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Nepal Studies Association Newsletter, Issue 7

Nepal Studies Association

John Scholz

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Nepal Studies

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NEPAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Center for South and Southeast
Asia Studies
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720
John Scholz, Editor

Cover Drawing by Sally Tomlinson

Number 7

December 1974

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I. NEPAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION NEWS

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

The generous grant which sustained the NSA for the past several years has run out and, for the immediate future, we must count on membership dues to support the Newsletter and other ongoing activities. All NSA members are requested to submit their 1975 membership dues as soon as possible. Dues for 1974 should be paid by members who have not already done so. Beginning with the next issue, we regret that the Newsletter can only be sent to paying members. Please send \$3 dues along with the enclosed ballots (see following announcements) to the NSA Secretary-Treasurer:

Professor Robert Norman
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

Executive Committee Election

As announced in the previous Newsletter, an election for three new members of the NSA Executive Committee is presently taking place to fill the positions vacated by Barry Bishop, Bhuwan Lal Joshi, and Willi Unsoeld, whose terms in office have expired. Statements by the nominees and instructions

for voting are included on the enclosed ballot, which must reach the indicated address by January 15, 1975, to be counted.

Constitutional Amendment

The amendment submitted to vote with the last Newsletter passed unopposed, and is now a part of the Constitution:

Amendment I. In order to coordinate NSA Newsletter activities with official NSA policies, the Newsletter editor will sit as an ex-officio member of the executive committee, finances permitting.

Two new proposed amendments are discussed below in the NSA Carbondale Conference - Open Meeting, and are included on the enclosed ballot.

New Newsletter Editor

Beginning with the next issue, Don Messerschmidt, who has been involved in Nepal as a Peace Corps volunteer, teacher and anthropologist for over ten years, will be the Newsletter editor. Please send all information to be included in the Newsletter to him at ABT Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1070, Saratoga, Wyoming 82331. The NSA wishes to acknowledge the generous support and assistance for the past three Newsletters given by the Center for South/Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California at Berkeley.

NSA Conference Books Available

The summaries of last year's Social Science Seminar in Nepal (SOCIAL SCIENCE IN NEPAL, edited by Prayag Raj Sharma) and last spring's NSA Conference in Claremont (THE CONFERENCE ON NEPAL AT CLAREMONT, edited by Merrill Goodall) are available free to NSA members who request them from Professor Merrill Goodall, Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, Ca. 91711. The first book has not yet arrived from Nepal, but requests will be handled as soon as possible.

NSA Carbondale Conference

The NSA Carbondale Conference took place on the Southern Illinois University Campus at Carbondale, Illinois from October 31 through November 3. Over 90 participants came from all parts of the U. S. to renew old friendships, hear the many different perspectives on Nepal presented by discussion leaders, and share views informally in the countless small groups which formed and reformed throughout the conference, as is typical of the NSA-styled gaon sabha. Two evening bhojs successfully combined festivity with serious talks and conversations: Ambassador Khanal's Friday night

address has been included in its entirety below because it expresses so well the underlying spirit of the Conference and of the NSA. Many new members were enrolled through the efforts of Bob Norman and Monte Anderson. Alternative future activities of the NSA were discussed in Friday's open meeting, as reported below in John Hitchcock's summary. Finally, panel leaders from each session presented a short summary of panel discussions in Sunday morning's wrap-up session. A report on this session is included below.

The NSA wishes to thank all individuals who contributed to the success of the Conference. Special thanks are due to John Anderson, John Hitchcock and the Executive Committee for initiating and organizing the conference. At SIU, the support of Dr. J.K. Leasure, Richard Bradley, and Joseph Chu and the diligent effort by Mike Reed, Dr. Harold Engleking, Melinda McCaslin and Pat White made the Conference proceed smoothly. All panel members contributed their time and expertise freely, and, of course, without the participation of all those attending, the NSA Conference would not have had that special quality which distinguishes it from other professional meetings.

NSA Carbondale Conference--Address by Ambassador Yadunath Khanal,
November 2, 1974

[The following address by Ambassador Yadunath Khanal is printed in its entirety because it states so well the guiding principles of the NSA.]

Some four years ago, I recall how happy I was to participate in a function in New York which was organized to found the Nepal Studies Association. American and Nepalese scholars who had been engaged for a long time in the study of different aspects of Nepalese life were the enthusiastic founders. I was myself spending a year then at Harvard; and though I was greatly impressed by the quality of many centres developed in that great University to study Europe, China and Japan, facilities available for a serious study of our own region were limited. For this reason, I considered the establishment of the present Association in the United States under the auspices of Asian Studies an important landmark in a continuing pursuit of scholarly Nepalese studies. I naturally felt that the new Association would go a long way to promote a wider knowledge and deeper understanding of Nepal in the world, particularly among the community of scholars interested in Nepal through a kind of purposeful co-operative effort. Since then I have tried to keep in touch with its various activities with great interest; and thanks to the Association newsletter, I have been able to do so to a considerable extent.

The knowledge that we have of Nepal today regarding its geography, history, economy, culture, art and society (or societies) is indeed a joint product of dedicated Nepalese and foreign scholarship. The wide scope has been well brought out in the agenda of the conference itself. I think it fortunate that this is so because, while foreign scholars give us breadth of understanding by helping us to relate our own experiences,

