

TRIVANI

ANTA Newsletter

Volume - 3

Issue- 3

March 15, 2019

President's Message



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Namaste! I am happy to present another issue of Trivani, the ANTA mouthpiece, to make you all aware of ANTA's recent activities. At the outset, I would like to thank our publication team for all the time and effort

they put in to bring this issue to you all.

ANTA is growing day by day! Many esteemed Teraians/Madheshis have joined our organization as advisors, executive members and general/life members. We have received overwhelming support, especially from our youth, in recent months. On the other hand, we have developed cordial relations with many other Nepali organizations across the world. We have been participating in the monthly meeting of International Madheshi Society, which has been instrumental in bringing the Madheshi community together. We have taken initiative by inviting presidents and/or representatives of other Nepali organizations to ANTA Executive Committee meetings to explore common avenues where we can share our views and work towards the betterment of Nepal and the entire Nepali culture.

ANTA has put itself on the forefront of promoting and preserving our culture. We celebrated the Chhath puja throughout the USA. Our chapters are working hard to organize Holi festivals in different parts of the country. I urge everyone to be a part of this grand event. We have also contributed immensely in many activities social and philanthropic in nature. For example, we co-sponsored visit Janakpur initiative of Code for Nepal. Likewise, we have initiated an Autism care project in Nepal to raise awareness in the community about its gravity. ANTA is committed to be a part as always. Finally, I hope you will enjoy this issue of Trivani. Happy Holi 2019!

Sincerely,

Vijay Kumar Singh

President, ANTA

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Editorial

Dear ANTA Family, Friends and Well Wishers!

ANTA is delighted to publish the third issue of Our Trivani for the years 2018-2019. This newsletter highlights the extension of ANTA Central Advisory Board and Executive Committee and ANTA's activities and contributions towards the welfare of our society and its cultural preservation.

Congratulations to those who have achieved milestones in their profession, social, and family lives. Please enjoy reading this newsletter and help us to improve the quality of TRIVANI by providing your candid comments, criticisms, and suggestions.

On behalf of ANTA's editorial board, I truly appreciate your generous contribution with articles, event activities, and associated pictures towards the successful publication of this newsletter. I truly believe that your contributions are instrumental in making Trivani a great publication. We look forward to our next issue in the next quarter and would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite you for your contributions in upcoming publication. Please notify us of your articles, celebrations, and activities over the next few months for inclusion in the next issue of this newsletter.

Last but not least, I would like to thank members of editorial board 2017-2019 Executive Committee for their dedication in successful publication of TRIVANI. My special thanks goes to our editor Mrs. Aprajita Jha for her dynamic support in successful publication of this issue of TRIVANI.

Thank You All!

Best Regards,

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Disclaimer

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**Association
of
Nepali Teraians
in
America**

Expansion of The ANTA Central Advisory Board and Executive Committee

The Association of Nepali Teraians in America (ANTA) is pleased to announce the induction of the following individuals into key advisory and executive roles within the organization.

Advisory Board (in alphabetical order):

1. Dr Ram Babu Yadav, PhD, South Carolina
2. Dr Santosh Shah, PhD, Pennsylvania
3. Dr Shushil Chaudhary, PhD, New Mexico

Executive Committee (in alphabetical order):

1. Dr Bindeshwar Sah, PhD Candidate, Rhode Island
2. Mr Santosh Sah, PMAc, Pennsylvania

ANTA is honored to have this highly qualified group of individuals with deep and proven expertise in their fields and their unwavering willingness to promote and serve the cause of the Teraians diaspora. We hope that the newly inducted Advisory Board and EC members would help fulfill the expanding needs of the organization as well as collectively bring fresh perspectives & diversity of the opinions and skillsets for the betterment of the community.

Please join us in welcoming them onboard and wishing them all the success in their respective roles. The news can also be found on the following link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/ANTAExecutiveCommittee/>

ANTA Reached Out to Saptari to Help Flood Victims

An ANTA executive committee member, on behalf of ANTA, reached out to flood victims and successfully distributed Rs. 5,000 to each of 15 flood affected families in Tilathi Kaulari Gaunpalika and in Hanuman Nagar Nagarpalika.



Mithila Art Exposition and Competition in Janakpurdham

The Association of Nepalese Teraians in America (ANTA) is pleased to report on the successful completion of a one-day Mithila Art Exposition and Competition held at the Hotel Sitasharan in Janakpurdham on June 30th, 2018.

