

## Neighbourhood prioritised

### Red Star Representative

The new government, under the leadership of the CPN Maoist, is trying to carry the peace process to its logical end and to write a constitution. However, there are many obstacles in the way. There are many challenges before the government. The main challenge, however, is to meet the expectations of the Nepalese people given by the mandate of the people through the election of the Constituent Assembly.

As a sign of good start, the coalition government has already publicised the Common Minimum Programme. Prime Minister Prachanda, after his oath, spoke about the immediate and strategic priorities of the government in his address to the people of the country. Nevertheless, after the address of the Prime Minister, the status quo and the traditional forces are still trying to stall and disrupt even the reformist agenda expressed in the Common Minimum Programme, let alone the radical once. They are raising trifling issues as though they are the big issues and challenges for the government.

The immediate reason behind this propaganda is PM Prachanda's visit to China. It is also learned that the Indian ruling class have expressed disappointment over his visit. Many of the parliamentary leaders of Nepal have also commented the visit opining that the

relation with India could fall into jeopardy. A paradox on this agony obviously get exposed, what kind of grandly relation with India prevailed while it fall into jeopardy because of the first visit to China? For Nepal, both of the countries are good neighbours, and it must keep equal relation with both of the countries. The political legacy of first visiting to India has been established by the subsequent governments, which developed trend even to India that the Nepalese PM must visit India first.

Every sovereign independent country and its elected government are always free to carry out their tasks according to their priorities. Nepal expects from Indian counterpart the reorganisation of the (*Panchashil sidhanta*) five betterment principles. However, a political trend has been established in Nepal, that the foreign powers, the Indian ruling class in particular, dictate the government on what it can and cannot do. This submissive trend has to be broken down. The supporters and followers of external powers in the country are trying to cloud the political environment. Because of the geo-political situation, Nepal wants a relationship of equal-distance between the two countries, from the perspective of a good neighbour.

India should understand the aspirations of the Nepalese people and the minimum civility between



Prime Minister Prachanda shakes hand with Chinese President Hu Jintao during his visit in China. Photo-Xinhua

the two sovereign countries. In the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, the feudal class, bureaucrat and comprador capitalist do not have complete control and the sovereign Nepalese people are able to take control in the political, economic, socio-cultural and other spheres.

In this situation, the Nepalese people expect helpful hands of the good neighbours. Nepalese people know the history of Sikkim as well as the political relations with Bhutan. Nepalese people do not want to repeat the bitter history and brotherhood relation that happened in the past.

The New Nepal and the Nepalese people expect to review all the unequal treaties, and expect India to behave to Nepal according to the five principles.

India should also be ready to review and redraw the old and outdated compromises and treaties made over one hundred years ago. Nepal and India share a similar culture, language, religion, and other things besides. Nepal as well as the other neighbours of India, like Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, is oppressed by Indian expansionist behaviour.

The question of nationality has been a serious issue in this crucial transitional period. All the Nepalese people are thinking about how to build a new Nepal. At this time, the Nepalese people are not doing anything harmful against India, rather expect help in building a new Nepal. Therefore, Nepal and the Nepalese people deserve and expect respectful behaviour from their neighbouring countries.



A Mother has a question- "Where is my son?"

## PM's promise gives them a new hope

Rebakala Tiwari, a resident of Sirsekot-7 of Syangja district, was arrested by a team of the Royal Nepal Army (RNA) on 30 October 2003 from her room at Chabahil in Kathmandu. She was twenty years old and studying at Padmakanya campus in Bagbazaar. Her whereabouts are still unknown since it was learnt she was taken to the Bhairabnath barrack in Maharajgunj. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) as well as UN office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal (UNOHCHR) has confirmed her disappearance from the Bhairabnath barrack at Maharajgunj.

"I still hope she will come to me one day, I can't forget her even if there are news reports

against her being alive, and if the reports are true I want to know why she got the unexpected fate and see that the culprits are punished," said Rebakala's mother, Bashundhara.

Bashundhara's hopes and expectations are representative of all those who have undergone miseries at the disappearance of their near and dear ones. But, the governments so far have not listened to this despite the fact that it was agreed to set up a high-level commission in the Comprehensive Peace Accord two years, to investigate into the cases of disappearance and provide relief to those affected by conflict.

"Now I have the last and greatest hope that the status of

my daughter will be established because the leadership of the government is with the party (CPN-Maoist) for whose cause my daughter was fighting," Bashundhara said with hope. And she is right to say so, as the previous governments were led by those parties and figures who were involved in disappearances.

However, given the fact that the army has been found to have made people disappear in many cases, it is going to be a testing case for the new government. However, in a meeting with the families of the disappeared, Prime Minister Prachanda clarified that the government will work seriously on the issue and make public the status of

the disappeared by setting up a high-level commission as mentioned in the CPA.

The PM also assured that the government will provide relief to the families of the disappeared while the process for establishing the status of the missing went on. The PM's promise has given a new hope to the families of the disappeared; and it is now high time that the government made necessary legal provision for a high level commission and starts to investigate into the disappearances of more than thirteen hundred people, as per the list made public by different human rights organisation on the occasion of International Day of the Disappeared, August 30.

# Nepal suffers from unfair treaty

Dipak Sapkota

More than 70 thousand people were displaced when Nepal's largest river, the 'Saptakoshi', burst its banks and flooded more than seven villages. Scores of people have died and many are lost. All kinds of crops were washed away and cattle have been either swept or killed. The government officials have stated that the properties of about 300 million people have been destroyed. The flood still covers the affected villages. The displaced are living a harsh life in dry places that they can find, on the highway or on the embankments. The flood is constantly bursting the banks of the eastern side. Most of the villages of the Sunsari district will be flooded if it does not cease or stopped in some way.

The Saptakoshi river is made up of seven big rivers of eastern Nepal, and has more than a hundred thousand cusecs of water in non-rainy seasons. This time when the flood breached the embankments it had more than 180,000 cusecs of water.

In 1955, the then Nepal government made a compromise with India, in the treacherous treaty that has created devastating havoc in Nepal. India made

a huge barrage in the Saptakoshi river, diverting large amounts of water through canals to irrigate land in India. Nepal does not have enough water when necessary, but suffers from flooding in the monsoon. Thousands of acres of land were granted to India to make a

the barrage which would have stopped the huge flood of the Koshi that broke the embankment of the eastern side; leading to the flooding of many villages.

Coincidentally, this happened just a few hours before the oath of new Prime Minister Prachan-



dam, barrage and canal; leading to the displacement of thousands of people. The barrage and canals are over 50 years old, but they were not repaired in time.

On 18th August, the Indian authorities closed the gates of

da. As this happened during the day, there were not many deaths; however, more than 70 thousand people and the Nepali nation suffered a huge loss over these acts of India. This has proved once again that the Koshi treaty was

not a mutual treaty, and against the interests of Nepal. India blocked a natural river leading to the flooding of Nepali territory.

