesperson, Misha Shah with Secretary, Rishi Chandra & Member, Dip Prasad in New York City, 2015

An Interaction Program with Visiting Nepali Teraians Scholar, C. K. Lal on May 31, 2015

ANTA-GNYC organized an interaction program jointly with FIPNA with visiting Nepali Teraians scholar, C. K. Lal on various issues and challenges of Teraians and Indigenous communities in Nepal. The program was organized in New York City on May 31, 2015. On that occasion, a moment of silence was observed in the memory of Nepal's earthquake victims.



were able to make some new members of ANTA. Thank you ANTA GNYC for organizing this picnic and making the ANTA's tenth anniversary successful.

ANTA ACTIVITIES

ANTA DC Chapter - A string of activities

ANTA DC Chapter has been very active in organizing Chapter's regular meetings and various cultural celebrations.

ANTA's DC Chapter meetings:

On June 27, 2015, ANTA meeting was held at Mr. Bachchan Tahakur's residence, and members from the old and new committees gathered together for the smooth transition of the responsibilities and activities to the new committee. On July 27, 2015, ANTA's meeting was held at Dharmendra Thakur's residence and everyone welcomed new committee.

New Year 2015

&

Tila Sankranti celebration

On the occasion of New Year 2015 and Tila Sankranti, ANTA family gathered at Mr. Vijay Pratap Singh's residence. All the participants appreciated the event and expressed their view to con-



tinue such kind of gatherings to feel united in the community.

बुरा न मानो होली है

ANTA DC family gathered at Dr. Shukdev Shah's residence to cele-



brate holi, one of Teraians' major festivals.

Joorshital &

New year celebration

The DC Terian families gathered to celebrate Joor Shital and the Nepali New Year (2072). One of the most respected couple in the Nepalese community, Mr. Shukdev and Mrs. Vijaya Shah welcomed guests at their residence as they would welcome their brothers, sisters or kids. Snacks were ready at the deck. The aroma of delicious Nepalese food filled the yard.

the deck. The aroma of delicious Nepalese food filled the yard. One by one every family arrived. Some pahadi friends who were born in Terai and familiar with Joor Shital were also invited to the party. Everyone enjoyed and was in a jovial mood. We talked about current situation here and back home. There was no confrontation. We talked like family members. Although some of us had different views, everyone was in agreement with the ultimate solution, the unity in Terai.



After finishing our dinner, all guests thanked the Shah family for being such a gracious host. Everyone exchanged New Year and Joor Shital greetings. At the end, Mr. and Mrs. Shah told the Chapter President, "Vijay babu if anyone in the Terai community needs any help then please let me know". He salutes both of these wonderful individuals for their kind words and valiant effort.



ANTA ACTIVITIES

ANTA DC Chapter's Summer Picnic & ANTA's 10th Anniversary Celebration

ANTA family from DC Metropolitan area gathered in the Great Falls Park, VA located near Potomac River to celebrate ANTA's 10th birthday. With pleasant weather and friendly atmosphere at the park, the celebration was very successful. The event started at 11 am, Dr. Chakradhar Mishra was the first to arrive and secure a good location for us at the park underneath a big tree. Shortly, Mr. Kripa Singh arrived with his family and started the barbeque. In the following hours, more and more families arrived with food, snacks and beverages. The whole ambiance was very friendly and energetic for both adults and kids alike.



The program started with brief introduction of each attendee. Firstly, visiting guests, including parents of Mrs. Neetu Jha and renowned economist Dr. Haribhanks Jha were welcomed.

Past introductions, fruitful discussion session was held. Most of participants expressed their views and concerns regarding our organization. Dr. Shukdev Shav, Dr. Raghvendra Dwivedy, Dr. Haribansha Jha, Mr. Chakradhar Mishra and Mr. Bachan Thakur emphasized on unity among Teraians only a means to the solution of economic development and empowerment issues in Terai. Several members, including Dharmendra Thakur, Mr. Dinbandhu Gupta, Mrs. Vijaya Shah, Mrs. Anita Singh, Mr. Ranjeet Verma, Mrs. Anubha Verma, Mrs. Manju Singh, Mr. Rajesh Tiwari and Mrs. Binita Shukla expressed their views and emphasized on the importance of the organization in increase cooperation among fellow Teraians and organize cultural events. Dr. Bikash Singh and Mr. Anil Dwivedy mentioned that the program was successful with the help of all the participants. Mr. Alok Singh emphasized the importance of the organization for next generation.