in a comparative way, to those of the rest of mankind, Nepalese scholars give us depth and details by articulating intuitions, private feelings, doubts and suspicions which seem to elude the foreigner, however interested. When I make this observation, I have many scholarly works in mind; but let me illustrate it, somewhat casually, with Sylvain Levi himself. The tremendous sweep and breadth of imagination that Levi has brought to bear on the study and understanding of Nepalese history because of his insightful detachment and intellectual power is one that no national historian can possibly match. He has provided a perspective to the meaning of our history which has not yet been replaced. Yet, a Nepalese reader who goes through and reflects on this history is likely to feel that his private fears and intimate feelings have failed to get fully recaptured. For example, we are left with the impression when we have read Levi's book that during the Anglo-Nepal War of 1814-1816 the British were obliged to react to the Gurkhas' aggressive encroachments. But to a Nepalese mind, this view does not seem to take full account of the apprehension that Nepal felt for its very survival as the British extended their empire in India, coming from 6,000 miles away. Similarly, even today we have yet to read a book which adequately expresses, in all nuances, the kind of feeling we have as a land-locked country situated between 580 million Indians and 800 million Chinese. The normal approach of a foreign scholar on Nepal is to regard India or China or both as threats or Nepal as irrelevant, depending on which side of the so-called balance of power he wishes to stay. But the actual Nepalese feeling based on its own sense of history is much more complicated than this formulation would seem to suggest. Nepal is intensely meaningful to the Nepalese and this meaning has a historical and geopolitical dimension. If foreign scholars are unable to enter into such intimate private feelings, they also save us fortunately from our own narrowness, parochialism and national arrogance. As the experience of other countries shows, this is necessary because, with rare exceptions, national historians in any country have generally tended to believe that the world moves round their country and their civilization and to their tune. The fact that the conditions in one country require a different application of certain universal social, economic and political principles, coupled with an exaggerated sense of national pride, has led nations to write and interpret history and sciences in their own respective images. Even in Nepal we sometimes hear of Nepalese arithmetic as if the four fundamental rules will bend to our requirement. This national egocentrism is universal in this world.

But if we take the history of any country for serious examination we will find that the combined contributions of national and foreign scholars to its understanding are what actually matter, because together they provide a more significant total picture. It is no accident that one of the best historians of the United States is a foreigner, a Frenchman, just as some such historians for Nepal are foreigners, too. Native and foreign scholars cancel each other's prejudices, balance each other's judgment and thus further the cause of disinterested search for truth. So, in my judgment, the contention that no foreigner, however educated, can write the history of Nepal deserves to be received with as much scepticism as the opposite claim that national historians and scholars have added nothing significant to what foreigners have written. Whatever may be the private claim of any

foreign or native scholar in our context, the present knowledge of Nepal is a joint product. Therefore, I was particularly happy that the philosophy that guided the Nepal Studies Association when it was founded is that a meaningful scholarship on Nepal has to be joint and co-operative between the Nepalese and foreign scholars. It seems to me that this is a philosophy which has a continuing validity, though I realize, as we deliberate the future of the Association, that philosophy must give way to practical limitations.

I am deeply grateful to you all--the members of the Association--for the scholarly interest that you have shown in Nepal and for the opportunity you have so generously given me to share some ideas with you. Thank you very much indeed.

NSA Carbondale Conference -- Open Meeting

An open meeting of the Association was held at the National Conference November 1, 1974, at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. The Executive Committee was represented by Merrill Goodall, Robert Norman (Treasurer), Willi Unsoeld, John Scholz (ex-officio) and John Hitchcock (Chairman). Robert Norman presented the Treasurer's report, showing sufficient funds to support the projected Humanities Seminar in Kathmandu, Spring, 1975.

The problem of support for the Newsletter was discussed. The Ford grant is terminating and little financial aid can be expected from the South Asia Regional Council of the Association for Asian Studies. The Newsletter reaches all members and is the vital thread holding the organization together. Hence it is a matter of high priority to make the Newsletter financially self-supporting. Editor John Scholz estimated that raising annual dues from \$3 to \$5 would make this possible. Since the constitution specifies that dues shall be only \$3 (or 3 rupees for members residing in Nepal) a proposal to amend the constitution was put forward. The constitution now reads:

"Annual dues are three dollars or three rupees, in accordance with a member's principal source of income."

The proposed amendment would strike this sentence and add (As No. 11 under the section " . . . the functions of the Executive Committee include:") the following phrase:

"Deciding what dues must be charged for membership in the Association."

The proposed amendment passed unanimously. It now must be submitted to the membership by mail ballot and if supported by a majority will be part of the constitution.

Estimating that under terms of the new three-year fund grant to the Association for Asian Studies, the NSA could expect to receive (through its

representation on the Nepal Country Committee on the South Asia Regional Council) not more than \$1500 per year, the Chairman noted that if the NSA is to obtain the additional funds needed for activities such as regional and national meetings, seminars in Nepal, etc., all members - but particularly the Executive Committee - must actively seek donors. Since a percentage of any grant funnelled through the AAS is deducted by the AAS for administrative expenses, advisability of incorporating the NSA as a non-profit organization, so that it could receive tax deductible donations on its own, was discussed at some length. The Chairman was asked to investigate the process of incorporation and to discuss the step with appropriate AAS officers. The following is the Chairman's report:

In keeping with suggestions made at the open meeting, I conferred with a member of the Wisconsin Law School faculty whose specialty is corporate law. By odd chance he was just completing papers of incorporation for an organization similar to ours in which his daughter was involved. Costs for the necessary papers were 50 cents and the charge for filing with the Wisconsin Secretary of State was \$25.00. The more difficult papers were those required by the Internal Revenue Service. The professor (speaking, he said, as a professor and not a Main Street lawyer) assured me that though formidable enough to discourage incorporation as a tax dodge, the IRS papers were not beyond the abilities of a non-lawyer. He generously offered to check all papers if the NSA decided to incorporate in Wisconsin. Should we do this, one person in the NSA must be listed as "corporate agent" at a cost of \$1.00. He is the one on whom any processes will be served.

I talked with Larry Ziring of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, Inc. They incorporated in Delaware, with a lawyer's fee of \$750. Larry wasn't sure why they incorporated in Delaware. However, the Wisconsin lawyer said they probably incorporated there because many cases in corporate law have been decided in Delaware courts and when very large sums and sums from foreign governments were involved (which was the case with the Pakistan group) there is some legal advantage in having many relevant precedent cases. Larry said that the AAS not only was supportive but gave them \$500 to help defray costs of incorporating. Members of the Institute form the Pakistan Country Committee of the South Asia Regional Council.

Harold Gould, Chairman of the South Asia Regional Council, gave his frank reaction to the possibility of our incorporating and seeking funds independently. He had no objections at all. He said he conceived of the SARC mainly as a body to help start potentially independent organizations such as ours and added that we had been overly optimistic in counting on SARC for \$1500 a year. It very probably would be much less. We would have to seek additional funds on our own and if incorporation was a useful option, we by all means should take it.

