



# NNL News

The Newsletter of the Nepal National Library



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## Electronic Database of NNL and Kaiser Library

Attempts were made by the Nepal National Library (NNL) to index its collection into manual card catalogue since past three decades. In this 21<sup>st</sup> century, the NNL realized that the users are reluctant to use the traditional catalogue system and began to automate its bibliographic database in an electronic form. The budget comes from the same heading to Nepal National Library (NNL) and Kaiser Library (KLIB). NNL therefore decided to automate the holdings of the KLIB as well in the same way.



Homepage of NNL

The process of recording the collection of Nepal National Library (NNL) and Kaiser Library (KLIB) into the computer has been almost finished. Now the catalogue of the libraries can be retrieved through local database and online as well.

NNL and KLIB have launched their separate websites giving information about libraries and their activities. Now the entire collection including periodicals of the libraries can be retrieved through internet at

[www.nnl.gov.np](http://www.nnl.gov.np)  
and [www.klib.gov.np](http://www.klib.gov.np)  
respectively.

Both the libraries are planning to provide a public terminal for their users in the library premises.

The bibliographic descriptions of the English language



Homepage of KLIB

documents are available in WINISIS software and those in Devanagari are in Unicode based software. Keeping in view the development in library field, both the libraries decided to put those records in electronic form.

On the webpage, information of the different collections, the online public access catalogue, various services being provided by the libraries, information about the public libraries and children section, and the detail about the publication are also available.

The libraries are planning to inaugurate the websites formally by higher authority of the Ministry of Education and Sports in near future. However the websites are in operation even now and users can access. We welcome any comments and suggestions about the websites.

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## Social Science Baha Library: an introduction

### Background:

A group of social scientists set up Social Science Baha ('Baha' from the Newari equivalent of the Sanskrit term 'Bihar' that refers to the traditional monastic centre of learning in the Kathmandu Valley) in order to facilitate and encourage the study of social sciences in Nepal. To fulfill its objective, the Social Science Baha (SSB) carries out three different activities: i) Social Science Baha Library (SSBL), ii) Four-month Immersion Course on Contemporary Social Issues and iii) Conferences, workshops and lectures. The SSBL initiated in 2002 & formally opened to the public in Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 2003, is one of the milestones in the history of the library and information services in Nepal. It is a reference library with a closed access system.

### Vision

The vision of the SSBL is to be a leading national social sciences repository in Nepal for empowering social scientists with instant and nascent information / knowledge by making maximum exploitation of ever advancing information and communication technology.

### Objective

Its objective is to ensure efficient library and information services vital for the quality research & development activities that contribute to the development of the Nepalese society as a whole by capturing and organizing relevant information/ knowledge resources in conventional and electronic formats not easily available elsewhere in Nepal.

### Functions

In order to fulfill above objective, the SSBL carries out various functions: development and organization of collection; creation and maintenance of computerized bibliographic databases; provision of modern library and information services; dissemination of information about the available resources and services; development of linkages/networking for resource sharing; participation in various, seminars, workshops, etc.

### Resources

The SSBL has been able to develop a good collection covering almost all disciplines of social sciences through purchase, gift and permanent loan. It has both: (i) Conventional and (ii) Electronic resources. The conventional resource consists of 16214 volumes of books, documents, journals, etc. Among them some are very rare and classic not easily available in other Nepalese libraries. Most of them are in English but some are in Nepali, Newari, Hindi, Sanskrit, etc. There are three bibliographic databases for accessing the available resources: i) Books, documents, reports, etc, (ii) Journals & (iii) Journal articles. Regarding electronic resources, it has online access to a vast treasure of scholarly journal literature in various disciplines through international online databases: like JSTOR & AGORA, Blackwell Synergy, EBSCO, EMERALD and Oxford University Press through PERI (Programme for Research Information).

Further, the Library is connected to DELNET, Delhi that provides access to bibliographic records and inter-library loan service to its users.

### Facilities

The reading room is furnished with cozy chairs and reading carrel equipped with electrical terminals for the use of laptop. It provides pencils and foolscap paper to its users free of charge; discussion room for group discussion; computer facility for searching necessary information from computerized databases.

### Services and products

The SSBL attempts to satisfy its users most by providing pin-pointed information search service in any discipline at least time. It renders a wide range of services such as user's education/ guides; information search; downloading, printing and CD burning of required articles; reference, referral, CAS, CCS, SDI (On request), photocopy, inter-library loan from DELNET, etc. services. It brings out various information products like bibliographies catalogues, indexes, etc.

