

**A COMPREHENSIVE INTRODUCTION
OF
NEPALI SAHITYA SAMMELAN
DARJEELING**

**A GLORIOUS JOURNEY OF 100 YEARS
(1924-2024)**

BY
BHAKTARAJ SUNUWAR (MUKHIA)

PUBLISHER
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DARJEELING**

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Edition

2024

Typesetting

Mirav Computech Printers, Batasia, Darjeeling

PREFACE

Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling, a premier literary institution of Nepalese in India was established in the year 1924. This renowned and the oldest literary institution of all the Indian Nepalese has already celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1974 in the gracious presence of SU-DHA-PA namely, Surya Bikram Gyawali, Dharnidhar Sharma and Parasmani Pradhan, the founders of the Sammelan followed by its celebration of Platinum Jubilee on the completion of 75 years in 1999. In this year 2024 once again the Sammelan is celebrating its 100 Years of glorious existence, which is a matter of great pride for every single Indian-Nepalese living all across the country.

In this regard, it is pertinent to mention here that Dr. Jagat Chhetri, former Secretary and President of the Sammelan was conferred upon the Doctorate Degree on his thesis on “The Role of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling for the development and enrichment of Nepali language and literature” by Tribhuwan University, Kathmandu, Nepal in 1987.

R.P. Lama, former President of the Sammelan and former Convenor of Nepali Language Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi had prepared a booklet, titled “Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling - An Introduction” on the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee with the sole purpose of acquainting all about the Sammelan. It was published by the Sammelan in 1999.

The latest version has been prepared as a supplementary as well as a new edition to the above mentioned introductory booklet of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling on the occasion of its historic Centenary Celebration 2024.

A year-long centenary festive event is still being celebrated in different phases and at various levels and categories. The invitees and participants include both members and non-members of the Sammelan, school and college students, teachers, intellectuals, young and old men and women of literature, people from different sections of the societies and communities.

Relevant to the context, the introduction detailed in this book should be an ample evidence to show the fact that Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling, Darjeeling is such an institution everyone should feel equally proud of, as it is a highly acclaimed literary institution both at the national and international level having its own past glory and present significance.

Bhaktaraj Sunuwar (Mukhia)
Former General Secretary
&
Executive Committee Member
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan
Darjeeling

CONTENTS

Sl. No.	Headings	Pg. No.
1.	Message of Rabindranath Tagore	7
	Poem of Pandit Lekhnath Paudyal	
2.	Short background on socio-political condition before establishment of Sammelan	8
3.	Election of the President	10
4.	Summary of The President's Speech	11
5.	The main objectives of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling	13
6.	Term 'Nepali', Calcutta University and Nepali Sahitya Sammelan - 1932	14
7.	Publication of Books	16
8.	List of Biographies by Parasmani Pradhan	22
9.	Installation of Statue of Bhanubhakta at Chowrasta	23
10.	Nepali as medium of instructions elective and honours subjects	25
11.	Registrations of Sammelan	26
12.	Golden Jubilee Celebrations in 1974	28
13.	Post Graduate Courses in Nepali	30
14.	Recognition of Nepali Language by Sahitya Akademi	31
15.	First Nepali language advisory board meeting of Akademi - 1976	33
16.	General information and annual report of Sahitya Akademi	34
17.	Nepali as Official Language in the hills	35
18.	Nepali as national language	38
19.	The Gazette of India	39
20.	Doordarshan and All India Radio	41

21.	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Government of India	43
22.	Chief Patrons of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling	44
23.	Eminent and distinguished personalities associated with Nepali Sahitya Sammelan	45
24.	Bhanu Jayanti Celebrations and Govt. Holiday	47
25.	The Awards Received by Nepali Sahitya Sammelan	48
26.	Diyalo Publication	49
27.	Diyalo Puraskar and Sammelan Library	51
28.	The List of Sammelan Puraskar Recipients	53
29.	Prem Sherpa Biroki Smriti Puraskar	54
30.	List of Presidents of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling (1924-2024)	55
31.	List of General Secretaries of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling (1924-2024)	56
32.	The List of Present Office Bearers and The Executive Committee Members of The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan (2022-2024)	57
33.	The Present Members of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling	58

Message of Rabindranath Tagore to Nepali Sahitya
Sammelan, Darjeeling :

Uttarayan
Santiniketan
Bengal

You have my heartiest sympathy in your endeavour to
make Nepali language fruitful in her literature.

July 4, 1931

Rabindranath Tagore

Message from Pandit Leknath Paudyal when he visited
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan Karyalaya, Darjeeling on 24th April,
1934 :

साहित्यले जडपना सब दूर गर्छ
साहित्यले रसिक भाव विकास गर्छ
साहित्यले हृदयमा सुख शान्ति भर्छ
साहित्य मर्त्यजुनिको गहना ठहर्छ ।

The ravages of the first world war were looming large in the minds of the people throughout the world. The whole world has once again awakened for its regeneration and reconstruction from the social, economic and political subjugation. Besides, India was struggling hard under the great leadership of Mahatma Gandhi to get India liberated from the foreign rule. It was during this period that the Indian Nepalese tried to get themselves united to ensure social and political justice by establishing a number of social, political, cultural, literary organisations and even dramatic and theatrical clubs to break their silence and came out to attain social order with justice and equity for themselves. In fact the first half of the 20th Century may be called the era of awakening for the Nepalese residing in different regions of India.

As a sequence to this upheaval, a few literary and social stalwarts in the Nepali Community got themselves united and decided to form a literary organisation called NEPALI SAHITYA SAMMELAN, DARJEELING.

The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling formally came into existence on 25th May, 1924. The eventful meeting was attended by the elites of the town and surrounding areas and most noteworthy part of the meeting was that famous and notable Bengali social workers such as Raghavendra Banerjee and Sukhranjan Bose and a few other Non-Nepalese were also there to join hands with the Nepalese. The meeting was presided over by Rai Saheb Hari Prasad Pradhan, the first Nepali Vice-Chairman of Darjeeling Municipality who was afterwards elected the first President of Sammelan. The Joint Secretaries selected at the first meeting were Parasmani Pradhan and Surya Bikram Gewali.

