

# NEPALI (or NEPAL) AND FRIENDS CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Davis

March 8, 1998 (Sunday)

3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

## FIRST AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTE

The First Ad-Hoc Committee meeting was organized and called by Dr. Ganga Deo and the meeting was held today at Dr. Ganga Deo's residence in the presence of undersigned 4 members of the committee. One member, Mr. Durga Dahal, could not attend the meeting. Dr. Deo presented the information and letter written by Mr. Janaki Pradhan on March 3, 1998, to the Ad-Hoc Committee. The committee members appreciated Mr. Janaki Pradhan's help and donation of money (\$25.00) paid to the attorney of Yuba City, Mr. Robert Gengler, for his services of counseling and supplying Federal and State Tax exemption application forms.

The committee then started to discuss the name, purpose and objective of the proposed association. While discussing about the name and objective of the association, one of us came with the idea that the main purpose of the association should only be the Hindu Cultural Center to justify the time and thought devoted for the association, otherwise the main objective could be diluted with other purposes with time and the main purpose of having an association would never be fulfilled. There was a lengthy discussion about the different aspects of the issue and the committee finally accepted to propose again the following three options to the general group for discussion and after the general group's decision of the name with distinct objective, the existing or the newly formed Ad-Hoc Committee then should proceed for future commitments. The following 3 options are proposed for reconsideration and making a choice to direct the existing or modified Ad-Hoc Committee :

- OPTION #1 : Creating an Association (NAFCA or NAAFCA)** with proposed purpose and objective as presented to the general group meeting on February 21, 1998 with some modifications where one of the purpose and objective in them is to establish a cultural center. The names of the association proposed are : **1. Nepali (or Nepal) And Friends Cultural Association (NAFCA) 2. Nepalese-American And Friends Cultural Association (NAAFCA)**
- OPTION #2 : Creating "Hindu Cultural Center Founding Committee"** with sole objective of collecting funds and striving for establishment of a center which can accommodate different cultural activities. This will remove the burden of a general cultural association.
- OPTION #3 : Establishing both options #1 & 2** simultaneously and independently.

The purpose and objectives of the Options #1 and #2 are summarized as below :

### OPTION #1 :

#### (A) Purpose :

1. To preserve and promote Nepali culture
2. To strive to build the bridge between Nepali and friends of Nepal;
3. To promote mutual cooperation and understanding among Nepali and friends;
4. To strengthen the bonds and friendly relations among individuals, families, friends and institutions of similar objectives.
5. To provide or help provide financial and non-financial support to Nepalis in need within the capacity of the Association

**(B) Objectives:**

1. To promote and foster Nepali cultural and social heritage and events.
2. To promote mutual cooperation among Nepali and friends of Nepal.
3. To strengthen our friendly relations with American and other Nepal-interested individuals, families and friends.
4. To organize special fund-raising events.
5. To observe and celebrate Nepali festivals and New Years.
6. To conduct meetings, seminars, and conventions on cultural issues in Nepal and America
7. To approach to get and accept donations to help establish a **Nepali Cultural Center**.
8. To promote knowledge and understanding of Nepali literature, social culture and people of Nepal.
9. To keep an updated database of all members' and supporters' permanent mailing and e-mail addresses, phone numbers and any other useful information to relay to one another.
10. To promote Vedic knowledge and understanding (?).
11. To make membership drive and get returned Peace-Corps volunteers involved in the Association.

**OPTION # 2 :**

**(A) Purpose :**

1. To establish a **Hindu Cultural Center**.

**(B) Objectives:**

1. To promote and foster Hindu cultural and festival events.
2. To conduct meetings, seminars, and conventions on Hindu culture.
3. To maintain and operate the cultural center.
4. To keep an updated database of all members' and supporters' permanent mailing and e-mail addresses, phone numbers and any other useful information to relay to one another.
5. To observe and celebrate Nepali festivals and New Years.
6. To make membership drive for the Center

The group realized that it would be useful to pinpoint the advantages and disadvantages of the different options to next general group meeting for thorough understanding of the problems and burden or issues and fruits of the options before making a choice.

Later Dr. Ganga Deo proposed a rotational shifting of taking the charge of conducting the meeting and keeping the record in file. He also felt the deficiency in the Ad-Hoc Committee because of absence of lady representatives and few more young members. The group considered to adopt the first proposal and to wait for the second proposal for the next general meeting's conscience.

The group decided to sit again on March 13, 1998 (Friday) at 8.00 p.m. at Dr. Bryan Thoreson's residence to discuss and summarize the advantages and disadvantages of the 3 options before presenting to the general group. The meeting was adjourned after 2 hours of discussion.

**Ad-Hoc Committee Members Present in today's Meeting:**

Name	Signature
1. Dr. Ganga Deo	Member
2. Dr. Ram N. Sah	Member
3. Dr. Bryan Thoreson	Member
4. Dr. Bijay Shrestha	Member

