

Namaste!

नमस्ते

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P.O.Box 90581, OR 97290

April 1995

Happy Nepali New Year 2052

Namaste expresses best wishes to all friends of Nepal for their success and prosperity in the occasion of the Bikram Era new year 2052. On this occasion we would like to present some hints on how Nepalese people celebrate the new year day in Nepal.

Nepalese National new year begins on the 13th of April. This occasion is also known as the Baishak Sankranti. The Sankranti means the first day of a month. On the new year eve Nepalese people go to various sacred places for pilgrimage to take holy bath in rivers, water fountains and springs to gain a new spirit for the coming year. One of these bath taking places in the Kathmandu Valley is Bagh Dwaar, located in northeast hills of Kathmandu. This place is also considered as the main source of holy river Baghmati. Another one is Sapan Tirtha (A sacred pool of dream) in Tokha village. People believe that by taking a bath in this pool a chronic disease like leprocy is cured. On this occasion, Bhaktapur people celebrate Bisket festival. This symbolizes a victory over the deadly serpent beings who kill a young man every night after making a princess satisfied in love affair with the man. Similarly, the new year day is celebrated all over Nepal with great enthusiasm.

Slide Show from Trek to Nepal
The students from Daya's Nepali

language and culture class Jan Buskirk, Ben Neives, Lori Dahl and Terry Woodburn are back to town from trekking in Nepal for six weeks. They have presented a slide show of their 2 weeks trek in the Dhaulagiri Range at Ben and Jan's residence in Northeast Portland. Similarly, the other group David Vala and his girl friend Robin have also done a presentation by showing slides from the trek to Helambu and the architectural tour of the Kathmandu valley and the central India, Delhi and Agra. Namaste appreciates their excellent presentation.

Display of Artifacts in the 10th Asian Celebration

Diwakar, Yam and Daya from Portland have participated in the 10th Asian Celebration by displaying hand made artifacts of Nepal in Eugene, Oregon. Similarly, Himalayan Heritage from Seattle and Light Of Asia from Eugene also participated in the two days celebration of the art and culture of Asia. Namaste congratulates the coordinators and volunteers of the Oregon Asian Council for their successful completion of the 10th year of Asian celebration in Eugene.

Bon Voyage to Diwakar
After completing his study at the Lewis and Clark College Diwakar Chapagain a visiting scholar is back to homeland. Namaste congratulates him for his success in study. Nepal needs many scholars like Mr. Chapagain to broaden the study of growing environmental problem in Nepal.

The writer of the book 'Nepali Aamaa' visits town for book signing
The writer of the book 'Nepali Aamaa' and the 'Aamaa in America' Broughton Coburn visits Eugene and Portland for book signing in Summer.

The schedule will be announced later. If you are willing to have his sign in your copy of the book, please contact Namaste representatives in Portland, or Eugene.

Bal Presents a Nepali Song
Iswara Taile Malaai... song in Nepali was presented in Lewis & Clark College International festival by Bal Krishna Joshi of the same college student. He was accompanied by Prassanna Pradhan with madal (a typical Nepali drum).

Nepalese Journal and News Papers available in Town

The Himal and the weekly newspaper Independent are available in town for purchasing and subscribing. Interested friends of Nepal are requested to contact Powell's Bookstore, or Gifts from Afar in Portland. In additions to this a quarterly bulletin the News From Nepal (Annual subscription \$ 15) is also available by writing to: News from Nepal, 600 SW 10th Ave. #530 Portland, OR 97205.

The Fisher and King family blessed with new born baby

Mike and Sandhya Fisher of Springfield, and Puspa and Mark King of Lebanon, Oregon, are blessed with a son to each family. Namaste congratulates both the families and wishes them happy lives.

Dr. Kansakar Back to Nepal

Dr. Tej Ratna Kansakar, Professor of English TU, Kathmandu and well known Newari Linguist and his wife are back to Nepal after finishing his six months research on Classical Newari at the U of O Eugene, under the fullbright research fellowship. While he was in the States he has presented many colloquiums on Newari language at the UC Chico, UC Santa Barbara and the U of O Eugene.