Following the discussion, there was an entertainment program. Mr. Bachan Thakur and Mr. Dhaiskanth Jha entertained ANTA audiences with their skills by singing songs in Hindi, Maithili and Bhojpuri with the help of other participating members. It was a very successful event. There were 20 families from our ANTA and approximately 60 people in attendance.

ANTA DC Chapter thanks everyone for participating in this event but special thanks to Mr. Bachan Thakur, Mr. Binay Shankar Singh, and Mr. Bikash Singh for their tireless effort on organizing the event.



Overall, the discussion was concluded with a unanimous view; it is imperative to have our organization and members stay UNITED, along with our fellow Teraians brothers back home in Nepal. According to Mr. Vijay Kumar Singh, DC Chapter President, *“When we put seven different colors in a pot, the end result is WHITE. Hence, regardless of our ideologies, when we gather at ANTA we SHOULD have one ideology and that is Madheshi!”*



ANTA ACTIVITIES

ANTA Dallas Chapter's Cultural Event & ANTA's 10th Anniversary Celebration First milestone in its journey

Dallas Chapter of Association of Nepali Teraians of American (ANTA) organized Nepali Teraians Meeting and Cultural Event on the eve of July 05, 2015. Many teraians family including their kids were gathered at FunAsia Banquet hall, Richardson, TX for grand celebration of 10th anniversary of ANTA. The program was very successful because of heartiest support from everyone. In addition to this, ANTA President Dr. Jay Prakash Shah, senior vice president Mr. Suneel Sah helped and encouraged at every moment to make the program successful.



The program started at 5:00 pm. Dallas Chapter committee members (Mr. Devendra Karna, Mr. Sanjay Karn, and Dr. Rakesh Shah), Mr. Suneel Sah, Mr. Rajesh Ray, and Mr. Rajesh Adhikari were present little earlier at the venue to make sure everything was well organized. Slowly, many teraians from Dallas and Fort Worth area and also from outside of Dallas started to gather

at the venue. ANTA Central Executive Committee (President Dr. Jayprakash Shah, senior vice president Mr. Suneel Sah, general secretary Dr. Akhilesh Singh, member Dr. Vijay Jha and Mr. Bijay Yadav) also attended the event.

The formal program started with inauguration with candle light by chief guest Dr. Mahendra Mahato (senior adviser of Dallas Chapter) and welcome speech by Mr. Devendra Karna (president of Dallas Chapter-ANTA). Thereafter, Dr. Mahendra Mahato, Dr. Jayprakash Shah, Mr. Suneel Sah, Dr. Vijay Jha, Mr. Ram Kumar Mahato, Mr. Amarnath Sah, and Dr. Subodh Mallik presented their views about ANTA activities and importance of the event. The cultural program started after a short snack break. Many performers from teraians community presented their talent through dance, drama, songs, and poems. The program was fabulous and was the heart of the event! Anchors Ms. Kajal Karna and Mr. Alok Kumar further added spirit into the cultural program. There was short round-table discussion after the cultural program in which Dr. Jayprakash Sah, Dr. Vijay Jha, and Dr. Akhilesh Singh answered questions of few

attendees about ANTA activities regarding welfare of teraians people in Nepal. We all enjoyed very delicious dinner prepared by FunAsia after the cultural program. Finally, the program was concluded at around 10:30 pm with the award distribution to our performers in the

cultural program. Mr. Sanjay Karn expressed thankyou note at the end of the program. At the last, but not least, Dallas chapter genuinely honored few best leaders of ANTA who contributed in different manners to complete the journey of decade. The honoree were Mr. Ratan Jha, Mr. Suneel Sah, Mr. Lalit Jha, Dr. Binod Shah, Mr. Satendra Shah, Mr. Amit Shah, Mr. Ritesh Chaudhary, Dr. Biplav Yadav, Ms. Annapurna Deo, and Mr. Mukesh Singh.

It was a very successful event and was



great moment to meet and greet more than 100 people at same platform. Dallas chapter-ANTA thanks everyone for their participation and support to make the event successful. Since few Nepalese Teraians could not attend the program due to their tight schedule, every effort will be made to facilitate fellow Teraians to attend the future event organized by Dallas chapter.