### Users

Only the members of the Library can use its resources & services. The membership structures are: Individual member (General, Student, Temporary) and Institutional member (Department of Academic Institutions, GOs, NGOs & INGOs.)

### Visitors

Till July last, 1751 visitors of home and abroad have already visited this Library. Among them, some are very popular and distinguished in the field of social sciences.

### Resources Mobilization

The SSB strives to mobilize necessary resources both cash and kind (Books & journals) from various sources. It requests individuals as well as institutions for contributing their social sciences related works (Books & journals) & financial resources as far as possible for the sustainability of the Library. Accordingly, many individuals & institutions of home & abroad have already contributed for this Library. The Ford Foundation has been providing funds for 3 years from 2003 Dec-2006 Dec. It raises humble sum from its membership fee also.

### Library Hours

Summer (Fagun-Kartik)	12 Noon to 7:00 PM
Tuesday through Sunday	
Winter (Mangsir- Magh)	12 Noon to 6:00 PM
Tuesday through Sunday	

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## News from TUCL

### Japanese Studies Centre

The Ambassador of Japan H. E. Tsutomu, Hiraoka and the Vice-Chancellor of Tribhuvan University Prof. Dr. Govind Prasad Sharma jointly inaugurated the Japanese Study Collection at Tribhuvan University Central Library (TUCL) on 23 February 2005. The collection consists of more than 300 volumes of documents on different subjects like Japanese studies, journals, newspapers etc. The documents were received from Japan University Students Association of Nepal (JUSAN), SAKAI LIONS Club and Imanishi Memorial Fellowship Trust. The collection will be useful to those who are interested in Japanese studies. The library has received assurance from JUSAN and other institutions that the collection shall be updated every year and other necessary assistance shall be provided for its better service.



### Focal Point of International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)

International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) Oxfordshire, U.K. has nominated the Tribhuvan University Central Library as the national focal point for their publications in Nepal.

### Largest Geological Map of Nepal

Tribhuvan University Central Library has the largest original geological map of Nepal made in metal plate prepared by late Dr. Toni Hagen. The size of the map is 14x6sq.ft. The map was presented to TUCL by late Hagen's daughter Dr. Katrin Hagen to mark the second anniversary of her father's death on 18 April 2003.

### Seminar on the role of Information Literacy for Quality Education at School Level

The Nepalese Association of School Libraries (NASL) has organized a one day seminar on The Role of Information Literacy for Quality Education at School level on 11 February 2005. The programme was supported by Kshitiz Secondary English Boarding School.

The association has been organizing different programmes related to the school libraries in Nepal.



## News from DRKRML

### Minister's visit

Honourable Minister for Education and Sports, Radha Krishna Mainali, visited the Dilliraman-Kalyani Regmi Memorial Library (DKRML) on 1 March 2005 and observed the library. On the occasion Minister Mainali assured that the Government will provide necessary assistance for the further development of the library. He also added that the library should be further modernized for the easy access of general public.

### Scholarship for researcher

DKRML has announced a scholarship programme of NRs. 10,000.00 per year to a researcher who is doing his/her work upon late Dr. Dilli Raman Regmi.

### New chairman of the board

Prof. Mahesh Kumar Upadhyay has been nominated as the Chairman of DKRML Development Board.

***Do you have any news of community libraries or resource centres? If so we would like to hear from you. Send us by post, fax or e-mail.***



## NNL News

### Collection Development

NNL has added 1293 volumes of books consisting of 856 purchased and 437 volumes obtained as gifts during the period of last six months

### Users

According to the Gate register a total number of 4500 users visited the library from January 2005 to June 2005

### Photocopy Service

Photocopy service is one of the services being provided by the library to the users. The library provided 10,000 pages of photocopy services during six months.

### Children Service

NNL has been providing children's library services to the children upto the age of fourteen. It has attractive books on different subjects covering encyclopaedia, science, dictionaries etc. Recently the children's unit has acquired new and interesting books. Besides general reading, following programmes were organized in the children section during this period:



**Quiz contest** was organized on 20 January 2005.

**Story telling** programme was organized on the occasion of International Children Book day or Birth anniversary of Danish Child storywriter Hans Christian Anderson, on 2 April 2005.

