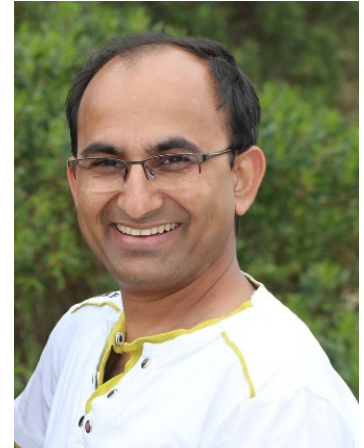


ADHIKARI, I P

Mr. I. P. Adhikari has been a researcher and journalist for the last two and a half decades. Currently living in Adelaide (Australia), he has explored Bhutan's geography, politics, democracy, civics, human rights, international relations, and geopolitics. He has authored books and articles on Bhutan's politics, policies, human rights, and media. He holds a master's degree in finance, and is pursuing another master's degree in cyber security, and is an enthusiast of AI and machine learning. He is an author; has edited and reviewed books and articles too. As an editor of The Bhutan Journal, Mr. Adhikari ensures that research articles are clear and understandable, even for naïve English learners. His commitment to sharing Bhutan's story shines through his reviews and publications.



ORCID: 0000-0001-9520-082X

Keywords: Bhutan, democracy, economics, finance, geopolitics, human rights

RIZAL, Govinda, PhD

Dr Govinda Rizal is an erudite writer and researcher celebrated for his contributions to literature and science. As the editor of The Bhutan Journal and a writer for bhutaneseliterature.com, Bhutan News Service, and Bhutan News Network, he effortlessly combines his literary flair with an unwavering commitment to journalistic excellence. Govinda's literary achievements include notable works like "A Pardesi in Paradise: A Memoir" (2018) and "Bejod-Banda" (2019) a collection of science stories, along with his editorial roles in publications like "Promoting Originality and Diversity in Research" (2009), "Sustaining Excellence in Rice Research" (2012), and "A Festschrift in Honor of Achim Dobermann" (2014). His literary prowess has earned him well-deserved recognition and a devoted readership.



In the realm of science, Govinda's impact is just as profound. With over fifty research articles published in prestigious journals and books, he shows his ability and unwavering dedication to advancing knowledge in agriculture and related fields. Govinda's exceptional ability to excel in both literature and science positions him as a remarkable reviewer, offering a wealth of experience and insights across diverse domains. As editor of The Bhutan Journal, Rizal strives to build cultures of reading, writing and researching within the Bhutanese community and beyond.

ORCID: 0000-0002-6245-1996

Keywords: Editor, literature, publication, research, reviewer, science

ADHIKARI, Alexia, PhD

Dr Alexia Adhikari holds a PhD in Development Studies from the University of Adelaide. Her work focuses on governance and social policy reform processes in Nepal and highlights ongoing tensions between state-led and market-oriented directions for development. Dr Adhikari has contributed to research examining Nepal's urban water security. Bringing in experience from working in academia and Australian public policy, Dr Adhikari's contributions to The Bhutan Journal ensures high quality scholarship and reviewing capacity.

Keywords: Governance, Politics, Anthropology, Social Policy, Development Studies



CHHETRI, Satyadeep, PhD

Dr. Satyadeep Chhetri is an Associate Professor at the Nar Bahadur Bhandari Government College (previously known as Sikkim Government College), India for the past 24 years. Having a PhD in Chemistry he has published his scientific work in national and international journals. He has been an active civil society member in Gangtok and is presently associated with a two leading NGOs of Sikkim as board member. He is passionate science communicator, an avid quizmaster in Sikkim. He has hosted more than 60 state level mega quizzes and runs a popular weekly quiz column in Knowledge Express. He has been writing consistently on socio-political issues and has been a columnist in leading local English dailies, national and international web portals and magazines. He writes Fiction and Poetry having social relevance. His debut English novel 'Gorkhaland Diaries' was published in 2022. His second book is a nonfiction published in 2023 – 'Sikkim : from autocracy to half democracy'

Keywords: Environment, Gorkhaland, geopolitics literature, mountain issues, public policy



