



**ANTA Newsletter** 

Issue - 4

March - December 2019

### President's Message

#### Dear ANTA Members and Friends:



I am delighted to release the fourth issue of Trivani. At the outset, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation for the ANTA publication committee, who worked tirelessly to bring our mouthpiece in this form. In this issue, you will find important information on various ANTA activities.

It gives me a great sense of satisfaction when I say ANTA has expanded its footprint in its mission of promotion of Madhesi culture. We now have seven fully-functioning ANTA chapters across the United States. Many Madheshi immigrants have joined us through respective chapters. I would also like to appeal to all Madhesi living in this great nation to join hands and cooperate with us in taking this organization to another level.

In the past few months, ANTA has organized various cultural activities across the United States. Our chapters in California, DC, Kansas-Missouri, Kentucky-Ohio, Mid-West, Greater New York, and Houston successfully hosted Holi (Festival of Colors), Jur Shital, etc. The entire Nepali community participated enthusiastically in these events. Some of our chapters organized cultural events in association with local or other national level Nepali organizations in line with the ANTA mission. On behalf of ANTA, myself and past president Ratan Jha physically presented in the Bara and Parsa during the devastation caused by Tornado to distribute relief package and monetary support to the families of the deceased and to convey sympathy from ANTA family and friends. ANTA has proudly initiated new scholarship programs for high school graduates. Many more scholarships are in the offering. I want to assure my ANTA friends that we are committed to organizing many more events in the days to come.

Finally, I would like to request all the ANTA well-wishers and friends to send kudos, congratulations, and appreciations to our publication committee to publish them in our next issue of Trivani.

Sincerely,

Vijay Kumar Singh President, ANTA

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#### **Editorial**

Dear ANTA Family, Friends and Well Wishers!

ANTA is delighted to publish the furth issue of Our Trivani for the year 2019. This newsletter highlights the ANTA's activities and contributions towards the welfare of our society and its cultural preservation.

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 and executive editor Mr. Dhiraj Chaudhary, for their dynamic support in successful publication of this issue of TRIVANI.

Thank You All!

Best Regards,

Jitendra Thakur, Ph.D., P.E.

Editor-in-chief, Trivani

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## Disclaimer

The sole purpose of this newsletter to provide information about ANTA activities. The information contained in this newsletter is solely for informational purpose and should not be taken as legal advice. The opinions in the articles are solely the opinions of the writers of those articles. ANTA does not convey any warranty about the contents. If you have concerns or need more information on the subject matters of articles, please contact directly to the authors. The reader should read the articles on their own responsibility and understanding. As permitted by law, ANTA excludes any warranty, guaranty, representation and suggestions relating to the newsletter.



Association
of
Nepali Teraian
in
America

## Trivani Spotlight: Mrs. Annapurna Deo



"Understanding of perspectives, kindness, fairness and justice in society is the way for happiness and growth for prosperous and harmonious human lives" - Annapurna Deo

Mrs. Annapurna Deo's above quote is deeply rooted in her dealings with personal, professional and social life. Mrs. Deo strongly believes that love to others in time of need should be the focus without any judgment about a person's social class, race or gender. Mrs. Deo can recall of her childhood (age of 11-13) desired to learn bicycle to save others in time of a minor accident to take them to hospital or bring doctor to the site of accident.

Simply that was her main motivation behind learning bicycle which her father graciously allowed her to learn and practice. Well, once she learnt and mastered soon she was compelled to stop bicycling due to a rumor that no one may marry her which was kind of too much for her parents to fight with society whereas they had already taken brave steps sending her (their daughters) school at that time when girls were not allowed going to school surrounding her village. Mrs. Deo was born and raised in Basantpur, Bihar, India until completion of higher secondary school. She married to Mr. Narayan Prasad Deo, MSc (chemistry) with whom she came to Nepal and lived in Kathmandu for thirteen years. Now she is settled in Research Triangle Park Area-Cary, North Carolina-USA since 1981. Mrs. Deo initially came with her two young children to join her husband Mr. Deo as he had come to study at Duke University through USAID in 1980.