ANTA ACTIVITIES

ANTA's 10th Anniversary Celebration by Mid-West Region (NE/IA/MN)

First milestone in its journey



On July 25, 2015 approximately 50 people (Adults and children) from IA, NE and MN gathered to celebrate ANTA's 10 year anniversary at a scenic state park near Des Moines IA. After exchange of greeting, fellowship

and great appetizer; we discussed ANTA History, ANTA's ongoing projects and finally opening chapter for mid-west area. With great enthusiasm and

lively discussion, we opened "ANTA's Mid-West Chapter". The core geographical area of this chapter will include; Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. Des Moines IA, is approximately 3 hours' drive



from all the capital cities of the states. Ad-hoc chapter

members and core-officers positions were unanimously elected. It is chapters understanding that new officer position could be added as more people come to know about this chapter. Dhiraj Chaudhary, Kanata Mallik and I went over some guidelines and expectation of chapter and chapter president. On this special occasion, we formed a Mid-West ANTA Chapter which includes the states of NE, IA, MN, KS. A lot of news members were added to ANTA.

President

Mr. Arvind Karn Des Moines, IA

Vice President

Mr. Ajay Mallik Des Moines, IA

Secretary

Mr. Amit Ranjan Cedar Rapid, IA

Treasurer:

Mr. Sharwan Jha Albert Lee, MN

Members

Indu Karn	Des Moines, IA
Ishwar Chaudhary	Omaha, NE
Manoj Prajapati	Des Moines, IA
Anil Jha	Des Moines, IA
Navin Karn	Des Moines, IA
Bipin Chaudhary	Des Moines, IA
Sarvendra Agahari	Des Moines, IA
Om Goit	Lincoln, NE
Shivam Ashirbadam	Lincoln, NE
Manita Jha	Des Moines IA

बाँडी चुडी खाऊ

Vijay Kumar Singh

(The Definition of Democracy)

Neta answers questions asked by Janta!

Janta: Where is the constitution?

Neta: Coming very soon.

Janta: It doesn't look complete. You left many issues for future. So we have to FIGHT!

Neta: If it is complete now, then what else is there left for ME in the future? This is politics!

Janta: Also, why do we need a National Government?

Neta: "Equal opportunity, Equal Share", Remember??

Janta: Yes, but how?

Neta: It's simple! We are representatives of Janta. We form National Government according to our numbers and divide the money (earthquake money). Representatives Happy, Janta Happy! Baat samaj mein aaye?

Janta: Sabh kuchh samaj gaya! Namaskar

ANTA Projects

1. ANTA Scholarship Project

This project was started in 2014 with the objective to provide Scholarship to the Top Students in Terai Region of Nepal. The Sarlahi Social Welfare Foundation (SSWF), a registered non-profit organization in Nepal is a project partner and organizer of this project in Nepal.

The scholarship amount was NRs. 40,000 to the 1st (girl student in general category) and NRs. 25,000 to each of the four students (2nd and 3rd students from General Category and 1 girl and 1 boy from Dalit/Minority/Indigenous category).

On July 12, 2014 program was held in Kathmandu to award the scholarship. Recipient of awards were Ms. Sarita



Scholarship Recipients and Hosts at the July 12, 2014 program in Kathmandu

Project entailed providing scholarship for 5 students from the following categories from the public schools located in the Terai region:

- Category 1: 3 General girl students
- Category 2: 1 girl student from Dalit/Minority/Indigenous community and
- Category 3: 1 boy student from Dalit/Minority/Indigenous.

Yadav, Ms. Amrita Shah, Minaskshi Yadav, Ms. Pratibha Rajbasni and Mr. Akil Dhuniya.

SSWF and ANTA are working on selecting top 5 students for scholarship award for the year 2015. ANTA really appreciates SSWF and its founder Dr. Vijay Jha for being great partner in facilitating this important project.

2. Power the Village Project, Khirouan Village; Sarlahi District, Nepal

In the beginning of 2015, ANTA collaborated with stu-



Power a Village

dents of University of Nebraska in Lincoln (UNL) to provide electricity to poor people of the Khirouan Village in Siraha District, Nepal by using the renewable sources of energy using 20 watt solar panel. On behalf of UNL, this project was led by Mr. Om Goit, Ph. D students in Physics who is from the Khirouan Village as well.

The project entailed providing electricity to approximately 15 household. The total cost of project was estimated to be approximately \$2,500. ANTA contributed \$1,200 towards this project. As of July 2015, solar panel has been installed on the 8 houses.

