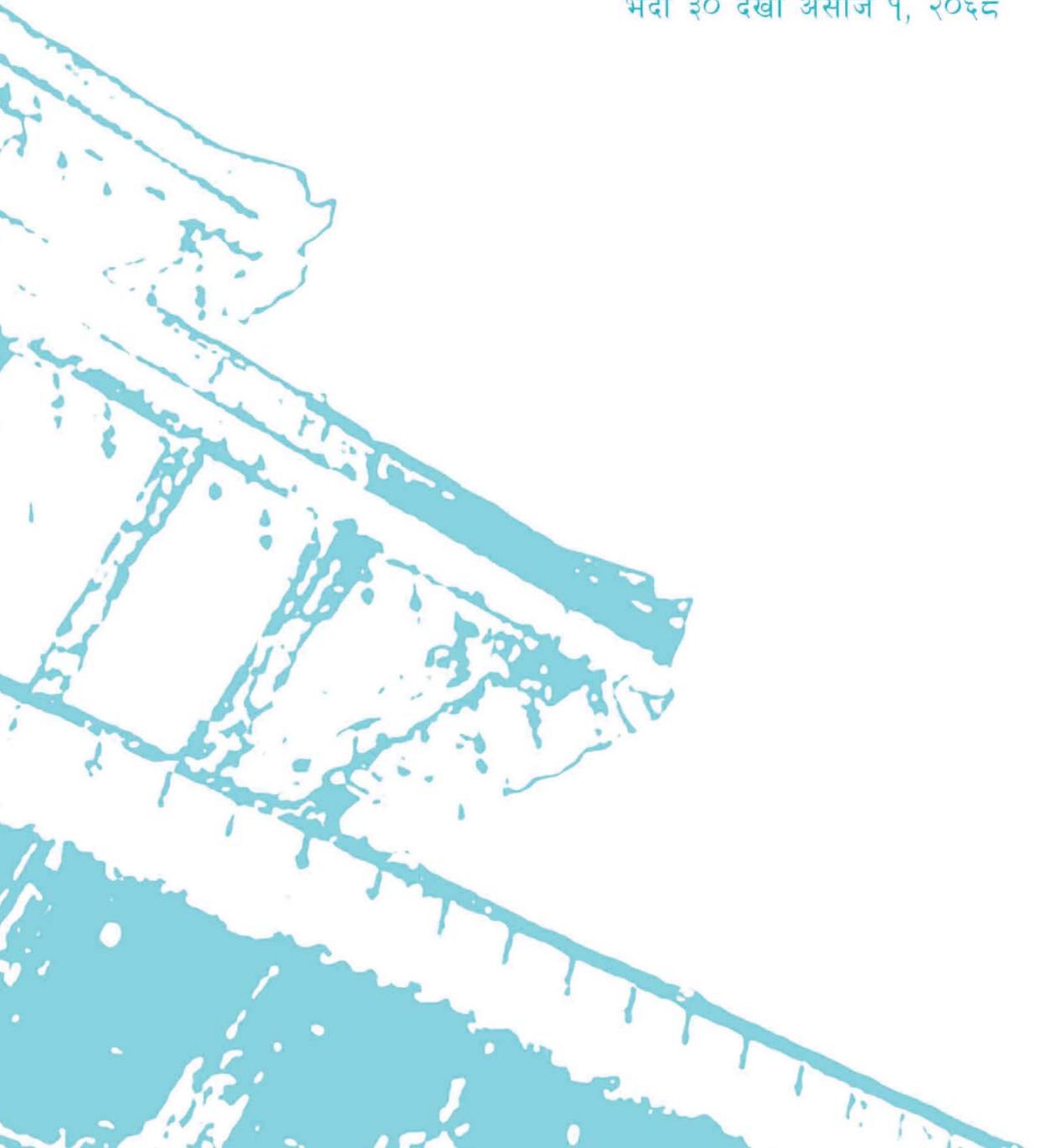




# KATHMANDU LITERARY JATRA

**16 TO 18 SEPTEMBER 2011**

भदौ ३० देखी असोज १, २०६८



“Creativity is just connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do it, they just saw something. It seemed obvious to them after a while. That's because they were able to connect experiences they've had and synthesize new things. And the reason they were able to do that was that they've had more experiences or they have thought more about their experiences than other people.”

- Steve Jobs



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FORUM

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Singha Bahadur Basnet, Chairman, Yeti Travels

Sujan Chitrakar, Artist, and Director of the Kathmandu University Centre for Art and Design

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## **Festival Chair**

Sujeev Shakya, President, Nepal Economic Forum

---

## **Festival Advisor**

Namita Gokhale, Author, and Co-Founder of the Jaipur Literature Festival

---

## **Program Advisors**

Manjushree Thapa, Author

Sanjeev Uprety, Author, and Professor of English at Tribhuvan University

Rabi Thapa, Author

---

## **Executive Team**

Suvani Singh, Festival Director

Pranab Man Singh, Program Coordinator

Sristi Bhattarai, Events Coordinator

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Nayan Pokhrel Sindhuliya

## **Photographer**

Sworup Ranjit

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Phurba Sherpa

Rashmi Sheila

Rupa Maharjan

Santosh Dhakal

Sarina Khanal

Sunny Mahat

Timila Dhakwa

Ujjwala Maharjan

Weena Pun

---

**Culture is the widening of  
the mind and of the spirit.**

**- Jawaharlal Nehru**



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**Nepal**

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**सत्यमेव जयते**

## Beyond 3 Ms

Conversations about Nepal are usually limited to the 3 Ms: Mountains, Maoists, and the Massacre. By comparison, Nepali art and literature are neglected in the international arena. Why not have an event to bring the spirit of Nepal's innumerable festivals to the wider world?

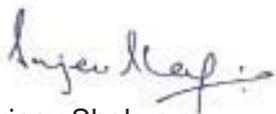
The Kathmandu Literary Jatra is an opportunity to showcase Nepal's growing population of readers and writers. After being to the Jaipur Literary Festival for several years, the idea of a literary festival in Nepal did not seem so far-fetched. To the end of making this idea a reality, the Jatra has been extremely fortunate to have Namita Gokhale as its Festival Advisor.

The importance of this festival is not only to bring in international writers to Nepal, but also to have sessions with Nepali writers on pertinent cross-cutting issues. It is an opportunity for Nepali writers to share a platform with international writers. Nepal's young and information-hungry population has few opportunities to participate in intellectual discourses. This Jatra will provide many such openings. The Jatra is also a quest to balance out the excessive number of glamour-focused events that dot the annual calendar with something a little more challenging.

Kai Bird, a Pulitzer Prize winner who spent four years in Nepal and wrote a book here, inspired this Jatra. Manjushree Thapa, Sanjeev Uprety and Rabi Thapa contributed to the programming and Suvani Singh's leadership as Festival Director made this Jatra possible. Pranab Man Singh and Sristi Bhattarai along with many volunteers have helped in ensuring the Jatra's success.

Events like the Jatra would never get far without the support of well wishers and sponsors. I would like to mention in particular the enthusiasm of Apoorva Srivastava, First Secretary of the Indian Embassy, for giving us the assurance of a seed fund to make this happen. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude towards all the sponsors that have supported us financially and otherwise.

We anticipate your feedback and continued support to make the Kathmandu Literary Jatra a permanent fixture in Nepal's cultural calendar.



Sujeev Shakya

Festival Chair

Kathmandu Literary Jatra



Bob Holman is a poet, multimedia producer, poetry activist and performance poetry professor who lives in New York City. Currently, he teaches “Exploding Text: Poetry in Performance” at Columbia University and is the founder and proprietor of the Bowery Poetry Club. He recently co-founded the Endangered Language Alliance with a special interest in the poetry of endangered languages. He visited Nepal with the US Embassy funded Iowa International Writers Program and worked with young Nepali poets.



<http://nepal.usembassy.gov>

## Sharing words, sharing ideas

King Pratap Malla, the 17<sup>th</sup> century patron of the arts, left behind a stone inscribed in fifteen different languages. These inscriptions acknowledge our multi-lingual heritage. Today, over a hundred different languages are spoken in Nepal. Many will vanish within a generation. Many more are fighting for a voice. However, survival alone does not breathe life into a language. A language comes alive when people use it to understand, translate, and redefine their worlds.

Historically, Nepali has been the language of a feudal ruling class. Today, the hold of Nepali over the state apparatus is weakening, and English is rising as the language of opportunity and global access. However, is it acceptable that we abandon our mother tongues?

A given language's literature is the record of its evolution and that of the people that speak it. Such a literature is a repository of meanings unique to that specific language. The more languages through which you see the world, the wider the world is for you. The more you appreciate other languages, the more you understand the diverse heritage that defines each person you meet.

Accepting our diversity of languages is the only way to create a future Nepal that allows its people their distinct identities. A tolerant and thriving society needs languages to speak to each other so that we may know ourselves better, so that we may know our neighbours better.

We don't believe languages in Nepal are communicating right now. So what are we doing about it? We are charting a path towards a celebration of the diversity within our linguistic heritage. Our sponsors and partners understand the value of what we are trying to achieve. No amount of thanks will fully express our gratitude towards every person and institution that has supported this vision. We believe you will continue to find the value of the Kathmandu Literary Jatra worthy of your patronage over the coming years.

We invite you to this celebration!

Thank you,



Suvani Singh

Festival Director

Kathmandu Literary Jatra

We travel, some of us forever, to  
seek other states, other lives,  
other  
souls.

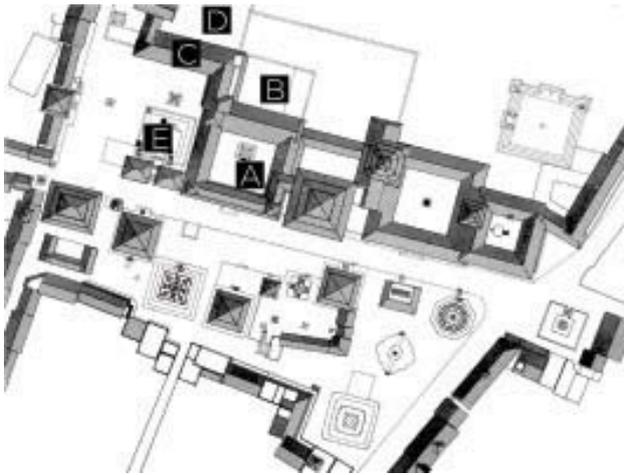
~Anaïs Nin



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## Venue



- A: Ruslan Chowk
- B: Patan Museum Inner Courtyard
- C: NMB Hall
- D: Adarsha Kanya Niketan Grounds
- E: Manga Hiti

### Places to Eat and Drink

**Patan Museum Café:** Inside the Jatra venue, a lovely restaurant run by Summit Hotel.

**Third World:** Opposite Patan Museum, serves wholesome Nepali and Newari food.

**Honacha:** A local joint right next to Third World, for authentic Newari fast food.

**Ambience Café:** A restaurant with a nice “ambience” right next to Adarsha Kanya Niketan School, the location of the NMB Hall.

**Swatha Kiosk:** A refreshing tea shop with a variety of Nepali teas two minutes walk north of the venue.

### Bookshops

**Saraswati Bookshop:** On the main street in Pulchowk opposite the Institute of Engineering, visit for a wide range of books.

**Patan Bookshop:** Right next to Patan Dhoka, with Dhokaima Café attached to it.

**Quixote’s Cove:** In Jawalakhel, at the beginning of Restaurant Lane.

The history of mankind  
is the instant  
between two strides  
taken by a traveller.

~Franz Kafka

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SINCE 1966

## Getting to the Venue

A range of public transport options are available, from Safa Tempos that drive right up to Mangal Bazaar and bus services that will drop you off at either Patan Dhoka, Pulchowk or Lagankhel. Ask anyone in the general vicinity where Durbar Square is.