After four years of college from Tribhuvan University, Nepal, Mrs. Deo attained Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude in 2009 and Master of Public Administration (MPA) with minor in nonprofits from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) USA in 2013 where Mrs. Deo served as a vice president for College Against Cancer (CAC) chapter of American Cancer Society. The Department of Public Administration-NCCU recognized Mrs. Deo with Distinguish Public Service Award in 2009.

Mrs. Annapurna Deo career began with teaching from St. Xavier's High School Kathmandu Nepal in 1979 then taught in St. Mary's High School (1979-1981) where most of her students excelled to a higher standard, hence she was known as one of the best teachers in the school. Mrs. Deo's first job in USA was as a librarian assistant at Duke University (1982-1983). She was a teaching staff for Hindi language at Duke University (1998) and later after some computer trainings and after working at IBM for few years in IT/ administration sector she was employed at Duke University Health Technology Solutions in IT/ administration sector where she took her retirement from.

## Trivani Spotlight: Mrs. Annapurna Deo (continued)

Mrs. Annapurna Deo's present profession is an Equal Employment Opportunity and Public Policy Consultant, and a non-attorney Mediator. After years of leadership in various capacity including community services, education and administration with reputable organizations, and non-profits, she founded Diversified Global Consulting LLC (2008) and cofounded nonprofit - The Keshav Deo Foundation for Humanity, Inc. (2010) to advocate for Social Equity through trainings, empowerment for independency, self-reliance and sustainability.

As volunteer community services Mrs. Deo is a cofounder and founding president (2002-2006) of Nepali Women Global Network where she had managed to get funding for five scholarships for undergraduate study on need/credential base and advocated to have at least one third percent ladies in each Board of Directors (BOD) for policy aspects among Nepali organizations is USA. She is co-founder and past president of Nepal Center of North Carolina, past advisory council member of Hindu Society of North Carolina, past vice president for two terms and advisor for Nepal America Council (NAC- changed into NRNA), past US women focal point of Non Resident Nepali (NRN). Mrs. Deo is a life member of Bageshwary Sewa Samiti, Rajbiraj-Saptary, Nepal through which she brought movement against Dowry in 1994 with some successes.

Mrs. Annapurna Deo is also cofounder of Association of Nepali Teraian in America (ANTA)-served as a board of directors, women committee chair (2012-2014), chief spokesperson, women committee chair, editor in chief for Trivani Newsletters (2014-2016). Mrs. Deo had chaired ANTA delegation of eight members presenting to US Congressman David Price in Washington DC on October 27th 2015 about the issues of Madhesh/Madheshis facing gross discriminations and Human Right Violation by Nepal Government in their own country. She chaired the ANTA protest rally in front of White House on November 22nd 2015. Mrs. Deo diligently and sincerely played the key role to protect, preserve and promote ANTA during its crisis period in 2016-2017 which she believes as an organizational accomplishments through her leadership. Mrs. Deo is ANTA present advisory board chair (2017-2019).

Mrs. Deo has received some social service and leadership recognition awards from Nepali Organizations in USA. Also During 2005-2009 Captive Daughters the US based organization had awarded Annapurna Deo Activist Prize in amount of one thousand dollars to a yearly selected Nepali (men/woman) winner who tirelessly fought against girls trafficking in Nepal.

Mrs. Deo is a member of Toastmasters International since 2013 now nearing to attain her Distinguished Toastmasters Award (DTM) where she is the current area 98 director for District 37 (2019-2020). Mrs. Deo have earned Advanced Communicator Silver (ACS) and Advanced Leader Silver (ALS) Awards in 2017 from Toastmasters International. Mrs. Deo is a member of American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) where she has served as a vice president at ASPA-Research Triangle-NC Chapter for 2016-2018 term. Mrs. Deo has presented individual practitioner professional presentation on Social Welfare Policy track in ASPA 2017 Annual Conference.

