

Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK

6th Executive Committee (2018-2020)

End of the Term Report

23rd August 2020

Dear Members,

Namaskar

Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK has successfully completed 12 years electing 6 Executive Committees since its formation in 2008 and the 7th Executive committee is being elected and announced via virtual General Assembly followed by election today. Our original schedule for Annual General Meeting (AGM) was on 22 March 2020 followed by handover takeover along with Nepalese New Year 2077 celebrations on the 4th of April 2020, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were obliged to reschedule all our society's programmes.

With the permission of our President, I would like to present the Society's **end of the term report** to the General Assembly today. The report will be uploaded to our society's website and will be available to all members. We are proud to share all our social and financial activities including the meetings' minutes in detail in a transparent manner to all our valuable members via group email and social media.

As time lapses and with the commitment of our society's members, we are getting in a better position as people and organisations in the country have recognised our society and its members for their valuable contributions to diaspora societies and communities. Some of our society's members are in positions that the world has recognised them.

When the AGM followed by election for the 7th Executive Committee was announced for today, many members of our society expressed their concerns and interest in it. I believe the overwhelming concerns and responses of our members reflect their strong bond and commitment to our society. Executive Committee, as a working body of the society, has always become a chariot to drive forward the spirit of the society and its members and I hope it will remain so in future, glorifying the Society.

After the formation of 6th Executive Committee under the chairmanship of Mr Sekhar Wagle, for its two-year tenure in April 2018, Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK organised and got engaged in several member-involved-activities. We had 13 face-to-face executive committee meetings, that includes one out door meeting with family members and 8 virtual meetings during 2 years tenure to address various issues and activities concerning the members of the society including how we could extend the area of the society to wider areas and to address the welfare of the Society's members. Our focus was always on the welfare and benefit of the Society and its family members and Nepalese diaspora community in the UK. Active participation of members with their youth and child members were always at the centre of any programme and activities we organised. On behalf of the society, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all committed members of the Society. I believe in our two years tenure, we have set up strong foundations for the progress of the Society.

Constitution Amendment 2020: Constitutional guidelines are always required to run an organisation in an orderly manner. Reviews and amendments are necessities of time and circumstances. As the Society is growing day by day, we require clearer criteria and guidelines to move forward. Realising all these, during the tenure of 6th Executive Committee, the constitution of the Society has been reviewed and amended for the 3rd time. A three-member constitution amendment committee was formed that included the Society's former Presidents and incumbent executive committee advisors Mr. Arka Raj Timsina (Coordinator), Dr Tejendra Pherali (Member) and Mr Narayan Bhattarai (Member). After a while, I would like request Mr Arka Raj Timsina and Mr Narayan Bhattarai to present the amended/reviewed constitution to the Society's members at the General Assembly for consideration and endorsement.

Membership: The society currently has two concepts of membership: 1) General membership and 2) Voting Membership. We have got over 300 general members at the moment. Among them 92 members are voting members (previously 66 in Apr 2018) with £1.00 DD/standing order or £12.00 one off payment over last 12 months. Members' data have been updated on the basis of information we have in our society's database. All the voting members have been sent their membership certificates with Appreciation.

Meanwhile, I would like to propose for the provision of life membership of our society to the AGM for further discussion and consideration. I hope this concept would be further beneficial to our society and its valuable members. This concept has been incorporated in the 3rd amendment of SONP-UK Constitution 2020.

Website: During our tenure, we were able to present and share an updated version of the Society's website with its new look and features among our members. <http://www.snpuuk.org.uk/>. On behalf of the SONP-UK, I would like to express special thanks to our Society's member Mr Ritesh Aryal who initiated and designed to bring the current shape of the website which now can be used to promote the society and its members to the world. One of my initial plans was to upload at least one article per month written by our society's members on various fields.

The Facebook page of the society has been regularly updated along with events notifications and has got photos and videos of the activities organised; currently it has 1.1k followers.

Charity Registration: 6th Executive committee's 2nd meeting had decided to apply for a new charitable organisation under the Charity Commission UK that would be run by SONP-UK. We had extensive discussions on the importance and scope of charity in our society's meetings. Since our society has been organising various charitable activities since its inception in 2008, it was concluded that a formally registered charitable organisation would get wider recognition in the community and could be beneficial for its members. The committee agreed on the name of the charity as Action for Community Empowerment.

