

## Chautari Annual Conference – 2023

Organized by Martin Chautari (MC) | Venue: Martin Chautari, Thapathali, Kathmandu  
November 28–30, 2023 (Mansir 12–14, 2080)

### Day I (November 28, 2023) Tuesday

09:00 a.m.

Tea/Registration

09:20 a.m. <b>Opening Remarks: MC</b>	09:20 a.m. <b>Opening Remarks: MC</b>
<b>Hall A</b>	<b>Hall B</b>
09:30 a.m. <b>Panel 1: Mobility, Migration and Livelihood</b>  <i>Moderator: Jeevan Baniya, Social Science Baha</i>  <b>Paper I: Analysing the Issues of Bhagnay and Ghumnay among the Migrant Bhariyas of Nepal in Kalimpong Town, India</b> <i>Ambika Rai, PhD Scholar, Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal, India</i>  <b>Paper II: Labor Migration, Income, Skills in Tamang Old House Building: An Ethnographic Study of the ‘Sense of Loss’ in the Post-reconstruction Context, Sindhupalchowk, Nepal</b> <i>Bhim Prasad Rai, PhD Student, Central Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal</i>  <b>Paper III: Dynamics of South-South Migration in the Himalayan Region: Exploring Temporariness and Agency of Nepalese Migrants Workers</b> <i>Garima Bhandari, PhD Candidate, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, India</i>  <b>Floor Discussion</b>	09:30 a.m. <b>Panel 2: Classroom Diversity, Pedagogy and Examination</b>  <i>Moderator: JB Biswokarma, Dignity Initiative/Martin Chautari</i>  <b>Paper I: Exploring Inclusive Classroom Practices: A Case from Nepal</b> <i>Pramod Bhatta, Researcher, Martin Chautari and Tejendra Pherali, Professor of Education, Conflict and Peace, University College London, UK</i>  <b>Paper II: Climate Change, Offensive Politics and Community Life in Himalayan Region: A Pedagogical Intervention</b> <i>Shipra R Upadhyay, Convener, Memory Culture Initiative, India</i>  <b>Paper III: उच्च शिक्षा: चिटिङ र परीक्षा प्रणाली</b> <i>देविराम आचार्य, विद्यावारिधि शोधार्थी, काठमाडौं विश्वविद्यालय, नेपाल</i>  <b>Floor Discussion</b>
<b>11:00 a.m. (Break)</b>	
11:15 a.m. <b>Panel 3: Street Businesses, Urban Poverty and Technology</b>  <i>Moderator: Sabin Ninglekhu, Heritage as Placemaking: The Politics of Solidarity and Erasure in South Asia, Social Science Baha</i>  <b>Paper I: Street Businesses in Kathmandu: Crushed by the Pandemic, Evicted by the State</b> <i>Sudhir Shrestha, Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal</i>	11:15 a.m. <b>Panel 4: Literature, Cinema and Cultural Heritage</b>  <i>Moderator: Priyanka Chatterjee, University of North Bengal, India</i>  <b>Paper I: The Climate of Contemporary Nepali Novels</b> <i>Ujjwal Prasai, Martin Chautari</i>

<p><b>Paper II: Baseline Study of Socioeconomic Conditions of Urban Poor Communities in Kathmandu</b>  <i>Pratik Chhetri, Neha Malla, Bonita Sharma, Eva Gyawali, Ritendra Badu, Prapti Giri, Anjila Pandey, Niroj Bhandari and Himanshu Rayamajhi</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: An Indigenous Technology on the Verge of Extinction</b>  <i>Sachin Ghimire, Medical Anthropologist, Manmohan Memorial Institute of Health Science, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>	<p><b>Paper II: In Search of Nepali Cinema: Examining Filmmaking Practice</b>  <i>Binod Chhetri, PhD Candidate, Department of Mass Communication, Sikkim University, India</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: The Trend of Applying 3D Digital Conservation of Cultural Heritage in Nepal</b>  <i>Xu Mengru, MA Student in Archaeology, Lumbini Buddhist University, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>
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<b>12:45 p.m.-1.45 p.m. (Lunch)</b>	
<p>1:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 5: The Living Mountain: Intersubjective Readings</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Andrew Nelson, University of North Texas, USA</p> <p><i>Convener of the Panel: Swatahsiddha Sarkar, Professor, Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal, India</i></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Paper I: Writing the Mountains: The Living Mountain Forty-five Years Apart</b>  <i>Priyanka Chatterjee, Centre for Distance and Online Education, University of North Bengal, India</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Mountaineering in Himalaya: Exploring the Dynamics of Anthropocene and the Interplay with Nature</b>  <i>Debaditya Dutta, Assistant Professor in Sociology, Mangalkote College, India</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: The Living Mountain, Himalayan History and the Edge Effect</b>  <i>Somoshree De, PhD Candidate, Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal, India</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>	
<b>3:15 p.m. (Break)</b>	
<p>3:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Keynote Address</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Historical Persistence and Social Change</b>  <i>Professor Avidit Acharya, Stanford University, USA</i></p>	
<b>5:00 p.m. (End of Day 1)</b>	

**Day II (November 29, 2023) Wednesday**

09:00 a.m.