A Goal of Namaste

Well! it has been more than one third of a year since we brought out the first issue of Namaste. Our goal was to bring out the next issue asap and keep informed the activities to all friends of Nepal in Oregon. However, the time flies fast. Some times you never realize until you look back what you have done before. Any way we are very glad that we received a good number of responses and compliments from many friends. Thanks to all those who have encouraged us by sending complements. Similarly, our request is always with you to keep in touch with every body in Oregon. Please support by sending contributions, and your news to share with other friends. We got together three times last year. From this year we plan to do so four times a year. Lets see how it goes. We are in need of representatives from the cities around the state of Oregon. Your participation is most valuable not only to us but also to everybody. Thanks again for your support. Namaste!

Learning Nepali by mail

Now it is available for people living out side the city of Portland to learn Nepali language by mail. For detail please contact Namaste or by calling at 239-4835 to Daya.

Durgaji, Bashudha and Sachita in Nepal

The veteran Portlander Durga Bahadur Shrestha and his wife Bashudha along with their daughter Sachita have left Portland for 5 weeks pilgrimage visit to Nepal. It is exciting for Sachita to be in motherland after 15 years. Namaste wishes them good luck for their trip.

Nepalese Musicians and Dancers

Any friend of Nepal living in nearby state of Oregon is invited to participate in the 11th Asian Celebration next year by presenting Nepali song or dance or by any other means. For more information please contact Namaste.

Goodwill Mission to Nepal in March 1996

Namaste plans to organize a goodwill trip to

Nepal in the middle of March 1996. The mission will focus on cultural tour of the Kathmandu valley and the 2 weeks trek in the Annapurna Circuit or the Everest base camp. We are looking forward to have experts in different fields to carry on practical experience in Nepal. Interested individuals are welcome to participate in the group. For detail please contact Namaste or Daya Shakya at 239-4835.

ANMA Annual Meeting

Association of Nepalese in Mid West America (ANMA) has announced its annual convention at Columbus, Ohio on May 27-28, 1995. Interested people may want to contact Dr. M. Vaidya at (614)451-3728.

Basanta in Wedding

Basanta Karki a resident of Portland got married with Tara Adhikari in Kathmandu, on January 20th, 1995. Both are back to Portland for honey moon. Namaste congratulates and wishes their happy lives.

New Nepalese Ambassador to the US

The King of Nepal has appointed Basu Dev Dhungana to the Royal Nepalese ambassador to the US. The position was empty for the last couple of years.

Who is Doing What?

The news bulletin 'News from Nepal' has requested to all friends of Nepal to let the bulletin know who is doing what for Nepal or Nepalese

community in the US. Namaste requests your hands to make the 'News from Nepal' a successful one.

House of Nepal, Inc.

House of Nepal, Inc. has been incorporated in the state of Oregon, with the Primary goal of establishing and expanding business relationship between Nepal and the US. For your business and any other needs pertaining to Nepal, please contact (503)244-1674. For your travel needs to Nepal please contact Raja Shrestha at Anik Travels (503)221-4275.

Nepalese Experts got Ph.Ds

Kanaiya Vaidya and Kush Shrestha have received Ph.D degrees in

Demography from the Bowling Green State University. Both of them have moved to Salem, Oregon. Namaste congratulates and welcomes them to join the Friends of Nepal in Oregon.

NEPALI RESTAURANT IN PORTLAND?

Namaste has received a green signal of opening a Nepali Restaurant in Portland. Please be patience to see its ad on coming issues of Namaste.

Wishing you
Peace & Happiness
in Nepali New Year 2052
From:
Basanta & Tara Karki

Interested people may send their names and address to us to receive an invitation for the opening day.

Wishing You
A Very Happy New Year
2052



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