

FAAN



Newsletter

Publication of the Fulbright Alumni Association of Nepal (FAAN)

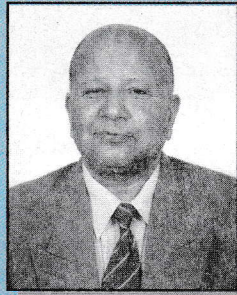
Vol.7.No.1

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From the President

Dear Fellow Fulbrighters
and Friends,

Happy New Year
2061.B.S.



It is a great pleasure to welcome you all on behalf of FAAN to celebrate the forty-third annual Fulbright Day. I would like to avail of this opportunity to request you all to lend your support for realizing the aims and objectives of FAAN and to work together for achieving a lasting peace and stability in the country. To quote Senator J. William Fulbright, "The Fulbright Program aims to bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason, and a little more compassion into world affairs and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship." The USA, having emerged as an unrivaled super power, has a tremendous amount of responsibility towards safeguarding the interests of the emerging democracies of the world, and particularly so in the context of Nepal today. It is highly gratifying to note that, despite the geographical distance that separates them and the asymmetry in their physical size and dimensions of political influence in world politics Nepal and USA have been forging ahead with an exemplary spirit of mutual cooperation. "Nepal is a neighbor of the United States at the other side of the globe," as the late President Ronald Reagan put it, and in

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The seventh Executive Committee of FAAN (2003-2005)

President

Professor. Dr. Ananta Raj Poudyal

Vice-President

Dr. Dambar Narayan Yadhav

General Secretary

Mr. Madan Mohan Das

Secretary

Dr. Mukesh Chalise

Treasurer

Mr. Ram Bhakta Amatya.

Members

Mr. Abin Bhakta Pradhan

Mr. Deepak Rajbandary

Mr. Damador Gautam

Ms. Jharna Joshi

Mr. Rajesh Khanal

Mr. Suman Basnet

Members of an Advisory Board (2003-2005)

Prof. Dr. Dilli Devi Shakya

Dr. Manga Siddhi Manandhar

Dr. Prakash C. Lohani.

Prof. Dr. Shanti Basnet

Mr. Ajit Narayan Sing Thapa

Prof. Dr. Chaitanya Mishra

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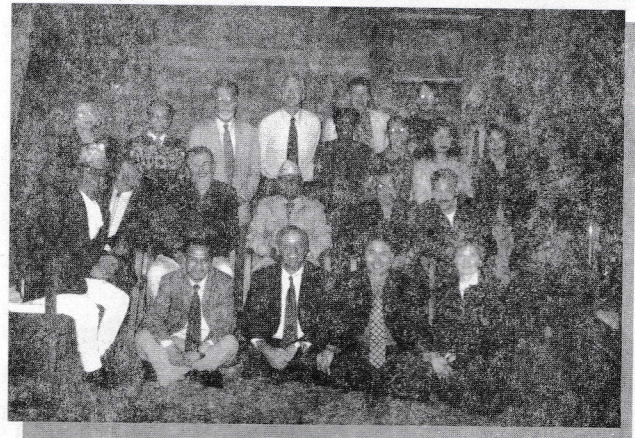
whose demise on June 5, 2004, Nepal has lost a great friend. The United States of America is a very close friend of Nepal and supporting its endeavor in consolidating her democratic values, principle of human rights, and dignity of people in general. In addition to their political relations, the two countries have been engaged in expanding their bilateral relations to economic, trade and other related fields as well. The most tangible contribution of the USA to Nepal is, undoubtedly, in the field of developing skilled human resources through fellowship programs like Fulbright, Hubert Humprey and East-West Center.

While looking back at the formation of this Seventh Executive Committee, it is simply six months old. The election for the EC was held on December 19, 2003. This intervening period has been marked by some mixed feeling of hopes and despair. Publication of the newsletter, hospitality program, reception hosted for the former US Ambassador Micheal Malinowski and other US Embassy Officials and a Joint Program with Central Department of Political Science, TU Kirtipur to bid farewell to Ambassador could be considered some some important events. Future activities of the FAAN will include conducting research, seminars on national and international issues, offer consultative and advisory services on matters of development and other areas of common interests, fund raising programs, hospitality programs to American Fulbrighters residing in Nepal, and publication of FAAN' s Journal.

Despair in the sense that the country is in deep turmoil and light appears at the end of the tunnel. If there is popular disenchantment with deteriorating political situation in the country justice, freedom and peace which are the basic constituents of a civilized society have all been put at great risk due to continued violence. The conflict between the state and Maoist rebels has brought about the death of more than 10,000

Nepalese accompanied by a massive destruction of infrastructure. At this critical juncture, one must dare think "unthinkable thoughts" to explore all possible options and possibilities that confront a complex and changing society of Nepal. To quote Senator Fulbright "we must learn to welcome and not fear to voices of dissent" which is the first and foremost challenge to restore peace. Peace in Nepal will remain elusive until the Maoists are brought to the negotiating table. FAAN, therefore, wishes the people of this country all successes towards achieving enduring peace.

