



DOBATO



Vol. XXXIV No. 1 & 2

Newsletter of America-Nepal Society of California, Inc

July 2008

President's Viewpoint

Dear Fellow Members and Friends,

I am very pleased to say that we have published this Dobato. I am very grateful to all of the people, especially Paru Proffitt, who helped us directly or indirectly to bring this issue to our members.

Dear friends, as soon as the current Executive Members took over our responsibility in September 2007, we celebrated "Dashain" in October 2007 with a cultural show and lots of other entertainment. We also organized Nepali New Year 2065 in April 2008. Our Ambassador to the US, His Excellency Dr. Suresh Chandra Chalise, and Mrs. Chalise were the chief guests in the event.



Many of you have not even realized that ANS/CA turns 35 years on Oct. 2008 after passing through a great journey. We are excitedly waiting to celebrate its 35th birthday and Dashain festival together in

October 2008 with lots of activities and entertainment. We will keep you posted with more information in the ANS/CA website. Please check out ANS/CA's website www.ansca.org which was recently



(from left: Virgil Day-Treasurer, Anuj Pradhan-1st V.P., Arjun Tripathi-President, Stephanie Ano-Secretary, Bhushan Pradhan-2nd V.P.)

redesigned with a great look and many useful links, thanks to the dedicated work of Ashish Pradhan.

In closing, on behalf of ANS/CA, I would like to express my appreciation to all of you for your great support and help. The Executive Members could not arrange these successful events without you. At the same moment, I also would like to wish you a safe and happy New Year 2008 and Nepali Year 2065 BS. I hope that the New Year will bring a brighter future to all of us. God bless us!

Arjun Tripathi
President, ANS/CA

"TOGETHER! - We can make a difference"

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Camping- Join us in a fun one-night camping trip scheduled for August 2nd. See page 2 for details.
Summer Picnic- Let's take advantage of the good weather with a last summer gathering in September
Dashain 2008- Celebrate with us at our 35th Anniversary Event coming in October.

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Dobato means Crossroads and indicates a place where two worlds- Nepal & America- intersect.



**America-Nepal
Society of California, Inc.**

Executive Members

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1st VP Anuj Pradhan

2nd VP Bhushan Pradhan

Secretary Stephanie Ano

Treasurer Virgil Day

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Ananta Baidya

Sandy Brown

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Rajendra Malla

Sashi Poudyal

Anil Pradhan

Manoj Pradhan

Parvati Proffitt

Deepak Shimkhada

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Alan Wald

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Govinda Chipalu

Shailendra Rajbhandari

Honorary Members

Nepal's Ambassador to the US

Philip Trimble

Dale Vrabec

Chevron Refinery, El Segundo

Technical Support

Ashish Pradhan (Webmaster)

Paru Proffitt (Newsletter Layout)

Upcoming Event: **Camping Trip**

Date: Sat.-Sun. 08/02-08/03

**Location: Castaic Lake Recreation Area
32132 Castaic Lake Dr.
Castaic, CA 91384**

Cost: A small donation to cover park fee, etc. (TBD)
Parking Fee- \$11/vehicle at park entrance



Join ANS/CA on a fun filled weekend camping trip! Don't miss out on this chance to explore nature and bond with friends around the campfire with singing and music. We've picked a great campground at Castaic Lake, which offers boating, fishing, swimming, and hiking opportunities. Dinner will be potluck, so bring a favorite dish to share. Breakfast for August 3rd will be arranged. (Details follow on Page 5)



**A fun filled
New Year Party!!!**

Condolences

ANS/CA extends Condolences to the bereaved families of the people who passed away this year.

... Culver City, CA resident Ganga Pandey, who passed away on July 4, 2008 at the age of 34 after a tragic swimming accident.

... Mother of ANS/CA life member Jarine Nal, who passed away recently in Nepal.

... Marvin Wald, father of Life Member Alan Wald, who was a producer and Oscar Nominated screenwriter passed away on March 6, 2008.

... Supporting-Life Member Muriel Copeland of Northridge, CA (Life Member Allen Lundberg's mother) passed away on July 23, 2007.

