



Dated 22 April 2010

Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State

Department of State
Washington D.C

Sub: Nepali New Year (Bikram Sambat) Message

Madame Secretary,

We, the People of Nepal are thankful and gratified by the yearly message we receive from you and the President of the United States Barak Obama on behalf of the People of America at the beginning of the Bikram Sambat, "Nepali New Year"

Nepal is a multi-national/ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-religious and multi-lingual country at the foothills of the Himalayas which was held under the sway of the Shah dynasty for the last 240 years. In 2008 people chose the path of Democratic reform and yearned for freedom, the principles and ideals promoted by the United States around the world. The Shah regime fell and a roadmap was charted towards a true democratic Nepal where much work still needs to be done.

Bikram Sambat, as the name implies, is not an indigenous era of Nepal but rather borrowed from India and introduced by Chandra Sumshere Rana in 1903 to replace the thousand year old Nepal Sambat calendar prevalent in Nepal. In 2007 the government of Nepal recognized Nepal Sambat as the official calendar of Nepal as it alone bears the name of the country Nepal. Bikram Sambat is promoted still by the devotees of the old Rana-Shah regime without proper consultation, coordination and consent of the people of Nepal. For the government of the United States to felicitate the entire people of Nepal as "Nepali New year" Bikram Sambat ignores and overlooks authentic and indigenous new Years of Nepal. Furthermore, more than 60% official holidays in Nepal follow Nepal Sambat, where as Bikram Sambat is referred for less than 5% official holidays, lesser than Gregorian calendar. See attached.

Needless to bring up here few items of the English language as promoted and pushed by certain segment of the Nepalese community trying to confuse and legitimize the un-legitimize-able.

“Nepali” a word as written in Devnagari script is a noun denoting a new name given to the old language of Khas-kura, the language spoken by certain segment of Nepalese populace. The word “Nepali” cannot be used in English as an adjective denoting the People of Nepal. Proper English adjective is “Nepalese” and not “NEPALIS” either, as mentioned in your message. “Nepalis” again is the new word coined by this interest group.

The language “Nepali”, Khas-kura proper, was imposed upon the multi-lingual people of Nepal as the Lingua-Franca of the country during the Shah regime. In a democratic and multi-lingual country it is undemocratic to impose language native to just one segment of the people as the “official “language of the entire country. It is in violation of basic human rights and freedom of speech in a democratic society. We recall no such “official language” in the United States of America even though English is spoken widely by all citizen of America.

Also, we welcome the recent Trade and Investment Framework (TIFA) between the US and Nepal where business organizations of both the countries would benefit. Thankfully, no word of dual meaning “Nepali” and “Nepalis” were used.

World Newah Organization is a conscientious and emerging worldwide organization of the Newah people of Nepal, indigenous to Kathmandu valley, Nepalmandala, dedicated to the true and fundamental democratic values and aspirations.

Thank you, Madame Secretary, for your time and for the visionary service you render for the people of America and the world to bring lasting Peace and Freedom around the world.

Happy Easter !

Sincerely,



Daya Shakya

Chairman - WNO- ADHOC Committee