## Parking

Parking is available in Mangal Bazaar just outside the venue. Other parking areas include the parking lot outside the Lalitpur Metropolitan Office and around the Patan Dhoka Bus Park.

We recommend you walk to the venue from the closest parking spot.

**Exile, jail, exile again; life underground and life as the Prime Minister of his people: only Nelson Mandela among modern statesmen could so completely have known the highs and the lows of politics... politics' loss has been literature's gain."**

**- Ramchandra Guha on B. P. Koirala**



**B. P. Koirala India-Nepal Foundation**

**[www.indianembassy.org.np/bpkf](http://www.indianembassy.org.np/bpkf)**

# SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

4:00 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## प्रजातन्त्रको युगमा नेपाली साहित्य

गोपाल अशक, नारायण ढकाल, शारदा शर्मा र संजीव उप्रेती

### Nepali Literature in the Age of Democracy

GOPAL ASHKA, NARAYAN DHAKAL, SHARADA SHARMA AND SANJEEV UPRETY

४६ सालमा भएको बहुदलीय प्रजातन्त्रको पुनर्स्थापनासँगै नेपालमा सञ्चार र साहित्य क्षेत्रले लामो फड्को माच्यो । सयौं वर्षसम्म एकतन्त्रीय शासनद्वारा दबाइएका आवाजहरूले पहिलोपटक साहित्य सिर्जनाको फाँटमा स्वतन्त्र पहुँच पाए । तर के नेपाली प्रकाशकहरू यस अवसरको सदुपयोग गर्न सफल भएका छन् ? के नेपाली लेखकहरूले यो स्वतन्त्र साहित्याकाशको मूल्य उठाउन सफल भएका छन् ? के यसबाट नेपाली साहित्यको उन्नति भएको छ ? यस सत्रमा ४६ सालपछिका साहित्यिक रचनाका गुणात्मक विश्लेषण गरिनेछ । गोपाल अशक, नारायण ढकाल र शारदा शर्माबीच हुने छलफल संजीव उप्रेतीले सञ्चालन गर्नेछन् ।

When democracy was restored in Nepal following the 1990 People's Movement, Nepal witnessed a flourishing of media and literature. For the first time in Nepali history, voices suppressed under centuries of totalitarian rule were able to access an uncensored creative space. But has the Nepali publishing industry capitalized on this? Have Nepali writers successfully utilized this space? Has Nepali literature seen major improvements? Taking a wider view, has Nepali democracy given a voice to the voiceless? This session will reflect on the quality of literary works that have been produced in Nepal since 1990. Sanjeev Uprety will facilitate a conversation between Gopal Ashka, Narayan Dhakal and Sharada Sharma.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Gopal Ashka

Gopal Ashka is a writer, poet and translator. He has written several epics, ghazal and song collections, novels, and critical works in Bhojpuri, Nepali, and Hindi. His publications include the Bhojpuri epic *Dhandhor* and Nepali ghazal epic *Premanter*. He has also translated Dhruba Chandra Gautam's *Alikhit* and several of Balkrishna Sama's plays from Nepali to Bhojpuri.

#### Narayan Dhakal

Narayan Dhakal is the author of critically acclaimed novels *Pretkalpa* and *Durviksha*. He has also written a number of short stories and literary essays.

#### Sanjeev Uprety

Sanjeev Uprety is a professor at the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. His writing appears regularly in newspapers and magazines. He is the author of the critically acclaimed novel, *Ghanchakkar*, and a collection of critical essays, *Siddhanta ka Kura*.

#### Sharada Sharma

Sharada Sharma is a writer. She has published three collections of poetry, a collection of short stories and several books of essays. Her most recent publication is a travelogue titled *Bhainphool ko Desh*. She currently writes for *Kantipur*, a Nepali-language daily based in Kathmandu.

# SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

4:00 PM, NMB HALL

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH, NEPALI

## Writing and Change

GOPAL THAKUR, RABINDRA MISHRA, SUJEEV SHAKYA AND SARAD PRADHAN

### लेखन र परिवर्तन

गोपाल ठाकुर, रविन्द्र मिश्र, सुजीव शाक्य र शरद प्रधान

All writing is done with the hope that someone else will read what is written and be influenced by it. Our education systems are founded on the fundamental belief that people can better themselves through education and learning. Reading is a critical means through which one learns about new ideas and concepts. But does it really affect how we think, and can reading bring about paradigm shifts? Can something be written to change the way people behave, think, and act? Sarad Pradhan will moderate a discussion between Gopal Thakur, Rabindra Mishra and Sujeev Shakya.

सबै लेखनको मूल तात्पर्य लेखिएको कृति अरूले पढेर त्यसबाट केही हदसम्म प्रभावित होउन् भन्ने नै हो । शिक्षा र सिकाइबाट व्यक्तिको पूर्ण बौद्धिक विकास हुनसक्छ भन्ने विश्वास नै हाम्रो शैक्षिक प्रणालीको आधार हो । पढाइ एक यस्तो महत्वपूर्ण माध्यम हो जसबाट हामी नयाँ विचार र सिद्धान्तहरूसँग परिचित हुन्छौं । के साहित्यको पठनले साँच्चै नै हाम्रो सोचाइमा ठोस परिवर्तन ल्याउँछ ? के मानिसहरूको सोच, बानीब्यहोरा र क्रियाकलापहरू नै परिवर्तन गर्नसक्ने लेखनको सिर्जना गर्न सम्भव छ ? शरद प्रधानले सञ्चालन गर्ने छलफलमा गोपाल ठाकुर, रविन्द्र मिश्र र सुजीव शाक्यले भाग लिनेछन् ।

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Gopal Thakur

Gopal Thakur is a Constituent Assembly member for the CPN-UML party. He has been the President of the Language and Folklore Forum Nepal and the Nepal Bhojpuri Academy, the General Secretary of the Progressive Writers Association, and a senior editor for Radio Nepal.

#### Rabindra Mishra

Rabindra Mishra is a writer and journalist based in Kathmandu. He is the Head of the BBC Nepali Service. He is the author of the bestselling *Bhumadhyarekha: Arthahinta Bhitra Artha Khojda*, a collection of essays on Nepali politics and society. He is also the Founder President of the largest charitable network of Nepalis, the HELP NEPAL Network.

#### Sarad Pradhan

Sarad Pradhan is the media consultant for Nepal Tourism Board and a regular contributor to newspapers and magazines. He writes on tourism, social issues and literature.

#### Sujeev Shakya

Sujeev Shakya is the author of the bestselling *Unleashing Nepal – Past, Present and Future of the Economy*. He wrote a popular column in the weekly *Nepali Times* under the pen name Arthabeed from 2001 to 2011. He chairs both the Nepal Economic Forum and Southasia Trust, the publisher of *Himal Southasian*. He works in Kathmandu as the CEO of beed, a consulting and advisory firm.

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2011**

**5:00 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

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DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

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## Uncovering the Truth

TARUN TEJPAL IN CONVERSATION WITH ANAGHA NEELAKANTAN

### सत्यसम्मको विकट यात्रा

तरुण तेजपाल र अनाघा नीलकण्ठन वार्तालापमा

Writer, journalist and publisher Tarun Tejpal has had a long and illustrious career that has seen *BusinessWeek* rank him as one of the 50 most powerful people in India. In this session, Anagha Neelakantan will talk to Tarun Tejpal about his beliefs, his work as a journalist, the sensation behind *Tehelka* and his more intimate and reflective times as a writer.

लेखन तथा पत्रकारितामा ख्याती कमाएका तरुण तेजपाललाई बिजनेसवीकले भारतका ५० शक्तिशाली व्यक्तिको सूचीमा राखेको थियो । यस सत्रमा अनाघा नीलकण्ठन तरुण तेजपालसँग उनका विचार, पत्रकारिताको अनुभव, तहल्का पत्रिकाको सनसनीखेज इतिहास तथा लेखकका रूपमा उनको व्यक्तिगत जीवन र भावनाका बारेमा वार्तालाप गर्नेछिन् ।

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Anagha Neelakantan

Anagha Neelakantan has previously worked as a journalist and with the United Nations .

#### Tarun Tejpal

Tarun Tejpal has worked as a publisher and journalist for over two decades. He made his debut as a novelist in 2006 with the publication of *The Alchemy of Desire*, which won Le Prix Mille Pages. His second novel, *The Story of My Assassins*, was published in 2010. His most recent novel, *The Valley of Masks*, was released in August this year.

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2011**

**5:00 PM, NMB HALL**

**Presented by  
Rotary Club of Yala**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH**

## Getting Things Done

KARNA SAKYA INTRODUCED BY PRAFULLA MAN SINGH PRADHAN

### कार्य सफलताका बारेमा

कर्ण शाक्य, प्रस्तोता : प्रफुल्लमान सिंह प्रधान

Nepal is witnessing a momentous change, within which context it is important that things get done. While discussions, decisions, and plans need to precede action, the greatest challenge is always in the implementation. Introduced by Prafulla Man Singh Pradhan, Karna Sakya will share his thoughts on how Nepalis can get things done and achieve their goals.

ऐतिहासिक परिवर्तनहरूबीचमा उभिएको नेपालको समुन्नतिका लागि धेरै काम सफल हुन जरुरी छ । एकातिर छलफल, निर्णय र योजना गर्ने इकाइहरूबीच सामाज्यस्य आवश्यक छ भने अर्कोतिर कार्यान्वयन पक्ष सवैभन्दा ठूलो चुनौती रहनेगरेको छ । कर्ण शाक्यले नेपाली परिवेशमा कसरी विविध परियोजनाहरूको सफल कार्यान्वयन गर्न सकिन्छ भन्ने विषयमा चर्चा गर्नेछन् । उनलाई प्रफुल्लमान सिंह प्रधानले प्रस्तुत गर्नेछन् ।

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Prafulla Man Singh Pradhan

Prafulla Man Singh Pradhan is the president of the Rotary Club of Yala. He works at the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as Regional Gender and Capacity Building Advisor.

#### Karna Sakya

Karna Sakya is a tourism entrepreneur, conservationist, and writer. He is the author of *Paradise in our Backyard*, and the bestselling Nepali books *Soch*, *Khoj*, and *Ma Sakchu*.



For my part,  
I travel not to  
go  
anywhere,  
but to go.

I travel for  
travel's sake.

The great  
affair  
is to move.

-Robert  
Louis  
Stevenson

Yeti Group of Companies



**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**10:00 AM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

## **Narratives as a Window to History**

PATRICK FRENCH , WILLIAM DALRYMPLE AND ADITYA ADHIKARI

कथानक: इतिहासको आँखीभ्याल

प्याट्रिक फ्रेन्च, विलियम डालरिम्पल र आदित्य अधिकारी

The narratives through which we learn history define how we understand ourselves and the societies we live in. They are integral to shaping our worldviews and defining our relationship with society. The historian, biographer, and historical novelist, in writing about the past, are thus important in shaping our future. This session will discuss the importance of narrative and its role in the expression and interpretation of history. Aditya Adhikari will moderate a discussion between Patrick French and William Dalrymple.

इतिहास सिकाउने कथानकहरूले हाम्रो व्यक्तित्व र समाजको स्वरूप निर्धारण गर्छन् । हाम्रो संसारप्रतिको दृष्टिकोण विकास गर्न र सामाजिक सम्बन्धबोध गराउन कथानकहरूले महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका खेल्ने गर्छन् । इतिहासकार, जीवनीकार र ऐतिहासिक उपन्यासका लेखकहरूले विगतका बारेमा लेख्दालेख्दै हाम्रो भविष्यलाई डोहोर्न्याइरहेका हुन्छन् । यस सत्रमा कथानकको सान्दर्भिकता र इतिहासको प्रस्तुति तथा व्याख्यानमा कथानकले खेल्ने भूमिकाका बारेमा प्याट्रिक फ्रेन्च र विलियम डालरिम्पल बीच छलफल हुनेछ । आदित्य अधिकारीले छलफलको सञ्चालन गर्नेछन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Aditya Adhikari**

Aditya Adhikari used to edit the opinion page of *The Kathmandu Post*, an English-language daily based in Kathmandu. He now writes on Nepali politics.