**Spelling contest** was organized on 7 April 2005.

**Knowledge Leads Progress; Books for Knowledge  
Let us go to Library and Read books**

### Staff movement

Mr. Bholu Kumar Shrestha, Bibliographer has been promoted to the Gazetted II class and has been posted to the Chief Librarian of Kaiser Library. He left the NNL on 14 May 2005.

Mr. Damodar Bhattarai joined the library on 22 May 2005 as Bibliographer. He was transferred from Kaiser Library.

### Manpower Development

Mr. Mohan Chandra Joshi, Nayab Subba (Non Gaz. I) participated in an MS-Access computer training from 2 May 2005 to 30 June 2005.

Mr. Atma Ram Thapa, Kharidar, (Non Gaz. II) participated in a Basic Computer Training from 28 April 2005 to 29 June 2005.

Ms. Bhagirathi Adhikari, (Non Gaz. II) participated in a Basic Computer Course from 05 April 2005 to 05 June 2005.

Ms. Kabita Khadka, Typist (Non Gaz. II) participated in Graphic designing and Web Page designing computer training from 24 January 2005 to 24 April 2005.

Mr. Shreenarayan Jha, Library Assistant (Non Gaz. I) participated in CDS/ISIS Dos and Windows System from 1 May 2005 to 12 May 2005.

## Congratulation



We wish a very happy and successful life of Mr. Bholu Kumar Shrestha on being promoted to the post of Chief Librarian, a post of Gazetted II class, of Kaiser Library.

Mr. Shrestha has educational qualification of M.A., Culture from Tribhuvan University, MLIS from Delhi and B.Lib.Sc. from Mysore. He has participated in many national and international workshops and seminars. He was elected President of Nepal Library Association.

**Nepal National Library Family**



## World Book and Copyright Day Celebrated

A programme was organized by Nepal Copyright Registrar Office in association with Royal Nepal Academy to celebrate World Book and Copyright Day on 23rd April 2005. Speakers of the programme focused upon the strict implementation of the Copyright law. Mr. Sushil Jung Bahadur Rana, Acting Secretary of Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation stressed on the preservation of literary and intellectual work.

Mr. Bhola Shrestha, Bibliographer of Nepal National Library spoke on the importance of library and its development. Mr. Kamal Mani Dixit of Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya shed light on the problems of writing in social and cultural development and the condition of existing situation of copyright in Nepal. Mr. Sharada Adhikari highlighted the importance of reading and the problems of the readers.



Participants

Mr. Nava Raj Karki, General Manager of Sajha Prakashan, Mr. Santosh Sharma, Secretary of Society of Nepalese Copyright Protection, Mr. Madhav Lal Maharjan from Nepal Booksellers and Publishers Association, Litterateur Daimond Shumsher Rana shed light on the need of protection of literary works and also pointed on the existing system of photocopying the books.

Mr. Ram Prasad Bhattarai, Registrar of Nepal Copyright Registrar Office said that the programme was organized in order to discuss on the problems facing by the literateurs.

Another similar programme was organized to mark the World Book Day. Bhavak Abhayan Nepal organized a programme to mark the World Book day on 23 April. Speakers of the programme focused upon the importance of book. The renowned literary works from Nepali, Newari and German literatures were cited on the occasion. Prof. Dr. Basudev

Tripathi, Vice-chancellor of Royal Nepal Academy focused upon the need of national policy regarding book and reading culture. Other speakers of the programme Prof. Dr. D.P. Bhandari, Chetan Karki, Prakash A. Raj, Narmadeshwor Pradhan, Pushkar Lohani, Shailendra Kumar Singh, Charan Pradhan stressed upon the book and shed light upon the book day.

April 23 has been observed as International Book day on which world famous literateurs William Shakespeare, Vladimir Nawakov, William Wordsworth etc. were born and died.

### Triphala Rastriya Pustakalaya observes felicitation programme

Triphala Rastriya Pustakalaya (TRP) organized a programme on its 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary and felicitated different institutions and individuals on 23 April 2005 - the World Book and Copyright Day.

Mr. Dasharath Thapa, Chief of Nepal National Library felicitated Mr. D. B. Sunuwar of Lutheran World Service, Mr. K. B. Bogati of CARITAS Nepal and Ms. Saraswati Koirala (Subedi) of Rural Reconstruction Nepal.