**Tea/Registration**

Hall A	Hall B
<p>09:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 6: Researching Menstrual Health</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Dushala Adhikari, Independent Researcher</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Methodological Reflections on Doing Fieldwork on Menstruation as Menstruator in Western Nepal: Positionality, Ethical Dilemma, Hidden Struggle, and Emotional Toll of Researching Sensitive Issues</b> <i>Rajya Laxmi Gurung, MPhil in Sociology, Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Beyond Mary Douglas: Waste Materialities and Menstrual Hygiene Management in Shankharapur Municipality, Nepal</b> <i>Sierra Humbert, PhD Fellow, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen, Denmark</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: It Begins at Home: Perception and Practices of Menstrual Taboos among Adolescent Girls in Urban Setting of Lalitpur: A Mixed Method Study</b> <i>Dikshya Karki, Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal and Madhusudan Subedi, Professor, School of Public Health, Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>	<p>09:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 7: Media, Pandemic and Democracy</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Devraj Humagain, Martin Chautari</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Impact of Digital Divides on Media Education in Nepal during Covid-19 Pandemic: Educators' Perspective</b> <i>Lekhanath Pandey, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism, Tribhuvan University and Umesh Pokharel, PhD Student, Tribhuvan University, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: The Impact of Media on Nepal's Transition to Democracy: A Critical Analysis</b> <i>Ugyal Tshering Lama Yolmo, PhD Scholar, Department of Mass Communication, Sikkim University, India</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: Securitization of Covid-19 by Nepalese Media: An Examination of <i>The Kathmandu Post</i></b> <i>Ashish Ghimire, MA in International Relations, South Asian University, India</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>
<b>11:00 a.m. (Break)</b>	
<p>11:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 8: Religion and Law</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Durga Karki, International IDEA</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Religion and Secularism in South Asia: Some Reflections on Nepal</b> <i>Mohan Kumar Mishra, PhD Student, Department of Political Science, Banaras Hindu University, India</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Roman Catholic Government and Mission to Nepal in the Seventeenth Century: An Assessment</b> <i>Enrico Beltramini, Notre Dame de Namur University, USA</i></p>	<p>11:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 9: Gender, Discrimination and Disability</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Kailash Rai, Martin Chautari</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Discrimination Faced by Madheshi Women in Nepal</b> <i>Ranju Kumari Yadav, PhD Scholar, Department of Gender Studies, Tribhuvan University, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Gender and Disability in the Discourse of Social Inclusion</b> <i>Neera Adhikari, PhD Candidate, Tribhuvan University, Nepal</i></p>

<b>Floor Discussion</b>	<p><b>Paper III: Transfer of Parental Socio-economic Characteristics into the Married Couple in Rural Context of Nepal</b>  <i>Badri Aryal, Assistant Professor, Development Studies, Pokhara University, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>
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**12:45 p.m.–1.45 p.m. (Lunch)**

1:45 p.m.

**Panel 10: Institutions and Infrastructure**

*Moderator: Sudhir Shrestha, Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal*

**Paper I: Challenges and Opportunities of Digital Agro-advisory Services for Small-holder Farmers**

*Hritika Rana, Post-Doc Fellow, Department of Development Studies, Kathmandu University School of Arts and Bristi Vaidya, Research Associate, Department of Development Studies, Kathmandu University School of Arts, Nepal*

**Paper II: Institutional Change of Farmer-managed Irrigation Systems: Experience from Nepal**

*Jagadish Parajuli, Hallie Eakin, Netra Chhetri and John M. Anderies, Arizona State University, USA*

**Paper III: Affective Infrastructure: Exploring the Road as a Place-making Politics in Nepal**

*Shyam Kunwar, Martin Chautari*

**3:15 p.m. (Break)**

03:30 p.m.