On the next day of assuming office, PM Prachanda visited the affected sites and directed the local authorities not to leave a stone

the people of Nepal and international community to help the affected. Various political parties, organisations, and sympathetic individuals have been collecting donations to assist the flood victims. On August 25, President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav also visited the flood-affected area and shared his grief with the locals. Later he stated that the government should make a decision over the Koshi treaty.

According to the infamous Koshi treaty, it was India's duty to repair and look after barrage and embankments of the river. Various experts and technicians have suggested the spur in the barrage needed serious attention and maintenance a few months ago. Some even suspect that it was an plot to stop Prachanda's visit to China and foil Maoist-led government. However, more than two million people in India have also suffered from the Koshi flood.

Nepali political parties, organisations, and personnel have asked the Nepal government to demand India to stop of breaching of embankments, repair spurs at the earliest, and help in providing rescue and relief for the victims. They even want India pay compensation for their grave and inhuman mistake.

## Cabinet gets its full shape

Prime Minister Prachanda has expanded the cabinet. 15 more ministers took their oath of office on Sunday. First lot of nominated ministers had sworn in on August 22nd.

Now the cabinet has 11 ministers from the CPN(Maoist) including Prime Minister Prachanda, six from CPN-UML, four from Madhesi Janadhikar Forum and One each from four different small parties.

Like wise, the expanded cabinet includes Girirajmani Pokhrel of the People's Front Ne-

pal and Rajendra Mahato of the Sadbhawana Party and Ganesh Sah of the CPN-United.

After 10 days since the formation of the government, the cabinet got its complete shape on Sunday. The 24-membered cabinet includes three deputy prime ministers.

Prime Minister Prachanda, who was elected with overwhelming majority on August 15 from the Constituent Assembly had taken oath of office 'in the name of people' on August 18.

**Prime Minister - Puspa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'**

**Bamdev Gautam**- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home

**Dr. Baburam Bhattarai** - Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance

**Upendra Yadav** - Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs

**Ram Bahadur Thapa 'Badal'** - Minister for Defense

**Bijaya Kumar Gachhedar**- Minister for Physical Planning and Construction

**Krishna Bahadur Mahara**- Information and communication

**Bishnu Paudel** - Minister for Water resources

**Jaya Prakash Prasad Gupta**- Minister for Agriculture and Co-operatives

**Asta Laxmi Shakya**- Minister for Industry

**Dev Gurung**- Law, Justice and Constituent Assembly

**Rajendra Mahato**- Minister for Trade and Supply

**Matrika Yadav**- Minister for Land Reform

**Gopal Shakya**- Minister for Youth and Sports

**Renu Yadav**- Minister for Education

**Pampha Bhusal** - Minister for General Administration

**Hisila Yami**- Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation

**Giriraj Mani Pokhrel**- Minister for Health

**Kiran Gurung**- Minister for Forest

**Janardan Sharma**- Minister for Peace and Reconciliation

**Gopal Kirati**- Minister for culture and state reformation

**Ramchandra Jha** - Minister for Local Development

**Lekhra Bhatt** - Minister for Labour

**Ganesh Shah**- Minister for Science and Technology

## 'New defence policy soon'

The newly elected government is forming a new defence policy suitable to the new Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. Ram Bahadur Thapa 'Badal', the new Minister for Defence told The Red Star that the new defence ministry would work to create a new defence policy.

Badal also said that the primary agenda of the government is to integrate the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the Nepal Army, formerly the Royal Nepal Army, into one force, a new National Army. This is following the Comprehensive Peace Accord-CPA, signed in 22 November 2006, between the previous government and the CPN-Maoist. He further stated that no one could go beyond the boundary of the CPA and the decisions made by the Constituent Assembly.

'The National Defence Council will form a special committee to set the standards for the army integration', Minister Badal said. He further added that the integration process should conclude within three to six months. He said that the Defence Ministry is aware of the sentiments and morale of both the PLA and the NA. He said the NA may have problems, but these would be solved in the coming days.

Responding to the rumours that NA will not support the new Maoist-led government, Minister Badal, also a senior leader of CPN Maoist, said that government, the NA and the political parties are accountable towards the interim constitution and the CA; so the rumours that there will not be cooperation are untrue.

## Syndicate to end soon

The syndicate system divides the business community of Nepal. The transportation entrepreneurs have imposed the syndicate system in transportation sector in various parts of Nepal. The transportation entrepreneurs are fighting to keep things as they are, while industrialists and other business organizations are fighting to remove it.

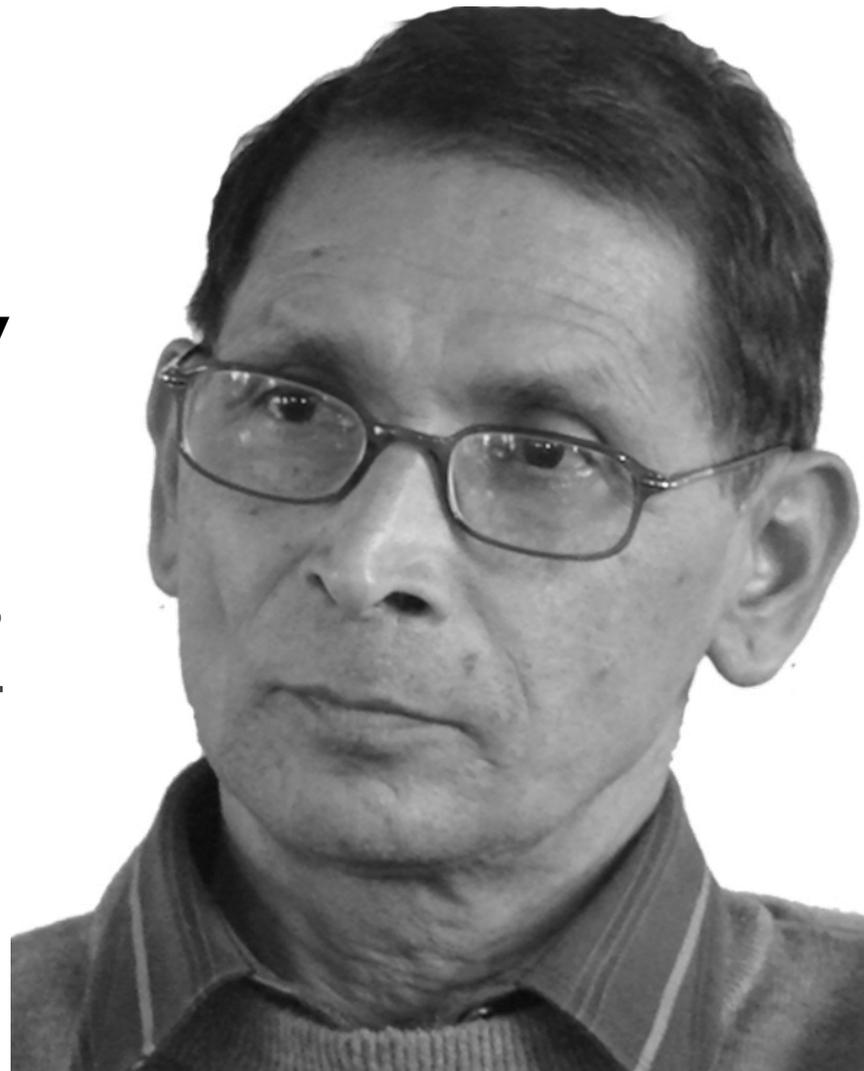
In the meantime, the Supreme Court has decided that the syndicate system has violated prevailing laws and should end soon. The court on the 25th August decided that 'the syndicate system has violated the Transportation Act and Consumers Right Act. The implementation of the system has been stayed till the case is finalised.'