ANTA appreciates the opportunity to be the partner in this project which provides not only

the renewable energy to the poor people but also reduces the risk of exposure of smoke that has the potential diseases like respiratory infections, lung and throat cancer, eye infection, cata-

ract, acute respiratory infection such influenza and pneumonia etc..

ANTA would like to thank Om Goit, UNL students and

donors for supporting this project.



Library Building Slab Work Feb, 2015

3. School Library Project in Pakadi Village, Kapilbastu District, Nepal

In July 2014; ANTA, Staker Wallace Fund and Madhesh Initiative signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the purpose of constructing a school

library in Pakadi Village, Kapilbastu District, Nepal. Per MOU:

- Staker Wallace Fund, as donor agreed to provide \$20,000 for the project;
- ANTA registered as a non-profit 501c(3) organization in the United States, agreed to be the transferring agent; and
- Madhesh Initiative, as recipient of funds for the construction of a school library in Pakadi Village, Kapilbastu District, Nepal agreed to oversee the construction of the project.

ANTA will be listed as a collaborator in this project.

As of July 2015, \$15,000 has been transferred to Madhesh Initiative and library construc-

tion is in full swing. ANTA appreciated generosity of Mr. Michael Wallace to fund such an important project. ANTA would like to thank Mr. Narendra Chaudhary, Deepak Sah and Madhesh Initiative for overseeing the construction of the project.

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— गोपाल ठाकुर

दुनिया को मालूम है अंग्रेजी संसार में अपने राजनीतिक साम्राज्य विस्तार के जरिए स्थापित हुई है। किंतु किसी राष्ट्र का साम्राज्य बनना ही काफी नहीं है। उसकी पूर्णता के लिए उसे चाहिए समृद्धि और इसके लिए फिर चाहिए कुशल जनशक्ति। जाहिर है जनशक्ति की कुशलता भी उसकी अनुवांशिक ज्ञान में छिपी होती है जो उसकी मातृभाषा के जरिए उसे पिढी दरपिढी हासिल होती जाती है। तो इस कुशलता प्रदर्शन में बाजी मारने का अवसर मिला मध्यदेशीय जनों को। वर्तमान भारत का उत्तरी और नेपाल की दक्षिणी पठारी घाटियाँ और मैदानी इलाके को उत्तर प्राचीन और पूर्व मध्यकालीन इतिहास ने मध्यदेश कहा है। मध्यकालीन इतिहास में यह क्षेत्र बेलायती और गोरखा साम्राज्य अधीनस्थ था। इसी मध्यदेश का एक महाजनपद था काशी जिसका विस्तार पश्चिम में आधा उत्तर प्रदेश, पूर्व में आधार बिहार, दक्षिण, दक्षिण-पश्चिम और दक्षिण पूर्व में मध्यप्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़ और झारखंड के कुछ हिस्सों तक और उत्तर में नेपाल के पूर्व सर्लाही से पश्चिम रूपदेही जिले तक का मधेशी भूभाग तक था जहाँ आजकी आधुनिक लोकभाषा है भोजपुरी।

इतिहास यह भी कहता है कि अंग्रेजी, फ्रांसिसी, पुर्तगाली आदि यूरोपीय साम्राज्यों के उपनिवेशों की भूमि तब तक सोना नहीं उगली जब तक इस मध्यदेशीय जनों के पाँव वहाँ नहीं पड़े। वस्तुतः इन उपनिवेशकों ने अपने शोषण के जरिए

सोने की चिड़िया के रूप में रहे भारतवर्ष को गर्त में तो मिला ही दिया था, शेष रह गये थे यहाँ के उन दीन-हीन जनों के अनुवांशिक कृषि-ज्ञान। इसी कारण इन्हें खेतिहर मजदूर के रूप में एक त्रिपक्षीय सम्झौते के तहत दुनियाँ के कई हिस्सों में ले जाया गया। जानेवाले तो थे तत्कालीन पूरे भारत और नेपाल के कुछ लोग भी किंतु इन में अधिकाधिक थे मध्यदेशी और उनमें भी थे भोजपुरिया जन। यह दौर उन्नीसवीं शदी के उत्तरार्ध उर बीसवीं शदी के पूर्वार्ध तक चलती रही। इस दौरान भोजपुरिया जन विश्व के अधिकांश महादेशों में फैले: मॉरीशस, ट्रिनिडाड, टुबैगो, गोयना, दक्षिण अफ्रिका, फिजी, सुरिनाम आदि। उत्तरऔपनिवेशिक काल में भी वैदेशिक रोजगार के तहत विश्व के करीब हर देश में भोजपुरिया जन पहुँचे हुए हैं।