## Trivani Spotlight: Mrs. Annapurna Deo (continued)

Mrs. Annapura Deo throught her profession and social leadership has been advocating for humanity and is known as a Social Activist. Mrs. Deo heartily believes that Social Equity is the ultimate key to the Humanity for lasting Love, Peace and Unity which she visions to support through The Keshav Deo Foundation for Humanity Recently in her sixteen months of long visit to Nepal, at the occasion of Dashami Festival, 2018, Mrs. Deo has awarded three deserving women of disadvantaged family the tools for their choice of business to uplift financially by handing two commercial sewing machines and a commercial spices grinding machine. Mrs. Deo advocates for a prosperous and harmonioyus society through love, peace and unity.

Mrs. Annapurna Deo's contact email is: adeo6433@gmail.com

## **ANTA Educational Scholarship Project**

With a lot of pleasure, we would like to share that the ANTA scholarship program for top SEE students was launched this past summer. This event took place on June 27th, 2019, at the historic Judh High School, Gaur Rautahat. The event was facilitated by principal Mr Chandeshor Raut and local volunteers. In the presence of teachers, students and local dignitaries, the awards were distributed to the top SEE graduating students by Gaur Mayor, Mr. Ajaya Gupta. The 1st prize winner was Sajid Aalam with GPA: 3.8. He received Rs. 30,000. The 2nd prize winner was Rajat Chandra Jha with GPA: 3.70. He received Rs. 20,000. Both the top SEE toppers are from Judha high school; Gaur Sajid and Rajat are currently studying ten plus two in Kathmandu. They made the trip to Gaur and attended the event with their proud familes. They were very excited to receive the awards. They became instant role models for the junior students. The winning students and their familes thanked ANTA for such an inspiring award. Along with ANTA Sr. Vice President Dr. Subodh Mallik, the event was also attended by ANTA Life member Mrs. Rekha Mallik Karna (Dr. Mallik's sister). Mrs Shyamkala Mallik (Dr. Mallik's mother) sponsored the lunch for the occasion.

#### Information about the ANTA SEE award:

This scholarship award will be given to Nepali students graduating 10th grade from a government high school who is admitted to 10 +2 school. As a Model project of ANTA it will be launched Bara Parsa and Rautahat .The scholarship is designed to help and encourage the graduating high school students to seek further education. The top 2 students in each district will be identified. The student with the best SEE score will receive Rs.30,000. The student with the second best SEE score will receive Rs. 20,000. The total of \$1500 allocated for this project will come from the fundraise at the convention/excom members. Once we have successfully launched this project, we will seek sponsors for the same projects in other Anchals. Hopefully one day we will cover all the Madheshi districts.







## Visit Janakpur Project

In October, ANTA supported a major step in Madheshi tourism. We helped Codes of Nepal, the creator of Visit Janakpur digital site, with US \$2500. They utilized our financial support towards launching and running this project. We are their founding partner along with Appan TV. Here are the details sent to me from Mr Ravi Nepal, CEO of Codes of Nepal. We are very proud of this initiative which will put our Madhesh at a very distinct place in the Nepal Tourism Map.

On Oct. 28, the Mayor of Janakpur Dham Sub-metropolitan city came to Digiting Janakpur workshop and launched the website: www.visitjanakpur.com.

Visit Janakpur is part of Code for Nepal's Smart City Initiatives. ANTA is a founding partner: <a href="https://www.visitjanakpur.com/about-the-site/">https://www.visitjanakpur.com/about-the-site/</a>. A minister of Province 2 came on the last day of the workshop to award certificates to the participants. Reps of both governments thanked us for starting this project. Under Code for Nepal's leadership, we organized the workshop to train 25+ young men and women on how to blog, build a map, take a photo and video to build a digital footprint of a city and attract tourists. As a team built 542 map points, 55 plus 360-degree imageries, and 12 video sto- ries. Here's an oped about the project - ANTA is mentioned: <a href="http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/">http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/</a>.