... Supporting-Life member Jack Copeland of Northridge, CA (husband of late Muriel Copeland) passed away on October 7, 2007.

... Life-member and Member of the Nepal Selection Committee for ANS/CA Scholarship Funds Narottam Raj Bhandari, along with his wife Sami Rajbhandari, were swept away by a raging Dhansar River when traveling in a microbus on Sept. 9, 2007.

... Life member Dr Mohan Narayan Shrestha of Bowling Green, Ohio passed away on Sept 14, 2007. He had been sick for some time.

Nepalese Ambassador visits L.A.

ANS/CA was honored to have the Nepalese Ambassador to the U.S., Dr. Suresh C. Chalise, as our chief guest at the New Year Celebration on April 19, 2008. Ambassador Chalise had so much to say to the community. His words have been printed here for anyone who missed this wonderful opportunity.

Mr. President, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Actually, I have had a fervent desire to come to Los Angeles, California and interact with my community members. I also had a wish to speak with our American friends living in this area to express them my gratitude for their help and cooperation to welcome Nepalese community. I had a desire to interact with my Nepalese Community because, I wanted to know about them - how have they been living and what are the problems they have been facing? I have information, as they are far away from their roots, many Nepalese feel secluded in USA owing to more than one reasons. In this regard, I feel that it is my prime duty to give you a sincere message that your nation's institution, I mean embassy of Nepal, is destined for every one. And, I want to make sure that this institution has been with each of you in your joy and sorrow. I have also been trying to bring Nepalese Diaspora in USA together so that they will be working for empowering Nepalese community and strengthening Nepal-US relations, especially at the peoples' level.

On this occasion, as this is an opportunity for me, I want to thank our American friends who have been so kind and munificent in providing a good social environment to our community members here. I really like to applaud your humility and cooperation. I also like to commend your efforts to enhance and enrich our bilateral relations at the people level. As every one knows here that our relations have always been marked by good will, understanding and cooperation. Ever since we established our relations in 1947, we have been enjoying excellent relations in all fronts. At bottom, Nepalese people have been thankful to the government of US and their people for their assistance in combating poverty, social development and supporting our peace process and democracy in Nepal.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, let me talk a little about our on going peace process and efforts for establishing un-scratch able democracy back in Nepal. As you all are aware of the fact that until two years ago; Nepal had been marred by bloody conflict. In twelve long year's conflict, more than 14 thousand people had to sacrifice their valuable lives and hundreds of thousand people were displaced. But, with the advent of democracy and beginning of peace process in April 2006; conflict related killings are almost non-existent and society has been moving towards normalcy. People, in general, have gradually been developing confidence. As a result, they are returning their homes. As the peace process moved forward, the tourism of Nepal has significantly surged ahead. Pro-change forces in Nepal are moving shoulder to shoulder with a view to establish a full-fledged democracy and restore a continued peace in society. In this context, Ladies and Gentlemen, holding of CA elections successfully is a historic step. However, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, as transition still remains, Nepal faces a number of challenges. We need to promulgate a new constitution for New Nepal through CA, we need to rehabilitate hundreds of thousand victims of conflict, and we need to re-integrate 19 thousand PLAs into society, we need to rebuild infrastructure and, needless to say, we need to sincerely work for permanent peace in Nepal.

I assure you, if democracy and peace rein our society- which is likely to happen, Nepal will have an affluent economy in 10 years. I have valid reasons to believe it, especially in view of our hard working and reliable human capital, abundant natural resources, our strategic location- as our neighbors are becoming economic giants, and on top these, in the light of Nepal's upcoming Inclusive Democracy, which will not only enhance Nepal's social image as a vivacious democratic nation, but also will help mobilize our human capital to the fullest extent to help flourish our economy.

With these words, Mr. President, American friends, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish everyone here a happy and prosperous Nepali New Year 2065.

Long Live US and Nepal Relations! Thank you so much for your attention.

*Suresh C. Chalise, Ph. D., Post-Doctorate (UGC, FES & AvH Fellow)
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary*



Hiding Myself

by Ahana Singh

Everyone said I was "mean"
When I wanted to speak the truth
And come out clean.