EC Members, Advisory Board, The US Ambassador and US Officials

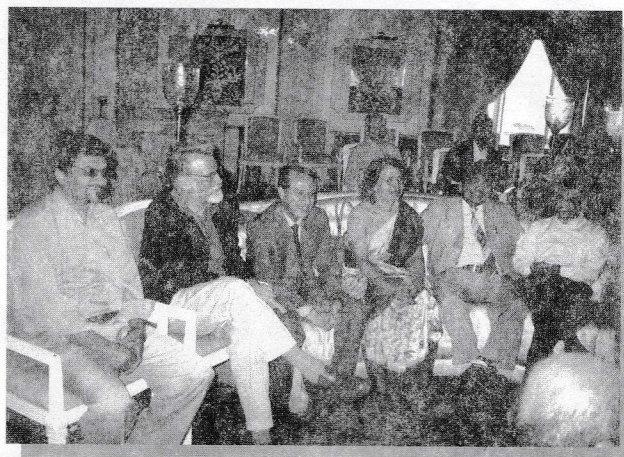


The FAAN Executive and Advisory Board hosted an informal dinner at Dwarika's Hotel on March 4 in honor of US Ambassador Micheal Malinowski and US Embassy high ranking officials.

FAAN, Advisory board and the Central Department of Political Science jointly organized an informal interaction program with the US Ambassador Micheal Malinowski at Hotel Malla on May 19, 2004. Ms. Constance Colding Jones, Chairperson of The Fulbright Commission and Public Affairs Officer, US Embassy, Mr. Michael E. Gill, Executive Director of the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States and Nepal and Phillip Cargil, Deputy Public Affairs Officer were present on the occasion.



President of FAAN welcoming to the US Ambassador Mr. and Mrs. Malinowski



Mr. Michael E. Gill, Executive Director, The Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States and Nepal talking to the EC

US Ambassador: Concern for Peace in Nepal.

While responding to the queries of students of political science, former US Ambassador Malinowski underlined that there would be hardly any change with regard to US commitment on Nepal and Maoist problem. First, he underlined the US active role after September 11 to deal with the menace of terrorism in any part of the world. Secondly, he showed US commitment towards strengthening and safeguarding the democratic process in Nepal. And thirdly, to restore peace by bringing Maoist insurgents at a negotiating table.

He said that American government would be doing its level best to deal with Maoist problem by extending economic and other logistic support to Nepal. In the meantime, he also drew attention of the European countries in this regard. He indicated that even India is holding the same opinion as the USA that the Maoist should lay down their arms and join the democratic process. While responding to questions about James F. Moriarty, the successor to Micheal Malinowski, the later referred that he will continue the established American policies as adopted by him. The American Ambassador further informed that Moriarty who is serving as President Bush's security assistant possesses a deep knowledge about Nepal. United Kingdom, European countries, India and China, have been stressing that "the Maoist problem need to be resolved through peace process. However, the first step should be to lay down their arms and for that, first Maoist should lay down their arms," Moriarty also subscribes similar views, Malinowski further added. Ambassador Malinowski summed up "we do not want to see areas of Nepal become chaotic so as to create a vacuum for mischief makers to come in. You know the nest of Al Queda was broken in Afghanistan but the birds are flying about. We do not want that bunch to land in Nepal, for the region's sake, for Nepal's sake and for our own."



President of FAAN offering a souvenir to the US Ambassador on behalf of FAAN

Some Information

General Secretary of FAAN, Mr. Madan Mohan Das has been nominated as one of the USEF Board of Directors.

New Life Members:

1. Mr. Mathura Bahadur Dongol
2. Mr. Damodar Gautam
3. Prof. Hom Nath Bhattra
4. Prof. Chaitanya Mishra.
5. Mr. Rajesh Khanal.
6. Mr. Purna Man Shakya
7. Mr. Pratek Pradhan
8. Mr. Amit Dhakal
9. Mr. Mukta S. Lama Tamang
10. Mr. Abin Bhakta Pradhan
11. Dr. Bharat Mani Pokhrel

Dear Fulbrighters, hurry up to become life member and get rid off from the hassle of renewing membership every year. All it costs is Rs.2000 to become a FAAN Lifer.

FAAN invites articles for its forthcoming Journal.

Condolence

FAAN extends heartfelt condolence on the sad demise of Late U.S. president Ronald Reagan on July 5, 2004.

Future Plans

- * Conduct research on national and international policies and events.
- * Conduct dialouge between FAAN and policy makers.
- * Offer consultative and advisory services on matters of development and the other areas of common intrests.
- * Conduct fund raising programs.
- * Conduct talk program, seminar and discussion on current issues.
- * Provide hospitality programs to American Fulbrighters residing in Nepal.
- * Publicantion of FAAN's, journal.



EC members attending at a reception hosted for the U.S. Ambassador.

Condolence

FAAN extends heartfelt condolence to **Fr. Eugene L. Watrin** who pssed away in Kathmandu on February 29, 2004 at the age of 83. Decorated with many medals and awards, Fr. Watrin was involved continuously for five decades in various social development activities of Nepal.

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