DABADI, Yug

Mr. Dabadi is an avid reader and an analyst with a strong analytical skill set. Born and having spent childhood in Bhutan, his first-hand experiences and knowledge about Bhutan are in the political, social, and cultural spectrum. Mr. Dabadi has closely witnessed the unfolding of the political uprising in the 90s and the aftermath that made hundreds of thousands of Lhotshampas stateless. He is closely learning about everyday changes happening inside Bhutan. He volunteered as a freelance journalist for Bhutan News Service and holds multiple degrees in science and management (MBA, MSC, BSC). Bhutan and justice are two dear things to Mr. Dabadi. He lives in Seattle, Washington.



Keywords: Bhutan, justice, Lhotsampas, management, science

DAHAL, J N



Mr. J N Dahal is the writer of “*Lekhak ki Chori*” (Collection of short stories). He is a resident of Pennsylvania.

Keywords: Essays, literary writing, memoirs, reviews, stories

DHUNGEL, Om, JP, FAICD, MBA, B.SC. (Engg.)

Mr. Om Dhungel is an author and a speaker and combines his professional expertise and rich lived experience with his cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary experience to help shift thinking and create momentum for change. Om has written, edited, and reviewed a wide range of publications. A former senior civil servant in Bhutan and a human rights activist, Om co-edited *The Bhutan Review* and the Annual Human Rights Report for the Human Rights Organisation of Bhutan from 1993-1995 and has a deep understanding of the socio-political situation in Bhutan. Most recently, together with James Button, he has authored a book titled *Bhutan to Blacktown – Losing everything and finding Australia*, which has received wide acclamation. Now settled in Australia, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD), Om speaks regularly, particularly on community development, and refugee settlement and integration both nationally and internationally. As a strategic and critical thinker, he has also made a number of contributions and submissions to government policy papers focused on shaping the future.



Keywords: Capacity building, community, corporate governance, diplomatic advocacy, education and empowerment, refugee settlement, strength-based approach

GAUTAM, Keeran Sharma

Mr. Keeran Sharma Gautam has extensive professional experience in planning and implementing programs supporting refugees and children in Nepal and the United States. Training of the UN camp schoolteachers in method and curriculum and modern approach to teaching from the pre-primary to high school level as resource teachers for the UN Bhutanese Refugee Education Program (BREP). He was the Education Program Director for the United Nations BREP implemented by UNHCR and has tremendous knowledge of the refugees and Bhutan. His commitment to sharing Bhutan's story with a book entitled 'Flower in the Clouds' gives details about Bhutan's History, Geography politics, and the sacrilege of the minority. It has details of Bhutan, democracy, geopolitics, language, literature, refugees, SAARC.



Keywords: Bhutan History, Bhutanese Refugees, Bhutan-India relations, resettlement process

GAUTAM, Khem Raj, PhD

Dr Khem got his PhD in Engineering from Aarhus University. Khem has experience in energy-related research at universities, private industry, and public organizations. Khem's published public research contributions include:

- Solar technologies
- Grid-scale storage solutions
- Heat transfer and Thermal efficiency of buildings
- Data analysis and optimization of energy systems

His industrial research focused on waste heat utilization and system optimization. He is currently a senior advisor to the Grid Controller of India (Under the Ministry of Power) on renewable energy integration.

He facilitates technical collaboration between the Indian Ministry of Power and the Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy, and Utilities. He loves the diplomatic and political aspects of the job as much as he loves the technical part. Khem's educational journey spans five different countries and three continents, enriching him with a diverse academic background and invaluable insights into cultural and regional nuances, all of which contributed to developing his competencies in the sustainable energy systems domain and its governance. Khem's contributions to the field reflect a thoughtful and diligent approach to advancing the cause of renewable energy from multiple angles.