Earlier there has been huge chaos in the far-western region of Nepal, when the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industrialists Central body and its Kailali district branch decided to fight against the syndicate system. They said that the system has caused a rise in prices, and a drop in the quality of service and the creation of a monopoly of a handful of owners. Although the government of Nepal had decided to end the syndicate system a few years ago, the government was unable to remove the syndicates.

The newly elected government has vowed to end all types of syndicate systems. Talking with Janadisha Daily, newly elected Finance Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai said: 'The syndicate is a monopoly system and the government is not in favour of any type of syndicate. This should end.' In this way, with government commitment, the order of the supreme courts and the dedication of the majority of the business community, syndicates will soon be history in Nepal.

# The Indian ruling class behaves with 'big brother' arrogance

- Mohan Baidya 'kiran'  
Senior leader  
Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)



## How do you analyse the present political situation of the country?

The situation of the country is still in the condition of semi-feudal and semi-colonial. There is still the existence of feudal bureaucrat and comprador bourgeoisie in the country, and there still is the necessity of political, economic, social, and cultural change. In this transitional period, the new government has been formed under the leadership of our party. People are expecting many things from our party. On the other hand, how does the government work when it is not fully formed? It is good news that our party became the largest party in the Constituent Assembly (CA); however the formation of a coalition government has been necessary according to the mandate of the people. How the political development will move ahead is still uncertain. In this critical situation, it is necessary to analyse how to fulfil the strategies of the Peoples Republic and what the tactics will be to reach the destination. We are advancing through these types of situations. From the point of view of revolution and entire transformation, there are many more contradictions. The objective situation for revolutionary transformation is very suitable. However, there are not subjective forces suitable to identify and handle the contradictions correctly. We can advance ahead only after we are able to unite the people and lead them ahead correctly. There is still a struggle between the progressives and the status quo.

## Is the obstacle to forming the government only in power sharing or are there other reasons behind it?

The ideological differences are clear in themselves. Along with this, technical problems exist. The technical problems are related to power sharing. These two things are obstacles in the way of forming the government and of progress.

## How much possibility is there to run the government with the MJF if the CPN-UML is not involved?

This is a very complex situation. We held many debates and discussions with the CPN-UML. However, their central committee has taken a decision for the second post of Prime Minister. They will not be involved in the government if we do not agree with their decisions. We will discuss this issue in our party meeting. We will think about it because we have to

create an environment of consensus. We are always ready to run the government with the CPN-UML. I think it is impossible to run the government only with the MJF, without the participation of the UML.

## There are still problems left after giving full shape to the government because every political party has its own ideology and destination. How will the government be able to write a new constitution addressing the mandate of the People?

Analysing the situation to this point, the traditional and status quo forces will be against the constitution written according to the aspirations of the people. The task of forming the government is still incomplete and there is still debate and bargaining. A convincing environment and basics have not yet been created. If a convincing political situation is created, there is the possibility to create a new constitution, otherwise it will be difficult. The political parties have different opinions about writing the constitution. The clear reflection of differences was clearly seen in the struggle over power sharing. New opinions have not yet been fully victorious and the old opinions have not been fully defeated. Compromise is still necessary in this situation. However, the result of the compromise is not so satisfactory. Our effort to create a new constitution will be forever.

## There is a dispute over the PM's visit to China. Is the visit to China breaking with tradition, of the traditional first visit to India?

The diplomatic relations between the two neighbours remains the same as it was before. And also, no difference will take place in the diplomatic relationship with other foreign countries. Foreign diplomatic relationship will be on the basis of co existence, equality, and the five principles. We are behaving responsibly with our neighbours from the perspective of good neighbours. We want to make a relationship of equal-distance. So far, as our party chairman and PM Com Prachanda's first visit to China is concerned, the reason for his visit is the Olympic Games. The issue of tradition and traditional legacy has been raised. Here, we want to make clear that the decision about the visit of the head of any government will be taken by his own-country or by the government itself. No other country needs to direct or decide. Decision making rights are in the hand of the Nepalese people. The pri-

ority of the visit is also the priority of the head of the state. Intervention has been concealed within dependency. This visit is in the interests of the Nepalese people, though the chance has come coincidentally.

## What is the real reason behind India's desire for a special bilateral relationship?

The India ruling class has always seen Nepal and the Nepalese through the eye of big brother arrogance. There are so many reasons hidden behind this opinion. There is a series of unequal treaties since the Sugauli treaty, which we want to review and make new treaties based on equality. It is a false opinion of India to take such ideas to guide: If India adapts the norms and values of democracy, accepts the sovereignty, independence, and regional integrity, India should be serious on this issue. These types of expression are even against diplomatic norms. Another thing, Nepalese rulers have always bowed down before Indian rulers to get power in Nepal, and begged their blessings to be in power.

## A question raised has been about the handling of party and government in your party. In the party document, 'Democracy in the 21st century' there is a clear view that the party should handle the government. But now, the party leadership is in the government. How will you manage to implement the very decisions of the document?

The views expressed in 'Democracy in the 21st century' are the principle views to be implemented after the whole country becomes a People's Republic. Now, it is not applicable in this political situation. The second thing is that the responsibility to write a new constitution is upon our shoulders. The responsibility of political, social, economic and

cultural change is also upon us. In this situation, we went to the government to carry the peace process and the task of writing the constitution ahead towards the logical end. Along with it, we are of the opinion that the spirit of the document about the relations of party and government should be implemented. If we cannot follow it, this will be a principal mistake. The party is party, and government is government, the party directs the government but the government does not direct the party. The government should be under the control of party. We will take a decision about it in our Central Committee meeting.

## The people and the cadres of most of the parties complain that even the big parties have no plan to address the issue of nationality. Has the CPN Maoist any policy and plan to address the question of nationality?