#### **Patrick French**

Patrick French is the award-winning author of the acclaimed biography of V.S. Naipaul, *The World Is What It Is*. French is also the author of *Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer*; *Liberty or Death: India's Journey to Independence and Division*; *Tibet, Tibet: A Personal History of a Lost Land*, and most recently, *India: A Portrait*.

#### **William Dalrymple**

William Dalrymple is an award-winning historian and travel writer. He is the author of *White Mughals*, which won the Wolfson Prize for History, as well as seven other books. His latest work is the critically acclaimed travel narrative *Nine Lives: In Search of the Sacred in Modern India*, which won the 2010 Asia House Award for Asian Literature.

# SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

10:00 AM, NMB HALL

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## नारीत्व र लेखन

अन्विका गिरी, ज्ञानु पाण्डे, मोमिला र संजीव उप्रेती

### Being a Woman, Becoming a Writer

ANBIKA GIRI, GYANU PANDEY, MOMILA AND SANJEEV UPRETY

महिला अधिकार आन्दोलनले नेपाली महिलाको दुरवस्थाका बारेमा जनचेतना फैलाउन सफल भएपनि महिलाहरूले विभिन्न क्षेत्रमा भोग्नुपर्ने लैङ्गिक विभेदका घटना अबै सर्वव्यापी छन् । नेपाली साहित्यको फाँटमा पनि महिलाहरूको उपस्थिति न्यून रहँदैआएको छ । उत्कृष्ट साहित्यिक कृतिहरू सिर्जना गरिरहँदा पनि नारी लेखक पुरुष समकक्षीका दाँजोमा पिछडिएका देखिन्छन् । नेपाली साहित्य क्षेत्रमा नारी स्रष्टाहरूले कस्ता चुनौतीको सामना गर्नुपर्छ ? के नेपाली समाजमा निसंकोच आफ्ना निजी अनुभवलाई सार्वजनिक गर्न खोज्ने महिलाका लागि अड्चनहरू अन्तर्निहित छन् ? संजीव उप्रेतीले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस सत्रमा नेपाली साहित्यमा नारीहरूको उपस्थिति र समाजमा यसको महत्वको बारेमा ज्ञानु पाण्डे, अन्विका गिरी र मोमिलाबीच वार्तालाप हुनेछ ।

While the women's rights movement has raised awareness of the plight of women in Nepal, Nepali women still face considerable gender-based discrimination. Women have produced some brilliant literary works, but their writings remain marginalized compared to those of their male counterparts. What are the challenges that a woman writer faces in Nepali society? Are there inherent barriers in Nepali society against female thinkers who write with honesty and dare to present the private in public? In this session, Sanjeev Uprety will hold a conversation with Anbika Giri, Gyanu Pandey and Momila on women in Nepali literature as a reflection of their role in society.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Anbika Giri

Anbika Giri is the author of *Communist*, a collection of short stories. She is a feature writer for a number of media publications.

#### Gyanu Pandey

Gyanu Pandey is a scholar, critic, poet, and journalist. She is a founding member of the women's literary group Gunjan and an executive member of the Nepali Writers' Forum. Her publications include a book-length study of B.P. Koirala's writings, and her book *Nepali Upanyaas Ma Laingikata* is to be released soon.

#### Momila Joshi

Momila Joshi is a Nepali poet and essayist. She is a winner of the Padmakanya Award and the Nepal Academy Award for poetry. She is the author of numerous books including *Painyu Phulna Thalepachhi*, *Neelo Neelo Aakash ra Dui Thopa Aansu*, and *Ishwor Ko Adalatma Outsiderko Bayan*.

#### Sanjeev Uprety

Sanjeev Uprety is a professor at the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. His writing appears regularly in newspapers and magazines. He is the author of the critically acclaimed novel, *Ghanchakkar*, and a collection of critical essays, *Siddhanta ka Kura*.

# SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

11:00 AM, MUSEUM COURTYARD

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## नेपालका भाषा : एक पुनर्जागरण ?

अमृत योजन तामाङ्ग, धिरेन्द्र प्रेमर्षी, गोपाल ठाकुर, सुलोचना मानन्धर र युग पाठक

### Languages of Nepal: A New Renaissance?

AMRIT YONJAN TAMANG, DHIRENDRA PREMARSHI, GOPAL THAKUR,  
SULOCHANA MANANDHAR AND YUG PATHAK

भाषिक विविधताको धनी नेपालमा सयभन्दा धेरै भाषा बोलिन्छन् । तर यीमध्ये धेरै भाषा पहिले एकतन्त्रीय राणा शासनकाल र पछि पञ्चायतकालमा नेपाली भाषाको एकलौटी तानाशाहीको सिकार भएका छन् । नेपाली भाषा साम्राज्यको पेलाइमा परेका यी भाषाका आफ्नै मौलिक साहित्यिक इतिहास र परम्परा छन् । ४६ सालको जनआन्दोलनपछि मात्र यी भाषाहरू नेपाली मूलधारमा प्रवेश गरेका हुन् । के नेपाली साम्राज्यवादी भाषा हो ? के नेपालका अरू भाषाको साँच्चै पुनर्जागरण हुन लागेको हो ? अमृत योजन तामाङ्ग, धिरेन्द्र प्रेमर्षी, गोपाल ठाकुर र सुलोचना मानन्धर बीच हुने छलफलमा यिनै प्रश्नहरू केलाइनेछन् । युग पाठकले यस सत्रको सञ्चालन गर्नेछन् ।

Nepal is a diverse country with over 100 distinct languages. However, these languages have long been silent, first under the totalitarian Rana regime and then under the Panchayat regime. Many of these languages have a strong literary tradition that suffered under the hegemony of the Nepali language. It is only after the 1990 People's Movement that these languages started to rediscover their voices. This session asks whether Nepali is an imperial language and if the languages of Nepal can envision a renaissance. Facilitated by Yug Pathak, the session will feature Amrit Yonjan Tamang, Dhirendra Premarshi, Gopal Thakur and Sulochana Manandhar.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Amrit Yonjan Tamang

Amrit Yonjan Tamang is a linguist who has written extensively on the languages, multilingual education and linguistic human rights of Nepal. He specializes in Tamang language and literature on which he has over 20 publications. He was the National Technical Advisor (2007-2009) on Multilingual Education Program at the Ministry of Education.

#### Dhirendra Premarshi

Dhirendra Premarshi is a poet and writer who writes in both Nepali and Maithili. He has published more than half a dozen books of fiction and poetry. He has also written and composed numerous songs in Nepali and Maithili.

#### Gopal Thakur

Gopal Thakur is a Constituent Assembly member for the CPN-UML party. He has been the President of the Language and Folklore Forum, Nepal, and the Nepal Bhojpuri Academy, the General Secretary of the Progressive Writers Association, and a senior editor for Radio Nepal.

#### Sulochana Manandhar

Sulochana Manandhar is a writer and filmmaker. One of her films was nominated for the International Zebra Poetry Film Festival 2004 in Germany. Her publications include *Anubhuti ka Thopa Haru*, a book of poems; *Jhyalkhana*, a collection of Newari short stories; *Itihas ka Jiuda Pana*, a collection of essays; and *Tejoshi*, a memoir. She has been associated with Nepal Academy, Madan Puraskar Guthi, and Gunjan, a women's literary foundation.

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#### Yug Pathak

Yug Pathak is a writer and journalist. His first novel *Urgen ko Ghoda* charts the Maoist insurgency from the perspective of the ethnic Tamang community.

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**11:00 AM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH**

## **The Power of Social Media**

ANIL CHITRAKAR INTRODUCED BY NAYAN POKHREL SINDHULIYA

### **सामाजिक संचारमाध्यमको शक्ति**

अनिल चित्रकार, प्रस्तोता : नयन पोखरेल सिन्धुलीय

Social media has proven to be a unique force of global change. Twitter, Facebook, WikiLeaks and YouTube have become major sources of news and channels through which change is brought about. From the 2006 People's Movement to the Arab Spring and more recently the Nepal Unites Movement, the ability to translate virtual world discussions and decisions into the real world is proven. In this sense, the power of social media in mobilizing people for a common cause is unquestioned. Introduced by Nayan Pokhrel Sindhuliya, Ashoka Fellow and social entrepreneur Anil Chitrakar will talk about the power of social media in tapping into latent frustration and converting it into positive synergy.

संसारभर सामाजिक संचारका माध्यमलाई परिवर्तनको नौलो मौलिक हतियारका रूपमा हेरिँदैछ । फेसबुक, ट्विटर, विकीलिक्स र युट्युव समाचारका नयाँ स्रोतका रूपमा विकास हुनुका साथै सामाजिक संगठनका माध्यम बनेका छन् । सन् २००६ को जनआन्दोलनदेखि गत वर्ष अरब देशहरूमा आएको प्रजातान्त्रिक लहर र नेपालमा भर्खरै मात्र सुरु भएको “नेपाल युनाइट्स” अभियानले ससाना कोठाभित्रका कम्प्युटर प्रयोगकर्ताबीचको छलफलबाट पनि ठूलाठूला परिणामहरू आउनसक्छन् भन्ने प्रमाणित गरेका छन् । अतः साभ्ना सामाजिक लक्ष्यका लागि मानिसहरूलाई एकीकृत र संगठित गराउने सामाजिक संजालको क्षमतामा दुई मत छैन । अशोका फेलो र सामाजिक चिन्तक अनिल चित्रकारले सामाजिक माध्यमको प्रयोग गरेर नकारात्मक सोचहरूलाई कसरी सकारात्मक अभियानमा ढाल्न सकिन्छ भन्ने विषयमा चर्चा गर्नेछन् । उनलाई नयन पोखरेल सिन्धुलीयले प्रस्तुत गर्नेछन्।

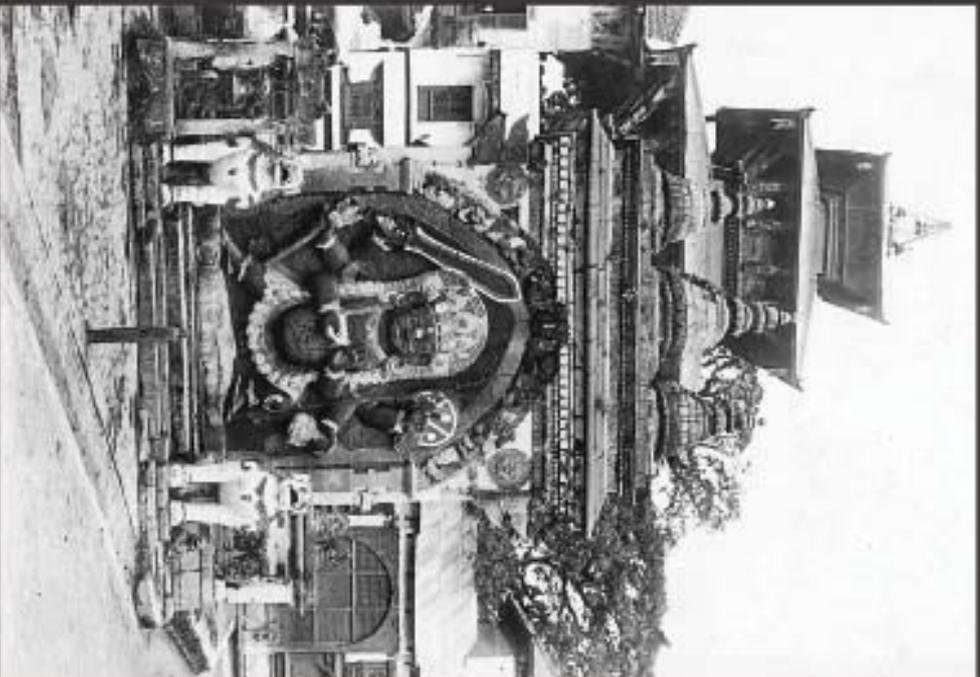
### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Anil Chitrakar**

Anil Chitrakar is an Ashoka Fellow and a social entrepreneur. He writes regularly on heritage and the environment.