ORCID: 0000-0003-3769-3982

Keywords: Energy governance, energy regulations, energy systems, heat transfer, integration, renewables, storage

GAUTAM, Ramesh

Mr. Ramesh Gautam holds professional competencies in mathematics didactics and a passion for literature and environmental issues. As the founder and managing editor of BhutaneseLiterature.com, a literary portal set up in 2009, Gautam has established a platform for exploring and disseminating Bhutanese literature. He is deeply interested in cultural and sociological aspects of Bhutan, Nepal, and their diasporas. This interest propels his exploration of the interplay among different dimensions of diasporas, their identity formations, and literary creations. Currently pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Stavanger, Norway, Gautam's research interests primarily revolve around quantitative educational measurements, assessment, comparative studies, and discourse analysis.



ORCID: 0000-0002-8295-1672

Keywords: Bhutan, culture, language, literature, refugees, sociology

GIRI, Prem

Mr. Prem Giri from the UK has a master's degree in accountancy and finance, specialising International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) from Sheffield Hallam University. His primary research 'The Challenging Factors that Influence the Effective Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) centered around Druk Holding and Investments (DHI) – the investment arm of the Bhutanese government. Mr. Giri also has a master's degree from Tribhuvan University of Nepal. He served as an Assistant Lecturer in Nepal. He is serving community in UK as the Chairperson of Bhutanese Welfare Association.

Keywords: Finance, financial reporting, international finance, social works

GURUNG, Karna

Mr. Karna Gurung born in Katchin village of Tendu Block in Samchi, Bhutan and raised in refugee camp is now a social influencer, entrepreneur, writer, public speaker, financial adviser and community leader. He has several business associations. He has authored two books: "Karma" (Poetry 2021) and "*Buddhiko Birko* (Wisdom's Lid) and co-authored *Svikarokti, Shabda Astra*. He is currently pursuing MBA.



Keywords: Community, entrepreneur, finance, literature, social service

KARKI, Ram Bahadur

Mr. Ram Karki has a master's degree in sociology specialising in Engaging Public Issues from Erasmus University, The Netherlands. He has Political Science Honours from St Joseph's College Darjeeling under North Bengal University, India, completed a pathway course on Refugee and Forced Migration from the Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford University and holds a certificate with excellence in community engagement. He briefs the Dutch government on the matter related to refugee resettlement in The Netherlands in the capacity of one of the five members of the Refugee Resettlement Advisory Group. Mr. Karki has published articles in various newspapers, websites, and is a regular contributor to The Bhutan Journal. As a pioneer in setting up the Bhutanese Refugee Camp in early 1991, coordinator of Global Campaign for the Release of Political Prisoners in Bhutan (GCRPPB) and The Bhutan Watch, Mr. Karki has been one of the most persistent members of the Bhutanese diaspora advocating against Bhutan's inhuman policies in the international platforms.



ORCID: 0000-0001-8270-2695

Keywords: Bhutan, democracy, geopolitics, language, literature, refugees, SAARC

KHANAL KARMACHARYA, Kaushila

Kaushila Khanal Karmacharya, born in Bhutan, has been in US since 2008. She is lyricist, choreographer, Taekwondo Master (5th Dan black belt), social worker and business owner. She has completed her master's in public administration. She is an international referee in Taekwondo.

Keywords: Martial arts, taekwondo, music, literature, social service.

**NEOPANY, Tek**

Mr. Tek Neopany is a dynamic community leader. His knowledge spans across geo-politics, the history of Lhotsampas, their culture, refugee lifestyles in camps, and in the USA. He holds a master's degree from North Bengal University, India and a bachelors degree from Tribhuvan University, Nepal. He spent twenty continuous years as a volunteer in the UN BREP. Upon resettlement in Utah, he obtained a Master of Social Work from the University of Utah and currently pursuing Master of Business Administration. As an employee of the University of Utah, Mr. Neopany manages the online Case Management Certificate Program, providing students from around the world with the opportunity to study for free. His commitment to education and community empowerment is truly inspiring.

