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## **Bibliography of Social Scientific Writings by Dor Bahadur Bista**

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Dor Bahadur Bista was born on 15 April 1928 in a village called Jharuarasi, Lalitpur. He was a member of the first generation of self-trained (in terms of a strict formal degree) Nepali anthropologists and is remembered for his prominent role in the institutionalization of the discipline in the country. This is why he is referred to as the 'Father of Nepali Anthropology.'

Bista completed his bachelor degree from Tri-Chandra College, Kathmandu in 1952. From 1952 to 1957, he served as the headmaster of the government school, *Adarsha Kanya Niketan* in Patan. In mid-1957 he resigned from that position to assist the Austrian anthropologist Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London during his field research on the Sherpa, Rai, Limbu, Tamang, Gurung and Chhetri of Nepal. That initial job lasted through spring 1958. In fall 1960, Bista was invited to SOAS by the linguist T.W. Clark to assist him in his Nepali textbook which was eventually published in 1963 as *Introduction to Nepali*. Later on Bista was appointed as a Nepali language tutor and he also joined the undergraduate course at SOAS. After completing a one year course on 'Indian Ethnography' at SOAS in 1961 (for which he received a diploma), Bista enrolled in the Graduate Program in Anthropology at the same institution but was not able to continue his studies beyond 1962 for various reasons. He returned to Nepal and worked as a research specialist for USAID-Nepal between 1963 and 1968. Between 1969 and 1975 he served the Nepal Government in various capacities including the position of the Consul General in Lhasa for almost three years.

In 1978, Bista was made a Professor of Anthropology and the Executive Director of the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies (CNAS) at Tribhuvan University (TU). He

prioritized research at CNAS and provided opportunities to many young researchers. He was also able to build the current office building of CNAS inside the TU premises in Kirtipur during his tenure which lasted until 1981. In the meantime, he also played a crucial role in the founding of the Central Department of Sociology and Anthropology in TU in 1981. He chaired this department between 1982 and 1984. He was actively engaged in making the MA curriculum and in teaching the initial cohorts of Nepali students enrolled in these two disciplines at TU. He was one of the founders of the Sociological and Anthropological Society of Nepal (SASON, est. 1985) and served as its President from 1985 to 1990. In 1986 he was elected an honorary fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) of Great Britain and Ireland. He founded the Karnali Institute in Chaudhabisa, Jumla in the year 1990 and started spending large parts of the year there doing development-oriented, social and academic work. On the way back to Kathmandu from Jumla, Bista went missing from Nepalgunj on 11 January 1996 and has not been seen since.

Bista published several articles in various journals and edited volumes, and several books between the late 1950s and the mid 1990s. In particular, two of his books, *People of Nepal* (1967) and *Fatalism and Development: Nepal's Struggle for Modernization* (1991) have been reprinted several times and have been widely read and discussed. Bista also wrote essays for journalistic publications both in Nepali and English and published fictional writings in Nepali. A comprehensive bibliography of all of Bista's published and unpublished writings is yet to be prepared. Here we provide an incomplete list of his social scientific writings only. This list is based on Bista's CV and related information provided to us by his family members. It is also based on bibliographic research we have done in the holdings of Martin Chautari Library and Tribhuvan University Central Library. We would appreciate suggestions regarding any corrections that need to be made in the entries given here and additions of relevant items missing in this version. Such suggestions should be sent to us at [gauravdoti@gmail.com](mailto:gauravdoti@gmail.com) and [sinhas@mos.com.np](mailto:sinhas@mos.com.np). They will be incorporated in future revised online editions of this bibliography.

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