Supporting Nepalese Youth Network: We provided support and assistance in formation of new team supporting them with guidelines to run an organisation, including joint meeting with them. A sub committee was formed under coordination of executive committee member Mr Sangam Bhandari for coordination and assistance.

Events and Activities 2018-2020:

Summer BBQ 2018 & 2019: SONP-UK organised an outdoor family event Summer BBQ, its yearly flagship family event, in July 2018 and July 2019 at Burgess Park, London and Hewitt Farm, Orpington, Kent respectively. The record-breaking participation and involvement of our members with their family and children made the event a grand success on both occasions despite the unfavourable situation during the later one i.e. we had to change the venue on the same morning as previously chosen venue was closed for security reason. I would really appreciate the proactive role of our executive committee to make the right decision and the supportive role of all participant members. Some photographs of participating members and the activities of the event are uploaded to society's Facebook page and website.

TEEJ dar 2018: Ladies group of SONP-UK organised *dar* program for lady members on the auspicious occasions of Teej on 2nd of September 2018 at Danfe restaurant, Plumstead to engage members and promote our culture in diaspora. Some photographs of the event with our members are uploaded to society's Facebook page and website.

Deusi-Bhailo 2018 & 2019. *Deusi-Bhailo*, organised during Deepawali, the festival of lights, was a grand success in the sense of both cultural promotion and fund-raising purpose for the Society. Spontaneous participations of all generations and invitations from our society's members to play *deusi-bhailo* made the programme really effective. Some photographs of the programmes are uploaded to society's Facebook page and website.

New Year 2019 with NYN: Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK and Nepalese Youth Network-UK organised New Year 2019 celebration programme at St Michael's Community Hall, Welling on 30th Dec 2018. The event was a great opportunity for our members and their family to meet their friends and participate in various activities.

Interaction on Cultural and Spiritual Education: Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK organised an interaction programme on Cultural and Spiritual Education in presence of Acharya Gurus Durga Prasad Pokhrel and Narayan Gaule on March 17, 2019. The Gurus focused on the need of parents' responsibilities in bringing up their children on the issues of religious and spiritual education.

Interaction with TEWA-Nepal: Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK (SONP-UK) organized an interaction program with TEWA-Nepal on 26th September 2018 in Plumstead, London. The working module has been prepared by our society's member Mr. Gajendra Katuwal and a six-member coordination committee had been formed for further negotiations. Due to legal issues, the programme is closed for now.

Nepalese New Year 2076, Dartford: On 13th April 2019, Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK organized Nepalese New Year 2076 with overwhelming participations of our members. The participation and performances of the young generations were highly appreciated by guests. On the occasion, we released our society's **News Letter 2019** compiling the activities and events along with creative articles of our society's members.

Inter-Community Meeting: SONP-UK organized an inter-community meeting with representative from our neighbouring society and community on 19th Jan 2019 at GAESSO, Hall, Plumstead, London. The meeting held extensive discussions on how communities in the local neighbourhood can develop mutual understanding and promote cooperation among them.

Nepalese Diaspora: Elderly lives in the UK, Workshop: SONP-UK organized a workshop on Nepalese Diaspora: Elderly lives in the UK on 22nd Feb 2020 coordinated by our Society's former President and advisor Mr Narayan Bhattarai to identify areas of concerns and potential ways that the community could support each other in the elderly lives.

Covid-19 volunteer Team: SONP-UK formed a seven-member volunteer team under coordination of President of the Society Mr Sekhar Wagle to support members affected by the pandemic in the Nepalese community in the UK.

Discourse on Spiritual Transformations: In initiation of executive committee member Mrs Namita Karki, our society's members participated on an online discourse on Secrets of Spiritual Transformation on Jun 21, 2020 with Jiwan Bigyan Guru Shree LP Bhanu Sharma from Nepal.

Finally, I would like to thank all members and supporting organisations for providing their valuable contributions to make all events and activities successful during our tenure. I wish all the best to the new executive committee for their success in taking the society to a new direction.

Thank you.

Arjun Poudel

Secretary

On behalf of 6th Executive Committee

Society of Nepalese Professionals-UK

23rd August 2020

Advisory for upcoming team:

1. Membership drive to wider range of colleagues with the concept of Life Membership
all 18 years and above of the society's members email can be included
2. Charity registration process
3. Souvenir publication (due to COVID-19 pandemic the incumbent committee was not able to publish)
4. Financial strength always require to run an organisation sm