The project is forward looking as it empowers Madhesis, provides dignity and over the long run will create jobs for people. The project will improve reputation of terai by building digital presence of Terai and by celebrating our culture, tradition and temples. Because of our digital presence, we will see more tourists which will help local businesses. This project is initiated by my organization Code for Nepal. It is leader in civic technology. Forbes recognized us as one of the most innovative groups in Asia last year. We are a group of volunteers and we create public goods that's free for everyone. For example, we created to put Nepal's data for everyone to use. Tourism is an im- portant source of income for many in Nepal. But Madhesh is not benefiting yet. We can change that by attracting more tourists and creating more jobs. Visit Janakpur does exactly that. I believe Madhesis are smart enough to build our own future - we don't have to rely on others to improve our future. India sends the highest number of tourists to Nepal compared to any other country in the world. Many of them come to Nepal for religious purposes. Many would like to go to Janakpur but can't find useful information online. Visit Janakpur would change that and also train local businesses on how to better serve tourists.

## **2019 Holi Celebrations**

#### **Greater Houston Chapter**

ANTA Greater Houston Chapter and NAH jointly celebrated Holi Festival at Himalayan Cultural Center (Nepali Mandir), Houston, Texas.





#### **ANTA GYNC Chapter**

ANTA GYNC celebrated Holi with PA Madheshi Samaj in Exton, Pennsylvania.









## 2019 Holi Celebrations (continued)

#### **Greater California Chapter**

ANTA California Chapter celebrated Holi Festival with dry colors, dhol, and dance at Cordelia Community Park in Fairfield, California.









#### **ANTA Midwest Chapter**

ANTA Midwest Chapter celebrated Holi Festival in Des Moines, IA.



## 2019 Holi Celebrations (continued)

#### **ANTA DC Chapter**

ANTA DC Chapter celebrated Holi at Pashupati-Buddha-Janaki Mandir in Washington DC.









#### ANTA Kansas-Missouri Chapter

ANTA Kansas-Missouri Chapter celebrated Holi at Hindu Temple and Cultural Center in Kansas City, MO.





## 2019 Holi Celebrations (continued)

#### **ANTA Ohio-Kentucky Chapter**

ANTA Ohio-Kentucky Chapter celebrated Holi at Mastersion Station Park in Lexington, Kentucky.



# ANTA's Representation at United Nations Plaza Meet & Greet with Hon'ble President of Nepal

ANTA had the opportunity to introduce our mission to the Hon'ble President of Nepal, Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari through Spokesperson Aprajita Jha. She describes her evening with Mrs. Bhandari as "a memorable one." Her calm demeanor, dignified personality, and humility makes her an exemplary politician and role model.



#### Bara-Parsa Wind Storm Relief Work

We should be very proud of ANTA and our members on receiving very great reception from people back in Nepal about the relief distribution in Bara-Parsa. People have mentioned our assistance as an exemplary accomplishment.

We distributed Rs. 50,000 per deceased individual to his/her nearest kin through Chief Minister of Pardesh 2 in presence of Ministers, MP's, MLA's, Chief Secretary of State, CDO, Jilla Savapati, many state officials, representatives of different political parties and journalists. Total amount Distrusted to 25 deceased person's family: Rs. 1,250,000. We also distributed 300 bags full of useful contents for the wind storm affected children.

The journey was very busy but immensely fruitful. We want to thank ANTA and our members for cooperating and making this a success! Thank you! I would also like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Founding President of ANTA, Mr. Ratan Jha. for helping in the relief efforts on the ground right after the storm hit. - Vijay Kumar Singh

## ANTA provides Rs. 50,000 to families of Bara victim

By A Stuff Reporter Karlimando, Apr. 20

Association of Nepall Territo in Americo (ANTA) has handed over a purse of 8s. 56,000 cash each to 25 families of the persons killed by the terrado in Bern detrict.