Proceedings of the first meeting held on 25th May, 1924 may be read as follows :

With an aim to establish Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, a meeting was held at Hindu Public Hall, Darjeeling in the afternoon at 04:00 P.M., dated the 25th May, 1924 under the presidentship of Shri Hari Prasad Pradhan, M.A., B.L.

The following gentlemen were present in the said meeting:
Shri Hari Prasad Pradhan, M.A., B.L.
Shri Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma

Shri Parasmani Pradhan
Shri Surya Bikram Gyawali
Shri Raghwendra Banerjee, M.A., B.L.
Shri Achung Siring
Shri Balkrishna Pradhan (Namthang)
Rev. Kalu Singh Peters
Shri Agam Singh Giri
Shri Kartik Singh Rai (Chungthung)
Shri Gokul Lama Munshi Sardar
Shri Motilal Sardar (Jorebunglow)
Shri Harkadhoj Pradhan (Kalimpong)
Shri Dalbahadur Gurung, B.A. (Kurseong)
Shri Ranbahadur Rai, B.A. (Lopchu)
Shri Padam Prasad Pradhan (Turuk, Sikkim)
Shri Jit Jung Malla (Kolkata)
Shri Damber Singh Gurung (Kalimpong)
Shri Seshmani Pradhan (Kalimpong)
Shri Hastalal Giri
Shri Sukh Ranjan Bose, L.T.
Shri Kamal Thapa
Shri Dhan Singh Chhetri
Shri Bhim Prasad Subba
Shri Rupnarayan Pradhan
Shri Krishna Bahadur Pradhan (Kurseong)
Shri Indra Singh Chhetri
Shri Lalit Kumar Basnet
Shri Lal Singh Subba
Shri Ramvaran Thapa (Pankhabari)
Shri Lal Bahadur Lama
Shri Nima Norbu
Shri Shyam Prasad Chhetri
Shri K.B. Basnet (Pokhriabong)

There were about 250 gentlemen altogether who attended the meeting.

With the Welcome Song composed by Shri Parasmani Pradhan (Sub-Inspector of Schools, Hill Circle, Darjeeling) and followed by singing the song 'Harinaamanjali' composed by Shri Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma (High School Teacher, Darjeeling), the meeting started.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

In today's meeting, Shri Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma proposed the name of Shri Hari Prasad Pradhan, M.A., B.L. to take the Chair of the President.

Shri Agam Singh Giri recommended the above proposal. He explained the following views behind his support :

“Indeed I feel extremely happy today, and I think it's a rare opportunity for me to have such a blissful experience in my life. If a fairly uneducated person like me have felt so much happiness, then how much joy and excitement the learned gentlemen here must have felt, as a result of whose hard work the foundation of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan is going to be laid in a place like Darjeeling where the ignorance looms at large.

Shri Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma proposed the name of Shri Hari Prasad Pradhan requesting him to chair today's meeting, but did not introduce him. It may be the reason that for him it was something like showing the light to the Sun. However, I simply could not remain silent without giving some introduction while recommending his name.

One of our Nepalese in this part of the country, the proposed President Sir is the First M.A., B.L. as well as the First Vice-Chairman of both the Darjeeling Municipality and the Darjeeling District Boards, the Secretary of Hill Mens Association, the Member of Sikkim Estate Council, a Zamindar in the sovereign Monarchical State of Sikkim. Having such multifarious qualities in himself, a learned person of humble nature, he is fit to be the President of today's meeting. Therefore, by supporting the proposal of Shri Pandit Dharnidharji from the core of my heart, I would like to invite the President Sir to kindly take his seat.”

While this proposal was being accepted unanimously, the President delivered the following speech after he took his seat.

SUMMARY OF THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

Gentlemen! I feel a great pride, and would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for choosing me, a junior and without having any experience, as the President of this great meeting despite the fact that there are many senior and experienced gentlemen in this meeting. In fact to say, I don't believe that I could well do this job, but at the same time I do hope that I could fulfil my job with the support of you all.

Gentlemen! Today's meeting has been called with an aim to establish Nepali Sahitya Sammelan for the development of Nepali language, which you are all aware of. Today, right from the school going children to the men pursuing B.A., including all others are able to study Nepali language mainly because of the most benevolent support rendered by the Hon'ble Justice Sir Asutosh Mukherjee, the competent Vice-Chancellor of K.T. Saraswati Calcutta University.

When I was in college, the Nepali language had not been approved in the syllabus, and so I was deprived of that great opportunity. When I reached at B.A. level it was heard that the Nepali language was going to be approved very shortly, and my joy knew no bounds when I had in my mind that I also would be able to study Nepali language when it would get due approval, but unfortunately even by the time I passed my B.A. Exam, Nepali language didn't get approved. But it was made successful by the benevolent support of the Hon'ble Justice Sir Asutosh. Today not only in Calcutta University, but the Nepali language has found it's place in the syllabus of other universities as well.

Therefore, by saying these few words I conclude my speech.

Thank you all once again!

Soon after the institution was founded on 25-05-1924, the first Executive Committee of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling was constituted as follows :

- President : Hari Prasad Pradhan, M.A., B.L.
- Vice-Presidents : 1) Krishna Prasad Upadhyaya (Bhagalpur)
2) Dharnidhar Sharma
- Secretaries : 1) Parasmani Pradhan
2) Surya Bikram Gyawali
- Executive Members : 1) Ramchandra Adhikari (Calcutta)
2) Mani Singh Gurung (Shillong)
3) Shiva Dutta Shastri, M.A. (Banaras)
4) Motichand Padhan, B.A.
5) Dal Bahadur Gurung
6) Chautaria Dhanprakash Shah
7) Hanjit Dewan (Kurseong)
8) Ranbahadur Rai (Lopchu)
9) Punya Prasad Pradhan
10) Bal Krishna Pradhan (Sikkim)
11) Rev. Kalu Singh Peters

The Main objectives of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling

The Main objectives of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling are as follows :

1. To work for the development and promotion of Nepali language, literature and culture.
2. To publish original and translation literature.
3. To hold literary seminars, exchange programmes, writers meet, symposium etc. to further the cause of Nepali language.
4. To publish literary magazines, souvenirs and other periodicals to encourage young and upcoming writers and poets.
5. To help research students by providing financial assistance in their research works on the development of Nepali language and literature.
6. To work on research of ancient history, ancient literature, cultural heritage and civilization of Nepal
7. To set up its own printing press.