Yes, the question of nationality is now critical. We cannot say that what we can do immediately. Some burning issues such as border encroachment, the breaking down of barrages, such as the recent Koshi barrage, and unequal treaties stand before us. The present government is an interim government. The transitional period is being prolonged. Foreign intervention is not only in rather the sectors afore mentioned; it is in the politics, economy, society, culture and others. We are aware of these actions. It will not be acceptable for us if any foreign intervention is applied in our conception of security defence and natural resources, especially water. We have to talk about these all with our partners in the government, and the parties that are revolutionary, progressive, and patriotic. We have publicised a Common Minimum Programme. The question of nationality is top priority.

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## EDITORIAL

# Breaking old traditions

With the Maoist leading government, there are so many expectations among the people. After the abolition of monarchy and the implementation of the Federal Democratic Republic, the progressive forces and the people are eager to see the Maoist government bring about radical changes, finishing off the obsolete traditions and the outdated status quo, to create new and better practices to replace the old.

Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal (Com. Prachanda) took the oath of office in the name of the People rather than in the name of God. Furthermore, he went to the Martyrs Park to pay homage to the martyrs rather than to Shahid Gate (Martyr gate), where a statue of King Tribhuvan stands above the four statues of martyrs. At the Presidential palace of Shital Niwas, during the oath taking programme, the Prime Minister Prachanda wore a suit and tie, and a Nepali cap or 'Bhadgaunle topi' rather than wear the traditional 'formal dress'.

After the first phase of extending the council of ministers, the Prime Minister gave a historical speech in the name of people. In his speech, he said that the principle task of the government will be to carry the peace process to its logical end and to write the constitution in a fixed time. By fusing the process of 'break-through in continuation and continuation with the break-through', the changes in the political, social, economic and cultural spheres will be carried out in a new way.

According to the speech of prime minister, the government will give priority for the protection and promotion of sovereignty, national unity, independence and territorial integrity. A national unity will be based on the 'sovereignty, equality and prosperity' of the Nepalese people, who are divided and subdivided into 'different classes, castes, regions, genders and communities'. This is a break with the old tradition; previously, the unitary structure of the state suppressed the people under the banner of feudalism unity.

Therefore, multiparty democracy will be substantially different from earlier models of the government in Nepal. It will neither be a parliamentary capitalistic model nor a People's Republican model. The new multi-party democratic model, developed in its originality, will ensure the continual supervision, participation and intervention of the masses of the people and the civil society in every sector of the state and the society. This democracy will be for the majority of the working people and not only a formal democracy for a fistful of wealthy and cunning leaders.

Regarding international relations, the government has assured the people that it will review all unequal treaties such as the Sugauli-treaty with India. After revising these treaties, new treaties will be drawn up based on the basis of five principles. After the formation of a new government, Prime Minister Prachanda's first foreign visit has been to China. This is also a break with tradition and emphasises on the sovereignty and independence of Nepal, as all earlier Prime Ministers, on their first foreign visit, always went to India. Let us hope this is the beginning steps of a new era in Nepal.



■ Dharmendra Bastola

As seen unexpected by many people, our glorious party, the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) has formed government, a national coalition government. Many other political developments had taken place as miracles, as Chairman Prachanda usually says. There was less hope to many people that the CA election would take place. Similarly, there was not much hope that the CA would have announced the implementation of the Democratic Republic of Nepal. The ousting of the king from the palace, the expropriation of the palace property and putting them for the public welfare were also challenges. But all these works have been done miraculously.

Along with these miraculous developments, some public concerns are mounting up. Questions are being raised from different quarters what will be future of Nepal, while the political interventions are constantly imposed from different power centres. How will the PLA be fused with the Nepal Army? What will be the future of the government itself while the second largest Party the Nepal Congress is at the opposition? Similarly, what will be the fate of the new constitution to be written while the parliamentary parties are divided? Moreover, the revolutionary people have concern about the fate of the proletarian revolution, the political power in the hands of the people and the exercise of the dictatorship of the proletariat having smashed the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie.

The Central Committee meeting will have to answer all these questions in the coming CC meeting. There are many factors for the political confusions being realised in the Nepalese Revolutionary Movement. In spite of the

New Democratic Revolution being a minimum programme, our party had put forward a tactical line of round table conference, interim government and the election of the constituent assembly in the second national Conference held in 2001 to accomplish the principal task of the NDR. These tactical lines have now been accomplished along with the abolition of the monarchy and the establishing of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. Since the tactical line set out by the second conference has been accomplished along with the CA election, and the new tactic is still not developed, the Party is making round and round around the formation of the government and the argument automatically witch on to writing of the new constitution. While the following consequence is provoked by the preceding actions much closer towards gradually replacing strategy with pragmatic solutions, concerns are raised whether the tactic gradually eats up strategy.

There is another factor why the political stagnation is taking place. In a certain historical necessity, a 12-point agreement was reached with the parliamentary parties. That agreement had served to fulfil the tactics set out in 2001. But the agreement itself had limitations. For instance, the final goal of the agreement was to abolish monarchy and establish Democratic Republic of Nepal. Along with the abolition of the monarchy and the establishing of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, the validity of the agreement has also been finished. While there is no tactical line of the Party to guide the masses to determine how to advance towards revolutionary movement, and while the validity of the 12-point agreement terminated along with the fulfilment of demands it raised, there are a lot confusions being created how to handle many contradictions emerged up.

The central Committee meeting will have to address some important theoretical questions, being faced by the Nepalese people. These questions are, for instance, what are the principal contradiction and the principal aspect of the contradiction, what will be the

relation between the Party and the government, what is the difference between the state and the government. How will the proletariat fulfil the proletarian internationalist duty of accomplishing revolution in own country and assisting this kind of revolution, this kind of revolutionary line to other country? How will the party be consolidated around the Revolutionary head quarter that brought Nepalese history to a new by smashing the old reactionary one. These questions are being serious and observed keenly by the revolutionary Nepalese masses of people.

As Marx pointed once, "a forceful revolution engenders a forceful counter revolution", Nepalese revolutionary movement too, cannot remain immune of these problems. Along with the entrance into the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the PLA is placed into the cantonment many compromises have been made with the parliamentary parties in order to find political solution of the civil war in the country. It was declared that the armed struggle had been ended up, people's courts were terminated, people's governments were dismissed. While these activities were performed and with the subsequent political developments taken place, we had told to the people that new governments will be formed in the local levels. But the days remained tougher to forge coalition governments and yet the local governments are not developed. This shows the class struggle as vigorous as it was in the time of armed struggle.