**Panel 11: School Education History**

*Moderator: Pratyoush Onta, Martin Chautari*

**Paper I: Hundred Years of Nepali Varnamala and the Loss of Its Diversity**

*Deepak Aryal, Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya*

**Paper II: पूर्वी नेपालको शैक्षिक विस्तारमा महानन्द सापकोटा र नेपाली भाषा प्रचारक संघ (वि.सं. १९९३–२०१२)**

*देवेन्द्र उप्रेती, मार्टिन चौतारी*

**Paper III: सन् १९५० अघि र पछि : दाप्चाका तामाङ जातिको शिक्षामा पहुँच**

*सन्जिवा मोक्तान, मार्टिन चौतारी*

**Paper IV: गुरुङको औपचारिक शिक्षामा पहुँच : मणिसिंह गुरुङ र गोर्खा पाठशाला, शिलाङको कथा (सन् १९१५–१९५०)**

*रुख गुरुङ, मार्टिन चौतारी*

**Floor Discussion**

**5:30 p.m. (End of Day 2)**

Day III (November 30, 2023) Thursday

09:00 a.m.

Tea/Registration

Hall A	Hall B
<p>09:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 12: Ritual, Ethnicity and Identity Politics</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Janak Rai, Tribhuvan University</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Cultural Values of Rifu among the Gurung (Tamumai): An Anthropological Study</b> <i>Shanti Gurung, Padma Kanya Multiple Campus, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Shaping a Sacred Place: The Changing Ritual-scape of Satya Nārāyaṇa (Harigaon, Kathmandu)</b> <i>Jiajing (Iris) Mo, PhD Candidate, Department of Archaeology, Durham University</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: Constructing Ethnicity and Identity of Bantawa Rai in Eastern Nepal</b> <i>Raju Kumar Rai, PhD Student, Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>	<p>09:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 13: Conflict, Suffering and Peacebuilding</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Seira Tamang, Martin Chautari</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Natural Resource Governance Conflicts in Federal Nepal: Prospects for Peacebuilding</b> <i>Shradha Khadka, Prakash Bhattarai, Susmita Puri, Anish Khatri and Dibesh Sayami, Centre for Social Change, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Politics and Peacebuilding: Mapping the Sixteen Years since the Comprehensive Peace Accord in Nepal</b> <i>Rajendra Sharma, Research Associate, Social Science Baha, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: Assessment of Psychological Harm Suffered during the Maoist Insurgency and the Judicial Approach Towards it in Nepal</b> <i>Bishal Bajgain and Swosti Bastola, Kathmandu University School of Law, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>
<p>11:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 14: Gender, Ageing and Re-imagination of Nepali Diaspora</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Darshan Karki, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Plastic Smiles, Cheerful Looks and <i>Bolne Bāni</i>: Training Future Air Hostesses in Nepal's Private Cabin Crew Training Schools</b> <i>Anne Kukuczka, PhD Student, Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies, University of Zurich, Switzerland</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: Eng-Ageing: Emerging Social Institutions and Caring Communities for the Old in Nepal</b> <i>Sarah Speck and Samira S. Hüslér, Institute for Ageing Research, University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland (OST)</i></p>	<p>11:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>Panel 15: Youth, Masculinity and Dialogue</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Ujjwal Prasai, Martin Chautari</i></p> <p><b>Paper I: Art-based Dialogue as a Tool to Promote Social Cohesion and Trust Building among Youth</b> <i>Kalpana Rana Magar, Kaleli Nyaichyai, Pawan Roy, Shradha Khadka and Prakash Bhattarai, Centre for Social Change, Nepal</i></p> <p><b>Paper II: चिया गफ : The Pedagogical Potential of <i>Chiya Gaph</i> in Kathmandu's Youth Sector</b> <i>Phoenix Kenney, PhD Candidate, Education and Youth Development, University of Cambridge, UK</i></p> <p><b>Paper III: Who Will be a Gurkha? Locating Military Aspirations and Masculinity of Nepali Youths</b> <i>Sanjay Sharma, Independent Scholar, Nepal</i></p>

**Paper III: A Guthi and Chautari for Suburban Texas? The Translation and Re-imagining of Nepali Political Concepts in the Diaspora**  
*Andrew Nelson, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs, Department of Anthropology, University of North Texas, USA*

**Floor Discussion**

**Floor Discussion**

**12:45 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks and Feedback**

**1:00 p.m. - onwards (Lunch)**

*Note: Each paper presenter will summarize his/her paper within 15 minutes. A designated moderator will share his/her comments on all papers in the panel in 10 minutes, and remaining time will be available for floor discussion.*