

EDITORIAL NOTE

This is the first issue of volume 28 of SINHAS. It contains several articles that enhance our understanding of the complexities in contemporary Nepali society. It also contains a special section of four articles written by researchers of Nepal based in Japan, marking another milestone in the long history of the research highway between the two countries. This special section was coordinated by SINHAS editors Seika Sato and Tatsuro Fujikura. With respect to the full-length articles published in this issue, we are excited to carry first-time contributions by Sanjaya Mahato, Romain Valadaud, Dipesh Kharel and Masako Tanaka. As demonstrated in the previous fifty-four separate issues of SINHAS, the editors of this journal are committed to publishing top quality scholarship on Nepal. We especially look forward to receiving well-argued articles from early career researchers that add to our collective understanding of Nepal.

There have been some changes in the composition of our editorial team. First we thank Dr Bandana Gyawali for her three years of service to this journal as an associate editor. We also welcome Drs Uma Pradhan and Swatahsiddha Sarkar as new associate editors of SINHAS. Pradhan is a lecturer at the Institute of Education, University College London, London. Over the past decade, she has done extensive research on various aspects of school education in Nepal. Apart from many articles published in various journals including SINHAS, she is the author of *Simultaneous Identities: Language, Education and the Nepali Nation* (Cambridge University Press, 2020) and the co-editor of *Anthropological Perspectives on Education in Nepal: Educational Transformations and Avenues of Learning* (Oxford University Press, 2023). Sarkar is a professor at the Centre for Himalayan Studies at the University of North Bengal in Siliguri. He is a sociologist by training and has published extensively on a number of themes in various journals including SINHAS. He is also the author of *Contours of South Asian Social Anthropology: Connecting India and Nepal* (Routledge, 2022).