The event was graced by the attendance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister (Province-2) Mr. Mohammad Lalbabu Raut Ji and Hon'ble Chief Attorney General Mr. Dipendra Jha Ji. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Attorney General and the closing ceremony was performed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The Chief Minister (CM) also awarded prizes and certificates to the winners and the attendees. Outside the scheduled agenda, Hon'ble CM spent significant amount of his precious time in observing the exhibition and listening to each and every artist about their work pieces. His enthusiasm and connectivity to the artists were truly commendable. Hon'ble CM was passionately drawn to the cause and he indicated to open a museum for the Mithila Art & Culture in Janakpurdham. This is to promote the local culture and attract tourists across the globe and to foster development and growth of the local economy. In addition to CM's remarks on the occasion, it was great to hear from the Attorney General that an Academy for Literature and Art would be established for the preservation and promotion of local heritage in the province.

This event was participated by the artists from all over Nepal and especially from various districts of the Province 2. They took part in a 6 hour-long art competition and in the end, they all created their original art pieces. The winner of the event Ms. Priyanka Suman received Rs. 35,000 cash as the first prize, Mrs. Ranju Yadav came second with Rs 20,000 prize and the third prize of Rs 15,000 was awarded to Mrs. Chanda Sah. The consolation prize of Rs. 5,000 each was awarded to Mrs Sunaina Thakur, Ms. Komal Purbe, Mrs. Nirmala Jha, Ms. Anchal Karna & Mrs. Rebati Mandal. All the other attendees were awarded Rs 1,000 as the participation gratuity.

ANTA is committed to showcase the art pieces of the participating artists at various exhibitions in the USA and remit 100% of the proceeds thus generated back to the original artists in Nepal. ANTA is hoping to collaborate with the Province-2 government and interested institutions who want to be a partner in furthering the cause of the Mithila art and artists.

This event was coordinated by Mrs. Aprajita Jha (ANTA Spokesperson & the Cultural Coordinator). This event had participations from Mr. Ratan Jha, (ANTA Founding Member, Past President & Chair of the event), Mr. Shinghasan Sah Kalwar (Parliamentarian), Mr. Manish Suman (Parliamentarian), Mr. Purnendu Jha (Noted movie Producer & Director), Mr Ajit Sah and Mrs. Manjula Thakur (Renowned artists of Mithila painting), Mr Satish Sah (Manager of JWDC), Er. Pramod Jha & Mr. Mahendra Jha (Local ANTA patrons) & several other Parliamentarians and Dignitaries.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to Ms. Claire Burkert (Founder of JWDC which is the first NGO in Nepal with dual aim of preserving Mithila art and empowering women) for helping ANTA connect with the JWDC artists. We are also thankful to Dr. Indra Dev Sahu, Dr. Jitendra Thakur & Dr. Archana Kayastha from the ANTA Executive Committee for spreading the words about the

Mithila Art Exposition and Competition in Janakpurdham

event. Last but not the least, ANTA is grateful to Mr Dharendra Premarshi and Mr Ghanshyam Mishra for the radio coverage of the event before and after and Mr. Amarendra Yadav for the print coverage.

Further details of this event available on the Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/ANTAExecutiveCommittee/>



ANTA's Cultural Presence at Udit Narayan Jha's Meet & Greet Event

The Meet and Greet event for the legendary playback singer from Terai, Nepal Shri Udit Narayan was held in Edison, NJ on September 3rd and it was an unprecedented opportunity for the attending ANTA friends and family to have a close interaction with the great singer. Though Udit Narayan Jha Ji was bound by his contractual agreement with the local sponsors not to perform in that event, he still mesmerized the attendees with his singing and made the entire event a once in lifetime moment.

ANTA Spokesperson "Aprajita Jha" personally spoke to Udit Ji about ANTA and he was delighted to learn about the Terain presence in the USA. He agreed to attend any future events organized by ANTA permitting his schedule/logistics. Aprajita Jha presented a momento on ANTA's behalf which he agreed to carry with him on his way back home. ANTA was moved by his humility and acknowledgments of his Terain roots in Nepal.