We have been saying that we are advancing through new practice! We have been saying that we are standing on new ground. It is true that we are on new ground. But, it is because that we have to advance through twist and turns. But, at the same time, we are also coming to the old ground, because there are many experiences performed in the past in the International Communist Movement. At this point, there are two negative pictures in the horizon, one Libya, the symbol of entire capitulation after taking into power, and the Chile and Indonesia

*Continued on page 6*

## FROM THE HISTORY

# What was the cold war?

The Cold War was the period of conflict, tension and competition between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies from the mid-1940s until the early 1990s. Throughout the period, the rivalry between the two superpowers was played out in multiple arenas: military coalitions; ideology, psychology, and espionage; military, industrial, and technological developments, including the space race; costly defense spending; a massive conventional and nuclear arms race; and many proxy wars.

There was never a direct military engagement between the U.S. and the So-

viet Union, but there was half a century of military buildup as well as political battles for support around the world, including significant involvement of allied and satellite nations in proxy wars. Although the U.S. and the Soviet Union had been allied against Nazi Germany, the two sides differed on how to reconstruct the postwar world even before the end of World War II. Over the following decades, the Cold War spread outside Europe to every region of the world,

as the U.S. sought the "containment" of communism and forged numerous alliances to this end, particularly in Western Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. There were repeated crises that threatened to escalate into world wars but never did, notably the Berlin Blockade (1948-1949), the Korean War (1950-1953), the Vietnam War (1959-1975), the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962), and the Soviet-Afghan War (1979-1989). There were also periods when tension

was reduced as both sides sought détente. Direct military attacks on adversaries were deterred by the potential for mutual assured destruction using deliverable nuclear weapons.

The Cold War drew to a close in the late 1980s following Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's summit conferences with United States President Ronald Reagan, as well as Gorbachev's launching of reform programs: perestroika and glasnost. The Soviet Union consequently ceded power over Eastern Europe and was dissolved in 1991.

*en.wikipedia.com*

# “Let’s unite in a great campaign to build a New Nepal”

## Dear Nepalese sisters and brothers!

1) I feel very proud to address all of you as the first elected Prime Minister of the Republic of Nepal. I would like to express my sentimental homage and the highest respect to all of the honourable martyrs, disappeared, and the wounded soldiers of the great People’s War (PW), the People’s Movement and Madhesh Movement, whose immortal contributions helped to establish the Federal Democratic Republic (FDR) in this country. This has liberated the country from external semi-colonial and neo-colonial repression and internal feudal-monarchist exploitation and repression. I vow to advance on the way of incessant revolution and struggle until the dream of the martyrs is implemented. Along with it, I express my deep grief in the loss of life and property due to the flood and violent natural outbreak, and I want to convey my heartfelt condolence to the people affected.

2). Today, Nepalese history has turned on its side. Because of the consequences of the armed and peaceful struggle of the Nepalese people for fifty years, the middle age feudal monarchy has ended and a Republic has been established in the country in an original way. Epoch making decisions have been taken to restructure the nation into a Federal structure, by ending the unitary structure of the state. All the repressed classes, castes, regions, genders and communities have the right to proportionate and inclusive partnership in all the sectors of the state and the society. In the history of Nepal, the Nepalese people have elected a new ideology and a new leadership through the election of the Constituent Assembly (CA), held a while ago.

Before this, a new model of conflict management and revolutionary transformation was established after the successful implementation of Comprehensive Peace Accord (CPA), held between CPN-Maoist that led the decade long People’s War (PW), with the agendas of nationality, republic and socio-economic transformation, and the previous Nepal government. All the independent and self-respecting Nepalese people should take pride in this. It is necessary to take part with serious concern from all our sectors to concretize the aspirations of the Nepalese people, for a long-term peace with progressive change

On this historical occasion, I wish to promise publicly that we will responsibly play our role for peace, justice and change because of the responsibility of the very political force that sacrificed ten thousand dedicated warriors for epoch making political, social, economic, and cultural change in the country. For the progress of Nepalese society, we have to build a new way through the fusion of breakthrough in continuation and continuation with the break-through.

I would like to express hope and confidence that we will be able to manage the conflict between the status quo and the progressives in a new form, with originality to maintain alteration and long-standing peace in the coming days. I want to attract the attention of all towards the fact that the long-term solution of the conflict is possible only after leading the nation to the summit of prosperity and equality harmonious to the 21st century, by abolishing the class, caste, regional, gender discrimination and exploitation and repression that has prevailed for a long time.

3). Certainly, the expectations of the people are very high for the first elected Republican government. We must make our best effort to fulfil all of these expectations objectively in a planned

Secondly, there will be full commitment towards democratic norms and values and principles suitable to the modern age. The democratic system and the norms of multi party competition, periodic elections, human rights, the rule of law etc. will be followed. Any kind of interventions that are against the democratic norms and values will be discouraged. Along with this, priority will be given to expand the democracy into a democracy for the majority of the working people, against the tendency to restrict it to a formal democracy for a handful of wealthy and cunning men.

Likewise, as “consciousness is the value of independence”; procedures to ensure the incessant supervision, participation and intervention of the masses of the people and civil society in the

encouraged and protected. The short period, mid period and long period plans will be made and implemented by prioritising the development of agriculture, tourism, water resources and infrastructure development. Special attention will be given to end unemployment and to provide the everyday needs everywhere at an appropriate cost. Emphasis will be given to develop harmonious relationships between workers and the management and to keep industrial peace.

Law will be created to maintain the fundamental rights of the people in education, health and employment. Attention will be given in providing relief to the people, the helpless, and the old and disabled people in difficult and backward regions. Effective steps will be taken as soon as pos-

the people are the creators of the history and nothing is impossible on earth if we get support and assistance from the people. Therefore, I heartily request all to support and assist in the great campaign of building a new Nepal in anyway.

Firstly, it is not possible to build a new Nepal just by the effort of any party, institution, or individual. National consensus is necessary. The government has its full commitment in the implementation of all the agreements and understandings made with the previous government, with various political parties and institutions. I, on this special historic occasion, request that all the main political parties rise up above the narrow party interests and promote the national interest and together with the government, help to build a new Nepal.

Likewise, I appeal to the main international power centres and mainly the neighbouring countries to help and give support to Nepal morally and physically in this transitional period.

I specially appeal to the officers and the members of Nepal army, armed police force, Nepal police and National Investigation Department to forget the bitterness of the past and go ahead by making a new national unity. I want to ensure from my side that I will create the fresh environment without bias, to advance in a new way.

I request all the bureaucrats from the governmental and non-governmental institutions to support with heart and mind the government without any bias and jealousy.

I request all the industries, the traders, merchants and the professionals to support the government fully because the new government ensures to build a favourable environment for a long-term peace and investment. I specially appeal to all the journalists, civil agitators and the mass people’s communities to support and help the new government from their own side, to the campaign to build a prosperous Nepal along with a new republican era.