इस तरह साम्राज्यवाद और उपनिवेशवाद ने अपनी भाषा-संस्कृति तो दुनियाँ पर लादी ही, गरीबी में जीने के बावजूद अपने अद्भूत अनुवांशिक ज्ञान, श्रमसामर्थ्य और

किसी भी भाषा की सबलता उसकी मातृभाषी जनसङ्ख्या, भौगोलिक विस्तार, उपयोग में सहजता, पारिभाषिक शब्दावली, शब्दकोश, व्याकरण, लोक तथा आधुनिक साहित्य और अर्थ-राजनीतिक उत्पादन क्षमता से मापी जाती है।

कार्यकुशलता के कारण इस तर इन्हीं उपनिवेशकों ने भोजपुरी को भी दुनिया में फैला दिया। किंतु केवल आप्रवासन विस्तार से ही कोई भाषा उन्नत नहीं बनती। साथ ही उच्च कोटी का वाङ्मय निर्माण से भी भाषा दीर्घायु नहीं होती। क्योंकि आज चीनी लोग भी विश्वभर फैले हुए हैं। दुनियाँ में सर्वाधिक लोग चीनी ही बोलते हैं। किंतु विश्वभाषा के रूप में उसने अब तक कोई सहजता स्थापित नहीं की है। ठीक इसी तरह संस्कृत, लैटिन और यूनानी भाषाओं में दुनिया का सर्वोत्कृष्ट वाङ्मय का

अथाह भण्डार पड़ा हुआ है। किंतु आज इन तीनों भाषाएँ मृत बन चुकी हैं।

किसी भी भाषा की सबलता उसकी मातृभाषी जनसङ्ख्या, भौगोलिक विस्तार, उपयोग में सहजता, पारिभाषिक शब्दावली, शब्दकोश, व्याकरण, लोक तथा आधुनिक साहित्य और अर्थ-राजनीतिक उत्पादन क्षमता से मापी जाती है।

भोजपुरी के संदर्भ में इसकी मातृभाषी वक्ता संख्या ग्रिअर्सन (१९२७) ने १९ वीं शदी के अंत तक संपन्न भारत के भाषिक सर्वेक्षण में २,०४,१२,६०८ बताई है। इसके एक शताब्दी बाद एथ्नॉलॉग (२०१३) ने इस संख्याको आइएमए को उद्धृत करते हुए २,३३,७५,००० बताया है। किंतु भारत के किसी भी जनगणना प्रतिवेदन में भोजपुरी का उल्लेख तक नहीं किया गया है। अगर ग्रिअर्सन के समकालीन भारतीय जनसंख्या २८,०९,१२,००० से इसकी तुलना की जाए तो भारतीय जनसंख्याका ८.३ प्रतिशत भोजपुरियों का हिस्सा दिखता है। जाहिर है कि उस समय के बेलायती भारत के अंतर्गत पाकिस्तान, बंगलादेश और म्यान्मार भी शामिल थे। आज के दिन में भारत की जनसंख्या १,२१,०७,२६,९३२ (जनगणना, २०११), पाकिस्तान की १३,४७,१४,०१७ (जनगणना, १९९८), बंगलादेश की १५,२५,१८,००० (जनगणना,

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२०१४) है। इन सभी का इकट्ठा ८ प्रतिशत १२८५९८४०५ होता है। इसके बाद नेपाल में भोजपुरियों की जनसंख्या १५,८४,९५८ (जनगणना, २०११) है। इसी तरह <http://joshuaproject.net> के अनुसार मॉरीशस में ३,६३,०००, दक्षिण अफ्रिका में ५२,००० और फिजी में २७,००० लोगों की यह मातृभाषा है। इसके अलावे गिरमिटिया मजदूर के रूप में भोजपुरियों की उपस्थिति सुरिनाम, ट्रिनिडाड और टुबैगो में भी सशक्त है। इस प्रकार आज के विश्व में यह १३ करोड़ से अधिक आवादी की मातृभाषा या पहली भाषा है। इसे दूसरी या संपर्क भाषा के रूप में बोलनेवालों के बारे में अभी कोई खोजखबर ही नहीं ली गई है। आवादी के हिसाब से एथ्नोलॉग, २०१३ ने भोजपुरियों की वैश्विक आवादी कुल ढाई करोड़ बताकर इसे विश्व के ३७ वें स्थान पर रखा है। किंतु उपर्युक्त तथ्य को सामने रखने पर यह जापानी को भी पिछे छोड़ आठवाँ स्थान ग्रहण करती है।