A long conversation with Richard Park, Secretary-Treasurer of AAS, was very helpful. He understood well why we were considering the possibility of incorporation and offered practical advice. A point he stressed strongly was the necessity of clearing with the IRS and said we should not underestimate the difficulty. He said that if we obtained small grants (e.g. \$2-3000) and wished to have the AAS administer them, he would exert his

good offices in an attempt to keep charges down to about 10%. For larger grants AAS administration would be much more expensive.

In view of the above, I would propose that the NSA grant permission to the Executive Committee to incorporate the organization if it seems advisable. In my opinion it seems inadvisable at the present time if the financial support we are able to secure is small (e.g. \$2-3,000). On the other hand, if we are able to secure fairly substantial amounts as a non-profit organization, it seems sensible. We would not offend the Association for Asian Studies and I believe we would spend less than the Association administrative costs. I suggest, therefore, that we ballot with the following proposal:

That the Executive Committee be empowered to incorporate the Nepal Studies Association (under the title Nepal Studies Association, Inc.) if it seems advisable.

Due to lack of time, it was impossible to discuss a matter that had been brought before the Executive Committee by Terry Beck. So many student groups now are going to Nepal for summer sessions or semesters that the possibility of an on-going orientation center in Nepal seems worth exploring. The Chairman will discuss this possibility in Nepal with organizations likely to play a role if such a center comes into being.

The Executive Committee held a meeting with Dean U. M. Malla, Institute of Humanities, Tribhuvan University. This spring following the coronation, he will organize a seminar for scholars in the humanities, following a pattern similar to the earlier seminar for Social Scientists. He called to our attention the fact that HMG, with the Social Science Seminar in mind, had organized a similar gathering of "hard" scientists.

John Hitchcock

NSA Carbondale Conference--Summary of Presentations

On Sunday, November 3, 1974, the final session of the conference was devoted to summaries by session leaders of all the presentations and ensuing discussions. The following brief report of that session indicates the variety of speakers and subjects discussed at the conference:

1. Robert T. Norman, "Intermediate Technology." The choice of tools and techniques of production is a major determinant of future development in Nepal. Large-scale energy and capital intensive technologies are inappropriate for the conditions in Nepal, and are causing many problems in the U. S. More attention should be given to developing intermediate technologies which would be both more suitable for Nepal and less destructive to the individuals who must work with them.
2. Rex Jones, "Indigenous Religions." Two basic needs of Nepalese villagers are catered to by Shamans: physiological and psychological. Although the Shaman may not be very effective in treating disease or other physiological disturbances, he is generally very skillful in spiritual

healing. This counselling service may be very important to the development process.

3. James L. Fisher, "School Abroad Programs." Although foreign scholars have been involved in Nepal for over 20 years, undergraduate school abroad programs have just been going to Nepal for the past few years. Tribhuvan University will now sponsor responsible programs, and New ERA can provide some services. There is, however, a need to coordinate the ever-increasing number of these programs and standardize the registration procedures. Also more contact with Nepalese students would be advisable if it could be arranged.

4. Melvyn Goldstein, Edward H. Worcester, Willi Unsoeld, Don Messerschmidt, Richard Palmieri, "High Altitude Peoples." Several sessions were held, including slides of the Northern Peoples of Far Western Nepal, Palmieri's talk on cultural ecology and geography, and a panel discussion during which the following points were discussed: local trade possibilities with China; tourism and the ensuing problems of fuel, food, deforestation and other environmental degradation, and the impact on the present culture; improved agriculture through improved herding techniques and conversion of pastures to cultivated fields.

5. Alice Rector, Donald Paige, Jack Graham, Herbert Portz, Uprenda Man Malla, and Chuda Nath Aryal, "Education." The panel discussed several issues in Nepal's educational policies, including the changes in higher education under the New Education Plan, the role of vocational education in Nepal's development strategy, and the problems in teacher education posed by the New Educational Plan.

6. J.N.B. Shrestha, "Agricultural Production." A strategy to improve animal production in Nepal was outlined, combining research, education, programs for upgrading present stocks, and yearly evaluation of progress.

7. Terence Bech, "Ethnomusicology." Whereas other musicologists have been content to simply collect oral traditions and interpret them within the Western study of music, Bech approaches music in its cultural and personal setting. He has collected music and life-history data on 17 groups in Nepal, and concentrates on the interrelations among the artist, his product, and the society in which he lives. He referred in his talk primarily to the Gainis from the Pokhara area.

8. Henry Taylor, "Ethological Studies in Nepal." Ethology can bridge the gap between the social and natural sciences. Nepal's own efforts to date have focused on creating National Parks, collecting data on types and numbers of wildlife, and cataloguing known medicinal herbs and plants. Taylor reviewed his study of monkeys in the Kathmandu Valley, and outlined plans to expand research to include the tarai.

9. Carl Taylor, Robert Miller, Melvyn Thorne, "Population." Nepalese officials must cope with these realities: Nepal's population will probably double in the next 30 years even with a successful family planning program; the ongoing malaria eradication program is backsliding, and must be carried

on without foreign assistance; reduced mortality rates are probably due to long-term effects such as better nutrition, economic development, etc., and do not necessarily demonstrate the effectiveness of national health policies; the present 200 family-planning clinics contact only 10-20% of the population, and only 1-4% actually use their services. Nepal's population policy must integrate present programs for family planning and health services, must talk of incremental improvements instead of solutions, and must experiment with various options and involve other Ministries in population programs.

10. Thomas Ballinger, "Contemporary Art." The artist is most sensitive to cultural changes which are not detected by social science measurement and computer analyses, but which are equally important in understanding and interpreting present developments in Nepal. Ballinger illustrated this theme with slides and a talk on a Nepali artist, Lainsingh Bangdel.

11. Deepak Shimkhada, "Nepali Mural Painting." Slides of 17th through 19th century Nepalese mural paintings were used to illustrate the originality of this Nepalese artistic tradition.