Keywords: Bhutan, culture lifestyles, democracy, geopolitics, language, refugees

**POUDYAL, Hari**

Mr. Hari Poudyal has dedicated his life to social service. As a teacher back in Bhutan, he has been a beacon of knowledge and inspiration for generations of students. He has played a pivotal role in shaping the lives of students with diverse needs. Transitioning to disability and aged care provider in Australia, Hari continued his mission of care and support - has become a trusted service provider for the elderly, ensuring their comfort and dignity. His extensive experience and commitment to enhancing the lives of seniors have made him an invaluable asset to the community. Beyond his professional roles, Hari enjoys gardening and spending time with his grandchildren, embodying his nurturing spirit at work and home.

Keywords: Community, education, elderly care, social service



POUDYEL, Lok

Mr. Lok is a registered teacher in Australia and specialises in Nepali language and culture education. He serves as the Lead Writer for the National Collaborative Curriculum and Assessment Framework (CCAFL) renewal project and is a Lead Practitioner at the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) board. Lok is also the community school principal and business owner. He completed bachelor's in psychology from the University of Adelaide, Australia and bachelors in education from Purbanchal University, Nepal. Lok is committed to community service and enhancing academic publications through insightful reviews. His contribution in the field of language and culture in Bhutanese/Nepali Diaspora is greatly commendable.



Keywords: Culture education, community service, education leadership, elderly care Nepali language, psychological wellbeing,

REGMI, Govinda (aka Tika REGMI)

Mr. Govinda Regmi (Aka Tika Regmi) is a compassionate social worker in the field of settlement in New Zealand. Although, a displaced person with a lived experience in a settlement journey, he has a strong academic background with Humanities and Education Degrees from Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and Applied Social Science Degree in Social Work from Waikato Institute of Technology and Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology from New Zealand. Along with social work, he has a passion for working in the community as a radio journalist for a community radio and leads teachers to support running Nepali classes for the resettled communities in New Zealand.



Keywords: Advocacy, culture, human rights, integration, language, literature, orientation, settlement

SHAPKOTA, Prajapati, PhD

Dr. Prajapati Shapkota is a graduate of the State University of New York and Syracuse University with expertise in analysing the human dimension of the environment. His research interests are social, economic, and cultural aspects of human environment mainly during the transition, adaptation and after integration of refugees and immigrants. In addition, his interest in the environmental technology and management stems from his field work in knowledge management. He has edited several research papers, monographs, proceedings of conferences and policy dialogues in addition to writing and presenting in several regional and international conferences. He has an excellent command of technical English. Dr. Shapkota has a wide understanding of cross-cultural issues related to human environment and cross-cutting gender concerns mainly in South and Southeast Asia.



Keywords: Culture, environment, economics, migration, refugees,

SHRESTHA, Taralal, PhD

Dr. Tara Lal Shrestha is a lecturer in the Central Department of English at Tribhuvan University, Nepal, where he focuses on subaltern studies within native literary contexts. As a prolific researcher, critic, and columnist, he has contributed articles in subaltern studies. Noteworthy among his scholarly works are "*Shakti, Shrapta ra Subaltern*" (Power, Writer, and Subaltern, 2011), "*Sapanako Samadhi*" (Samadhi of Refugee Dream, 2012), "*Baljhirabane Atit Aljhirabane Bartaman*" (Traumatic Past and Stagnant Present, 2015), and "*Bandipurdekhi Bandipursamma*" (Bandipur to Bandipur, 2017). His debut book, stemming from his Ph.D. research, marked a significant advancement in Nepalese subaltern studies. His second publication delved into the history of Bhutanese refugees, while the third examined untouchability issues in Nepal. His fourth book is a biographical account of a prominent hydro-expert and activist in Nepal. In addition to these publications, Dr. Shrestha has also edited seven anthologies on Bhutanese refugee topics. His international presence extends to conferences and paper presentations, including participation in the Refugee Voice Conference by the Refugee Studies Center at the University of Oxford in 2014 and the Education Research Symposium at the University of Oxford in the same year. Furthermore, he has contributed to the Conference on South Asia, organised by the University of Wisconsin, USA, in 2015 and 2016. Dr. Shrestha's passion for subaltern issues drives him to explore diverse locations as a freelance researcher.



ORCID: 0000-0002-4874-3001

Keywords: Culture, existence, hegemony, literature, politics, power, resistance, subaltern