#### **Nayan Pokhrel Sindhuliya**

Nayan Pokhrel Sindhuliya is a student of international political economy, a poet and a translator.



1950

“We shape our  
buildings;  
thereafter,  
our  
buildings  
shape us.”

Winston Churchill



2005



“...both a luxury hotel and a cultural restoration project...  
A tribute to the Architectural and Cultural heritage”  
Condé Nast Traveller, 2010



The Dwarika's Hotel Kathmandu  
A tribute to the Architectural and



Battisputali, Kathmandu, Nepal

[www.dwarikas.com](http://www.dwarikas.com)

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**12:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

## **Ashoka Maurya and his Legacy**

NAYANJOT LAHIRI INTRODUCED BY ROHIT RANJITKAR

### **अशोक मौर्यको प्रभाव**

नयनजोत लहिरी, प्रस्तोता : रोहित रञ्जितकार

Ashoka Maurya and the empire he constructed left a lasting impression on the history of South Asia. His journey from the bloody war for Kalinga to his conversion to Buddhism and his attempts at creating imperial cohesion make Ashoka a fascinating character. Introduced by Rohit Ranjitkar, Nayanjot Lahiri will talk about Ashoka's legacy in the subcontinent and how much he has shaped our history.

अशोक मौर्य र उनले सिर्जेको साम्राज्यले दक्षिण एसियाको इतिहासमा गहिरो छाप छोडेको छ । कलिङ्गको युद्धपछि उनको बुद्धधर्म ग्रहण तथा आफ्नो साम्राज्यभरमा शान्ति र सदभावको स्थापनाका लागि उनको प्रयत्नले उनलाई एक चाखलाग्दो चरित्र बनाउँछ । दक्षिण एसियाको इतिहासमा अशोक मौर्यको चिरस्थायी प्रभावका बारे नयनजोत लहिरीले चर्चा गर्नेछिन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Rohit Ranjitkar**

Rohit Ranjitkar is the Nepal Program Director of the Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust, which has been involved in the restoration of several historically important monuments in the three cities of the Kathmandu Valley, including several structures in Patan Durbar Square.

#### **Nayanjot Lahiri**

Nayanjot Lahiri is a professor and teaches archaeology at the University of Delhi. She is the author of *Finding Forgotten Cities: How the Indus Civilisation was Discovered*. She also wrote *Pre-Ahom Assam* and *The Archaeology of Indian Trade Routes*, and edited *The Decline and Fall of the Indus Civilization, Ancient India: New Research*, and an issue of *World Archaeology* titled "The Archaeology of Hinduism".

# SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

01:30 PM, NMB HALL

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## साहित्यमा दलित आवाज

आहुति, खगेन्द्र संग्रौला, पी सिवकामी र विदुषी ढुङ्गेल

### Dalit Voices in Literature

AHUTI, KHAGENDRA SANGRAULA, P. SIVAKAMI AND BIDUSHI DHUNGEL

दक्षिण एसियाका दलितहरू प्राचीन कालदेखि नै वर्ण व्यवस्थाले सिर्जिएको उत्पीडनमा परेका छन्। शताब्दीऔं लामो उत्पीडनपछि, नेपालका दलित माझ भाग्यवाद हावी छ। एक दशक अधिसम्म पनि छुवाछुत र विभेदका कारण दलितहरू अदृश्य र मूलधारबाट उपेक्षित थिए। दसवर्षे जनयुद्धपछि मात्र दलितहरूको आवाज बुलन्द भएको छ। आज दलित आवाजको साहित्यमा प्रतिनिधित्व कस्तो प्रकृतिको छ? विदुषी ढुङ्गेलले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस सत्रमा आहुति, खगेन्द्र संग्रौला र पी सिवकामी वार्तालाप गर्नेछन्।

The Dalits of South Asia have long suffered under the oppression of the caste system. In Nepal, centuries of oppression have inculcated a fatalistic attitude among the so-called lower castes, who have been forced into a position of invisibility due to their status as “untouchables”. It is only recently that the Dalits have started to find a voice. But have they found a voice in Nepali literature? How have they been represented? Moderated by Bidushi Dhungel, this session will feature Ahuti, Khagendra Sangraula and P. Sivakami.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Ahuti

Ahuti is a Nepali poet and Dalit activist. His poetry collection *Tapasvi ko Geet* was published in 1990. Several of his more recent poems have been published in the literary publications *Vipul*, *Kalam*, *Janamat* and *Bedana*, as well as in the weekly *Jana Ekata* and the monthly *Mulyankan*. He is a politburo member of the UCPN-Maoist party.

#### Bidushi Dhungel

Bidushi Dhungel is a journalist and editor with *The Kathmandu Post*, an English-language daily based in Kathmandu.

#### Khagendra Sangraula

Khagendra Sangraula is a popular political satirist and writer who has published short stories, novels, memoirs, and political commentary. His novel *Junkiri ko Sangeet* brought the Dalit voice into mainstream Nepali literature. His latest book is the memoir *Aafnai Aankhako Layama*.

#### P. Sivakami

P. Sivakami is the first Tamil dalit woman to write a novel—*Pazhaiyana Kazhidalum*. A literary and commercial success, the novel created a stir by taking on patriarchy in the dalit movement. Translated by the author, it was published in English as *The Grip of Change* (Orient Longman) 2006. Since then, she has written four novels, numerous short stories and poems.

"In the evening, the brilliant yellow pumpkin blossoms will close, drunk on sunshine, while the milky white jasmine will open their slender throats and sip the chill Himalayan air. At night, low hearths will send up wispy curls of smoke fragrant with a dozen dinners, and darkness will clothe the land.

Except on nights when the moon is full. On those nights, the hillside and the valley below are bathed in a magical white light, the glow of the perpetual snows that blanket the mountaintops. On those nights I lie restless in the sleeping loft, wondering what the world is like beyond my mountain home."

— Patricia McCormick



**The Asia Foundation**

[www.asiafoundation.org](http://www.asiafoundation.org)

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**02:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

**Presented by**



**The Asia Foundation**

## **The New Age of News**

AKHILESH UPADHYAY, KUNDA DIXIT, MOHAMMED HANIF, TARUN TEJPAL AND PRASHANT JHA

### **समाचारको नयाँ युग : एसिया फाउण्डेशनको प्रस्तुति**

अखिलेश उपाध्याय, कुन्द दीक्षित, मोहम्मद हनिफ, तरुण तेजपाल र प्रशान्त झा

Media in South Asia has witnessed a boom over the past two decades yet journalism remains a dangerous occupation. With the advent of the Internet and interfaces like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, what is the future of the broadsheet? Do these technological interfaces allow for a greater degree of freedom? How reliable are these new sources of news? What are the benefits of a free and independent press, or is the idea itself a farce? Facilitated by Prashant Jha, this session will feature Akhilesh Upadhyay, Kunda Dixit, Mohammed Hanif and Tarun Tejpal.

विगत दुई दशकमा संचार क्षेत्रमा भएको अभूतपूर्व वृद्धिका बावजूद दक्षिण एसियामा पत्रकारिता पेसा अबै जोखिमपूर्ण छ । इन्टरनेट अनि फेसबुक, ट्विटर र युट्युबजस्ता सामाजिक संजालहरूको विगविगीसँगै परम्परागत संचार माध्यमले भविष्यमा कस्ता बाटा अँगाल्लान् ? के यस्ता नयाँ प्रविधिका संजालहरूले साँच्चै प्रेस स्वतन्त्रतालाई बढावा दिन सक्छन् ? समाचारका यी नयाँ स्रोतहरू कति विश्वसनीय र भरपर्दा छन् ? आजको विश्वमा प्रेस स्वतन्त्रता र निष्पक्षताले कस्तो महत्व राख्छ ? कि “स्वतन्त्र र निष्पक्ष” आफैमा मिथ्या कल्पना हुन् ? प्रशान्त झाले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस सत्रमा अखिलेश उपाध्याय, कुन्द दीक्षित, मोहम्मद हनिफ र तरुण तेजपाल बीच छलफल हुनेछ ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Akhilesh Upadhyay**

Akhilesh Upadhyay is the Editor of *The Kathmandu Post*, an English-language daily based in Kathmandu.

#### **Kunda Dixit**

Kunda Dixit is the Editor and Publisher of *Nepali Times*, an English-language weekly based in Kathmandu. He is the author of the media handbook, *Dateline Earth*, and compiled the photographic trilogy on the Nepal conflict, *A People War*.

#### **Mohammed Hanif**

Mohammed Hanif is a journalist, playwright, and novelist. His first novel, *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*, was longlisted for the Man Booker prize, and shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. Hanif has also written plays for the stage and for BBC radio, and the screenplay for the feature film *The Long Night*. He is currently a special correspondent for the BBC and lives in Karachi, Pakistan.

#### **Prashant Jha**

Prashant Jha is the Nepal correspondent of *The Hindu* newspaper and a political writer for *The Kathmandu Post*. He was a weekly columnist for *Nepali Times* between 2007 and early 2011. His areas of interest include Nepal's political transition, the transformation of the Maoists, the Madhesi Movement, and India-Nepal relations.

#### **Tarun Tejpal**

Tarun Tejpal has worked as a publisher and journalist for over two decades. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *Tehelka* and has been named among “India's 50 Most Powerful People” by *BusinessWeek*. He made his debut as a novelist in 2006 with *The Alchemy of Desire*, which won Le Prix Mille Pages. His second novel, *The Story of My Assassins*, was published in 2010. His most recent novel, *The Valley of Masks*, was released in August of this year.

# SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

03:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

## Bridging the Language Divide

ALKA SARAOGI, NAMITA GOKHALE, YUYUTSU R.D. SHARMA AND ANMOLE PRASAD

### अन्तर्भाषीय दूरी र यसको समाधान

अल्का साराओगी, नमिता गोखले, युयुत्सु आर.डी. शर्मा र अन्मोल प्रसाद

South Asia is linguistically rich but its languages remain largely insulated from each other. Each language has a unique way of viewing the world and has its own stories to tell. To share these stories and maintain our linguistic vibrancy, these languages need to start speaking to each other and to the world at large. Can the English language bridge this divide? This session focuses on whether the English language is a useful tool in preserving these languages or whether it actually endangers them. Moderated by Anmole Prasad, the session will feature Alka Saraogi, Namita Gokhale and Yuyutsu R.D. Sharma.

भाषिक विविधतामा धनी दक्षिण एसियाका भाषाहरू बीच भने ठूलो दूरी रहिआएको छ । प्रत्येक भाषाको संसारलाई हेर्ने मौलिक दृष्टिकोण हुन्छ, आफ्नै कथा हुन्छन् । यी भाषिक विविधतालाई संरक्षण गर्दै अघि बढ्न भाषाभाषा बीच अनि यी भाषा र बाह्य संसार बीच अन्तर्क्रिया अपरिहार्य छ । के अंग्रेजी भाषाले स्थानीय भाषा बीच व्याप्त दूरी घटाउन सक्छ ? यस सत्रमा अंग्रेजी भाषाले स्थानीय भाषाहरू बीचको दूरी घटाएर यिनको संरक्षणमा टेवा दिन्छ वा आफ्नो प्रभुत्व जमाएर अझै ठूलो चुनौती प्रस्तुत गर्छ भन्ने सवालमा अन्तर्क्रिया हुनेछ । अन्मोल प्रसादले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस अन्तर्क्रियामा अल्का साराओगी, नमिता गोखले र युयुत्सु आर.डी. शर्मा सहभागी हुनेछन् ।

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Anmole Prasad

Anmole Prasad writes from Kalimpong and earns a living as a lawyer. He is one of the translators of Indra Bahadur Rai's short story collection, *Gorkhas Imagined*.