12. Ronald Bernier, "Art and Architecture." An illustrated talk describing which aspects of Nepalese temple architecture are original, which have been selectively borrowed from the Indian and Tibetan cultures, and how they fit together. Bernier stressed the importance of the mandala as the basic plan for Nepalese pagodas. Instead of simply decrying the destruction of architectural unity or the disappearance of sacred art objects in modern Nepal, he drew attention to the restoration of the temples, the continued organic growth of the religion, and the increased study of Nepalese culture.

Summaries for two sessions were not given on Sunday: John Beyer's lecture on Nepal's economic policy and the types of research projects which would improve Nepal's ability to control its economy; and the panel discussion by Asad Husain, James Lynch and G. Munir Ahmed on various aspects of Nepal's foreign policy.

NSA Members--Changes of Address and Announcements

FREDERICK H. GAIGE, 459 E. 55th St., Kansas City, Mo. 64110

KRISHNA PRADHAN, 309K Eagle Hts., Madison, Wi. 53705

JOHN RUSSELL, 7766 Caminito Glorita, San Diego, Ca. 92122

RUTH L. SCHMIDT'S address for 1974-75 will be: c/o U.S. Education Foundation in Pakistan, 511 Ramna 6/4, 84th St., Ataturk Ave., P.O. Box 1128, Islamabad, Pakistan. She has married Hugh S. Plunkett and will be accompanying him in his research in Hazara District. Please address mail to Ruth Schmidt Plunkett.

DEEPAK SHIMKHADA, 5316 S. Dorchester Ave. #101, Chicago, Ill. 60615

New NSA Members

MARTHA L. ANDERSON, 2319 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., 20037, is currently involved in research in the area of health and its relation to socioeconomic development in Nepal, under the sponsorship of USAID/TAB/H.

V. NORMAN ANTHONY, Stouffer Place 5-8, Lawrence, Ks. 66044, is interested in education in developing counties. A citizen of Singapore, he has been a teacher for 17 years.

CHUDA NATH ARYAL, Institute of Education, Kirtipur, Nepal, wrote his Master's thesis on planning elementary education in Nepal, and will continue his work in educational planning for his dissertation at Southern Illinois University.

R.P. BASHYAL, 300 Arundel St., St. Paul, Minn. 55103, is primarily interested in child education.

JOHN H. and DOROTHY E. BEHRENS, 1 Willowbrook Court, Champaign, Ill. 61820, visited Nepal while working as Publications and Communication Advisor at J. Nehru Agricultural University in Madhya Pradesh. They are interested in various issues in agricultural education, and may return to Nepal in the near future.

PATRICK HENRY BUCKLEY, 2517 N. 100th St., Wauwatosa, Wis. 53226, worked in Eastern Nepal from 1971-73 on rural water supply. He is interested in Nepal's history and in feasible development projects for rural villages.

KENNETH H. JOHNSON, 114 Sharwill Court, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, was a Peace Corps Agricultural Extension Volunteer in Nawal-Parasi during 1967-8. He is interested in infrastructural development work (roads, irrigation systems, buildings), and would like to return to Nepal in a professional engineering capacity.

CHIU-WEN LEU, The China Academy, Hwa Kang, Yangmingshan, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China, has studied and published articles on the historical and anthropological relations between China and Nepal. He teaches a course on the border regions of Western China.

UWE LUCK, c/o German Volunteer Service, Box 442, Kathmandu, Nepal, is the resident director of the German Volunteer Service in Nepal and shares a general interest in the field of development aid.

DOSS MABE, 51 Hillhouse Ave., New Haven, Conn. 06520, has studied Nepalese social organization and language in preparation for a two-year research project in Nepal described below in the section on current research. His interests are scholarly and humanistic, directed to Nepal as a part of South and Central Asia and focusing on "post-colonial developments in precapitalist modes as they are confronted by various developmental problems."

RAJAN L. MASKAY, 701 E. Grand Ave., Apt. 6B, Carbondale, Ill. 62901, is an engineer studying for the MBA and interested in residence development.

ALFRED PACH III, 12 Fairview Ave., Summit, N.J. 07901, has studied the language, culture, music and religion of Nepal in preparation for a semester in Nepal with the University of Wisconsin program. He is especially interested in folk songs and shamanism.

DON PAIGE, Department of Elementary Education, Southern Illinois University has been involved in elementary teacher training in Nepal.

RICHARD P. PALMIERI, 21 Pine St., Arlington, Mass. 02174, studied cultural geography, cultural history, and high altitude ecology in Northern Nepal in 1972-73.

VALWORTH R. PLUMB, 5107 London Road, Duluth, Minn. 55804, worked with the Ford Foundation as Educational Consultant to Tribhuvan University in 1967-68 and in 1970. His interest in Nepal is in harmonizing the educational development with other overall developmental objectives.

HERBERT L. PORTZ, P.O. Box 165, Carbondale, Ill., was a USAID Agricultural Advisor in Kathmandu from 1967-69. In this capacity he wrote many reports about vocational agriculture, and has since used materials from Nepal in teaching his course on World Crops. Currently involved in a USAID contract application for assisting in Higher Education in Nepal.

HEMANTA S. RANA, 1603 Cram Circle #1, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105, has been a lecturer in Tribhuvan University's Department of History since 1967.

MAX J. RIEKSA, 136 Maple St., Fruitport, Mich. 49415, is interested in scholarly study of religion in Nepal.

TARINI SHARMA, 703I Eagle Height, Madison, Wisc., 53708, is interested in the education and culture of Nepal and the U.S. She has taught Nepali to Americans interested in Nepal.

BISHNU SHITLAULA, 1076 Georgia, Sullivan, Mo. 63080, is a citizen of Nepal.

THOMAS WARREN STIMSON, 2313 S. Elm Dr., Denver, Col. 80222, is interested in Nepal's arts and crafts, and plans to begin a research project described below in the section on current research.

MORROW F. STOUGH, 3502 Garrison St., San Diego, Ca. 92106, is interested in developmental teacher-education.

TULSI P. UPRETI, 2340 Bancroft Ave., Berkeley, Ca. 94704, travelled extensively throughout Nepal as an anthropological research associate. Currently he is studying economics and administration in pursuit of his general interest in the administration of development in Nepal.