Mr. Basanta Raj Bhattarai, Chief District Officer of Jhapa, Mr. Suresh Kumar Karki, Mr. Man Bajracharya of TRP, social worker Mr. Dataram Sharma, Mr. Jibanath Adhikari, Mr. Tejraj Khatiwada and Mr. Rabin Koirala expressed their views on the programme. The programme was chaired by Mr. Prem Prakash 'Phalahari'.

### 9th Nepal Education and Book Fair 2005

Ninth Nepal Education and Book Fair 2005 was observed during 20 May 2005 to 29 May 2005 at the Bhrikuti Mandap, Exhibition Hall. Mr. Satya Mohan Joshi, Vice Chancellor of Nepal Language Academy inaugurated the fair on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2005.

The fair was organized with a view to make students, parents and book lovers aware with the latest publications and also to inform them about the activities of different education institutions. Representatives from different national as well as international colleges and universities and publishers were there to inform the visitors.



## News in Brief

### Indian assistance to Mahendra Library, Nepalgunj

Ambassador of India, H. E. Mr. Shiv Shankar Mukherjee laid the foundation stone of a building of Mahendra Library in Nepalgunj at Tribhuvan Chowk, Banke on 6 June 2005. The building is to be built with Indian assistance of NRs. 12,19,431.00 The library is one of the important libraries of Mid-Western Development Region and has a collection of about 5000 books of different subjects. *Nepal Bharat Maitri Samaj* has undertaken to realise the project.

### Nepalinux is to be operated in near future

Madan Puraskar Library has been working for Nepali language in Linux operating system (Nepalinux). A language communication project was started on 17 February 2005 which shall work in this field. This programme shall be highly useful for Nepali language loving users.

Madan Puraskar Library has produced a list entitled *Madan Saurab* in digital form consisting of books and journals in its possession. The collection of the library can also be searched through online

### Archives Building under Construction

A modern building with earthquake resistant power is being built to house the valuable collection of Asa Archives Trust, the only archives established from public fund. The Archives has about 7000 documents on different subjects like Hinduism, Buddhism, culture, literature in different languages including rare and valuable manuscripts. The archives has already digitized and prepared CD of the documents in its collection. It has about 1200 palm leaves in its collection. The archives is going to digitize those palm leaves very soon.

### TULSAA organizes trainings

Tribhuvan University Library Science Alumni Association organized Library and Information Science level 3 and WINISIS training. The level 3 training was started on 5 May 2005 and the WINISIS was started on 19 June 2005. There were 19 participants from different institutions as well as individually. The training was organized in Kantipur City College premises in Kathmandu

### READ organizes essay competition

Rural Education and Development (READ) in cooperation with Thampes International has organized an open essay competition recently. The student from different schools throughout the kingdom participated in the competition.

### Room to Read helps education sector in Nepal

Room to Read, an International Non-Government Organization (INGO) that facilitates education in poor Asian communities like Nepal has been running many programmes like construction of schools building, establishing school libraries and providing basic library management training etc. It also establishes computer labs in government schools, provides scholarship to the girls student and publishes children pictorial books in local language. Apart from Nepal Room to Read focuses its efforts Vietnam, Cambodia, India, Sri Lanka, and Laos - countries with a desperate lack of resources to educate their children.



Participants

In last six month (January to June 2005) alone, it has completed the following programs:

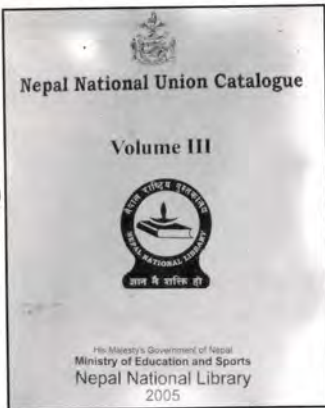
- completed construction of 10 government schools in different part of the country.
- established more than 100 school libraries.
- provided 3 days library management training to 150 schools' teachers.
- established computer labs at 5 government schools enrolled additional 112 new girls into the girls scholarship programs.



## Publications... Resources

### Nepal National Union Catalogue Volume III

Nepal National Library published third volume of Nepal National Union Catalogue in the month of June 2005. The catalogue contains 10375 records of Nepal related publications and has 737 pages. The records were contributed by 11 different libraries including Nepal National Library itself. This volume includes data from B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan. For the first time, the library has been able to incorporate records from out of Kathmandu valley in the catalogue.