#### Alka Saraogi

Alka Saraogi is a writer of Hindi fiction based in Kolkata. Her first novel, *Kali-Katha: via Bypass*, traces the fifty years of India's independence through a fifth-generation migrant family, and won her the Sahitya Akademi Award. It has been translated into several languages, including English.

#### Namita Gokhale

Namita Gokhale is a writer and publisher. She has written five novels and two works of non-fiction, including the critically acclaimed satire *Paro: Dreams of Passion*, which she followed up this year with *Priya: In Incredible Indya*. Gokhale is the founder of Translating Bharat, a series of conferences and literary events on translation, and a director at Yatra Books. She is one of the founders of the Jaipur Literature Festival, and co-directs it annually. She is the Festival Advisor to the Kathmandu Literary Jatra.

#### Yuyutsu RD Sharma

Yuyutsu RD Sharma is a poet and translator. He has written collections of poetry, a travelogue, and translated several anthologies of contemporary Nepali poetry into English. His publications include the book *Annapurnas & Stains of Blood: Life, Travel and Writing a Page of Snow*, and the poetry collections *Nepal Trilogy* and *Annapurna Poems*.

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**03:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH**

## **Immersed in Nepali Literature**

ABHI SUBEDI INTRODUCED BY AMMARAJ JOSHI

### **नेपाली साहित्यमा डुबेको जीवन**

अभि सुवेदी प्रस्तोता : अम्मराज जोशी

Abhi Subedi is one of the biggest names in Nepali literature. Over his long career as a professor and author, he has interacted with almost all of Nepal's greatest writers. In this lecture, he will share his many experiences with other Nepali writers and poets as one who has immersed himself into the Nepali literary scene. Providing keen insights into the Nepali literary scene's past, he will illuminate its future direction. Subedi will be introduced by Ammaraj Joshi.

नेपाली भाषा र साहित्यको फाँटमा अभि सुवेदीको बेग्लै ख्याती छ । प्राध्यापक तथा लेखकको हैसियतमा सुवेदीले नेपाली साहित्यका मूर्धन्य ब्यक्तित्वहरूसंग घुलमिल गर्ने मौका पाएका छन् । यस सत्रमा सुवेदीले नेपाली साहित्यमा डुबेको आफ्नो जीवनमा नेपाली लेखक तथा कविहरूसंगको सम्बन्धको बारेमा चर्चा गर्नेछन् । नेपाली भाषा र साहित्यको रोचक इतिहास र यसको भविष्य बारे आफ्नो विचार राख्ने छन् । उनलाई अम्मराज जोशीले प्रस्तुत गर्नेछन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Ammaraj Joshi**

Ammaraj Joshi is a writer and chairs the English Department at Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. He has published a collection of short stories called *A Night's Drama*.

#### **Abhi Subedi**

Abhi Subedi is a well-known poet, playwright, and essayist. He has published thirteen books in English and Nepali. He is the writer of the popular plays *Thamel ko Yatra*; *Jivan Dekhi Jivan Samma*; *Mayadevi ka Sapana* and *Fire in the Monastery*. He is also the writer of the celebrated poetry collection *Kathmandu Odyssey*.

# SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

04:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## द्वन्द्व र नेपाली साहित्य

गोपाल अशक, गोविन्द वर्तमान, खगेन्द्र सङ्ग्रौला र नारायण वाग्ले

### Insurgency and Nepali Literature

GOPAL ASHKA, GOVINDA BARTAMAN, KHAGENDRA SANGRAULA AND NARAYAN WAGLE

सन् १९९० को दशकमा सुरु भएको माओवादी विद्रोहले नेपाली समाजका वैयक्तिक र सामुहिक चिन्तनमा गहिरो प्रभाव पार्‍यो। यस विद्रोहले सन् २००६ को जनआन्दोलनलाई उजागर गर्नुका साथै त्यसपछिका मधेस र जनजाती आन्दोलनका लागि मार्गप्रशस्त गर्‍यो। यी आन्दोलनहरूले नेपाली पहिचानका कथानकमा नयाँ आयाम थपिदिए। धेरै लेखकहरूले माओवादी विद्रोह र विभिन्न जातीय आन्दोलनका विविध पक्षलाई समेट्ने प्रयास गरेका छन्। यस सत्रमा द्वन्द्व र विद्रोहका ऐतिहासिक घटनाक्रमहरूको नेपाली साहित्यमा प्रयोग र त्यसका असरहरूको बारेमा छलफल हुनेछ। के यो राजनीतिक अस्तव्यस्तताबाट नेपाली साहित्यमा नयाँ कथानकको उदय भएको छ? नारायण वाग्लेले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस छलफलमा गोपाल अशक, गोविन्द वर्तमान र खगेन्द्र सङ्ग्रौलाले भाग लिनेछन्।

The decade-long Maoist insurgency that began in the 1990s had a major impact on the collective and individual psyche of Nepalis. The insurgency led to the 2008 People's Movement and also set the scene for the Madhes and Janjati movements. These movements have completely realigned and redefined the hitherto dominant narrative in Nepal. Several writers have sought to express and capture the various facets of the insurgency and these movements in their writing. This session will discuss how these historical events have featured in and influenced Nepali literature. It will ask whether new narratives have emerged from the chaos. Moderated by Narayan Wagle, the session will feature a discussion between Gopal Ashka, Govinda Bartaman and Khagendra Sangraula.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Gopal Ashka

Gopal Ashka is a writer, poet and translator. He has written several epics, ghazal and song collections, novels, and critical works in Bhojpuri, Nepali and Hindi. His publications include the Bhojpuri epic *Dhandhor* and Nepali ghazal epic *Premanter*. He has also translated Jagadish Ghimire's *Antarmanko Yatra* and several of Balkrishna Sama's plays from Nepali to Bhojpuri.

#### Govinda Bartaman

Govinda Bartaman is a poet, critic, and journalist. He was actively involved in the "Street Poetry Revolution" that protested against the Panchayat regime in the 1980s. His involvement in the struggle for democracy continued during the democratic movements of 1990 and 2006. He was one of the first Nepali writers to deal with the war, in *Sohra Sanjharu*, a memoir of his travels during the 2002 ceasefire.

#### Khagendra Sangraula

Khagendra Sangraula is a popular political satirist and writer who has published short stories, novels, memoirs, and political commentary. His novel *Junkiri ko Sangeet* brought the Dalit voice into mainstream Nepali literature. His latest book is the memoir *Aafnai Aankhako Layama*.

#### Narayan Wagle

Narayan Wagle is the Editor of *Nagarik*, a Nepali-language daily, and one of Nepal's most respected journalists. His bestselling Nepali novel, *Palpasa Café*, was published by Nepa-laya in 2005 and received the Madan Puraskar, Nepal's most prestigious literary prize. It has been translated into English and Korean. Wagle's second novel, *Mayur Times*, also deals with the impact of the civil war on innocent Nepalis.

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**04:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

**Presented by**  
**GBO**  **NEW DELHI**  
German Book Office

# **Open Minds: Libraries and Treasure Troves of Stories**

SHAZIA OMAR, AKSHAY PATHAK AND RESHU ARYAL DHUNGANA

## **फराकिलो सोच : पुस्तकालयहरू र कथाको अथाह भण्डार**

शाजिया ओमार, अक्षय पाठक र रेशु अर्याल दुङ्गाना

The extremism we see in the world today is a reflection of our conditioning to a singular narrative of discrimination and hatred. The best way to battle this is to emphasize the existence of multiple narratives. Such open-mindedness must be inculcated at a young age through children's literature and libraries. This session will discuss just how important it is for us to prioritize the development of children's literature and libraries for both children and adults. Reshu Aryal Dhungana will be moderating a discussion between Shazia Omar and Akshay Pathak.

आजको हाम्रो समाज मुख्यतः भेदभाव र घृणाको एकल कथानकलाई अँगाल्ने प्रवृत्तिकै उत्पादन हो । बालसाहित्यको माध्यमबाट सानै उमेरदेखि हाम्रा नानीहरूलाई कथानकहरू माझको भिन्नता र सहअस्तित्वको बारेमा बुझाएर मात्रै यस्तो असहिष्णु र घृणापूजक प्रवृत्तिको प्रतिकार गर्न सकिन्छ । यस सत्रमा रेशु अर्याल दुङ्गानाले बालसाहित्य र पुस्तकालयको महत्वबारे अक्षय पाठक र शाजिया ओमारसँग वार्तालाप गर्नेछिन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Akshay Pathak**

Akshay Pathak is the Director of the German Book Office, New Delhi, a joint venture between the Frankfurt Book Fair and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany. Pathak writes regularly on issues concerning the book industry.

#### **Reshu Aryal Dhungana**

Reshu Aryal Dhungana is the Director of Program and Communications at Ullens School, Lalitpur.

#### **Shazia Omar**

Shazia Omar is a social psychologist and writer based in Bangladesh. Her debut novel, *Like a Diamond in the Sky*, was released in August 2009.

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**05:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

# The East India Company, the Mughals, and the Gorkhali Empire

WILLIAM DALRYMPLE IN CONVERSATION WITH KANAK MANI DIXIT

**इस्ट इण्डिया कम्पनी, मुगल तथा गोर्खाली साम्राज्य**

विलियम डालरिम्पल र कनकमणि दीक्षित वार्तालापमा

The Gorkhali Empire was established as the Mughal Empire was declining and the role of the British in India was growing. This session will feature a conversation between William Dalrymple and Kanak Mani Dixit on the historical events that led to British rule over India, the Anglo-Nepal war, and the 1857 Mutiny.

भारतमा मुगल साम्राज्यको पतन तथा बेलायतको प्रभुत्व बढ्दैगर्दा हिमालयको फेदीमा गोर्खाली साम्राज्यको उदय हुँदैथियो । यस सत्रमा विलियम डालरिम्पल र कनकमणि दीक्षित भारतमाथि बृटिसको कब्जा, एंग्लो-नेपाल युद्ध र १८५७ को सिपाही विप्लवका बारे चर्चा गर्नेछन् ।

## SPEAKER PROFILES

### Kanak Mani Dixit

Kanak Mani Dixit is the Editor of the monthly magazine *Himal Southasian*. His books include *Dekheko Muluk*, *Peace Politics of Nepal* and the popular children's book *Bhaktaprasad Bhyaguto: Adventures of a Nepali Frog*. Dixit is also the Chair of the Film Southasia documentary festival.

### William Dalrymple

William Dalrymple is an award-winning historian and travel writer. He is the author of *White Mughals*, which won the Wolfson Prize for History, as well as seven other books. His latest work is the critically acclaimed travel narrative *Nine Lives: In Search of the Sacred in Modern India*, which won the 2010 Asia House Award for Asian Literature.