Octorial.
Organising a condolonce meeting of the Dostriat Coccidination. Committee on Friday in Kalaiya, the distinct herdquieties of Bara, the ANTA distributed the sun to the families of the victum.

"he the presence of State hief Minister Lal Belo Ra and Minister for Physical Infrastructure of the State Jinness Soual, we distributed Rs. 1.250,000 to 25 families of the persons killed by the tomado." ANTA president Vijay Singh said. According to the data

According to the data of the Stote government, altogether 2° persons were talked in the toronado on March. 21. "In the coordination with the Stote government, we will distribute the same smeant to finalize of the two deal who were not pressur yesterday," Singh said.

The ANTA had collected the amount from within

Nepolis from in the US. Single has come from the USA in order to coordinate the distribution of the critical package and amount to the variant families. Soon after the minural distance in the district the

Soon after the intural distance in the datasist, the ANTA hast distributed relief australials of notental Re. 200,000 to the affected families in coordination with Soon head over radial public soon head over radial processes to the attribute of the attribute of





## Bara-Parsa Wind Storm Relief Work (continued)









#### 100 Heroes of Madhesh Award Winners

ANTA is proud to announce the conferral of "The 100 Heroes of Madhesh" award to two of ANTA's members.

ANTA President, Mr. Vijay Kumar Singh, received the award for his exemplary community work and leadership towards the Madheshi diaspora. ANTA is extremely pleased to be receiving this recognition and acknowledgment of Vijay Sir 's relentless efforts to bond the Teraian community and be a powerful voice in the USA.

In addition, our Spokesperson and cultural coordinator, Mrs. Aprajita Jha was also chosen as one of the 100 Heroes of Madhesh and received her award in absentia for her cultural contributions to the community.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Madheshi Journalist Society Nepal and Charcha Media for their thoughtfulness in their selection of two of the ANTA executive members for the awards.





## ANTA on Interaction of Madheshis in USA with Visiting Nepali leaders

On the 14th of July, 2019, most Madheshis in the DC Metro area, along with some non-Madheshi social leaders, were gathered for the Satayanarayn Puja at ANTA president Mr. Vijay Singh's residence in Virginia to welcome two visiting leaders: **Attorney General of Pradesh 2, Mr. Dipendra Jha, and Social leader Mr. Tula Narayan Shah**. "I and my whole family were honored and grateful for visiting guests and local participants" said Mr. Singh. "We met some of our friends and relatives after a long time" said our guests.

Social leader Mr. Shah said, "We want to see you united." Mr. Singh proudly informed them of ANTA's actions for Madheshi unity. ANTA invites the leaders of Madheshi organizations in our Executive Committee meeting to express their views to make a unified voice of Madheshi Diaspora, and work together. In addition, ANTA plays active role in International Madheshi Society (IMS) to unite global Madheshis.

ANTA works together with other Nepali organizations to celebrate festivals, cultures, and help our people in the US and back home in Nepal. We respect the wishes of unity of Madheshi and Deshbasi of the people!

### Mithila Art Exhibition

In late Jun of 2018, ANTA hosted the Mithila Art Exposition & Competition in Jankapur, Neal. Around thirteen artists in the area took part in the event to showcase their expertiese and compete for cash prizes. Many of these artists heard of the event through word-of-mouth and participated of their volition, but some others came from JWDC (Jankapur Women's Development Center), one of the few centers of the kind in the area, which facilitate creative avenues for women far beneath the poverty line. The artists at the event were given around four hours to create whatever Mithila art piece they wished, and handed them in for judging at the end. All the art pieces were brought to the US at the end We applaud the artists and thank them for their efforts in keeping the culture of Mithila Art alive today. Once the pieces were brought back to the US, an exhibition was organized around a year later in July, 2019. Spokesperson Aprajita Jha organized the event with Princeton Public Library. The event was inaugrated by Chief Attorney of State 2, Dipendra Jha, and many, including the public, visited the gallery. Social activitist Mr. Tula Narayan Sah was also amongst those who admired the artworks.