PAULA WESTMORELAND, 932 Park St., Grinnell, Ia. 50112, studied in Nepal

with the Associated Colleges of the Midwest Program, 1973. Her special interest is agricultural economics and the changing agrarian patterns in Nepal.

RAMAWATER YADAV, Templin Hall #621, 1515 Engels Rd., Lawrence, Ks. 66044, has worked and published articles for TEFL courses in Nepal. He is currently studying linguistics, and plans to work on the phonology of Maithili for his dissertation.

II. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER NEPAL-ORIENTED ORGANIZATIONS

Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS)

Under Nepal's New Education Plan, all facilities of higher education have been reorganized into 12 institutes. Professor Uprenda Man Malla, Dean of the IHSS, gives the following information about the IHSS and suggestions for foreign scholars lost in the new institutional maze.

The purpose of the IHSS is to promote academic excellence in the teaching and research activities in humanities and social sciences. To this end all relevant departments on 26 different campuses throughout Nepal are under the jurisdiction of the Institute. For 1974-75, over 10,000 students will be enrolled in the IHSS's four levels of higher education: certificate, diploma, degree, and Ph. D. research (about 15 students are in this category). The main function of the 500 faculty members is teaching, although around 20 are also engaged in outside-funded research projects. Dr. P. P. Timilsina is currently directing one such project collecting economic data and C. B. Shresta is leading a team of geographers, both under contract with the National Planning Commission.

All foreign scholars must register with Dean Prayag Raj Sharma at the Institute of Nepal and Asian Studies, which is primarily a research-oriented organization. In addition, scholars may benefit by meeting informally with the head of the department in their field of specialization, the Dean of whichever institute that department belongs to (Dean Malla for most non-professional fields outside the natural sciences), and the University Rector, Dr. Mohan Man Sainju.

Memorial For the Late Ambassador Henry Stebbins

Many members of the NSA recall the generous and far-sighted leadership that Ambassador Henry Stebbins gave to Americans working in Nepal during the 1960's. A number of people I've talked to recently--principally ex-PCV's--feel that it would be an appropriate gesture to build a chautara or something of the sort to honor his memory. A fund has been established to this end, and everyone who would like to contribute should send a check to me at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. 55057.

Jim Fisher

Nepal-Berkeley Family Planning/Maternal and Child Health Program

The Nepal-Berkeley FP/MCH Program at the School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, is providing technical assistance to the Family Planning/Maternal and Child Health Program of Nepal. The USAID contract calls for the placement of four advisors in Nepal and one and a half positions on the Berkeley Campus. The objectives of this program are to strengthen Nepal's existing population/family planning program personnel and to develop through carefully planned, small scale experiments a set of service delivery modules which have the demonstrated capacity to recruit and to sustain a relatively high percentage of target couples in the practice of family size limitation.

Of possible interest to members of the NSA is the fact that the Campus is developing a resource material file on projects in Nepal which may be made available to interested parties working in collaboration with Nepalese Nationals. In addition, program data may be made available with similar work arrangements.

At present there is a position open for a Field Operations/Training Specialist with substantial experience in international family planning programs to act as an advisor in Nepal.

Further information is available by contacting Dr. Robert A. Miller, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

New Educational Reform Associates, Inc. (New ERA)

New ERA has recently completed its first project in non-formal education. The project's broad objectives were "to obtain data and information required to identify and develop various non-formal educational techniques and to assist USAID and HMG in the identification and investigation of various techniques and procedures which might be effective and relevant in Nepal in order to determine potential directions and priorities for future development in the field of non-formal education." The project was directed by Roger C. Cranse and was funded by USAID. The University of Massachusetts provided stateside backstopping and two consultants, Dr. Horace Reed and Mr. B. Russel.

Two reports have been developed by the project. The first, entitled Non-Formal Education in Nepal - A Survey Overview of Education Activities Taking Place Outside the Formal Education System, deals with the broad objectives noted above, while the second, entitled Radio Listening Patterns in Nepal, represents an initial effort to develop information relating to the potential of radio as a tool for non-formal education in Nepal.

New ERA also recently completed a project to study the effectiveness of the training of medical personnel and to develop recommendations for the improvement of their training. This project was directed by Mr. Bal Gopal Vaidya and was funded by the Institute of Medicine, largely because of interest stimulated by the information gathered in an earlier project conducted for

the National Planning Commission on the training of middle level manpower. The medical manpower project's final report is expected to be printed early next year.

The National Planning Commission has recently published New ERA's Middle Level Manpower Follow-Up Study which examined the problem of attrition from government service of trained middle level technicians. Agricultural extension workers, overseers, foresters, nurses and auxiliary health workers were among the groups of trained technicians examined.

New ERA is currently engaged in its largest project to date--a study for UNICEF on educational materials. This project's purpose is to investigate the use made of educational materials provided through past UNICEF assistance to Nepali schools and to examine the current and future requirements of the schools as new curricula, developed under the National Education System Plan, are implemented across the country. An attempt will be made to determine the factors which prevent teachers from making effective use of the educational materials which have been provided. The project is being directed by New ERA's Executive Secretary, Douglas E. Hall.

In addition to completed and current projects, a long list of potential future projects is currently being developed. Under active consideration are continued work with the Institute of Medicine, additional work in the area of non-formal education and work on Peace Corps training programs.

Peter Cross

Study Programs--Evergreen State College

Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington 98501, is sponsoring a study trip to Nepal in 1975. For further information, contact Professor Willi Unsoeld at the College.

Study Programs--India/Nepal/Bangladesh Travel-Study Program: Summer 1975

Southern Illinois University is sponsoring an 8 week travel-study course to South Asia. The group will spend two weeks touring India, one week in Bangladesh, and 7-10 days in Nepal, and then pursue independent studies for the rest of the period. One to 12 credit hours can be earned in Asian Studies, Philosophy, Religion or General Studies Courses at SIU. Total cost beginning and ending in New York will be \$1600 plus \$10-\$13 per credit hour. For more information and application forms, write to Professor Bhagwan B. Singh, Department of Philosophy, or Dean Bradley, Continuing Education Program, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. 62901.