भौगोलिक क्षेत्रफल की दृष्टि से ग्रीअर्सन (१८८३) के मुताबिक यह ४३,००० वर्गमील तक अपने उद्गम स्थान का विस्तार कर चुकी है। किंतु नेपाल के मधेशी भूभाग को उन्होंने छोड़ रखा है

। इसको भी मिलाने के बाद यह क्षेत्रफल ५० हजार वर्गमील से अधिक हो जाता है।

उपयोग में सहजता की तो भोजपुरी के लिए बात ही कुछ और है। बिना किसी राजनीतिक संरक्षण के भारत हो या नेपाल, भोजपुरियों के संपर्क में आकर अन्य भाषाभाषी भी बहुत कम परिश्रम से इसका प्रयोग करने लगते हैं। इसी का परिणाम है कि गैरभोजपुरी भाषी गायक-गायिका और फिल्मी सितारे भी भारत या नेपाल में भोजपुरी गायन और सिनेमा की ओर आकर्षित हो रहे हैं। भारत और नेपाल के सिनेमा हॉलों में हिंदी के बाद अगर कोई फिल्म लगी हो तो भोजपुरी की ही संभाव्यता पहले आती है। इसकी उपयोग सहजता के कारण ही रेडियो नेपाल में जब भोजपुरी समाचार शुरू हुआ तो

फिरभी इस चिंता को दूर करने के लिए विश्व भोजपुरी सम्मेलन और केंद्रीय हिंदी संस्थान ने संस्थागत तौर पर और डॉ. श्याम कुमारी श्रीवास्तव ने व्यक्तिगत उत्साह से भारत में

तीन समाचार वाचकों में दो नेपालीभाषी थे और आज भी दो में एक नेपालीभाषी हैं। मैंने मॉरीशस में अफ्रिकी मूल के गायक-गायिका तथा नृत्यांगनाओं का भोजपुरी गायन और नृत्य का आनंद स्वयं उठाया है।

पारिभाषिक शब्दावली की बात की जाय तो इस पर सबसे पहले ग्रीअर्सन का काम किया हुआ दिखता है। ग्रीअर्सन (१८८५) ने बिहार के किसानों के जनजीवन में प्रयुक्त शब्दावली को ढूँढने का प्रयास किया है जिसमें तीन-चौथाई शब्दावलियाँ भोजपुरी की जान पड़ती हैं। फिरभी पारिभाषिक शब्दावली तो भाषा

का प्रयोग क्षेत्र जिस तरह से विस्तार होता जाता है उसी रफ्तार से विकसित होती जाती है। इसमें नये शब्द निर्माण और अनुकूलन का दौर आगे बढ़ता है। इन दोनों से काम नहीं चलने पर तत्सम और विदेशज शब्दों का पैच-पालट भी कोई आश्चर्य की बात नहीं। फिरभी इस चिंता को दूर करने के लिए विश्व भोजपुरी सम्मेलन और केंद्रीय हिंदी संस्थान ने संस्थागत तौर पर और डॉ. श्याम कुमारी श्रीवास्तव ने व्यक्तिगत उत्साह से भारत में शब्दकोश पर बहुत अच्छे काम किये हैं। नेपाल प्रज्ञा-प्रतिष्ठान के तहत २४ हजार प्रविष्टी सम्मिलित भोजपुरी-भोजपुरी-नेपाली-अंग्रेजी शब्दकोश का संपादन तो मैंने खुद किया है जो एकभाषी और बहुभाषी दोनों संदर्भ में उपयोगी होगा।

जहाँ तक इसके व्याकरण की बात है तो इस पर सन् १८६८ से ही काम शुरू है। पहले विदेशियों ने भारत में अपनी सहजता के लिए इस पर काम किया तो सन् १९१५ से भोजपुरियों ने खुद अपने लिए इस विषय पर काम किये हैं। इन कामों में जॉन बिम्स, जॉर्ज अब्राहम ग्रीअर्सन, शिवदास ओझा, डॉ. उदयनारायण तिवारी, डॉ. रामदेव त्रिपाठी, विंध्याचल प्रसाद श्रीवास्तव और डॉ. जयकांत सिंह 'जय' का काम भारतीय भूमि पर स्तुत्य है। नेपाल में