The Annual Programmes of the Sammelan are :

1. International Mother Language Day : 21 February
2. World Poetry Day : 21 March
3. Sammelan Foundation Day : 25 May
4. Birth Anniversary of Adikavi Bhanubhakta Acharya : 13 July
5. Nepali Language Recognition Day : 20 August
6. Birth Anniversary of Poet Agamsingh Giri : 27 December

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY approved the term 'NEPALI'

Copy of the letter sent by the secretary, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling to the Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University on the 4th May, 1932 :

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the Sammelan in a meeting held on the 30th April, 1932 regarding the use of the terms 'Nepali' and 'Parbatia' by the Calcutta University for favour of necessary action.

Resolution

Read the memorial sent by Rai Saheb Hari Prasad Pradhan, M.A., B.L., Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma, B.A., B.T., to the Calcutta University and after due consideration and discussion the meeting fully agreeing with the views expressed by the memorialists on the subject unanimously resolved that Nepali is the only right term to denote the language in question. The meeting further resolved that the university be requested to change the existing nomenclature into NEPALI in all the university records.

Sd : Gobardhan Gurung
Hon. Lieut. and Vice-Chairman
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan

Darjeeling
30th April, 1932

The proposal of the Sammelan was endorsed by the Calcutta University in the following letter :

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
SENATE HOUSE
The 30th May, 1932
No. Publication 1455/45

From : J.C. Chakravarti Esq., M.A.,
Asstt. Registrar,
University of Calcutta
To : The Secretary
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan,
Darjeeling

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 15th May 1932, I have to inform you that the Vice-Chancellor and Syndicate have been pleased to order that the term 'Nepali (Parbatiya)' will be changed to 'Nepali' wherever it occurs in the university regulations. Necessary correction will be made in the next edition of the Regulations and also in the other publications of the University.

Yours faithfully,
Sd : **J.C. Chakravarti**
Asstt. Registrar

PUBLICATION OF BOOKS

During its 100 years of existence, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling has maintained its pristine glory as one of the leading and pioneering publishing organisations in Nepali language.

The long and chequered career of this organisation had its own ups and downs, lack of resources, organisational setbacks, shortage of manpower and financial constraints. In spite of these facts, the Sammelan has published a number of valuable books, such as text books for the schools, colleges and universities, collection of short stories, poems and few monographs of makers and architects of Nepali language and literature. Outstanding among them are the publications like Bhanubhakta's Ramayana, Srimadbhagwad Gita, Ramayana Sundarkand, Bhanubhakta Smarak Granth, Katha-Kusum, Bhramar, Muluk Bahira and Doshi Chasma.

Details of such books published by Nepali Sahitya Sammelan are as follows :

Sl. No.	Poems	Poets/Editor	Year of Publication
1.	Naibedyā	Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma	1925, 1937, 1942, 1948, 1952, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983
2.	Man Lahari	Mahananda Sapkota	1926, 1933, 1934
3.	Badhu Shiksha	Bhanubhakta Acharya	1927, 1937
4.	Nahera Aaja Malai	Tulsi 'Apatan'	1976
5.	Sammelan Kavita Sangraha	Ed: Dr. Lakhidevi Sundas	1983
6.	Buddhi Bangaro	Tulsi 'Apatan'	1993
7.	Baal Geet (Two Volumes)	Published in collaboration with Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore.	1999

Sl. No.	Stories	Writers/Editor	Years of Publication
1.	Katha Kusum (Text Book)	Ed: Surya Bikram Gyawali	1938
2.	Doshi Chasma	B.P. Koirala	1950
3.	Vidhawasta Jiwan (Book)	Katha Navaratna (Collection of stories) Rupnarayan Sinha	1950
4.	Hatyakarini (Book)	Katha Navaratna (Collection of stories) Rupnarayan Sinha	1950
5.	Sammelan Katha Sangraha (First Edition)	Ed: Tulsi 'Apatan' Dr. Jagat Chhetri Dr. Lakhidevi Sundas	1976

6.	Sammelan Katha Sangraha (Second Edition)	Dr. Lakhidevi Sundas	1992
7.	Shiva Kumar Rai Ka Saat Katha	Shiva Kumar Rai	1994

Sl. No. Novels	Novelist	Years of Publication	
1.	Bhramar	Rupnarayan Sinha	1936
2.	Muluk Bahira	L.S. Bangdel	1948

Sl. No. Translation	Translator	Years of Publication	
1.	Tolstoy Ka Katha	Tr. Indra Sundas	1949
2.	Pitako Patra Chhorilai	Tr. Indra Sundas	1951
3.	Gita	-	1954

Sl. No. Drama	Dramatist/Editors	Years of Publication	
1.	Amar Singh	Bal Krishna Sama	1954
2.	Bhakta Bhanubhakta	Bal Krishna Sama	1954

Sl. No. Essays	Essayist/Editor/ Magazine	Years of Publication	
1.	Upanyas Ra Galpako Sahitya Nirmanma Upayogita	Nepali Sahitya Sammelan Patrika (Yearly) Year : 2, No. 1	1933
2.	Jatiya Jivanma Sahityako Sthan	Nepali Sahitya Sammelan Patrika (Yearly) Year : 3 No. 1	1934