an artwork from the exhibit by National Fine Art Winner, Mrs. Ranju Yadav

## Mithila Art Exhibition (continued)







## A Get-Together Event in Washington D.C.

In September of 2019, there was a formal meeting and get together party of ANTA's top leaders with the former minister and the President of the Rashtriya Janata Party of Nepal Hon'ble Sri Rajendra Mahto ji and leaders from the Ministry of Nepal Mr. Mahindra Panday ji, Mr. Vijay Suba ji and Sri Rijal ji.

This event was led by President Mr. Vijay K. Singh, DC Chapter President Mr. Anil Dwivedy, Treasurer Mr. Mukesh Karna, EC member Mr. Mohan Yadav and Advisor Mr. Dharmendra Thakur.







# Felicitation of Mrs. Meenu Karna for her Scientific Contributions

Mrs. Meenu Karna received felicitation during an event in Washington DC by the Nepalese Ambassador to the USA Mr. Arjun Karki for her exemplary contribution to the community in the field of science!



## Dr. Kaushal Kumar Jha's Humanitarian Work in Houston

ANTA is immensely proud of Dr. Kaushal K. Jha, President of the Greater Houston Chapter for his relentless assistance to a fellow Madheshi in his time of need. ANTA worked closely with the Nepalese Association of Houston, Nepalese Heritage Union and the entire Nepali of Houston who came forward to help and support Mr. Prajwal Kayastha.

## Meet & Greet with Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister Shri Upendra Yadav

ANTA welcomed Hon'ble Deputy Minister Shri Upendra Yadav ji in a meet and greet event in Princeton, New Jersey.





## मेरे जीवन साथी

शनिवार के एक सुबह ,मैं लिफाफे से एक चिट्ठी निकालकर पढ़ने लगा था, और मेरी पत्नी , एक मेरे लिए और एक अपने लिए चाय का प्याला टेबुल पर रखकर सोफा पर मेरे साथ बैठ गयी । मैंने चिट्ठी पढ़कर बोला -वो ! मेरे जीवन साथी तुम आज-कल्ह मुझसे नाराज चल रही हो । मेरी पत्नी बोली -आप को ऐसा क्यों लग रहा है ? मैंने जवाब दिया -मैं तुम्हे नहीं अपने जीवन साथी की बात कर रहा हूँ । पत्नी बोली -मैं नहीं तो वो कौन है ?

मैंने अपने जीवनसाथी के बारे में अपनी पत्नी से कहा --मेरा जीवनसाथी मेरे रक्त के कण -कण में है ,मेरे ह्रदय गित में है ,मेरे आँखों की रोशनी में है ,और शरीर की शिक्त का नियंत्रक है | वह चिठ्ठी लिखवाकर हरेक तीन -तीन महीने पर मेरे बारे में कहलवाती रहती है | कभी शिकायत करती है -आप का नजर मेरे प्रित कमजोर हो गया है ,तो कभी कहती है की आपके दिल का धरकन मेरे प्रित बढ़ गया है | वह कहती है ,यदि आप इन चीजों पर ध्यान नहीं देंगे तो मुझे मजबूरन आपको इस घर से बाहर ले जाना पड़ेगा | वह मुझे क्या खाना और क्या नहीं खाना है

इसका ध्यान बहुत रखती है । उसका कहना है -मैं आपके साथ चौबीस घंटे रहती हूँ, और जीवन के अंतिम यात्रा में भी मैं ही रहूंगी । मैंने अपनी श्रीमती से पूछा -प्रिये! अब बतलायो कौन है मेरा जीवनसाथी?