The event was organized at a very short notice as Aprajita Jha got an invitation from the President of BJANA the evening before. The details and pictures have been posted on our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/ANTAExecutiveCommittee/>

Apart from the family entry fees, Aprajita Jha personally also contributed \$1000 towards a donation to BJANA for inviting ANTA in and \$200 towards a crystal momento for the singer. Last but not least, ANTA is grateful to Mrs. Aprajita Jha, Dr. Santosh Shah ji (EC - Advisor), Mr. Santosh Sah ji (Senior VP- GNYC & EC member) and others who were physically there to assist me with ANTA's cultural participation in the event and tirelessly working with the organizers and the local media!! Our team was there on site till the organizers wrapped up the finances!!!!



ANTA Annual Meeting 2018

The Association of Nepali Teraians in America (ANTA) is pleased to announce a successful completion of a weekend long Annual Meeting held in Odessa, Texas on the weekend of July 6-8th. This provided a first ever opportunity to ANTA members to meet and greet fellow Teraians prior to the biennial convention. The attendance to the meeting was purely voluntary and on a best efforts basis as no executive decision was being taken at the meeting. A large number of ANTA members arrived by flights and many others drove themselves to the meeting venue.

On July 6th, the program started with a strong drive to sign up the new members. Mrs Rekha Mallik Karna and Mr Jitendra Thakur took an active role in the membership drive. The evening started with a birthday cake cutting ceremony for the ANTA president Mr Vijay Singh, and followed by music and dance till the midnight. There was also a youth committee pre session around the dinner table that day.

Saturday the 7th of July took the shape of a more official ANTA meeting. After a Madheshi Jalpan, the program commenced with the welcome speeches from Mr Vijay Singh and Dr. Kaushal Jha, Greater Houston Chapter President. Mr Ratan Jha, a founding member & past ANTA President shared his thoughts on leadership. His words were motivational and brought the momentum to the sole purpose of the ANTA gathering in Texas. The chapter Presidents, Mrs Nilu Jha - Greater NYC, Mr Laxmi Mandal - Ohio, Dr Kaushal Jha - Greater Houston discussed their past and upcoming programs, including investment into an upgrade of the ANTA official website. The Project Committee discussed their views on upcoming plans and projects. Dr Subodh Mallik, Senior Vice President, started the presentation with an urge to keep the Executive Committee meetings within the time frame posted on agenda. He made remarks on past and upcoming short-term and long-term projects. Dr Archana Kayastha, an ANTA EC member and Mrs. Usha Jha presented heart touching details of a project to help autistic and other special need children in Nepal. Mrs Nilu Jha discussed a project called Itty Bitty Care which is designed to promote education and discourage child labor. After lunch, Women's Committee program was led by Dr Archana Kayastha and there was a candid participation by Mrs Manju Singh, Mrs Usha Jha, Mrs Madhu Tiwari, Mrs Kajal Karna and others. Mr Lalit Jha, a founding member & past ANTA President and Mr Dharmendra Thakur, ANTA life member had an elaborate presentation on by-laws and its significance. Their dedication and hard work was seen in their 2 hour long delivery which included a topic wise quiz to keep the audience engaged. They led the discussion about by-laws amendments, Trivani, and the Annual calendar. The participants also had a round table talks on potential Vice President nominations, ANTA scholarship project and potentially creating an on the ground presence in Nepal for ANTA. Mr Rajat Jha, one of our youth members, expressed how he felt about the annual meeting and how youths relate to such get-togethers. His positive vibes were echoed by Ms Neha Jha, Ms Anisha Mallik, Ms Uditika Karna and others.

Evening of the 7th was culturally filled with singing and dancing by ANTA friends and family. The participants also had the privilege to be part of the 60th wedding anniversary of Dr and Mrs Birendra K Mallik. The Mallik couple is known for their contributions in education and social cause in Nepal and USA. Dr Mallik is also a recipient of ANTA Life Time Achievement Award in 2014. They currently live in Odessa, TX where the annual meeting took place.

Sunday morning of the 8th was a beautiful day. After the breakfast the attendees gathered around to deliberate on ANTA's future road map. Mr Indradev Sahu's (ANTA General Secretary) report was read out by Mr Jitendra Thakur in his absence. Closing remarks were given by Mr Vijay Singh and Dr Kaushal Jha. After lunch the attendees took a trip to visit the childhood home of President George W Bush in Midland, TX and thus concluding the Annual Meeting/Madheshi Mela.

ANTA Annual Meeting 2018

ANTA is immensely grateful to Mr. Subodh Mallik & his entire family for facilitating the event and their generosity.