3. Leftinent Govardhan Gurung Sardar Bahadur, ADC, Bangal Lathsahab Sanchipta Jiwani Nepali Sahitya Sammelan 1937 Patrika (Yearly) Year : 4 No. 1
4. Hamiharu Au Hamro Bhasa Nepali Sahitya Sammelan 1937 Patrika (Yearly) Year : 6 No. 1
5. Thunuwa Kavi Bhanu Smarak Grantha (Book) 1940
6. Nepali Bhasa-ko Bikasko Sanchipta Itihas Surya Bikram Gyawali 1933, 1971, 1979
7. Bhanubhakta Smarak Grantha Ed: Surya Bikram Gyawali 1941
8. Bhanubhakta Balchandra Sharma 1957
9. Lalit Kala Ra Sahitya Janaklal Sharma 1958
10. Bhanu Salig Smriti Grantha Published on the occasion of installation of 2nd Statue of Bhanubhakta 1996
11. Nepali Sahitya Sammelanko Ek Chinari R.P. Lama 1999

Sl. No.	Monograph	Writer/Editor	Years of Publication
1.	Bhanubhakta-ko Jiwani	Ed: Surya Bikram Gyawali	1927
	Charitra	Ed: Surya Bikram Gyawali	1938
		Ed: I.B. Rai	1964
2.	Ram Shahko Jiwani Charitra	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1933
3.	Drabya Shah-	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1933

	ko Jiwan Charitra		
4.	Prithvi Narayan Shah	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1935, 1976
5.	Samrat Chhaitow Georgeko Jiwani	Parasmani Pradhan	1937
6.	Bir Balabhadra	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1941
7.	Amarsingh Thapa	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1944
8.	Nepali Birharu	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1949
9.	Bhanubhakta- ko Jiwan Charitra - Motiram Bhatta (English Translation)	Dr. Motibir Rai	1986, 2009
10.	Dal Bahadur Giri (English & Nepali)	Ed: R.P. Lama Ed: Dr. Jagat Chhetri Ed: Khiroda Kharga	1988

Sl. No.	Classic	Writer/Editor	Years of Publication
1.	Ramayan Sundarkand	Raghunath Upadhyaya	
2.	Raghunathko Sundarkanda Ramayan	Ed: Pandit Dinnath Sapkota	1932, 1950 (Text Book) & 1983
3.	Raghav Bilap	Pandit Taranath Sharma	1933, 1937
4.	Srimad- bhagawad Gita	Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma	1935, 1953, 1975 & 1989
5.	Mahimna Stotra	Kulchand Gautam	1941
6.	Bhanubhakta- ko Ramayan	Ed: Surya Bikram Gyawali	1954
7.	Bhanubhakta- ko Ramayan (Amended 3rd Edition)	Joint Publication of Sahitya Akademi and Sahitya Sammelan Ed: Dr. I.B. Rai	2012

Sl. No.	Micellaneous Publication	Writer/Editor	Years of Publication
1.	Nepali Sahitya Kathamala	Parasmani Pradhan & Seshmani Pradhan	1925
2.	Nepali Hasta Lekh (Pahilo Bhag)	Parasmani Pradhan & Seshmani Pradhan	1925
3.	Nepali Hasta Lekh (Dosro Bhag)	Parasmani Pradhan & Seshmani Pradhan	1925
4.	Nepali Bhasa-ko Bikashko Sanchipta Itihas	Surya Bikram Gyawali	1933, 1971, 1979
5.	Prakriti Nirikshan	K.B. Gurung (Krishna Bahadur Gurung)	1935
6.	Bhanubhakta Smarak Grantha	Ed: Surya Bikram Gyawali	1941
7.	Bhanubhakta Smarak Grantha	Ed: Tulsi Apatan & Jagat Chhetri	1970
8.	Smarika (Published on the occasion of inauguration of Sammelan Bhavan)	-	1981
9.	Nepali Sahitya Sammelanko Swarna Jayanti	R.P. Lama	1984
10.	Shiva Kumar Raika Natak-haru Ek Adhyayan	Dr. Jiwan Namdung	2014

LIST OF BIOGRAPHIES BY PARASMANI PRADHAN

1. Mahatma Buddha
2. Mahatma Gandhi
3. Swami Vivekananda
4. Atish Dipankar
5. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
6. Gopal Krishna Gokhale
7. Aurobindo Ghosh
8. Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar
9. Rabindranath Thakur
10. Sarat Chandra Chatterjee
11. Ashutosh Mukherjee
12. Jagadish Chandra Bose
13. Prafulla Chandra Ray
14. Chittaranjan Das
15. Subhas Chandra Bose
16. Jamshedji Tata
17. Samrat Ashok
18. Kalidas
19. Laxmi Bai
20. Kasturba Gandhi
21. Sarojini Naidu
22. Taru Dutt
23. Vijayalaxmi Pandit
24. Mahadevi Verma
25. Goswami Tulsidas
26. Munshi Premchand
27. Madan Mohan Malviya
28. Yadunath Sarkar
29. Vishnu Digambar
30. Harinath Dey
31. Ravi Verma
32. Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi

INSTALLATION OF STATUE OF BHANUBHAKTA AT CHOWRASTA

The executive board of the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling in its meeting held on 18th August, 1947 proposed to install the bust statue of the Nepali poet Bhanubhakta Acharya at Chowrasta, Darjeeling and also decided to start fund raising drive for the purpose.

On request by the Sammelan, the Darjeeling Municipality granted a piece of land at Chowrasta in front of Brabourne Park for installing the said statue. The letter from the Secretary, Darjeeling Municipality in this respect is reproduced below :

DARJEELING MUNICIPALITY GENERAL DEPARTMENT GENERAL BRANCH

No. 4486

From : The Secretary (Offg.)
Darjeeling Municipality
Darjeeling

To : The Secretary
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan
Darjeeling

Dated the Darjeeling 18 Febr. 1948

Sir,

Site for the erection of a statue of Poet Bhanubhakta

With reference to the correspondence resting with this office memo. no. 4236 dated the 12th January, 1948, I am directed to inform you that the Commissioners at a meeting have been pleased to make available a plot of land in front of the Brabourne Park measuring 8'x8' for the installation of the pro-

posed bust.