I want to ensure that the warriors of the People’s Liberation army, the families of the great martyrs of the People’s War, the families of the disappeared and wounded and the disabled receive economic help and relief by the new government as soon as possible, and I, at the same time, expect help and support as before. At last, I would like to pay my gratitude for the mandate given by the people through the election of the Constituent Assembly and support and help from the Constituent Assembly. I would like to repeat the commitment to accomplish the responsibility given by the Nepalese people.

*(Unofficial translation of the address Prime Minister Prachanda delivered on 23 August in the name of Nepali people.)*



way. In this context, I would like to mention some national priorities from the responsibility as the chief of the government:

Firstly, we should give great importance to Nepalese sovereignty, national unity, independence, and the protection and promotion of territorial integrity. There can be no Nepalese people if Nepal does not exist and the appropriateness of the republic will be over. We cannot keep our national unity if we cannot make the Nepalese people sovereign, equal and prosperous, who are divided into different classes, castes, regions, genders and communities.

In this sense, nationality and republic are closely inter-related and inseparable; therefore, we will emphasise the protection of sovereignty and independence of the country by maintaining a balance between the two. Along with it, we will follow the policy of protecting the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity by maintaining a new unity among the castes and nationalities of Himal, Pahad, Terai and Madhesh, on the basis of full equality. Likewise, we will make our best effort to maintain a relationship with all the neighbouring countries based on the five principles.

every sector of the state and society will be created to make democracy and independence more comprehensive and long lasting. Special attention will be given to the rights of the people; to the voiceless and the poor people in every nook and corner of the remote villages.

Thirdly, the priority of the state will be to make the country prosperous, economically and socially, in a short time by ending poverty, unemployment, inequality, and dependence that has long prevailed in the nation. This idea will be implemented strongly to maintain long-term peace, only after advancing the political and economic revolution together. First of all, principal emphasis will be given to abolish all the remnants of the feudalism in economic, social and cultural fields and to build a modern industrial economy. For that, attention will be given to create the necessary policies and implementing them. In economic development, the co coordinating role of state cooperation with the private sector; and the model of public-private partnership will be followed as the main policy.

Foreign investment suitable to the national priorities will be

sible to eradicate the cancer of the corruption that is spread in every sector of the state, the economy and the society. In total, the main emphasis will be to make and implement the policy and plans to give direct relief to the majority of the people so they can feel the changes. In this way, the priority for the new government will be the agendas of nationality, republic, and socio-economic transformation.

4) The principle task of the new government will be to carry the peace process to a logical end and to write a new progressive and People’s constitution in a fixed time. In this context, I want to express my commitment that the new government will accomplish these two tasks, surveying with the eyesight of Arjun.

However, these tasks are not without challenges. There are large possibilities with us, and a big mountain of challenges against us. For this, the help and support of all the patriots, republicans and progressive political forces, army, police, administrations including officers from different sectors, international institutions and the mass communities is most necessary. At last, the people and only

# Essentials for fusing two armies



■ Chetan Kunwar

There is a serious debate about fusing the two armies. Nepal is now a Federal Democratic Republic (FDR), and we have to concretize the peace

to the virtue and vice' should be the basis of fusing the armies. This will be the one of the principal basis of the fusion.

Logic without essence is only logic to pass time over trifling issues that can only create problems. The Nepal Army (NA) has a history of protecting the nation by fighting against British colonialist intervention and against Tibetan invasion in the earlier periods of the unification of Nepal. The NA has a history of dedication, sacrifice and devotion for the protection

of the PLA have liberated the nation and the Nepalese people from the chains of injustice, exploitation, repression and discrimination and the external interference. It has fought for the establishment of a new glorious history of Nepal.

In other words, the NA has played an important role for territorial integrity and the PLA has played an important role to aid the liberation of the Nepalese people and making them sovereign. Now, Nepal has its own new identity in the

model of the national army in Nepal. So far as the issue of the influence of any ideas and ideology over the army is concerned, we should be clear that any army itself is a means. It is necessary that the means is guided or used by any idea means leadership. Therefore, it is not necessary to blame each other over the question of purity. If we talk about purity, the NA will remain loyal to the former monarchy and the PLA will be loyal to CPN-Maoist. This is a hangover from the past that may lead the two armies

should change their old ideas and thinking because of the changing situation. Certainly, there are challenges. Likewise, PLA should professionalize and bring changes according to its changed role and responsibility. The democratization of the NA and professionalization of the PLA is the meeting point of the fusion of both the armies. Any bias is another obstacle that rejects fraternity and the fusion. After merging and building a national army, it will be guided by the ideas of the federal



process to carry it to the logical end. The fusion of the two armies is compulsory. However, no other parties know anything about the out-line and plan of fusing the armies except the CPN-Maoist. Rather, the parliamentary political parties are misusing the issue of fusing the armies only as a bargaining card for power sharing. These political parties should try and be sincere if they are mature and honest in politics. The popular phrase 'according

of the nation and the nationality, including its tasks in peace keeping under United Nations in many different countries of the world. However, there is also the negative aspect that it has always been used to crush the people's movements and the people's war. The NA should review its misdeeds of the past.

On the other hand, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) has a new unprecedented record in the history of Nepal. The sacrifice, dedication and devotion

world. A small country, with its unknown identity in the world before revolution, has now been introduced in the world through the identity of a decade long People's War (PW) and the PLA. These historical achievements should be synthesized in building the new Nepal.

The fusion of both the armies, the NA affiliated since the beginning of the unification of Nepal and the PLA fighting for the liberty and sovereignty of the people, will be the new

into conflict. Everyone must be serious over the question of fusing the two armies.

No army is without ideas or ideology. An army is not a machine without mind and life. Therefore, we should be aware of the debates on fusing the armies, and this debate should not be expressed in a random way. The debate should be held in a plan, set and sequence to carry it up to a logical end. Understanding and transformation is necessary here. The NA

democratic republic.

However, because of the external influence on the politics of Nepal, an environment of confidence that problems will not occur in this sensitive process of fusion does not exist. However, we have our own stand and expect that the national interest should be in the fusion of the two armies, whatever the interests of foreign powers may be; only the national interest can fulfill the dream of all the Nepalese people.

## Maoist will not bend before anyone



■ Gautam Navlakha

The Maoist-led government was sworn in a week before the closing ceremony of Beijing Olympics. It was quite in order that Prime Minister of Nepal Prachanda should visit Beijing to enable him to meet many dignitaries from around the world.

To read into this a deliberate snub to India, because he did not first visit New Delhi, is quite unnecessary. At the swearing in ceremony of the PM, it was the Indian delegation leader Janata Dal (U)'s Sharad Yadav who was first to be escorted to the podium to congratulate the new prime minister. Thus due respect was

paid to the historical ties between the two people.