### NESCHIL observes Annual General Meeting

Nepalese Society for Children's Literature (NESCHIL) organised a programme to mark its annual general meeting in 21-22 January 2005 at Siddhartha Banasthali Institute, Balaju, Kathmandu. Prof. Dr. Basudev Tripathi, Vice-chancellor of Royal Nepal Academy inaugurated the meeting on 21 January.

On the occasion writer Mr. Bijaya Chalise and artist Mr. Yubak Shrestha were awarded for their works *Chatakiko Bandar* and *Shantiko Atmakatha* respectively which were valued to be the best work in the year 2059 B. S. Mr. Rewati Rajbhandari was awarded for the first time with the Society's *Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh Nepal Bal Sahitya Puraskar* for his work *Moti* (collection of stories).

Mr. Ramesh Vikal, former Chairman of the Society, Mr. Bishwambhar 'Chanchal', Vice-chairman of the Society and Mr. Chudamani Bandhu, President spoke on the occasion.

### Digital Action Group established

A Digital DividENDs Action Group (DigiDAG) has been established with the view of providing electronic documents to the rural resources centre of Nepal through Information Technology, 3 June 2005.

### Boudhik Bikas Mandal Observes Golden Anniversary

Boudhik Bikas Mandal Pustakalaya, Bhaktapur observed its Golden Anniversary in the year 2061 B.S. The library organized a prize distribution ceremony and General Assembly on 4 June 2005. Different programmes like blood donation, motorcycle rally and other competition programmes as chess, race, drawing and quiz contest were organized during the year 2061 on different dates. Mr. Satyamohan Joshi, Vice chancellor of Nepal Language Academy handed over prizes to the winners. Speaking as Chief Guest Mr. Joshi focused upon the initiation to be taken to collect old and rare books by the libraries. This is because the rare books and manuscripts contain our true culture and therefore they are valuable. Ms. Rajyalaxmi Nakarmi, District Education Officer, Bhaktapur district, shed light on the praiseworthy activities done by the library during past 50 years. Literateur Surya Bahadur Piwa, Mr. Purna Bahadur Baidhya, modern poet of Newari literature and Tulcidas Rajbhandari also spoke on the occasion. Speaking from the chair Mr. Birendra Kayastha said that the library felt pleasure to observe its golden anniversary.



Anniversary Programme

The library also observed its General Assembly on the same day and a 11 member new executive committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of Krishna Gopal Disti.



## News in Brief

### Minister Chaires the Library Meeting

A meeting was organized on 13 April 2005 under the chairmanship of Honourable Minister of Education and Sports, Mr. Radha Krishna Mainali in his office to discuss about library and its activities in Nepal. The meeting concluded on the decision of collecting and updating the statistical data of all the different kinds of libraries in Nepal. Mr. Dasharath Thapa, Chief of Nepal National Library, Mr. Bhola Shrestha, President of Nepal Library Association, Mr. Pashupati Adhikari, Chief Librarian of Dilliraman Kalyani Regmi Memorial Library, Mr. Gajendra Regmi, Assistant Librarian, Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya, Mr. Damodar Gauli, Under Secretary, Ministry of Education and Sports (Library Coordination Section) and Mr. Damodar Bhattarai, Library Officer, Kaiser Library were present in the meeting.

### Donation of Books to Kathmandu Valley Public Library (KVPL)

Mr. Krishna Prasad Bhattarai and Mr. Lokendra Bahadur Chand, Ex-Prime Ministers donated their books to the KVPL. Donation from such VVIP's inspires and motives others to donate the books for the library. The society for KVPL has been requesting the public for book donation to make them feel ownership of the library as well as their active participation.



**TO :**

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The Social Welfare Council Bhrikutimandap management office has provided space for the library which is going to be operated very soon.

### Disabled Librarian in Dharan

Mr. Ram Bahadur Limbu, 28 has been working as Librarian in Sunaulo Library of Dharan-17 since past two and half years. Mr. Limbu has problem with his neck and his body and feet are also abnormal. Mr. Limbu with his abnormal body works from six O'clock in the morning to serve the users.

### Child Rights Resource Centre

A Child Rights Resource Centre has been established at the St. Xavier's College premises on 10 June 2005. The Resource Centre was the joint effort of the students of the St. Xavier's College and Save the Children.

### Guthi Sansthan Library: a library of valuable collections

Guthi Sansthan Library, presently housed at Bhadrakali, has a valuable collection of old and rare manuscripts and books of varied subjects. The library has more than hundred manuscripts which were written before hundred years. Similarly, it has more than five thousands valuable books.

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