I could no longer hide myself
Behind this dark mask
Since now I am approaching my final task.

I'm confused.
But they are amused
At something so unfamiliar
At something so peculiar.

I am lost and I cry
Drenching myself in one single lie.
Satisfaction is far beyond my reach.
Happiness is now impossible for me to meet.

I am scared but now I hope
That soon I will find a way out;
A way out of betrayal and doubt.

I am desperate and I untangle myself out of fear
Wishing that soon all the pain would disappear.
I am neither early nor am I late
To find out who gives me love and who shows
me hate.

They point fingers at me
As though I am their laughingstock for them to see
I stand there burying myself with regret.
And I am no longer going to act like I am
emotionless and dead.

As I gained some self-confidence
I proved to them my independence.
I don't need anyone else but me
When it comes to setting myself free.

I will fly away with my wings open wide
Soaring across the clear blue sky.
Disregarding those without respect
Remembering the times they treated me with
neglect.

I am no longer looked down upon.
I am no longer the one being hated on.
I am no longer hiding so that no one could see
Because now I am as free I can be.

Scholarship Funds: 2007 Update

by Veda Joshi

In 2007 ANS/CA had 12 scholars (3 in ANS/CA–BMGSF and 9 in ANS/CA–VKJSF including 2 bachelor scholars and Miss Anu Maharjan who's grant was suspended).

Betsy & Merrill Goodall Scholarship Fund (BMGSF)-
The following scholars have received \$200.00 each for first and second installments for the first academic year: (1) Miss Sharmila Poudel -PCL-Commerce, (2) Miss Manju Basi -PCL-Science, (3) Miss Reenu Shrestha-PCL-Science
They are waiting for the result of first year final exam. The email from Shailendra Rajbhandari, Member Secretary of the Nepal Selection Committee indicates that Miss Manju Basi has passed the first year, but I have not received any confirming documents from her.

We will be sending them grant check of \$200.00 each (\$100.00 each for third installment for the first academic year and \$100.00 each for first installment for the second academic year) if they pass the first year final exam.

Out of 30 scholars including the above 3 scholars, 15 successfully completed the course since the inception of the scholarship grant in 1984. Twelve scholars did not make it. Above three scholars are continuing.

Veda & Kyana Joshi Scholarship Fund (VKJSF)-

The following scholars have received \$200.00 each for first and second installments for the first academic year: (1) Miss Anisha K.C. -PCL-Management, (2) Miss Anu Shahi-PCL-Humanities, (3) Mr. Bimal Khatri-PCL-Science, (4) Mr. Bhumi B. Pulami-PCL-Humanities (5) Miss Nima Prajapati-PCL-Management, and (6) Miss Nitu Kakshapati -PCL-Management

They are waiting for the result of the first year exam. We need to send them \$200.00 each (\$100.00 each for third installment for the first academic year and \$100.00 each for first installment for the second academic year) if they pass the first year final exam.

Ms Anu Maharjan passed PCL successfully and she has already acknowledged the grant check of \$400.00 (\$100.00 for **third** installment for **first** academic year and \$300.00 – **full grant** —for **second** academic year).

Our two bachelor scholars (a) Mr. Dinesh Shakya and (b) Ms Prabha Udas passed the third year final exam successfully and their final grant checks of \$100.00 each were sent recently which is not included in 2007 financial report.

Since the inception of the ANS/CA-VKJSF in 2000, 44 scholars have received this scholarship grant. 25 scholars have successfully completed the course and 6 scholars are still continuing. 13 were unsuccessful. This number does not include two newly selected bachelor scholars under ANS/CA-VKJSF.



**Nepali New
Year 2065**



Camping Trip Information

This is going to be a fantastic weekend camping trip, so call your friends and start planning your carpools. To reserve you spot, contact one of the following people:

Arjun Tripathi: 818 307-6766

Anuj Pradhan: 310 415-3027

Bushan Pradhan: 661 373-2959

Virgil Day: 310 471-2235

Stephanie Ano: 310 986-4115

Sabitri Pradhan: 818 888-2656

Binaya Shrestha: 818 268-5514

BK Shrestha: 818 802-0449

Raja Poudel: 818 429-8833

For directions and more information on Castaic Lake, visit www.castaiclake.com.