However, the visit to Beijing marked a departure from a Nepali Congress initiated tradition which began in 1950. Leaders from Kathmandu travelled to New Delhi to pay obeisance to, and seek advice from, the Indian establishment.

While India moderated its policy towards Maoists in recent times, this did not prevent them from attempting their marginalisation. China's approach was different. They maintained cordial relations with anyone in power because they emphasised state-to-state relations and did not play favourites.

China arrested some of the Maoist cadres who had entered Tibet and a few of them were given death sentence when monarchy was suppressing them. But once they came to power, China has been cordial towards them. Prachanda's Beijing visit obliquely signals that Maoists will not bend before anyone.

Just as his statement that the

first "political visit" will be to India signals that they don't intend using one neighbour against the other.

This is because they owe their political allegiance to the people of Nepal. Their agenda became the agenda for entire Nepal. They now represent the mainstream in Nepal's polity and society and intend to carry out much-needed radical reforms. Good relations with neighbours alone can guarantee them the elbow room to carry this out.

In this context, when the Indian envoy in Kathmandu publicly expressed India's displeasure at Prachanda's visit to Beijing he ended up conveying a message that India sees Nepal as a sort of client state. Such ill-conceived moves vitiate relations, not sequencing of visits.

*This article was originally published on The Economic Times, India (2008 August 29) - Debate column Navlakha is a Civil Rights Activist And Commentator.*

## Formation.....

the symbol of total massacre and wipe out of the revolutionaries. This situation developed in the mean time, provides further fertile ground to the right opportunism and petty bourgeoisie liberalism in and outside the party. Thus, the major dander today is right opportunism, which our CC meeting had concluded few months before.

As Lenin said, "Correctness or otherwise in the political line determines every thing", the correctness of line of our party under the leadership of Chairman Prachanda brought the country into a new historical juncture. Our Party achieved PLA from nothing, the people's political power as well, as Mao said, "you get everything you do not have". Nevertheless, the Marxist-Leninist-Maoist Philosophy and the guidance of Prachanda Path teaches us that once being correct cannot be a red licence to be correct forever.

The obvious encirclement of the status quos, the regressive, and the backward forces against the revolution and the revolutionary process is quite dangerous. These elements are provoking conflict against peace and stability. The symptoms of provocation have been seen repeatedly against the issue of making fusion of the PLA and the NA. While he had set out to visit China, Chairman Prachanda appealed the jawans of the Nepal Army to forget the bitter history in the past and come forward to the new understanding. However, our Party is making efforts to develop a political harmony between the PLA and the NA, and get united for national integrity; people's sovereignty and economic prosperity, there are parliamentary forces twisting the course towards conflict.

These all challenges are serious. And, as certain historical juncture give raise of certain historical challenges, the CC of the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) will find solutions. Hence, not only the Nepalese masses are watching over curiously the upcoming CC meeting of our Party, but also the people of the world over.

*Writer is a central committee member of CPN (Maoist).*

# Olympic ends with grand success

After 16 days of overwhelming performance, world records and record-breaking shows, the Beijing Olympic concluded on 24th August. Beijing said farewell to the Olympic Games with all the theatrical performance. Heavenly drums, silver bell dancers, light wheels and flying men entertained 91 thousand people in the audience and a billion of people who were watching the live telecast all over the world. The Kung-Fu display, featuring 350 practitioners from a local martial arts school, were a part of the show as well as 60 erhu, or Chinese violin, players from eastern province of Jiangsu. The Olympics had started on August 8 with the stunning display of pageantry and pyrotechnics.

China, an emergent superpower, achieved what it had expected from these long-awaited games: dominance by its athletes to be at the top of the gold-medal standings for the first time, organizing the games successfully in world-class venues and millions of volunteers to the largest-ever gathering.

With the successful completion of the Olympic games, China has shown and proved its strength to the rest of the world. As well as this, China beat the USA and became the highest gold-medal winning country. With 51 golds, 21 silvers and 28 bronze, China made history. The USA trailed far behind China with 36 golds, 38 silvers and 38 bronzes.

The Chinese people have also impressed the world with their immense enthusiasm for the Games and their warm support for all competing athletes, re-

gardless of their nationality, race or sport. The world has seen the hospitality, kindness and tolerance of the Chinese people through the performance of millions of volunteers, cheerleaders and spectators.

Seven years ago when International Olympic Committee selected Beijing as host in 2001, many questioned its ability to host the games. But after the breath-taking inauguration ceremony, the finest sports venues

days forever. Addressing 91,000 audience in the 'Bird's Nest' and millions watching television screen, he further added 'through these games, the world learned more about China and China learned about the world.'

The Beijing Olympic Games also mark the integration of the Western civilization with the Chinese civilization respecting the rules, encouragement of participation and fair play.

The Beijing Olympic Games

incomplete if the Games had not come to the origin of the oriental civilization and the home of one fifth of world population.

China had invested more than 40 million US Dollars in the games including building of infrastructure. The Olympics became a chance to show the world its dramatic economic progress and people's mobilization.

A successful Olympic Games in Beijing is indeed the most pre-

visited China and attended the closing ceremony.

The Olympic flame's journey had started on March 24, 2008, at the Hera Temple of Ancient Olympia in Greece. After 130-day and traveling 137000-km journey including on top of Mount Everest, the Olympic flame reached Beijing.

The next Olympic will be held in London on 2012. Mayor of Beijing Guo Jinlong handed over the Olympic flag to the London's



Artists perform during the closing ceremony of 29th Olympic games in Beijing

and overwhelming mobilization of volunteers made the games run smoothly, and the critics had to shut their mouths. On the closing ceremony, IOC President Jacques Rogge said that the human being will cherish those 16

have also greatly promoted the development of the Olympic Movement. The Olympic Games have become a symbol of modern civilization since their revival 112 years ago. However, such a symbol would have been

cious gift the Chinese nation has given to the world. Meanwhile, scores of state leaders were also gathered in the closing ceremony. Prime Minister of Nepal and Chairman of Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) Prachanda

Mayor Boris Johnson. Artists and players from United Kingdom held a short performance during the closing ceremony. Many think that London has a big challenge after Beijing showed its wonders during the Olympics.



**Final Standings**

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
China	51	21	28	100
USA	36	38	36	110
Russia	23	21	28	72
Britain	19	13	15	47
Germany	16	10	15	41

## Russia may hit USA very hard below the belt



Russian President Dmitry Medvedev

US leading experts analyzed punishing opportunities of both Russia and the West after the recent armed conflict in Georgia. Specialists came to conclusion that the list of potential Western sanctions pales in comparison with what Moscow could do in response. However, the US administration hopes that Russia will not resort to radical

measures not to harm its own financial and security interests.

The US administration has issued yet another warning to Moscow recently claiming that Russia's actions in Georgia would question the future of its WTO bid, as well as Russia's position in the Group of Eight.