तुम या वो ?श्रीमती शंका और भावुक मन से बोली -अब आप ही बताइये वो कौन है जो आपको मुझसे प्यारी है ?वो और कोई नहीं बल्कि मेरी चीनी की बीमारी है- मैंने जवाब दिया |यह सुनकर मेरी श्रीमती ने मेरा हाथ अपने हाथ में रखकर , और विश्वास के साथ प्यार भरी नजर से मेरे ओर देखकर बोली -यही संसार की रीती है |

विजय कुमार सिंह अध्यक्ष ,ANTA

## Our Society and ANTA

ANTA is the oldest organizat on of Madheshis outside of Nepal. It connects Madeshis and the Madheshi institutions while working together with other Nepali organizations. Our objectives are: to establish Madheshi identity, maintain the essence of Madheshi culture, promote our society, help our people, strengthen the Madheshi voice, and much more. It is great to remember our roots, however we should focus on our community here in USA. If an organization is not accomplishing its goal, it means it is not being handled properly.

Just as in any team sport, one individual or group of players cannot be solely relied upon for success, but rather each and every member of the team has to contribute in order for the team to succeed. Our first priority should always go towards our family, and our job/business which supports our livelihood. After getting our priorities in order, if we have some time, we can dedicate ourselves towards serving our community. The ANTA Team is working tirelessly to achieve our organization's goal. The results are in front of everyone. To lead a community means to accept the challenge—be stable in any situation and with any nature (calm or rough) of the people of the society.

Our community in the USA is growing, but unfortunately slowly parting away as well. Some of the causes for this misfortune could be castism, personal egos, selfishness, idealogy and more. Such division in our society makes our strength and voice weaker. We are in the primary stage; we gather in parks, personal residences, and in hotels. We don't have any permanent establishment.

Even though the whole Nepali community is not entirely united, we should be proud for our Nepali unity during occasions such as: the project of building Nepali temple, Nepali Community Center, opening of a Nepali bank and some more. Recently, in Virginia, the Nepali community collected 25 Lakhs (more than 10 Lakhs in cash) for the construction of the Nepali Community Center. I noticed that very few Madheshis contributed towards this great cause. In such establishments, we Madheshis can join as Nepalis, but our voices will not be counted or heard UNLESS we unite and show strength in numbers.

With UNITY, Madheshis can preserve our identity and culture for future generations while helping our Madheshi brethren!

Sincerely, Vijay Kumar Singh President ANTA

## **ANTA General Convention, 2019**

The Association of Nepali Teraian in America (ANTA) is pleased to notify you of a successful completion of the 5th General Convention that was held on Nov 16, 2019 in Des Moines, Iowa.

The convention was graced by the presence and full attendance of Hon'ble Chief Minister Mr Lalbabu Raut, Mr Dipendra Jha, Attorney General and Mr Samim Miya Ansari, President of Nepal Muslim Commission.

Prof Tribhuban Choudhary was honored with the ANTA Life-time Achievement award.

The ANTA Election Committee announced the results of the election - the new Executive Committee, which will be effective from Jan 1, 2020 was solemnized through an oath ceremony. We wish all the best to the newly elected president, Aprajita Jha, and her team.



## **ANTA General Convention, 2019**









#### The Book

## Arpan K. Shah, Second Grade Campbellsville Elementary School, KY



"Hello, Sila." Said Lim.

"Do you want to read a book?" Sila asked. "Yes!" Shouted Lim.

"I have the perfect book for us to read." Sila replied

"I got the book! Its called The Book." Said Sila.

"Cool. Can I read The Book?" Said Lim.

"Yes." Sila answered.

"Ok." said Lim.

Suddenly, Sila and Lim were transported inside The Book!

"Where are we?" asked Lim

"I don't know." Sila said

"Maybe if we figure how to close the book, we will get out." Lim suggested. "Ok! Lets try it out!" Sila said excitedly.

"Ughhhhhh." Lim and Sila both grunted and worked hard to pull the pages of the book together.

Eventually they managed to close the book and all of a sudden, they were transported back to their world!

"We should throw this book away." Lim said.

"Yeah, I think you're right." Sila said.

Then they both threw the book in the Trash.



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