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# SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

10:00 AM, MUSEUM COURTYARD

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## नेपाली विश्वविद्यालयमा राजनीति

गगन थापा, मनुसी यमी भट्टराई, राम कुमारी झाँक्री र प्रत्युष वन्त

### Politics in Nepali Universities

GAGAN THAPA, MANUSHI YAMI BHATTARAI, RAM KUMARI JHAKRI AND PRATYOUSH ONTA

नेपालका सरकारी विश्वविद्यालयहरू लामो समयदेखि महत्वपूर्ण राजनीतिक स्थलका रूपमा स्थापित छन्। विश्वविद्यालयहरू राजनीतिक क्रियाकलाप र राजनीतिक दलहरूको कार्यकर्ता भर्तीका लागि प्रमुख केन्द्र पनि बनेका छन्। तर राजनीतिक उतार चढावहरूले यी शैक्षिक संस्थाले दिने शिक्षाको गुणस्तरमा नकारात्मक असर पार्छन्। के राजनीतिक दलहरूलाई विद्यार्थीमाथि वैचारिक राजनीति लादने अधिकार छ? के विश्वविद्यालयमा भर्ना भएका विद्यार्थीले स्वतन्त्ररूपले विभिन्न राजनीतिक विचारहरू अँगालेर बौद्धिक र परिपक्व छलफल गर्नसक्ने अवस्था छ? यस सत्रमा गगन थापा, राम कुमारी झाँक्री र मनुसी यमी भट्टराई बीच विश्वविद्यालयमा हुने राजनीतिका सकारात्मक र नकारात्मक पक्षका बारेमा छलफल हुनेछ। प्रत्युष वन्तले छलफलको सञ्चालन गर्नेछन्।

Nepal's university campuses, especially those operated by the state, are political hotbeds. They are centres of political activism and recruitment. This has come at a cost, affecting the quality of education provided. Are the political parties within their rights to enforce political ideologies upon students? Do students who enter these universities have the liberty to freely choose between, and intellectually engage with, these political ideas? In this session, Pratyoush Onta will moderate a discussion between Gagan Thapa, Manushi Yami Bhattarai and Ram Kumari Jhakri on the pros and cons of student political activism within universities.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Pratyoush Onta

Pratyoush Onta is a historian based at Martin Chautari in Kathmandu. He has co-edited several books related to the history of radio in Nepal. He is also the Editor of the journal *Studies in Nepali History and Society* and *Media Adhyayan*.

#### Manushi Yami Bhattarai

Manushi Yami Bhattarai is the Secretary of the Free Students' Union at Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu and a Central Committee member of ANNISU (Revolutionary), student wing of the UCPN-Maoist party.

#### Ram Kumari Jhakri

Ram Kumari Jhakri was the National President of the All Nepal National Free Students Union (ANNFSU) from 2008 to 2010. She remains active in the CPN-UML party.

#### Gagan Thapa

Gagan Thapa is a member of the Constituent Assembly and a youth leader of the Nepali Congress party.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**10:00 AM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH, HINDI**

## **Kali-Katha: via Bypass**

ALKA SARAOGI IN CONVERSATION WITH UDAY ADHIKARI

### **कलि कथा : वाया बाइपासा**

अलका साराओगी र उदय अधिकारी वार्तालापमा

Alka Saraogi's first novel *Kali-Katha: via Bypass* traces fifty years of India's independence through a fifth-generation Rajasthani migrant family in Kolkata. Uday Adhikari will talk to Alka Saraogi about the process of writing and research on the various themes she explores in her novel.

अलका साराओगीको पहिलो उपन्यास *कलि कथा : वाया बाइपास*ले कलकत्तामा बस्ने राजस्थानी परिवारको परिवेश भित्रबाट भारतको स्वतन्त्रतापछिका पचास वर्षको यथार्थलाई केलाउँछ। उपन्यासमा चर्चा गरिएका विविध पाटाहरूको बारेमा लेखन के कस्तो अध्ययन अनुसन्धान गर्नुपर्ने भन्ने बारेमा उदय अधिकारीले लेखिका अलका साराओगीसँग वार्तालाप गर्नेछन्।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Alka Saraogi**

Alka Saraogi is a writer of Hindi fiction based in Kolkata. Her first novel, *Kali-Katha: via Bypass*, traces the fifty years of India's independence through a fifth-generation migrant family, and won her the Sahitya Akademi Award. It has been translated into several languages, including English.

#### **Uday Adhikari**

Uday Adhikari is a translator and lecturer at Makwanpur Multiple Campus, Hetauda.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**11:00 AM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

## **The Man Behind the Words**

JUG SURAIYA IN CONVERSATION WITH DUBBY BHAGAT

### **अभिव्यक्ति र लेखक**

जग सुरैया र डब्बी भगत वार्तालापमा

Writer, columnist and satirist, Jug Suraiya is one of the biggest names in Indian journalism. He will be in conversation with lifelong friend and fellow columnist and food critic Dubby Bhagat.

लेखक, स्तम्भकार तथा व्यङ्ग्यकार जग सुरैया भारतीय पत्रकारितामा मूर्धन्य नाम हुन् । आफ्ना प्रिय मित्र, लेखक तथा स्तम्भकार डब्बी भगतसँग जग सुरैया अन्तरङ्ग वार्तालाप गर्नेछन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Dubby Bhagat**

Dubby Bhagat is a journalist and contributes regularly to newspapers and magazines in Kathmandu. He co-wrote *Down History's Narrow Lanes: Sketches and Myths of the Kathmandu Valley*.

#### **Jug Suraiya**

Jug Suraiya is a journalist, author, and columnist based in Delhi. He is known for his humorous and satirical columns and currently writes the column *Jugular Vein* for the *Times of India*. A selection of his columns have been published in the book *Juggling Act*.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**11:00 AM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI**

## **सकम्बरी देखि सुम्निमा : नेपाली साहित्यमा नारी पात्र**

ज्ञानु पाण्डे, कृष्ण धरावासी, सुधा त्रिपाठी र अर्चना थापा

### **Sakambari to Sumnima: Female Characters in Modern Nepali Novels**

KRISHNA DHARABASI, NAYAN RAJ PANDEY, SUDHA TRIPATHI AND ARCHANA THAPA

नेपाली साहित्यका कैयौं उत्कृष्ट रचनाहरूमा महिला पात्रको महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रहेको छ। यीमध्ये अधिकांश पात्रहरू पुरुष लेखकद्वारा रचिएका छन्। हाम्रा उपन्यासमा महिला पात्रको चित्रण कस्तो प्रकृतिको छ? कत्तिका सटीक छन् यी चरित्रहरू? नेपाली समाजका विभिन्न तहका महिला पात्रको चित्रण उनीहरूको सामाजिक-आर्थिक परिस्थितिको यथार्थसँग कत्तिको मेल खान्छन्? उपन्यासहरूले महिला जीवनीप्रति न्याय गरेका छन्? कि महिलाहरूले भोगिराखेका अन्यायलाई सम्बोधन गर्ने माध्यममात्र बनेका छन्? यो सत्रले नेपाली महिलाको चरित्र, शरीर, चिन्तन र आत्मालाई नेपाली साहित्यमा कसरी सम्बोधन गरिएको छ भन्ने प्रश्नलाई केलाउने छ।

Female characters have played a prominent role in many of Nepali literature's finest works. Many of these characters have been created by male authors: how truthfully do they represent the plurality of Nepali women's experiences? Do they in any way seek to address the injustices Nepali women suffer? This session will explore how the female character – mind, body, and soul – has been represented in Nepali literature. Moderated by Archana Thapa, it will feature Krishna Dharabasi, Nayan Raj Pandey and Sudha Tripathi.

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Archana Thapa**

Archana Thapa is an independent scholar and freelance writer. She runs the publishing house Akshar Creations. She edited *Telling a Tale*, a collection of personal narratives by women, and is currently working on a collection of personal narratives by women in Nepali.

#### **Krishna Dharabasi**

Krishna Dharabasi is the pen name of writer Krishna Prasad Bhattarai. He has written a number of novels, short stories, and essay collections. His novel *Radha* has won the Madan Puraskar, the most prestigious award in Nepali literature.

#### **Nayan Raj Pandey**

Nayan Raj Pandey is the writer of the novel *Ullar* and a number of screenplays.

#### **Sudha Tripathi**

Sudha Tripathi is a writer from Soonkhani in Dolakha. She is the author of *Jeevansutra ra Swapnabhas*, a collection of essays, and *Jiraha Bartaman*, a collection of poems. She chairs the Abhyutthan Mahila Sahitya Pratishtan.



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**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**12:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI, ENGLISH

# Chittadhar Hridaya and the Newar Bhasa Renaissance

SUBARNA MAN TULADHAR INTRODUCED BY PRAWIN ADHIKARI

## चित्तधर हृदय तथा नेवार भाषाको पुनर्जागरण

सुवर्णमान तुलाधर, प्रस्तोता : प्रवीण अधिकारी

The Newar language has a rich history. The poet and writer Chittadhar Hridaya was one of the greatest literary figures in Newar literature in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Jailed along with Siddhicharan Shrestha and Phatte Bahadur Singh in the 1940s for producing work in the Newar language, he was one of the members of the Newar Bhasa Renaissance. During his ten-year imprisonment he produced his magnum opus, *Sugata Saurabha*, an epic poem on the life of the Buddha. Subarna Man Tuladhar will speak on the poet and his times. He will be introduced by Prawin Adhikari.

नेवार भाषा र साहित्यको समृद्ध र प्राचीन इतिहास छ। लेखक तथा कवि चित्तधर हृदय नेवार भाषाको इतिहासमा अद्वितीय गरिमा भएका व्यक्ति हुन्। राणाकालमा नेवार भाषामा लेखेबापत् सिद्धिचरण श्रेष्ठ तथा फत्तेबहादुरसिंहसँगै जेल सजाय भोगेका हृदय नेवार भाषा पुनर्जागरण अभियानमा अग्रपंक्तिका विचारक थिए। दश वर्षे जेल बसाइमा उनले बुद्धको जीवनीमा आधारित महाकाव्य सुगत सौरभको रचना गरे। सुवर्णमान तुलाधरले कवि हृदय तथा उनका कृतिहरूको बारेमा बोल्नेछन्। प्रवीण अधिकारीले सुवर्णमान तुलाधरलाई प्रस्तुत गर्नेछन्।

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Prawin Adhikari

Prawin Adhikari is a translator, and a writer of short fiction and screenplays.

#### Subarna Man Tuladhar

Subarna Man Tuladhar is the co-translator from Newari to English of *Sugata Saurabha*, an epic poem on the life of the Buddha by Newari poet Chittadhar Hridaya.



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**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**01:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

## **Book Markets: Local Scope, Global Ambitions**

AKSHAY PATHAK, KIRAN KRISHNA SHRESTHA, SHAZIA OMAR AND SUJEEV SHAKYA

### **स्थानीय बजार : स्थानीय सम्भावना, राष्ट्रिय महत्वाकांक्षा**

अक्षय पाठक, किरण कृष्ण श्रेष्ठ, शाजिया ओमार र सुजीव शाक्य

South Asia is known for its teeming marketplaces where anything and everything is sold. Books are essential commodities within national markets. Some books sell because they are deemed intellectual. Others sell because the masses want them. How does the choice of reading materials bought and sold in these markets reflect the larger intellectual consciousness of a nation? Sujeev Shakya will moderate a discussion with Akshay Pathak, Kiran Krishna Shrestha and Shazia Omar.

दक्षिण एसियाका बजारको भिडमा जे पनि बेचिन्छन्, जे पनि किन्न पाइन्छ। राष्ट्रिय अर्थतन्त्रमा किताबको बजारले पनि महत्वपूर्ण ठाउँ ओगटेको हुन्छ। कुनै किताब बौद्धिकताको दोसल्ला ओढेकाले विक्रिन्छ। कुनै किताब फगत बजारको मागकै भरमा विक्रिन्छ। बजारमा किनिने र बेचिने किताबहरू र त्यस देशको राष्ट्रिय चेतना अनि महत्वाकांक्षा बीच कस्तो साइनो सम्बन्ध हुन्छ? सुजीव शाक्यले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस सत्रमा किरण कृष्ण श्रेष्ठ र शाजिया ओमारले यसै विषयमा चर्चा गर्नेछन्।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Akshay Pathak**

Akshay Pathak is the Director of the German Book Office, New Delhi, a joint venture between the Frankfurt Book Fair and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany. Pathak writes regularly on issues concerning the book industry.

#### **Kiran Krishna Shrestha**

Kiran Krishna Shrestha heads Nepa-laya, an organization that promotes music, books, and documentaries. Nepa-laya's publications include Narayan Wagle's bestselling *Palpasa Café* and Kunda Dixit's photobook series *A People War*.