Study Programs--Pitzer College: Spring 1975

A limited number of Pitzer College undergraduates will study in Nepal during the Spring semester of 1975. Candidates for the semester are studying

language under the direction of Jyoti K. Sharma, a doctoral student in the Claremont Graduate School. Other course-work required of all candidates is taught by Professors Alan Greenberger (history--Pitzer College), Don Brenneis and Susan Seymour (both anthropology, Pitzer College), and Merrill R. Goodall (government, Claremont Graduate School). A committee composed of Pitzer College faculty and students is responsible for final selection of participating students. The director of External Studies at Pitzer College is Professor James Jamieson who is responsible for the overall direction of the program.

Study Programs--Psychology and Meditation: A Seminar in Kathmandu -
January 5 - February 5, 1974

This month-long seminar in Kathmandu is designed for 20 participants who wish to learn more about eastern psycho-philosophies and meditation practices. The seminar will be led by Venerable Bhikkhu Sumangala, head of the Gana Mahavihara monastery in Kathmandu, Sri Ram Prasad Manandhar, former ambassador, professor, and noted lecturer on Hinduism, Buddhism and Nepalese culture, and Henry Ganzler, Ph. D., private psychologist, director of counseling at Santa Cruz Community Counseling Center, and a student of Bhikkhu Sumangala. Total cost from San Francisco would be \$1,400. For further information, contact Henry Ganzler, 507 Lincoln St., Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060.

Study Programs--University of Oregon

A group of 30-40 people will study for one month in Nepal and (optionally) an additional two weeks in India under the auspices of the University of Oregon. The focus of the study will be the educational system, with supporting emphasis on the general background and culture of the people of Nepal. Special arrangements will be made to meet the various and special interests of members of the group, which is expected to include educators, persons interested in the several social sciences, and others with more general interests.

Co-directors of the study program will be Professor Emeritus Hugh B. Wood, a specialist in comparative education who has spent more than six years in Nepal and Jennelle Moorhead, Professor of Health Education, who for the past 10 years has been directing similar study tours to South America, Europe and USSR. Lecturers in Nepal will include outstanding Nepalese scholars in various fields, many of whom have studied at the University of Oregon and other American universities.

The University of Oregon will offer 6-12 quarter hours of graduate and/or undergraduate credit for the study program. The seminar participants will leave New York City on July 5, 1975. Those interested in joining the group and/or in receiving further details should write immediately to either of the Seminar directors, 1479 Moss Street, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403.

Study Programs--University of Wisconsin/Madison

The Wisconsin Semester in Nepal, a serious academic program for credit from the University of Wisconsin, is planned for 15 weeks, running approximately from January 1, 1975 to April 15, 1975. Semester activities will be centered mainly in the Kathmandu Valley, the site of the capitol city, Kathmandu. Board and room will be provided in carefully selected Nepali families. Arrangements for board and room will be made by The New ERA, Inc. Assisted by John T. Hitchcock (Professor, University of Wisconsin - Madison), New ERA also will provide instruction in three study units: Nepali Language (6 units credit), Nepal Area Studies (3), and Independent Projects (6).

Prior to departure, the students will have completed two introductory courses in Madison: a 5 unit Nepali language course taught by Krishna B. Pradhan; and a 3 unit "Peoples and Cultures in Nepal" taught by John T. Hitchcock. In addition, practical orientation in matters of health and life styles will be provided informally. The total costs excluding tuition at Madison will be about \$1,900. Further information may be obtained by writing to Professor John Hitchcock, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

III. FILMS AND TAPES, DISSERTATIONS, CURRENT RESEARCH, AND NEW BOOKS ON NEPAL

Research Movie and Tape Archives in Europe

Johan Reinhard sent the following information on archives where he has deposited many of his research materials. Both archives are non-profit organizations whose purpose is to preserve field research materials and make them available to interested scholars. Institut für den Wissenschaftlichen Film, Nonnenstieg 72, 34 Göttingen, West Germany, sells copies of research movies and, under certain circumstances, lends them to Universities. A list of all anthropological films available is given in ALLGEMEINE UND REGIONALE ETHNOLOGIE, TEILVERZEICHNIS V, including about 25 films of varying length on Tibetan subjects and several on other peoples of Nepal. Phonogrammarchiv der Osterreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, A-1010 Wien 1, Liebiggasse 5, Austria, collects tape recordings of wedding ceremonies, dance music, shaman seances, linguistic phrases, and other documentable recordings from field research. Each tape is broken into easily retrievable units with complete documentation of dates, performers, surrounding circumstances. Some come with accompanying photographs and written notes. A book listing available recordings by topic is available from the Phonogrammarchiv.

Nepalese Language Instructional Tape Recordings

Willi Unsoeld uncovered the following sources for instructional tape recordings of Nepalese language courses: Evergreen College has an entire set of the Summer Institute of Linguistics' "Conversational Nepali" tapes. For information on availability, write to Willi Unsoeld, Route 6, Box 543,

Olympia, Washington 98502. Both the University of California/Berkeley and the University of Wisconsin/Madison have taped lessons accompanying Ruth Schmidt's "Nepali Conversation Manual." Copies may be obtained from Duplication Service, Language Laboratory, B-40 Dwinelle Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720 for \$6.30 per 7" reel (3 hours) or \$8.20 per cassette (1 1/2 hours). For more information on the University of Wisconsin tapes, write to Krishna B. Pradhan, 309-K Eagle Heights, Madison, Wisconsin 53705--he is also in the process of developing a new series of tapes designed more specifically for university students.

Current and Proposed Research Projects

CHARLES ROSS ANTHONY, Department of Economics, University of Pennsylvania, "will develop a statistical production approach to measuring health. Inputs would include doctors, medicine, preventive medical practices, attitudes, housing density . . ." A comparison will be made between data collected in Nepal and in the U. S., and policy implications will be considered.

WALTER A. FRANK, University of Köln, will be in Nepal until April, 1975, extending his previous study of ethnological demography into the districts of Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Syangya, Parbat, and, if possible, Manang.