I am now to request you to be good enough to obtain formal permission regarding the erection of platform etc. as required under the Bengal Municipal Act XV of 1932.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Sd. Illegible
Secretary (Offg.)

E.F. Thomson, a Scottish sculptor working at St. Paul's School, Darjeeling then prepared the Bust of the poet and was installed at Chowrasta, Darjeeling on 17th June, 1949. The statue was unveiled by the daughter-in-law of Dr. K.N. Katju, the then Governor of West Bengal.

But unfortunately, as sequence to the language movement in the hills, the historic statue of the poet was damaged on 10th July 1992 by some miscreants.

Immediately after, a sub-committee named 'Bhanu Salig Punar Nirman Sub-committee' was formed by Nepali Sahitya Sammelan. Darjeeling to work out a plan for installation of lifesize statue of the poet at the same place. With the tacit support of the local people, and specially from the Government of West Bengal, a fullsize statue was installed at the same place. The statue was unveiled by Dr. Tulsi Bahadur Chhetri, former President of the Sammelan on 13th July, 1996. The lifesize statue of poet Bhanubhakta was made by sculptor Shri Mriganka Paul of Krishnagore, Nadia.

This lifesize statue of the Nepali poet draws a large crowd of visitors specially from different parts of India and abroad.

NEPALI AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTIONS ELECTIVE AND HONOURS SUBJECTS

The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling moved the authorities concerned in West Bengal at various stages to introduce Nepali as the medium of instructions in schools, Honours and Elective courses in colleges.

As a result, Nepali was made the medium of instructions in schools in the year 1954. Elective and Honours subjects in Nepali was approved in the year 1968 and 1969 respectively.

The Central Board of Secondary Education, Indian Certificate of Secondary Education Council, New Delhi, National Open School, and Indira Gandhi National Open University and such other national institutions have also been approached by the Sammelan to include Nepali as subject in their syllabii.

In view of the National status conferred on Nepali language, the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, have been recently moved by the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling to establish an independent Department of Nepali language in the University as early as possible.

The Sammelan works in close co-operation with the national Institutions such as Sahitya Akademi, National Book Trust, India, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Govt. of India, other national institutions, local literary organisations and with different agencies of State and Central Governments.

REGISTRATIONS OF SAMMELAN

Memorandum of association and constitution

The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling as an institution was registered with the Registrar of Firms, Societies and non-trading corporations, West Bengal only in the year 1966 under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act 1961.

West Bengal Form No. 264

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF SOCIETIES

West Bengal Act XXVI of 1961

No. S/8089 of 1966-1967

I hereby certify that Nepali Sahitya Sammelan has this day been registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act 1961. Given under my hand at Calcutta, this Twentieth day of May One thousand nine hundred and sixty six.

SYMBOL	Sd/- B.K. SOM
REGISTRATION OF FIRMS SOCIETIES & NON-TRADING CORPORATIONS.	Registrar of Firms, Societies & Non-Trading Corporations.
WEST BENGAL	West Bengal

The written constitution of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling came into force only after 1976 when both the Memorandum of Association and the constitution were approved by the Registrar of Firms, Societies and Non-Trading Corporations, West Bengal with amendments from time to time.

Memorandum of Association as approved is reproduced below :

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

The main registered office of the Sammelan shall be situated at 15, Sonam Wangdi Road, Darjeeling Town, West Bengal with its Branch Office at Judge Bazar, Darjeeling in Municipal building LB/6-3 (22) and 3(28).

1. The objects for which the Sammelan is established are :
 - (a) Development of Nepali Language and Literature.
 - (b) Publication of the Text Books in Nepali meant for Schools, Colleges, Universities and other literary works, journals and periodicals.
 - (c) Translation of literature of other languages into Nepali.
 - (d) Holding of literary conferences and seminars from time to time.
 - (e) Preservation and promotion of Nepali Art and Culture.
 - (f) Establishment of contact with other literary and academic Association(s) and exchange of goodwill missions with them.
 - (g) Financial aid to deserving Research Scholars for the promotion of the Nepali Language and Literature.
 - (h) To establish, maintain and operate a Printing Press.
 - (i) To establish, maintain and operate a reference/research library for the use of the members, students writers/researchers and others.
 - (j) To create trusts for the administration of certain gifts, endowments or property as the case may be, with specific form of reference to trusts that may be created for administration of such gifts, endowments property.
 - (k) To acquire, build, maintain, alter, lease or otherwise use such property and equipments as may be necessary for the fulfilment of the objects of the Sammelan.
2. To take such additional steps as may be necessary to fulfill the objects of the Sammelan.
3. The Sammelan shall be a non-political body and shall not take part in any kind of political activities.
4. The Sammelan shall bear the true faith and allegiance to the constitution of India and the principles of secularism, socialism and democracy and will uphold the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN 1974

Elaborate arrangements were made by the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling for observing the golden jubilee celebrations of the Sammelan in the year 1974. A Golden Jubilee celebrations sub-committee was formed to draw up the programmes throughout the year :

President	:	Tulsi Bahadur Chhetri
Convenors	:	R.P. Lama / Enosdas Pradhan
Secretary	:	L.B. Rai
Treasurer	:	D.R. Lama
Members	:	Jagat Chhetri
	:	Gurudas Mukherjee
	:	Man Bahadur Mukhia
	:	Bharat Yadav

Literary seminars, poet's symposiums, book exhibitions, cultural programmes, reception and felicitation to founder-members of the Sammelan were the highlights of the programme spread over the year. Sri A.L. Dias, the then Governor of West Bengal inaugurated the Golden Jubilee celebrations at GDNS Hall on 24th May, 1974.

Extract of the inaugural speech of Shri Dias is produced below :

“It is indeed a great pleasure and privilege for me to be present at the opening function of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan. I have no doubt that with it's rich traditions built up over a period of fifty years, the Sammelan, will, in the years to come play an increasingly important role not only in the enrichment of Nepali language, but also in providing a forum for a meeting of minds in so far as writers in other languages are concerned. He also quoted Nehru's words... Language should not be a dividing factor but it should bring us together and each language can help the other languages of India grow through contact and exchange of ideas. Language joins. Language does not separate....