#### **Shazia Omar**

Shazia Omar is a social psychologist and writer based in Bangladesh. Her debut novel, *Like a Diamond in the Sky*, was released in August 2009.

#### **Sujeev Shakya**

Sujeev Shakya is the author of the bestselling *Unleashing Nepal – Past, Present and Future of the Economy*. He wrote a popular column in the weekly *Nepali Times* under the pen name Arthabeed from 2001 to 2011. He chairs both the Nepal Economic Forum and Southasia Trust, the publisher of *Himal Southasian*. He works in Kathmandu as the CEO of beed, a consulting and advisory firm.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**02:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH**

## **Nepali Literature beyond Nepal**

DEVENDRA BHATTARAI, I. B. RAI, SUSAN WATEN AND UJJWAL PRASAI

### **नेपाल बाहिर नेपाली साहित्य**

देवेन्द्र भट्टराई, इन्द्र बहादुर राई, सुजन वाटेन र उज्ज्वल प्रसाई

There is a long history of Nepali people migrating beyond Nepal's borders in search of a better life. Nepali speakers in the region now extend from Kumaoni through Nepal, Darjeeling, Bhutan, Assam and Burma. Can Nepali claim to have become a regional language in the north-eastern regions of South Asia? More recent migratory trends have established Nepali-language speaking pockets around the world, in the Middle East, the Asia-Pacific, Europe, and America. What sort of writing has emerged from Nepali language speakers in the South Asian region and the global diaspora? Ujjwal Prasai will facilitate a discussion between Devendra Bhattarai, I. B. Rai and Susan Waten.

समृद्ध जीवनको खोजीमा परदेसिने परम्पराको नेपालमा लामो इतिहास छ। आज कुमाउँदेखि नेपाल भएर दार्जिलिङ, भुटान र आसाम हुँदै बर्मासम्म नेपाली बोल्ने जनसंख्या फैलिएको छ। के यसले नेपालीलाई दक्षिण एसियाको उत्तर-पूर्वी भेगमा क्षेत्रीय भाषाका रूपमा स्थापित गरिसकेको छ ? केही दशक यता देखिएका नयाँ बसाइँसराइ प्रवृत्तिले मध्यपूर्व, एसियाप्रशान्त, युरोप र अमेरिकामा पनि नेपाली भाषी केन्द्रहरू स्थापना गरेको छ। दक्षिण एसिया र विश्वका नेपाली बोलिने अन्य ठाउँहरूबाट कस्ता प्रकारका लेखन निस्किएका छन् ? देवेन्द्र भट्टराई, इन्द्र बहादुर राई र सुजन वाटेन बीचको वार्तालाप उज्ज्वल प्रसाईले संचालन गर्नेछन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Devendra Bhattarai**

Devendra Bhattarai is the author of *Registan Diary*, a critically acclaimed book on Nepali migrant workers in the Middle East and the book *Srasta ra Samaya*, an anthology of the profiles of Nepali writers. He currently works as a journalist and editor at Kantipur National Daily in Kathmandu.

#### **Indra Bahadur Rai**

Indra Bahadur Rai is an Indian Nepali writer and literary critic from Darjeeling. He is the author of the acclaimed novel, *Aja Ramita Chha* and was the first recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award in Nepali in 1976 for his book *Upanyaska Adhar Haru*. He is one of the founders of the Tesro Ayam Literary Movement.

#### **Susan Waten**

Susan Waten is a newspaper columnist, poet and writer and the founder director of Holiday Abode for Writers and Artists (HAWA), Dimapur. She has published three books.

#### **Ujjwal Prasai**

Ujjwal Prasai is an editor at The Kathmandu Post.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**02:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH**

## **Maithili: A Literary History**

RAJENDRA BIMAL INTRODUCED BY DHIRENDRA PREMARSHI

### **मैथिली : एक साहित्यिक इतिहास**

राजेन्द्र विमल, प्रस्तोता : धीरेन्द्र प्रेमर्षि

Maithili is an ancient language with a rich cultural and literary history. However, it has long been ignored and suppressed by Nepali-language speaking communities in Nepal, where it has always been considered an Indian language. However, this is changing with the secularization and opening up of Nepal. Rajendra Bimal will talk about the history of Maithili literature. He will be introduced by Dharendra Premarshi.

समृद्ध साहित्यिक इतिहास भएको मैथिली एक प्रचीन भाषा भए पनि नेपाली भाषीहरूले लामो समयदेखि मैथिलीलाई उपेक्षा गरेका छन्, दबाएर राखेका छन् । तर २०६३ सालको परिवर्तन यता मैथिलीले नेपालका भाषामाझ आफ्नो समुचित स्थान पाउन थालेको छ । यस सत्रमा डा. राजेन्द्र विमलले मैथिली साहित्यको इतिहास तथा गरिमामाथि प्रकाश पार्नेछन् । धीरेन्द्र प्रेमर्षिले वक्ता र विषयको परिचय दिनेछन् ।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Dhirendra Premarshi**

Dhirendra Premarshi is a poet and writer who works in both Nepali and Maithili. He has published more than half a dozen books of fiction and poetry. He has also written and composed numerous songs in Nepali and Maithili.

#### **Rajendra Bimal**

Rajendra Bimal is a retired university teacher, freelance social researcher, and author of more than a dozen books. He has been awarded the Jagadambashree Award for his contributions to Nepali literature.

The gratification of wealth is not found in mere possession or in lavish expenditure, but in its wise application.

~ Miguel de Cervantes



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**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**03:30 PM, NMB HALL**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH, NEPALI**

## **Biographies National and Individual**

PATRICK FRENCH IN CONVERSATION WITH RABI THAPA

### **जीवनी लेखन : राष्ट्र र व्यक्तिको**

प्याट्रिक फ्रेन्च र रवि थापा वार्तालापमा

Patrick French has given us the acclaimed biographies of such diverse personalities as the writer and traveller V.S. Naipaul and the traveller and writer Francis Younghusband. But if we are to take to heart Thomas Carlyle's pronouncement that "history is the essence of innumerable biographies", then we could consider French's *Tibet, Tibet and India: A Portrait* national biographies. Do the processes of writing individual and national biographies have much in common? Does a good biography stick to the cold, hard truth or is it, like a good travel book, a work of fiction? In this session, French talks about the art of biography with writer Rabi Thapa.

प्याट्रिक फ्रेन्चले लेखक यात्री भी एस नयपल एवं यात्री लेखक फ्रान्सिस यङ्गहज्बेन्डजस्ता विविध व्यक्तित्वहरूको जीवनी लेखेका छन्। थमस कार्लाइलले भनेका छन् - "इतिहास असंख्य जीवनीहरूको सार हो।" यस अर्थमा फ्रेन्चका कृतिहरू *तिब्बत, तिब्बत र भारत : एक चित्रणलाई* पनि राष्ट्रहरूको जीवनी लेखन मान्न सकिन्छ। व्यक्तिको र राष्ट्रको जीवनी लेखन प्रक्रियामा कति समानता छ ? एउटा सफल जीवनीले व्यक्ति विशेष बारे नाङ्गो सत्यमात्र पस्किन्छ, कि राम्रो नियामा भैं आख्यानको सौन्दर्यलाई पनि आत्मसात् गर्छ ? लेखक फ्रेन्चले आफ्ना प्रकाशित कृति तथा जीवनी लेखनको प्रक्रियाका बारेमा लेखक रवि थापासँग वार्तालाप गर्नेछन्।

### **SPEAKER PROFILES**

#### **Patrick French**

Patrick French is the author of the acclaimed biography of V.S. Naipaul, *The World Is What It Is*. French is also the author of *Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer*, *Liberty or Death: India's Journey to Independence and Division*; *Tibet, Tibet: A Personal History of a Lost Land*, and most recently, *India: A Portrait*.

#### **Rabi Thapa**

Rabi Thapa is the author of *Nothing to Declare*, a book of short stories, which was long-listed for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. Previously the editor of the weekly *Nepali Times*, Thapa is now a full-time writer and editor based in Kathmandu.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**04:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD**

DURATION: **50 MINS.**

LANGUAGE: **ENGLISH**

# Urdu and English: Walking Two Worlds

MOHAMMED HANIF IN CONVERSATION WITH SOPHIA PANDÉ

## ऊर्दु र अंग्रेजी : दुई भाषाबीचको अनुभव

मोहम्मद हनिफ र सोफिया पाँडे वार्तालापमा

Pakistani writer and journalist Mohammed Hanif speaks and reads both Urdu and English. He grew up in Pakistan but spent over a decade living and working in London. Like many of us today, he traverses diverse worlds in terms of both culture and language. In this session, Mohammed Hanif will talk with Sophia Pandé about his bilingual heritage, his cultural influences, and how it all translates into his fiction.

पाकिस्तानी पत्रकार तथा लेखक मोहम्मद हनिफ ऊर्दु र अंग्रेजी दुवै भाषा बोल्छन् र पढ्छन् । पाकिस्तानमा हुर्किएका हनिफले कामको सिलसिलामा लन्डनमा एक दशकभन्दा बढी समय बिताएका छन् । उनी दक्षिण एसियाका परम्परा र संस्कृति तथा पश्चिमी आधुनिकता दुवैसँग सुपरिचित छन् । यस सत्रमा हनिफले आफ्नो बहुभाषी पृष्ठभूमि र आफ्ना लेखन तथा दृष्टिकोणमा त्यसको प्रभावका बारे सोफिया पाँडेसँग वार्तालाप गर्नेछन् ।

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Mohammed Hanif

Mohammed Hanif is a journalist, playwright, and novelist. His first novel, *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*, was longlisted for the Man Booker prize, and shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. Hanif has also written plays for the stage and for BBC radio, and the screenplay for the feature film *The Long Night*. He is currently a special correspondent for the BBC and lives in Karachi, Pakistan.

#### Sophia Pandé

Sophia Pandé is a writer, art historian, and filmmaker. She is currently co-producing a documentary based on the Extreme Everest Expedition in 2010, where 35 Sherpas cleaned tonnes of accumulated garbage from above 8,000 metres on Everest.

# SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

05:30 PM, MUSEUM COURTYARD

DURATION: 50 MINS.

LANGUAGE: NEPALI

## नेपाली भाषाको भविष्य

अर्चना थापा, नारायण वाग्ले, डा. राजेन्द्र विमल र बुद्धिसागर

### The Future of the Nepali Language

Archana Thapa, Narayan Wagle, Rajendra Bimal and Buddhisagar

राज्य प्रायोजित नेपाली भाषा नीतिका कारणले नेपालका अन्य भाषाभाषिका सीमान्तीकृत भए । वर्तमान राजनीतिमा जनजाति तथा आदिवासी आन्दोलनहरू आफ्नो आवाज राज्यसामु राख्दै राज्य संरचनामा नेपाली भाषाको अग्रस्थानलाई चुनौती दिँदैछन् । द्रुतगतिमा आधुनिकीकरणतर्फ लम्किरहेको नेपालमा अंग्रेजीले नयाँ अवसर खोज्नेहरूको साझा भाषाका रूपमा आफूलाई स्थापित गर्दैछ । यस्तो परिप्रेक्ष्यमा नेपाली भाषाको भविष्य कस्तो देखिन्छ ? बुद्धिसागरले सञ्चालन गर्ने यस सत्रमा अर्चना थापा, नारायण वाग्ले र डा. राजेन्द्र विमलले यस विषयमा वार्तालाप गर्नेछन् ।

The languages of Nepal have suffered under the state-sponsored rule of the Nepali language. The recent indigenous and ethnic movements in Nepal are driven by a desire to be heard and to challenge the hegemony of the Nepali language within the state apparatus. On the other hand, English is quickly becoming the *lingua franca* of those seeking better opportunities in a modernizing Nepal. What is the future of the Nepali language in this context? Moderated by Buddhisagar, the session will feature Archana Thapa, Narayan Wagle and Rajendra Bimal.