DOSS MABE, Department of Anthropology, Yale University, will spend two years beginning January, 1975 in a Gurung village in Lamjung District. His study, concerned primarily with agrarian relations, "will be aimed at producing a theoretical description of movements and contradictions among the several modes of production in Gurung village society, with a view toward structural comparisons with other highland social formations of Asia. [He] will gather data on general economic conditions, local descent groups and affinal and political alliances, ritual practices such as the pe cult of the sabru 'lords of the soil,' . . ." The problems of state formation and the political situation in Lamjung prior to the Gorkha conquest will be addressed, data permitting.

DAVID RUBIN, Department of Literature, Sarah Lawrence College, has been studying twentieth-century Nepalese poetry, especially the writings of Lakshmi Prasad Devkota. He has made several trips to Nepal to search for and copy many out-of-print volumes and periodicals.

JOHN CHARLES RUSSELL, Department of Anthropology, University of California at San Diego, "will examine how a religious complex influences perception, interpretation and interaction in social relationships, particularly concentrating upon various religious specialists' roles in performing medico-religious functions."

JOHN THOMAS SCHOLZ, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, will spend 14 months in Nepal beginning in February, 1975, studying the effects of alternative administrative organizational forms on district-level policy implementation. Several policy issues which affect the development of rural areas will be followed from their inception and original formulation through to their implementation in selected districts.

THOMAS WARREN STIMSON, Department of Fine Arts, University of Colorado, plans to compare the arts and crafts of two different areas in Nepal in conjunction with his B.F.A. He will survey both the history and present-day production of items in Rolwaling in the hills and either Dang or Janakpur in the tarai. In addition, he will experiment with alternative methods of teaching Western art skills to children in the two areas.

Dissertations on Nepal

Aziz, Barbara Norma. THE PEOPLE OF DINGRI: A SOCIO-HISTORICAL PORTRAIT OF A COMMUNITY IN SOUTHWEST TIBET. University of London/SOAS, 1974, 422 pp. An ethnographic presentation of the economic and social structure of Dingri society, focusing on the nature and significance of the household and its implication for kinship and marriage among Tibetans.

Kleinert, Christian. HAUS- UND SIEDLUNGSFORMEN IM NEPAL. (The Forms of Housing and Settlements in Nepal). University of Aachen (West Germany)/Institut für Stadtebau, 1973, 132 pp. (Printed in Himalaya, Hochgebirgsforschung Heft 4, München, 1973). The relation between rural house types and settlement patterns in the natural environment in Nepal.

Sharma, Kunjar M. THE ECONOMIC THEME IN NEPALI FOREIGN POLICY: AN HISTORICAL ANALYSIS UP TO THE END OF THE ANGLO-NEPAL WAR. University of Denver, 1973, 233 pp. DAI 34 (June 1974) 7861-A; UM 74-12, 495.

Shimkhada, Deepak. NEPALI PAINTING AND RAJPUT STYLE. University of Southern California (M.A.), 1974. A comparative study of Nepali paintings in the context of the Rajput tradition of India, emphasizing the distinctive characteristics of Nepali murals, scrolls, and miniatures.

New Books on Nepal

Beyer, John. BUDGET INNOVATIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: THE EXPERIENCE OF NEPAL. New York: Praeger Publishers. 1973 (187 pp.; \$15)
This study of innovations introduced between 1968 and 1972 into the heart of Nepal's public administration--its budgetary process--was undertaken by one of the participants. Most of Mr. Beyer's analysis addresses his central question, "how can the traditional budgeting systems of developing countries be transformed into more effective instruments for national economic development?". He considers in detail the implications of each proposed innovation for Nepal's resource allocation process. In addition, he indirectly considers the problems involved in any attempt to change administrative procedures by inquiring into the sources of the innovations, the conditions which allowed them to be introduced, the strategy of those favoring the innovations, and the causes of success and failure of the innovations to gain wider acceptance.

Gaige, Frederick H. REGIONALISM AND NATIONAL UNITY IN NEPAL. Berkeley: University of California Press. June 1975 (272 pp.; \$13.75)

In one of the very few major studies of Nepal's tarai region, Mr. Gaige analyzes the economic importance of the tarai to Nepal's economy, discusses government attempts to integrate the plains into the dominant hill culture, and examines the resulting political tensions. Based on survey research in 5 tarai districts as well as government documentation and extensive informal interviewing, this revised Ph. D. dissertation considers the effect of such policies as citizenship and choice of language for elementary schools on the tension between the politically dominant hill peoples and the economically well-established plains peoples.

Goodall, Merrill R. (ed.). THE CONFERENCE ON NEPAL AT CLAREMONT. 1974 (46 pp.)

Distributed free to NSA members. Mail requests to Professor Merrill R. Goodall, Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, CA 91711. Contains summaries of papers delivered at the NSA Claremont Conference, Feb. 22-24, 1974 by Richard Palmieri, Robert Hoffpauir, John Scholz, Edna Mitchell, Louis Alcorta, Don Messerschmidt, Catherine Houghton, Robert Miller, Thomas Ballinger, and Deepak Shimkhada.

Hosken, Fran P. THE KATHMANDU VALLEY TOWNS: A RECORD OF LIFE AND CHANGE IN NEPAL. New York: John Weatherhill, Inc. 1974. (336 pp., 422 photos, maps; \$40)

This illustrated account of the history, daily life, architecture and religious festivals of Kathmandu Valley gains unity through the perspective of an architect specializing in urban planning and development. Ms. Hosken's major theme, as reflected in the organization of this book, is that rational planning for the valley's future must be started before the aesthetic harmony, ecological balance, and traditional way of life are completely destroyed by uncontrolled change.

Kulöy, Hallvard K. (ed.). KAILASH - A JOURNAL OF HIMALAYAN STUDIES. Annual subscription is \$10, or 40 rupees in Nepal. Write to Ratna Pustak Bhandar, Bothahity Tole, Kathmandu, Nepal.