Editors Notice:

Attention Everyone! ANS/CA is moving forward with the technology of today, and is planning to send out the electronic version of the DOBATO via e-mail to all it's members. This way we will not only save printing/postage costs, we can deliver faster and easier. We want to encourage every one, please update your email address as soon as possible to avoid not receiving future newsletters. If you are not a current ANS/CA member, please join to take advantage of our wonderful newsletter, DOBATO, and discounts at activities.

ANS/CA 2007 Financial Statement

by ANS/CA Treasurer

Breakdown of Account on 12/31/07

Bank Balance at Washington Mutual Savings as of 12/31/07 - **\$6316.48**

ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Balance Forward from 2006 **\$6722.30**

INCOME

Event Contributions	
New Years Celebration 4/07	\$1632.00
Dashain Celebration 10/13/07	\$3338.00
SubTotal Event Contributions	\$4970.00
Donations to General Fund	
Dontaion 12/28/06 deposited after 1/1/07	\$200.00
Donation 4/21/07	\$12.00
SubTotal Fund Raising Projects	\$212.00
Membership Dues	
Family-New	\$112.00
Family-Renewal	\$32.00
Single-New	\$20.00
SubTotal Membership Dues	\$164.00
Total Income	\$5346.00

EXPENSES

Event Expenses	
New Years Celebration 4/07	\$2161.82
Dashain Celebration 10/13/07	\$3289.00
Postage	\$201.00
SubTotal Event Expenses	\$5651.82
NAC Membership	\$100.00
SubTotal Membership Dues	\$100.00
Total Expenses	\$5751.82

Closing Balance As Of 12/31/2007 **\$6316.48**

Life Member, D. Shimkhada, RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

During the 81st Commencement Ceremony held on Saturday, May 17, 2008 at Claremont Graduate University (CGU), Dr. Deepak Shimkhada was awarded CGU's highest recognition, the Distinguished Alumni Service Award. The award was presented to him by the university's president, Robert Klitgaard. Dr. Shimkhada was introduced by Alumni Director Joy Klewer, who read his short biography with a long list of awards and honors he received along with his publications in the field of South Asian art, culture and religion.



The Commencement was attended by about 3,000 people. After receiving the award, Dr. Shimkhada was asked to speak. In his remarks, he traced his origins to a remote mountain village in Nepal, where he lived until he was ten years old. He also said that he was a late learner because he did not attend school until he was ten—not because he did not want to, but there was no school in the village he grew up. He emphasized that he is a learner, nonetheless. Growing up in a village where there was no school, no road and no electricity, he never imagined that he would come to America and receive such a prestigious award, for which he expressed his deep gratitude to the University. Before concluding his remarks, Dr. Shimkhada narrated the story of Indrajal from Hindu mythology in which the universe is likened to a giant fish net with jewels caught in every knot. He found similarity between Indrajal and neurons in the human brain which he attributed to Claremont Graduate University for opening up his mind and imagination to enable him to make these connections. Dr. Shimkhada is a Life Member of ANS/CA and served as President for a term.

VISIT us at www.ansca.org! Check out our new updated website, where you can get the latest ANS/CA news, send e-mail to officers, get membership applications online, or use the helpful links.

Betsy & Merrill Goodall Scholarship Fund (BMGSF) 2007 Financial Statement

Account in Washington Mutual Bank

Carry over from 2006

In CD Account	\$25,000.00
In Savings Account	\$3,781.22*
Sub-total	\$28,781.22*

(*includes interest income of \$1,430.04)

Income 2007 –

Donations: None

Interest Income:

From CD	\$906.76
From Savings Account	\$9.47
Sub-total	\$916.23

(note: interest of \$71.71 from CD is still on CD)

Expense 2007

Scholarship grants **\$600.00**

End of Year Balance 12/31/2007 \$29,097.45**

(**includes interest income balance of \$1,746.27)

Breakdown of account:

In CD Account	\$25,071.71
In Savings Account	\$4,025.74

Scholarship Funds Financial Status for 2007:

ANS/CA - Betsy & Merrill Goodall Scholarship Fund

I have already made arrangement to issue checks on the interest included in CD (both scholarship) so that I can deposit it into Savings Account. Due to change of signators WaMu Bank can't automacally transfer the interest to the savings account as it is a very old account. The CD for \$25,000.00 (after taking out \$71.71) which is making 3.49% interest will mature on Feb. 20, 2008. I hope the interest rate will not go down at the time of renewal.