### SPEAKER PROFILES

#### Archana Thapa

Archana Thapa is an independent scholar and freelance writer. She runs the publishing house Akshar Creations, and edited *Telling a Tale*, a collection of personal narratives by women. She is currently working on a collection of personal narratives by women in Nepali.

#### Narayan Wagle

Narayan Wagle is the Editor of *Nagarik*, a Nepali-language daily, and one of Nepal's most respected journalists. His bestselling Nepali novel, *Palpasa Café*, was published by Nepa-laya in 2005 and received the Madan Puraskar, Nepal's most prestigious literary prize. Wagle's second novel, *Mayur Times*, also deals with the impact of the civil war on innocent Nepalis.

#### Rajendra Bimal

Rajendra Bimal is a retired university teacher, freelance social researcher and author of more than a dozen books. He has been awarded the Jagadambashree Award for his contributions to Nepali literature.

#### Buddhisagar

Buddhisagar is a writer and poet. He is the author of *Karnali Blues*, the bestselling Nepali novel, and the collection *Buddhisagarka Kavita*. He currently writes for *Nagarik*, a Nepali-language daily based in Kathmandu.



The more that  
you read, the  
more things you  
will know. The  
more that you  
learn, the more  
places you'll go.

**Dr. Seuss**



[www.dabur.com](http://www.dabur.com)

# SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

10:00 AM - 03:00 PM, ADARSHA KANYA NIKETAN SCHOOL GROUNDS

LANGUAGE: NEPALI, ENGLISH

## Réal presents the Juicy Jatra for Kids!

THE KATHMANDU LITERARY JATRA HAS EVENTS FOR ALL AGES. THE JUICY JATRA WILL FEATURE A VARIETY OF CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES FROM TODDLERS TO TEENAGERS.

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

| Time             | Event   |
|------------------|---|
| 8:00 am          | <b>Heritage Walks: Get to know Patan!</b><br>As part of the <b>Kathmandu Literary Jatra</b> we are offering you a choice of four walks in and around Patan – a world heritage city. Choose one of the walks at 8:00 am and you can join a second walk at 9:30 am.<br>For children above 12 years and adults.  |
| 11:00 am         | <b>Dance performance by the students of Adarsha Kanya Niketan</b>   |
| 11:30 am         | <b>Book Launch: Bhaktaprasad Bhyaguto</b><br>15 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Launch  |
| 12:00 pm onwards | <b>Activity Time!</b><br><b>Mithila Art Workshop with Mithila artist Shyam Sundar</b><br>Ages: all<br>Time: 2 hours<br>Number of children: 15<br>Come learn a unique painting style and make your own artwork!<br><br><b>Creative Expression Workshop with Sharareh Bajracharya</b><br>Ages: 6 to 10<br>Time: 3 hours<br>Number of children: 15<br>Using different kinds of strings and ropes, cloth, wire, cardboard, and other recyclable materials, children will build a place in response to a reading of the story <i>Bhaktaprasad Bhyaguto</i> . Various artists will work with children in creating these spaces which children can move through and enact the story for themselves!<br><br><b>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</b><br>Ages: 6 to 10<br>Time: 2 hours<br>Number of children: 15<br>Listen to the story of <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i> by Eric Carle read by Lisa Howard. Afterwards, children will have the chance to make a colourful collage of their very own butterfly. |
| 3:30pm to 4:00pm | <b>Story Time with Santa Das Manandhar</b><br>Santa Das Manandhar will share stories for the young and old.   |

Limited Seats! Please sign up in advance to book a spot for you and your child!  
Sign up at the information counter at the Literary Jatra or email your name and number to:  
[info@litjatra.com](mailto:info@litjatra.com)



**ADVENTURES OF A  
NEPALI FROG**

Kanak Mani Dixit  
Illustrations by Subhas Rai

*Celebrating*  
**15** *years*  
of  
an adventure



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**SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**11:30 AM, ADARSHA KANYA NIKETAN SCHOOL GROUNDS**

LANGUAGE: **NEPALI, ENGLISH**

# **Book Launch: Bhaktaprasad Bhyaguto's 15<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Edition**

**Bhaktaprasad:** a name common in Nepal

**Bhyaguto:** 'frog' in the Nepali language

Bhaktaprasad Bhyaguto, an excitable young frog from Kathmandu Valley just out of his tadpole teens, decides to travel through his country. He goes where no frog has gone before. He rides a tin can downriver, treks past majestic peaks, rides porter-back, mule-back and yak-back to remote villages, and hops across a good part of Nepal before returning to Kathmandu in an airline pilot's shirt pocket.

This description of Bhaktaprasad's adventures through Nepal's mountains, hills and plains presents authentic landscapes and unique characters. It brings Nepal to life for young readers, and helps build empathy for the creatures, including humans, that inhabit the Nepali countryside.

## **Heritage Walk Details**

**Walk 1:** Alko Hity is a neighbourhood at the south end of Patan. The community here has restored a traditional water system, key to ensuring a good quality of life in the city. The walk will help you understand how the system works, and provide insights into how communities can come together to solve problems.

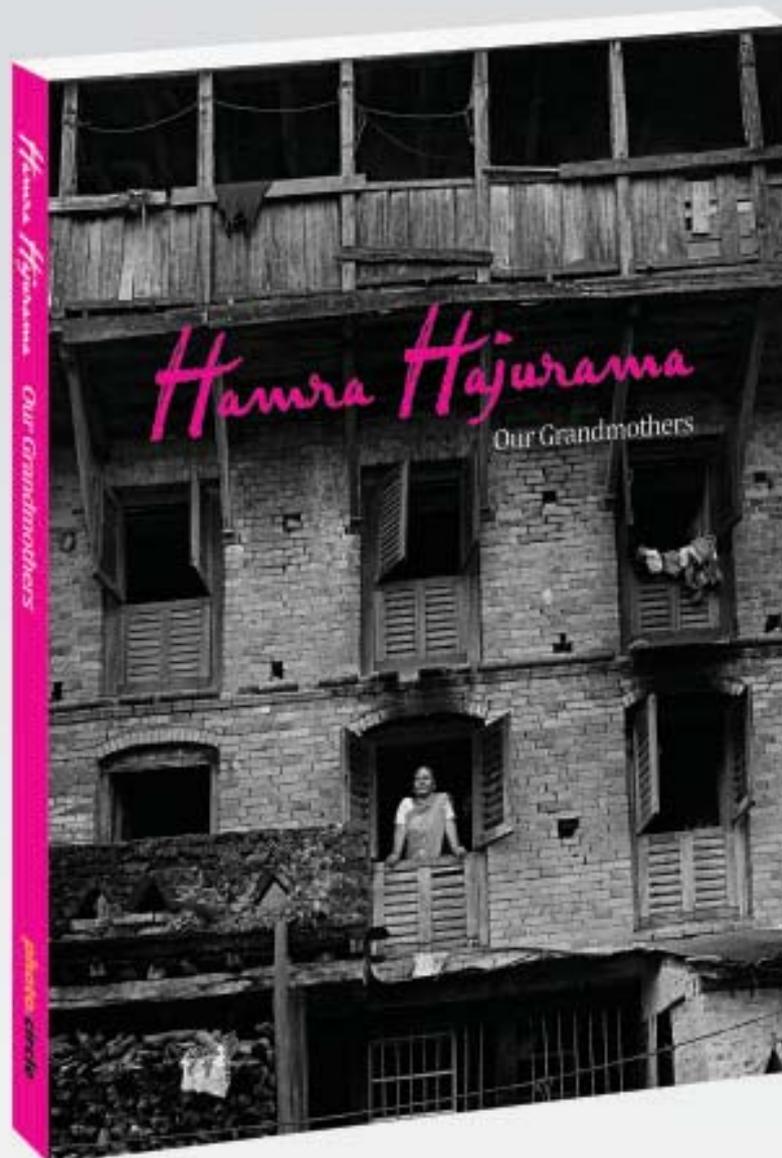
**Walk 2:** The golden temple or the Hiranya Varna Mahabihar is an ideal place to observe the living heritage of Mahayana Buddhist rituals. The bahal surrounding it is a treasure trove of Buddhist iconography, and we will also have a chance to learn about the restoration work that is being undertaken by the community.

**Walk 3:** The restoration and conversion of traditional homes into comfortable modern living spaces is making Patan one of the most sought after residential areas. Young entrepreneurs are leading the way in converting these beautiful buildings into restaurants, apartments, and office spaces. Find out what motivates them and how they go about it.

**Walk 4:** This is a unique opportunity to interact with the metal artists of Patan. Working in metals like copper, silver, and gold, they are among the most skillful artists in the world. The fruits of their labour are to be seen on display in shops frequented by locals and foreigners alike; this walk will reveal how they work and contribute to the rich local culture.

Hamra Hajurama: Our Grandmothers is a selection of the collective wisdom of the Nepali grandmother, wisdom that comes from having suffered, survived, nurtured, endured and enjoyed a full life. What they tell us are individual stories of struggle and hope. These are lives that are more dramatic than novels. These are stories that rarely appear in our newspapers and magazines.

— Kunda Dixit, Editor, *Nepali Times*



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**SEPTEMBER 16 - 18, 2011**

**10:00 AM - 07:00 PM, MANGA HITI**

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## **photo.circle presents** **Retelling Histories**

STORIES FROM OLD FAMILY PHOTO ALBUMS

History begins at home. This personal history project attempts to dig up, contextualize and archive photographs from old family photo albums, allowing them to represent us as a people with an interesting and diverse past. There is, after all, more to our past than what history lessons have taught us.

The project is part of the Nepal Picture Library, an archive of photographs from around Nepal that has been recently set up by photo.circle.

Through collections such as this one, the Nepal Picture Library hopes to contribute to the study of Nepali photography, as well as generate knowledge and raise questions about how we can explore issues of identity, history and memory through images.

photo.circle was established in 2007 as a platform for emerging and professional photographers in Nepal. For more information please visit [www.photocircle.com.np](http://www.photocircle.com.np)

Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.

C.S. Lewis



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Post Box No. 42  
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**SEPTEMBER 18, 2011**

**03:30 PM, MANGA HITI**

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# **Performance: Parable of the Lost Post Office**

A SOLO PERFORMANCE BY PARNAB MUKHERJEE  
ADAPTED FROM RABINDRANATH TAGORE'S WRITING

Amal, a terminally ill kid standing on the precipice of death, is stuck in a closed room. Sitting inside, he imagines the democracy of open spaces, of the world that he cannot access, the possibility of a king's arrival, and the indefatigable urge to learn the details of life from everybody passing by. Using different texts and installation techniques, the performance creates a haunting interpretation of Tagore's text, addressing the core issue of what dies within us before we actually die. It is a search for a working version of utopia in dystopic times, and is a tribute to Rabindranath Tagore on his 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, 100 years since the publication of *Dakghar*.

**Parnab Mukherjee** is a leading alternative theatre director in India. An independent media analyst, curator and a performance consultant by profession, he is a consultant with two publication initiatives. He is also an authority on Badal Sircar's theatre and Shakespeare-in-education, and specialises in theatre-for-conflict-resolution and theatre-of-the-campus.

**Five Issues** is a unique performance-publishing interface. It is committed to bringing out a series of five journals, five pamphlets, five themed poster series, five curated installation videos and five audio installation projects. The first three issues, poster series, pamphlets and videos have been put in public circulation. Performance is an integral component of the project and the interface has already produced the trilogy of unrest which includes *Hamletmachine*, *This Room Is Not My Room* and *Necropolis*.



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GREAT NOVELS TIME CAN NEVER DIM,  
FOR HUMAN EXISTENCE IS PERPETUALLY  
BEING FORGOTTEN BY MAN AND THUS THE  
NOVELISTS DISCOVERIES, HOWEVER OLD  
THEY MAY BE, WILL NEVER CEASE TO  
ASTONISH.

~ MILAN KUNDERA



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