On the occasion, Sri L.B. Rai, the then Secretary of the Sammelan placed a memorandum to the Governor of West Bengal requesting for a suitable land for construction of the Sammelan building and introduction of Post-graduate classes in Nepali in the University of North Bengal.

Construction of Sammelan Bhavan

Sri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal laid the foundation stone of the Sammelan Bhavan near Bhanubhakta School on a piece of land provided by the Darjeeling Municipality on 17th May, 1978. As assured by Shri Jyoti Basu during his speech on the occasion a substantial amount of money was granted for the purpose. Public donations for constructing the building was also very encouraging. The 4 storied Bhavan was inaugurated by Shri Surya Bikram Gewali on 14th November, 1981. The Bhavan has conference hall 'Su-Dha-Pa' named after the three founding members, library, guest rooms and office at present.

The library at Sammelan Bhavan provides research facilities for the students of colleges, universities and writers.

The office of the Sammelan was shifted to this Bhavan in the year 1984 from the office in Judge Bazar, Darjeeling which was in existence since 1933.

A sub-committee for the construction of Sammelan Bhavan was set up for the period 1980-1982, which was comprised of :

- President : Shri S.N. Pradhan
- Secretary : Shri R.P. Lama
- Treasurer : Shri Enosdas Pradhan
- Members : Shri Jagat Chhetri
Shri Gurudas Mukherjee
Shri Bharat Yadav
Shri Janaklal Agarwal
Col. Siddhiman Rai
Smt. Lakhidevi Sundas
Shri L.B. Rai
Shri Suryakumar Giri
Shri Yam Bahadur Chhetri
Shri D.R. Lama
Shri D.R. Mukhia

POST GRADUATE COURSES IN NEPALI

At the personal initiative of Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal and a number of memorandums and prayers by the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling post graduate classes in Nepali was started in the University of North Bengal from 1977. University of North Bengal was established in the year 1962.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3, 1977
PRESS REPORT
PG COURSE IN NEPALI
Siliguri - August 2

The North Bengal University for the first time in country is introducing Post Graduate course in Nepali language and literature.

Classes in the subject will commence with the beginning of winter semester in December according to an announcement by the University.

Prof. Tulsi Bahadur Chhetri yesterday joined the University as Reader-cum-Head of the newly created Department (Samachar).

RECOGNITION OF NEPALI LANGUAGE BY SAHITYA AKADEMI

Dr. Prabhakar Machwe, Secretary of Sahitya Akademi was invited as one of the guests to attend the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Sammelan in October, 1974. On 18th October, 1974 a special reception was accorded to him by the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan. Dr. Machwe was very much impressed by the literary activities of the Sammelan and as represented by the Sammelan, assured the members for early consideration of recognising Nepali language by the Akademi.

The General Council Meeting of the Sahitya Akademi held on 26 February, 1975 accorded recognition to the Nepali language as an independent modern literary language of India.

Letter of the Akademi :

Sahitya Akademi

National Academy of Letters, Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi

Telegram : Sahityakar 'Phone : 3886'

SA. 71/11/13
The Secretary,
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan,
Judge Bazar,
Darjeeling,

4 April 1975

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter No. S-22/75 dated 16 March 1975, addressed to Dr. Machwe, who has proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement.

The General Council of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 26 February 1975 did consider the Executive Board's recommendations and has resolved that :

“As Nepali fulfils the criteria formulated by the Akademi for recognition of a language, it is recognised as an independent modern literary language of India.”

“With regard to programmes in Nepali like the annual

award, publications, constitution and meetings of the Advisory Board etc. involving expenditure, Sahitya Akademi should request the Government of India to provide the necessary extra funds. Such programmes and other activities should be undertaken only when extra funds are available.”

As desired, I am sending you by separate post a copy of our Annual Report for 1973 (as the Report for the year 1974 is in press) and a copy of latest Catalogue.

Thank You,

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. R.S. Kelkar)
Oficiating Secretary

The first meeting of the newly constituted Nepali language Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi met at Darjeeling on 1st December, 1976 presided over by Dr. Parasmani Pradhan.

The meeting recommended the name of the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling, among others, to be recognised as literary institution. Accordingly, the Sahitya Akademi offered recognition to the Sammelan in the year 1977.

SAHITYA AKADEMI

Rabindra Bhavan
Ferozshah Road, New Delhi - 110001

Dated the 18th October, 1977

SA 1/7079

To
The President
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan
Darjeeling

Dear Sir,

I am glad to inform you that the Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi at its meeting held on 26th August, 1977 accorded recognition to your institution as a literary institution in Nepali.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd: Dr. R.S. Kelkar)
Secretary

Sahitya Akademi

**General Information and Annual Report,
1976**

APPENDIX II

Members of the General Council (1973-77)

President :

Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterji

One person to represent each of the language enumerated in the Constitution as may be recognised by the Sahitya Akademi.

14. NEPALI - Dr. Paras Mani Pradhan

APPENDIX III

Executive Board

19, Dr. Paras Mani Pradhan (Representing Nepali)

APPENDIX V

Members of the Advisory Boards

NEPALI :

1. Dr. (Smt.) Kamala Sankrityayan
2. Sri Dilliram Timsina
3. Smt. Lakhi Devi Sundas
4. Sri Hari Prasad 'Gorkha' Rai
5. Sri Kumar Chhetri
6. Sri Tulsi Bahadur Chhetri
7. Sri Shiva Kumar Rai
8. Sri Indra Bahadur Rai
9. Km. Surya Kala Thapa
10. Dr. Paras Mani Pradhan (Convener)

NEPALI AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

A delegation of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling met Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India and Dr. B.C. Roy the then Chief Minister of West Bengal on 10th April, 1961 at Rajbhavan, Darjeeling and submitted a memorandum for expediting recognition of Nepali as the official language in the hill areas of the district.