A periodical appearing 2-4 times a year with scholarly articles and book reviews dealing primarily with various Himalayan cultures. Volume I (1973) appeared in 4 issues containing such articles as "Bonpo Studies: The A Khrid System of Meditation" by Per Kvaerne, "Recently Discovered Inscriptions of Licchavi Nepal" by Gautamvajra Vajracharya, "Slave Trade on the Indo-Nepal Border in the Nineteenth Century" by Alex Wayman, and "Structure and Division in Kulunge Rai Society" by Charles McDougal. Volume II (1974) issue 1-2 contains 24 plates and the following articles in 148 pages: "The Art of Nickolas Roerich," by Edgar Lansbury; "Works on Lahaul and Spiti," by Uttar Bahadur; "The Evolution of Devanagiri Script," (in Nepali, with summary in English), by Shankarman Rajbansi; "Myths and Facts: Reconsidering Some Data Concerning the Clan History of the Sherpas," by Michael Oppitz; and "A Review of Basohli Style in Indian Painting" by Chandramani Singh.

Kathmandu School of Journalism. WHO IS WHO--NEPAL: 1972-74. Limited edition, available at Kathmandu School of Journalism, P.O. Box 1381, Kathmandu, Nepal. (\$15 plus postage)

This first biographical dictionary of distinguished Nepalese, created

especially for the Coronation, contains information on the family relations, age, education, activities, honors, and other items of interest about 400 individuals distinguished in such fields as administration, politics, education, health, and finance.

Locke, John K. RATO MATSYENDRANATH OF PATAN AND BUNGAMATI. Kathmandu: Institute of Nepal and Asian Studies. May, 1973. (118 pp.)

This book attempts to investigate the complex, evolving culture of Kathmandu Valley by focusing on "Rato Matsyendranath"--the image kept in the Matsyendranath temple in Patan--and the cult that has grown up around this image. Special emphasis is placed on the annual "Chariot Festival." The author has drawn on historical sources, present literature and interviews to obtain a more complete overview of the temples, the "Chariot Festival," legends, and probable origins of the cult of Matsyendranath. In the concluding chapter, various theories about the origins and development of this cult are considered from the broader perspective of Northern Indian Buddhism and the Nath cult.

Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities, Inc. HIGHER EDUCATION IN AGRICULTURE IN NEPAL. Single copies obtainable from the Office of the Executive Director, MUCIA, Room 200, Center for International Programs, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich. 48824.

This report describes the current state of higher education in agriculture, explores alternative policies, and makes recommendations for further developments.

NEPAL TRADE AND INFORMATION DIRECTORY. Kathmandu: Eastern Trading and Investment Co. 1972/73, to be published annually.

A yearbook valuable mainly for its economic data and directory of commercial and other institutions in Nepal.

Ray, Amita. ART OF NEPAL. New Delhi: Indian Council for Cultural Relations. 1973. (158 pp.; 40 rupees I.C.)

This monograph is "a brief general study aimed at presenting in a somewhat integrated manner the plastic arts of Nepal in the context of the life of her people, their history and religious culture. Separate chapters in the 72 pages of text discuss Nepal's architecture, sculpture and bronzes, wood-carvings and terracottas, paintings, and the pantheon of gods and goddesses. The final 80 pages contain 103 good quality illustrations referred to in the text.

Rana, Pashupati Shumshere J.B. and Kamal P. Malla (eds.). NEPAL IN PERSPECTIVE. Kathmandu: Center for Economic Development and Administration. 1973. (310 pp.; 25 rupees N.C. soft cover, 60 hardcover)

This collection of sixteen essays by some of Nepal's most prominent scholars was conceived by the editors as a search for a unified Nepalese perspective among the various specialized fields of Nepalese study. Although the essays reflect many divergent views among these Nepalese scholars, each one deals with the problems of defining Nepal's identity and identifying "the hurdles in Nepal's chosen path of modernization." Articles on history, culture, politics, and various policy fields are included.

Sharma, Chandra K. GEOLOGY OF NEPAL. Kathmandu: Mani Ram Sharma. 1973. (189 pp.; 35 rupees N.C.)

A general description of Nepal's geology by one of HMG's practicing geologists. Although meant for the general reader as well as students and research geologists, the technical vocabulary and cataloguing approach to geological regions decrease the book's appeal to the uninitiated.

Sharma, Prayag Raj (ed.). SOCIAL SCIENCE IN NEPAL. Kathmandu: Tribhuvan University Press. 1974. Distributed free to NSA members. Write to Prof. Merrill R. Goodall, Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, CA. 91711.

The lively debates and thoughtful position papers characteristic of last year's Social Science Seminar in Kathmandu are reflected in this excellent summary report. Sections on geography, sociology/anthropology, history, political science, public administration, and economics each contain the major article summarizing the present state of teaching and research in the discipline, followed by one or two critical reviews and a report on the general discussion from that discipline's session during the seminar. Some of the articles include short bibliographies, and most attempt to identify problem areas and priorities for the upgrading of teaching and research activities in Nepal.

Shrestha, B.P. and Mohammad Mohsin. A STUDY IN THE WORKING OF GAON PANCHAYATS: A CASE STUDY OF SIX GAON PANCHAYATS OF KASKI DISTRICT. Panchayat Study Series-2. Kathmandu: HMG (121 pp.)

Undertaken jointly by the Home Panchayat Ministry and the Economics Department at Tribhuvan University, this study lists and interprets the results of a survey based on the following questions: "How the micro-units (i.e. Gaon Panchayats) of our indigenous polity behave and function; what are the socio-economic make-up of their operators and functionaries; how the present polity has been conceived by the common citizenry of these Panchayats; and how much confidence has it aroused in the minds of these people about its effectiveness as a medium of development." (p. ii)

Stiller, Ludwig F. THE RISE OF THE HOUSE OF GORKHA: A STUDY IN THE UNIFICATION OF NEPAL 1786-1816. New Delhi: Manjusri Publishing House. 1973. (390 pp.; 45 rupees I.C.)

A scholarly treatment of sources combined with a concise yet dramatic style makes this book interesting for both scholars and general readers alike. After a short description of geographic, geopolitical and economic forces opposing unification on the eve of Prithvinarayan Shah's conquests, Stiller describes Shah's efforts "to solve the riddle posed by these forces and bring them into support of his military efforts." His efforts to bring administrative order to the newly conquered regions is critically examined. Stiller concludes that the army's rapid advance caused a breakdown in the newly formed administrative system and severely weakened Nepal in its 1814-1816 fight against the British, but "Shah's system proved itself strong enough to withstand the shock of military defeat."