ANS/CA - Veda & Kyana Joshi Scholarship Fund

Fund balance: \$90,000.00 CD and \$11,783.30 in Savings Account. \$90,000.00 CD which was making 3.93% interest was renewed for 7 months CD at 4.27% on Jan. 6, 2008.

The direct donations have been used to cover the grant since 2005. Considering direct donation for scholarship grant we have a balance of \$2,082.25 in Washington Mutual Bank + \$306.39 in DB Alex Bank., i.e. a total of \$2,388.64 available for grant. Without applying the direct donation, the interest income available for grant Savings account is \$882.25.

Grant of \$200.00 (\$100.00 each to Mr. Raj Kumar Maharjan and Ms Lasmi Lama Thokar- newly selected bachelor scholars) recently sent as first installment of grant for the first year is not included in this report.

Veda & Kyana Joshi Scholarship Fund (VKJSF) 2007 Financial Statement

Account in Washington Mutual Bank

Carry over from 2006

In CD Account	\$90,000.00
In Savings Account	\$8,412.03
Sub-total	\$98,412.03*

(* Interest income negative -889.02)

Income 2007

Donations in 2007

Virgil & Stephanie Day	\$300.00
Ananta & Rajju Malla	\$300.00
(in memory of Amar. B. Pradhan)	
Veda Joshi	\$600.00
Sub-total (donations)	\$1,200.00

Re-deposit of check made to

Anu Maharjan **400.00**

Interest Income:

From CD	\$3,546.69
From Savings Acct.	\$24.58
Sub-total (Interest)	\$3,571.27

Expense 2007:

Scholarship grants for scholars: **\$1,800.00**

(Note: grant check of \$400 to Anu Maharjan sent on 9-21-2006 was returned and re-deposited and another grant check of \$400 was reissued on 5-10-2007 to her.)

Balance as of 12-31-2007 \$101,783.30**

(**includes interest income bal. of \$882.25)

(Bal. available after adding direct donation \$2,082.25)

Breakdown: \$90,000.00 in CD
\$11,783.30 in Savings Acct.

Account in DB Alex Brown

Carry over from 2006 (12/31/06):

Cash Account	\$3,066.63*
(*includes \$160.23 interest income)	
BRCM stock 165 shares@ 32.31/shr	\$5,331.1
Combined Carry Over	\$8,397.73

(BRCM Stk split 2 to 3 on 2-21-06 @70.28, i.e 110 Stk became 165 Stk)

Income in 2007

Dividend \$146.16

Balance as of 12-31-2007

Cash Account	\$3,212.79*
(* includes a total of interest \$ 306.39)	
BRCM stock 165 shares@26.14/shr.	\$4,313.10
TOTAL	\$7,525.89

Total Assets VKJSF (12/31/2007) \$109,309.19

We hope you will support the America-Nepal Society of California by becoming a member. There are many benefits of joining the Society. The Society meets at least three times a year and publishes a newsletter called Dobato. As a member, you get to attend the meetings, run for office, vote in the election, receive a copy of the newsletter. The purpose of the Society is to foster understanding between Nepal and the United States through educational, cultural and social activities.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Email: _____

Does your company have a matching gift program? _____ Yes _____ No

If so, Name of company _____

Please check membership category:

Single \$10 Family \$16 Life \$175 Supporting (for life) \$275

Patron (for life) \$375 Benefactor \$500

Please make your check payable to **ANS/CA, Inc.** and mail to:

ANS/CA - Treasurer
14612 Bestor Blvd., Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Postmaster:

If not delivered, please return to:

America-Nepal Society of California, Inc.

22814 South Berendo Avenue

Torrance, CA 90502