West Bengal Act XXIV of 1961 (The West Bengal Official Language Act, 1961) was passed by the West Bengal Legislature and was published in Calcutta Gazette extraordinary of the 11th November, 1961 declaring Nepali as the official language in the hill areas of the district along with Bengali.

APPENDIX C

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL LAW DEPARTMENT LEGISLATIVE

West Bengal Act XXIV of 1961 The West Bengal Official Language Act 1961 (Passed by the West Bengal Legislature)

(Assent of the Governor was first published in the Calcutta Gazette, Extraordinary, of the 11th November, 1961)

11th November, 1961

An Act to provide for the adoption of the Bengali Language as the language to be used for the official purposes of the State of West Bengal including purposes of legislation.

It is hereby enacted in the Twelfth year of the Republic of India, by the Legislature of West Bengal as follows :

1. Short title and extent

- (1) This Act may be called the West Bengal Official Language Act, 1961.
- (2) It extends to the whole of West Bengal.

2. Language or Languages to be used for official purposes of the State

With effect from such date, not later than two years from the date of commencement of this Act, as the State Government may, by notification in the official gazette, appoint in this behalf.

- (a) in the three hill subdivisions of the district Darjeeling, namely, Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Kurseong, the Bengali Language and the Nepali Language, and
- (b) elsewhere, the Bengali Language, shall be the language or languages to be used for the official purposes of the State of West Bengal referred to in the West Bengal Official Language Act, 1961.

(West Bengal Act XXIV of 1961)

(Section 3)

Article 345 of the Constitution of India, and different dates may be appointed for different official purpose or for different areas in West Bengal.

- (i) the use of any language other than the Bengali Language which is authorised by or under any law for the time being in force to be used for any purpose in any of the civil or criminal courts within the State of West Bengal, and
- (ii) the use of the English Language in the examinations conducted by the Public Service Commission, West Bengal.

3. Bengali Language to be used in bills, etc.

With effect from such date as the State Government may, by notification in the official gazette, appoint in this behalf, the Bengali Language shall be the language to be used-

- (a) in bills introduced in, and Acts passed by, the Legislature of West Bengal ordinance promulgated by the Governor of West Bengal under article 213 of the Constitution of India and rules, regulations and by-laws made by the State Government under the Con-

- stitution of India or under any law made by Parliament or the Legislature of West Bengal; and
- (b) in notifications or orders issued by the State Government under the Constitution of India or under any law made by Parliament or the Legislature of West Bengal :
- Provided that different dates may be appointed in respect of different matters referred to in clauses (a) and (b).

NEPALI AS NATIONAL LANGUAGE

After a long drawn battle with the Government of India, Nepali language was constitutionally recognised in the year 1992. The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling has played its own responsible role for the achievement of this goal. Besides submitting memoranda to the President of India on 12th November, 1969 and to Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, the linguist and the Chairman of Sahitya Akademi on 9th April, 1970, a number of delegations met the Central leaders to advocate the cause of constitutional recognition of Nepali language. During the years 1972, 1973 and 1975 delegations of the Sammelan met Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India at Darjeeling, Calcutta and New Delhi.

Sammelan presented another memorandum to Shri Morarji Desai, the then Prime Minister of India also on two occasions on 17.08.1977 and again on 27.09.1977.

Delegations of the Sammelan met Shri Om Mehta, leader of the Parliamentary Committee on official languages at Tourist Lodge, Darjeeling on 1st October, 1978. Memoranda were also submitted to Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh and Shri Chandra Sekhar, the then Prime Ministers of India to this effect during the years 1990 and 1991.

On 1st June, 1992 a strong delegation of the Sammelan called on Shri Arjun Singh, the then Minister for Human Resource Development, Govt. of India at Rajbhavan, Darjeeling and pleaded for the early constitutional recognition of Nepali language.

The Governments of West Bengal, Tripura and Himachal Pradesh were also approached by the Sammelan to pass resolutions in their respective Assemblies demanding recognitions of Nepali language in the 8th Schedule of the constitution.

भारत का राजपत्र
THE GAZETTE OF INDIA

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II – खण्ड १

PART II - SECTION I

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं० ५५ नई दिल्ली, मङ्गलवार, सितम्बर १, १९९२/भाद्र १०, १९१४

No. 55 New Delhi, Tuesday, September 1, 1992/Bhadra 10, 1914

इस भाग में भिन्न पृष्ठ संख्या दी जाती है जिससे कि यह अलग सङ्कलन के रूप में रखा जा सके

Separate paging is given to this part in order that it may be filled as a separate compilation

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
(Legislative Department)

New Delhi, the 1st September, 1992/Bhadra 10, 1914 (Saka)

The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President on the 31st August, 1992, and is hereby published for general information :-

THE CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-FIRST AMENDMENT)
ACT, 1992

(31st August, 1992)

An Act further to amend the Constitution of India.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-Third Year of the Republic of India as follows :

1. This Act may be called the Constituion (Seventy-First Amendment) Act. 1992 Short title
2. In the English Schedule to the Constituion - Amendment of Eighth Schedule.

(a) Existing entry 7 shall be re-numbered as entry 8 and before entry 8 as so re-numbered, the entry '7-Konkani', shall be inserted:

(b) Existing entry 8 shall be re-numbered as entry 10, and before entry 10 as so re-numbered. The entry '9 Manipuri', shall be inserted;

(c) Existing entries 9 to 15 shall be re-numbered as entries 12 to 18 respectively and before entry 12 as so re-numbered, the entry '11 Nepali' shall be inserted.

K.L. MOHANPURIA

Secy. to the govt. of India

Printed by the Manager, Govt. of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi and Published by the Controller of Publications, Delhi, 1992.