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— गोपाल ठाकुर

और सुरिनाम में आर. एम. मर्हे ने भोजपुरी व्याकरण पर उम्दा काम किया है।

साहित्य की ओर बात करने पर जहाँ संत कवीर और भिखारी ठाकुर जैसे निधि भोजपुरी काव्य और नाट्य विधा में मौजूद हों तो इसकी कमी कैसे होगी ? हाँ जिस तादात में काम होना चाहिए उस तादात में अभी बहुत कुछ करना है, ये अलग बात है। लेकिन इसका लोक साहित्य इतना सबल जो अन्य भाषाओं में मिलना असम्भव है। लोक साहित्य की किसी एक विधा का संकलन करने पर ही एक पुस्तकालय बन सकता है। वास्तव में लोक साहित्य ही भोजपुरी की नींव है और अमूल्य निधि भी जिसके बल पर उम्दा आधुनिक साहित्य का महल खड़ा किया जा सकता है। परंतु उतनी चिंता की बात भी नहीं है क्यों कि भारत और नेपाल में अब भोजपुरी के आधुनिक साहित्य की हर विधा पर उत्साहजनक काम हो रहा है। मॉरीशस, दक्षिण अफ्रिका और फिजी जैसे देशों में भी लोग इस दिशा में लगे हुए हैं।

हाँ हम मार खा रहे हैं तो इसके अर्थ-राजनीतिक उत्पादन क्षमता विकास के क्षेत्र में। आज बड़े दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि सर्वाधिक भोजपुरी भाषी

जहाँ रहते हैं उस भारत की आधिकारिक जनगणना प्रतिवेदन में अब तक इसका नाम भी नहीं दिखता। परन्तु वास्तविकता पर अधिक दिनों तक पर्दा नहीं डाला जा सकता। भारत सरकार की ओर से जगह-जगह पर भोजपुरी अकादमी की स्थापना हुई है तो उच्च माध्यमिक शिक्षा तथा विश्वविद्यालयीय शिक्षा में भोजपुरी का एक विषय के रूप में प्रवेश हो चुका है। खासकर उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की उच्च माध्यमिक शिक्षा परिषद् तथा बाबू कुँवर सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, आरा और बाबा भिम राव अंबेडकर बिहार विश्वविद्यालय, मुजफ्फरपुर और अन्य विश्वविद्यालयों में भी भोजपुरी की पढ़ाई और इसकी विभिन्न विधाओं पर शोध कराई जा रही है। नेपाल में प्राथमिक और माध्यमिक शिक्षा में एक विषय के

हाँ जिस तादात में काम होना चाहिए उस तादात में अभी बहुत कुछ करना है, ये अलग बात है। लेकिन इसका लोक साहित्य इतना सबल जो अन्य भाषाओं में मिलना असम्भव है

रूप में भोजपुरी शामिल हो चुकी है। उच्च माध्यमिक और विश्वविद्यालय स्तर पर शामिल कराने की कोशिस जारी है। फिर भी स्नातकोत्तर और विद्यावारिधि के लिए शोध की व्यवस्था अभी भी वरकरार है। इसी तरह मॉरीशस में भी प्राथमिक शिक्षा में भोजपुरी को शामिल कर लिया गया है। संचार के क्षेत्र में रेडियो नेपाल में सन् १९९४ से भोजपुरी में दैनिक समाचार और १९९७ से साप्ताहिक कार्यक्रम प्रसारित हो रहे हैं। नेपाल टेलिभिजन से साप्ताहिक कार्यक्रम प्रसारित होता है। नेपाल में एफ. एम. रेडियो और भारत में तो महुआ

टिभी भोजपुरी के लिए बहुत ही उत्साहजनक काम कर रहे हैं। इसके अलावा नेपाल के सरकारी अखबार गोरखापत्र में नयाँ नेपाल पृष्ठ में भोजपुरी का एक पृष्ठ पाक्षिक रूप में प्रकाशित हो रहा है।

नेपाल में अब यह राष्ट्रभाषा की संवैधानिक हैसियत प्राप्त कर चुकी है। संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका में स्थानीय स्तर पर इसके प्रयोग की इजाजत मिल चुकी है। भारत में इसे संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल करने का प्रयास जारी है।