The list of Washington's threats also includes the blocking of Russia's membership in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the boycott of Russia's hosting of Winter Olympics in 2014 and a freeze of US-Russian strategic dialogue.

US experts warn that the list of Moscow's potential sanctions is a lot longer. Angela Stent, the director of the Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies, Georgetown University, said that Moscow may respond at the UN Security Council, where it can put obstacles on the way of US intentions to punish Iran for its nuclear ambition. All anti-terrorist programs, the struggle against drug mafia, Syria, Venezuela and Hamas can be added on the list too. There are many questions, on which Russians may stop their cooperation with the USA, with the cooperation in the energy industry on top of that list, the expert believes.

The International Herald Tribune wrote with reference to US outstanding analysts that Washington needed a lot more from Moscow than vice versa. The US needs to ensure the security of Soviet nuclear weapons, to obtain Russia's help in the endeavor to make Iran and North Korea shut down their nuclear programs.

The sale of Russia's arms is another problem. The governments of Western countries and Israel are concerned about reports saying that Russia started the shipments of first components of its S-300 missile system to Iran. The latter may subsequently use the powerful systems to down US and Israeli aircraft.

Russia may complicate USA's and NATO's supply of the coalition in Afghanistan. In April, Moscow gave France and Germany a right to transit non-combatant cargoes via Russia. Russia's ambassador to NATO, Dmitry Rogozin, said that the West should not bite the hand that feeds 50,000 servicemen in Afghanistan. Moscow can offer show pressure of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, which the USA would like to use for their operations in Afghanistan.

In addition, Russia is capable of blocking any sanctions at the UN Security Council. Moscow can also pull out from a

number of disarmament treaties, including the one signed with the USA about the liquidation of short and smaller range missiles after the expiry of START-1 Treaty in 2009.

Flynt Leverett, a former National Security Council senior director and CIA senior analyst, said that Moscow was becoming a very important buyer of US Treasury bonds and US government agency issues. The specialist believes that those officials, who urge Washington to put forward various ultimatums to Russia, would hardly prefer Moscow disposing of its dollar assets. Leverett wrote for The National Interest that Moscow was sounding out opportunities of selling Russian crude for roubles, which would obviously affect long-term dollar positions.

Washington hopes that Russia will not go too far. For example, Iran's possession of nuclear weapons and the abrupt devaluation of Russian dollar assets would be highly undesirable for Russia as well. However, Moscow's further actions will depend on new sanctions of the West that will have to think twice before reacting to possible recognition of South Ossetia's and Abkhazia's independence by Russia.

Dahal in the National stadium (Bird's Nest) in Beijing.



The organisers invited four journalists from Nepal. We were allowed to enter the Pagoda free where as others had to pay 20 Yuan each. This was because we were Nepalis. This made us very proud. Although we never felt any kind of humiliation during our visit in China, but this was an extra feeling and honour for Nepali.

# My experiences in China

**Maheshwar Dahal**  
(After returning from China)

For the Olympic Games, the Chinese government invited 65 journalists from 17 different nearby countries to observe the games and its various aspects. The Beijing International Media Centre coordinated the event. The journalists were provided opportunities to observe various events in two large cities of Beijing and Tianjing, including some in the national stadium, the 'birds nest'.

On August 19, we landed in Beijing airport and headed towards the city, we saw that the whole city was decorated for the grand Olympic Games. We could clearly see that the whole city and the nation were concentrated on the Olympics. The Olympic Games has been the national mission for Chinese government and the Chinese people. To ensure the great mission's success, millions of Chinese people, out of which 1.7 were fulltime volunteers for the games, were working day and night. They had worked for seven long years to make the 17 days (August 8-24) a success and show the rest of the world their strength and dedication.

The convention of Olympic Games was a great occasion for China in the 21st century. China has enjoyed huge economic progress and prosperity after the new-democratic revolution under the leadership of Mao-Tse-Tung in

1949. We could clearly see the development of infrastructure, the hard working nature of the Chinese people and the mobilization of people in handling great tasks.

Many who are worried about the prosperity of China expressed their dissatisfaction and tried to foil the Olympic Games. During the game in Xinjing Upper Autonomous Region, some outfits attacked the police and killed some, but they were soon controlled. Before and during the Olympics, Tibetan refugees in various countries, including Nepal, held protests but they did not have much effect. Overcoming these threats, China succeeded in the successful conduction of the Olympics and showed the world that it is strong in every aspect.

We visited two major cities, the second largest of China (after Shanghai) capital city of Beijing, and the third largest Tianjing. The highway was decorated from Beijing all the way to the port of Tianjing. The Birds nest in Beijing was a unique symbol of Chinese modernisation. Most of the football games were held in Tianjing. The 'Forbidden City' and the Great Wall are ancient and very beautiful assets of Modern China. They are well preserved and decorated. This shows that the Chinese people have been a hard working people since the distant past. The Forbidden City was the home of 24 emperors of China and the Great Wall is one of the won-

ders of the world. The Ming and Qing dynasty used many valuable materials to build it. The White Pagoda (BAI TA SHI), which was designed by Nepali artist Araniko, stands as a symbol of the friendship between Nepal and China.

The organisers invited four journalists from Nepal. We were allowed to enter the Pagoda free where as others had to pay 20 Yuan each. This was because we were Nepalis.

This made us very proud. Although we never felt any kind of humiliation during our visit in China, but this was an extra feeling and honour for Nepali. We were very much impressed by the very cordial hospitality of Chinese People throughout our stay in China.

Well-planned cities, wide roads, green belts, a well-managed public transportation system, the use of bicycles were significant when we travelled

or walked on the footpaths. I did not find a single person who was wearing dirty clothes nor a beggar. Many people had learnt English in order to assist the players, journalists and tourists who were visiting China during the Olympics and afterwards. We were informed that China, in the 60 years after the revolution in 1949, had progressed more than 50 times. Now it is fourth strongest country in terms of economy. China became a super power in sports after this Olympic. With highest 51 gold medals, China became the first Asian country to win the highest number of gold medals ever. Therefore, China has shown the significance and strength of whole Asia. In this way, China has started to win the West and lead economically and politically.

However, the present progress of China did not happen in one day. This was the result of a brave struggle of the Chinese people during the revolution and afterwards. We could clearly see the Chinese Communist Party and government of China had utilised the capacity of its people mobilised them in a plan. For the members of the invitee from Nepal, Sambhu Shrestha (Dristi Weekly), Raju Silwal (Nepal Television), Arun Ranjit (The Rising Nepal) and me, the lesson was loud and clear- the essentials for progress are dedication, discipline, patriotism and destination.

– Dahal is the Chairman of Revolutionary Journalist Association, Nepal.



WHITE PAGODA in China stands as a symbol of the friendship between Nepal and China.