Further details of this event available on the Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/ANTAExecutiveCommittee/>



SUMMER PICNIC CELEBRATION

ANTA GYNC

ANTA - GYNC celebrated summer picnic at Mark Creek State Park, Downingtown, Pennsylvania on August 4, 2018 and appreciate everyone's efforts of managing their time, cooking food and driving all the way from NY,NJ,PA,DE and VA.

No one was in rush and enjoyed every single moment there at the fullest. Instead of originally planned closing time of 6 PM, everyone was there until 8 PM. It was amazing to meet so many new people and reunite with all our old friends and families. Membership drive was conducted and new members were made.

While all women and girls were busy putting Mehandi, the men were in charge of the bbq. They also tried to lose a couple pounds playing soccer and cricket. We all enjoyed Maithili and Bhojpuri music through out.



SUMMER PICNIC CELEBRATION

ANTA Midwest/KS-MO Chapter

ANTA - Midwest/KS-MO Chapter celebrated summer picnic at Big Creek State Park, Polk City (near Des Moines), Iowa on August 4, 2018. Attendees included members and non-members from the states of IA, NE, MN, KS, and MO. Like always, when we gather together, it becomes a special and memorable event. This gathering was no different.

In addition, we had special guests from Nepal at the picnic. The picnic started at Noon and continued till 5 PM. Delicious food was catered from restaurant while attendees brought some appetizers and sweets. Approximately 45 adults and about 10 children attended the picnic. Everyone enjoyed networking, good food, music (singing and dancing), and games like golf ladder, giant beer pong, Jenga. We were happy to have our guest of honor from Nepal: Dr. Binod Kumar Yadav and his wife, Mrs. Renu Yadav. Dr. Yadav works at TU Teaching Hospital as the head of department for the Bio-chemistry department and Mrs. Yadav works as dietician at the same place. ANTA President Mr. Vijay Kumar Singh called from Washington, DC to greet picnic attendees and to share ANTA's ongoing activities. We were delighted to spend time with a few new family and friends. We celebrated our chapter advisor, Mr. Lalit Jha's, 52nd birthday. Membership drive was conducted and new members were made.



SUMMER PICNIC CELEBRATION

ANTA - California Chapter

ANTA - California Chapter celebrated summer picnic at Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore, CA on August 13, 2018.



CHHATH CELEBRATION

ANTA DC Chapter

This year ANTA DC Chapter celebrated the Chhath Puja on the bank of the Potomac river. This auspicious occasion was attended by scores of devotees who witnessed this centuries old festival and offered their prayers to the setting Sun and the rising Sun.



ANTA GYNC Chapter

ANTA GYNC Chapter celebrated the Chhath Puja at Bhartiya Temple in Montgomeryville, Pennsylvania in presence of more than 100 devotees.



Former Deputy Prime Minister's Visit to Pashupati Buddha Mandir, DC

ANTA with Hon. Consul General, Mr. Prem Raja Mahat, proposed to add Janaki to the Pashupati Buddha Mandir in Washington DC. This was unanimously accepted. The former Deputy Prime Minister, Bimlendra Nidhi, agreed to help this initiative by providing Janaki ji's statue to the temple. ANTA also helped in adding Jud-Shital, for the first time in America, to become part of the celebrations held at the temple.



ANTA and ANS Come Together to Celebrate Festivals

ANTA and ANS jointly announced to celebrate various upcoming festivals together in a function held in Washington, DC. ANTA would like to thank ANS President, Prabha D. Bhattarai, for her leadership and vision in bringing the communities together.



ANTA Leadership at the Nepali National Convention, Chicago

ANTA participated in the Nepali National Convention held in Chicago. It was a joint convention which was organized by ANMA, ANA and NASEA. ANTA was represented by the President of ANTA, Senior Vice President and Spokesperson, along with more ANTA members.



ANTA's Former President at Flood Workshop, Janakpur

Thank you Lalit Jha Ji for taking part in the successful workshop titled “ Water Resources and Flood Management in Terai: Issues, Challenges, and Solutions” on November 15, 2018.