इस प्रकार भोजपुरी अपने सामर्थ्य के बल पर एक विश्वभाषा के रूप में संभाव्यता लिए बैठी है किंतु सामर्थ्य और संभाव्यता को साकार करती है अर्थ-राजनीति। यह अर्थ-राजनीति ही है जो किसी भाषा को रोजगार और उत्पादन से जोड़ती है। इस हिसाब से देखने पर इसके उद्गम क्षेत्र और आप्रवासन क्षेत्र के अर्थराजनीतिक माहौल का पृथक विश्लेषण करना होगा। सब से पहले भारतीय भोजपुरी भाषी लोग नेपाल को भी इसका आप्रवासन क्षेत्र (Diaspora) मानते हैं जो सरासर गलत है। क्योंकि राजनीतिक छिनाझपटी में वही भौगोलिक क्षेत्र आज अलग-अलग देशों के आधीन है। इसलिए भारत और नेपाल भोजपुरी का उद्गम (Origin) ही है। तो सबसे पहले भोजपुरी की अर्थ-राजनीतिक माहौल को हमें यहीं से ठीक करना होगा।

I Buried in My Heart

Vijay K. Singh, DC

“It is very true when people say that, MOTHER, MOTHERLAND and MOTHER TONGUE can never be replaced. I was born and raised in an educated landlord family near Jankapur of Terai region. My mother tongue is Maithili, but people speak in mix of few Terain languages with each other. When I was young, I went to India to stay with my maternal uncle in order to attain education. While in school I did not experience trouble conversing with fellow students since they did speak *Maithili*. I completed my high school and got married with a girl of Maithili speaking background. I completed my education and moved back to my native country of Nepal. For employment, I relocated to northern part of the country with my wife and kid, where people spoke Nepali. Yet again, I quickly adapted to new environs and learned Nepali, but my mother tongue was confined within my family. Ten years later, my family and I moved to United States to pursue our American Dream. Time passed on and gradually Maithili kept shrinking from our daily life. With new additions to our family, English became the primary language especially for the new generation. The only occasion I spoke Maithili was with my dearly beloved wife.

But ever since she passed away I feel two tragedies hit me at once, first I lost my wife and second I have lost my mother tongue. I am a happy man with no regrets! I have a loving and caring family. But yet sometimes I desperately yearn to speak in my mother tongue. Ultimately, I buried my mother tongue with my beloved wife and her memories in my heart”.

An old man nearing his life's conclusion shares his and his mother tongue's extensive journey while wiping his tears. A middle aged man listening patiently while fighting back his tears says gently, “Kaka! Don't worry we have ANTA! We are here for you and all of community. Your son Raju, became ANTA member and he will attend all our gatherings

.....English became the primary language especially for the new generation. The only occasion I spoke Maithili was with my dearly beloved wife. But ever since she passed

and functions with you”

The old man with renewed sense of hope replies, “Bauwa! I am happy that ANTA is here”. He further adds, “Now, I am sure my last journey will start from my community”



ANTA's Membership Drive

On occasion of ANTA's 10th Anniversary, ANTA launched its membership to reach out to the fellow Terains and friends of Teraians living in America. To date, ANTA has added 61 members, including 25 life members from different states of the USA. If you have not been a member of ANTA or have not renewed your membership, ANTA requests you all to become a member of ANTA.

List of new Life Members:

Dr. Akhilesh Singh, NM
 Dr. Kaushal K Jha, TX
 Mr. Subodh Sah, CA
 Mr. Devendra Karn, TX
 Ms. Kanta Mallik, IA
 Mr. Ajay Mallik, IA
 Mr. Vijay Singh, DC
 Mr. Chakradhar Mishra, VA
 Mr. Bijay Agrawal, MD
 Ms. Anubha Verma, VA
 Mr. Anil Dwivedy, VA
 Mr. Sujit Mishra, DC
 Mr. Raghawendra Dwivedy, VA
 Mr. Madan Pathak, MD
 Mr. Bikash Singh, MD
 Mr. Bachan Dev Thakur, VA
 Mr. Sunil Jha, MD
 Mr. Bachcha Tiwari, TX
 Mr. Pramod Jha, TX
 Mr. Mohan Yadav, VA
 Mr. Arbind Singh, NY
 Mr. Dhiraj Choudhary, NE
 Mr. Vijay Pratap Singh, MD
 Mr. Shrawan Jha, IA
 Mr. Aniket Sah, NY

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Thank You