“International Madheshi Society conceptualized the program in collaboration of Nepal Terai Engineers’ Society, however, it was leadership of Mr. Lalit Jha and Mr. Dilip Jha who transformed the idea into shape. The organizational skill of Mr. Ratneshwar Lal Karn added wings to the program. Presentation content of Dr. Krishna Chandra Prasad Sah was highly valuable and Mr. Rakesh Mishra proved hidden warrior. Over all, there were presence of more than 60 seasoned technocrats and additional 20 enthusiasts from water field enriching the discussion of the day. Chief guest Honorable Ratneshwar Lal Kayastha (Governor of Province No. 2 and Water Resource Expert) beautifully summarized the event, in his closing remark, as "gathering of crème de la crème of society. Program was graced by distinguished guests; Hon. Lal Babu Raut (Chief Minister), Hon. Jitendra Sonal (Physical Infrastructure Development Minister), Hon. Dipendra Jha (Chief Attorney General). Mr Dhirendra Premarshi hosted the program.” - Ram Manohar Sah



Condemnation of Custodial Death of Mr. Ram Monohar Yadav

The Association of Nepali Teraians in America (ANTA) joined the fellow Madheshi organizations in denouncing the custodial death of Mr. Ram Manohar Yadav. Mr Ram Manohar Yadav was picked up by the Nepal Police from a mass meeting for the public.

While the facts and circumstances around the arrest of Mr. Yadav could be unclear, his death under the police custody for lack of sufficient and timely medical attention is highly deplorable and is a reflection of authorities' callousness towards a human life in Terai. ANTA urged the powers that be in Nepal to take ownership of the loss of a precious life, conduct an independent and impartial enquiry into Mr Yadav's death and a total justice be served to his family.

ANTA would also like to express its deepest condolences to Mr Yadav's wife and his three children.

<https://www.facebook.com/ANTAExecutiveCommittee/>

ANTA at Street Co-Naming Ceremony in Jackson Heights, NYC

ANTA members joined the street co-naming ceremony in Jackson Heights, NYC. This historical moment was a milestone for the Nepalese community living in the US. The street was newly named Mt. Everest Way, in honor of the highest peak in the world.



A Poem from our President, Mr. Vijay Singh

शुभकामना संदेश

बाहुन ,क्षेत्री ,राई लिम्बु वा होस् जात नेवार
चौधरी ,यादव ,साहु ,मण्डल वा होस् दलित चमार
सबै मिलेर बनेछ हाम्रो समस्त नेपाल परिवार
सबैलाई हुनु पर्छ बराबरी को अधिकार
तर ,कोहि दलित ,कोहि पिछरी,कसै लाई छ सम्पूर्ण सरकार
मधेशी संग राख्दै न देश संचालन मा कुनै सरोकार
आवाज उठायो त् गोलि हान्यो ,गर्यो उसलाई तिरस्कार
अरे ,नासमझ ,यो त् समझ -उ चाहन्छ आफ्नो घर मा सबका प्यार
विकाश को नाऊ मा नेता जन्म्यो ,गर्छ राजनीति व्यापार
हामीलाई चाहियो यस्तो नेता ,जसले गरोस देश को उपकार
देश झैँ विदेश मा पनि गछौँ हामी मारा-मार
छार विभेद ,आउ हामी मनाउ दर्शौँ ,छठ,र लोसार
हामी भएछौँ नेपाली मुलका ,बचाऊ पुर्खा को संस्कार
बलियो बनाऊ आफ्नो समाज लाई,जसले होस् जग मा उजियार
भवदीय
विजय कुमार सिंह

CONGRATULATIONS

ANTA would like to congratulate:

Dr. Khushbu Mishra on her wedding. We wish you a happy married life.

Mr. Om Goit on his marriage. We wish you a happy conjugal life.

ANTA would also like to congratulate Madheshi leaders and members for forming an international Madheshi community. ANTA is proud to be associated with the IMS (International Madheshi Society), and we look forward to working with the common Madheshi agenda.

ANTA would like to congratulate Dr. Shushil Chaudhary on being elected as the president of TFA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please stay tuned for the upcoming Holi celebrations all across ANTA chapters: GNYC, CA, DC, GREATER TEXAS and IA.

Please stay tuned for upcoming Nepali New Year celebrations and Jud Shital in different ANTA chapters.

The next Trivani edition will be published on May 1st, 2019.

The ANTA Trivani Team would like to request for your articles and other literary pieces (such as poems, essays, reports and opinion pieces). We welcome children to take part in this as well. We discourage political and divisive writings for future publications.



TRIVANI



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