DOORDARSHAN AND ALL INDIA RADIO

The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling submitted a memorandum to Shri V.N. Gadgil, the then Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Government of India during his visit to the Sammelan on 12th June, 1985. In the memorandum, the Sammelan had requested to Shri Gadgil to consider the following proposals:

1. Sanction of a Production Unit by Doordarshan with studio facilities in the hill areas of Darjeeling district.
2. Exhibition/telecast of Nepali feature films produced in India through Doordarshan, New Delhi.
3. Installation of an additional 1 KW MW; transmitter at All India Radio, Kurseong to enhance and ensure better coverage.

The Sammelan has in the meantime received the following two letters in this regard from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India which are reproduced here :

Government of India
DIRECTORATE GENERAL, DOORDARSHAN

Mandi House
Copernicus Marg
New Delhi - 110001
Dated 06.07.1987

No. : 4/12/86 - CFU

To,
M/s Nepali Sahitya Sammelan
Sammelan Bhavan
15 Sonam Wangdi Road
P.O. and Dist. : Darjeeling

Sub : Request for exhibition of Nepali films on Doordarshan

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter on the subject noted above.

2. It is to inform you that Nepali feature films will be considered for telecast from Delhi and its relay transmitters on 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month under a new scheme, which is likely to be introduced shortly.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Sd: Gopal Saksena
Controller of Programme (films)

No. 201/22/85-B(O)
Government of India

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

New Delhi - I, the 19th August, 1985

R.P. Lama
President,
Nepali Sahitya Sammelan
Darjeeling

Dear Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter dated 12th June, 1985 addressed to Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting regarding setting up of a medium wave transmitter and production unit for the Television Relay Centre at Kurseong, and to say that the existing 20 KW SW transmitter at All India Radio, Kurseong is serving its service areas satisfactorily. Installation of an additional 1 KW SW transmitter at All India Radio, Kurseong, will not enhance the coverage due to the hills in the vicinity. However, in order to provide better coverage, All India Radio has, in its draft 7th plan proposals, included a scheme to upgrade the power of the existing 20 KW SW transmitter to 50 KW SW at Kurseong. Implementation of the scheme will depend on the final shape of the 7th plan.

2. As regards setting up of production unit with TV. Relay Centre at Kurseong, a scheme to set up local programme production unit there, has been included in Doordarshan's draft 7th plan proposals. Its Implementation will depend on the final shape of the 7th Plan.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully
(J.D. Bhatia)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Tele : 384214

Further the Sammelan has also submitted memorandum to Shri Ajit Kumar Panja and Shri P.A. Sangma when they were in charge of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India to start a Cell in Nepali language by Doordarshan both in Calcutta and New Delhi.

Chief Patrons of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan : Darjeeling

The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling has the privilege of having the following distinguished persons as the Chief patrons :

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru 1961 to 1964
(A delegation of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan met Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India at Rajbhavan, Darjeeling on 10th April, 1961)

Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee 1965 to 1977

Dr. Shiva Mangal Singh 'Suman' has been the Chief patron of the Sammelan since 1979. His letter to this effect addressed to the Sammelan is reproduced below :

Dr. Shiva Mangal Singh 'Suman'

M.A., D. Litt.,

Ex - Vice-Chancellor

Vikram University
Ujjain 17.01.1979
31 Azad Nagar
Diwas Marg

Dear Shri Lama,

I am grateful to you for your letter of January 3rd for acceptance of the Chief Patronship of the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan. I bow down to your behest and humbly accept this Honour.

With fraternal regards to the dedicated workers of this solemn organisation and with kind regards to you and Happy New Year.

Yours Sincerely

Sd: Dr. Shiva Mangal Singh 'Suman'

Shri R.P. Lama

General Secretary

Nepali Sahitya Sammelan

Darjeeling

A few dignitaries associated with Nepali Sahitya Sammelan,
Darjeeling for the last many years :

1. Rabindranath Tagore
2. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
3. Smt. Indira Gandhi
4. Dr. Kailash Nath Katju
5. Sri A.L. Das
6. Prof. Nurul Hassan
7. Dr. H.C. Mukherji
8. Sri B.D. Pande
9. Sri K.V. Raghunath Reddy
10. Sri Siddharth Sankar Ray
11. Sri Jyoti Basu
12. Sri V.N. Gadgil
13. Sri Nar Bahadur Bhandari
14. Dr. Bhekh B. Thapa
15. Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee
16. Dr. Prabhakar Machwe
17. Dr. R.S. Kelkar
18. Dr. Shiva Mangal Singh 'Suman'
19. Sri Ram Singh Thakuri
20. Sri Arjun Singh
21. Sri Om Mehta
22. Dr. Karan Singh
23. Prof. K.P. Vijaya
24. Sri Yuki (Poet from Japan)
25. Sri S. Rathar (Germany)
26. Sri Theri Dodin (Germany)
27. Sri Thibaut de Lambertya (France)
28. Sri Rhoderick Chalmers (Scotland)
29. Sri Michael James Hutt (England)
30. Pandit Lekhnath Poudyal
31. Sri Balkrishna Sama
32. Sri Laxmi Prasad Deokota
33. Sri Madhav Prasad Ghimiray
34. Dr. Churamani Bandhu
35. Dr. Basudev Tripathy
36. Sri Madan Mani Dixit

37. Sri Kamal Mani Dixit
38. Dr. Iswar Baral
39. Dr. Kumar Bahadur Joshi
40. Dr. Harka Bahadur Buda Magar
41. Sri Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee
42. Prof. Haren Ghose
43. Sri Chandra Bahadur Gurung

Bhanu Jayanti celebrations and Govt. Holiday

The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling has been celebrating the birthday anniversary of the great poet Bhanubhakta Acharya for a number of years with great rejoicings. At present the celebrations in different parts of India specially in the district of Darjeeling is being observed as a festival. The Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling has on a number of occasions appealed to the Govt. of West Bengal to declare this day as a full holiday in all govt. offices and educational institutions.

In the year 1974, the Government of West Bengal declared half holiday on the occasion vide G.O. No. 5676 dated the 11th July, 1974. At present full government holiday has been sanctioned by the Government of West Bengal in the district on this occasion.

Notification in this respect is reproduced below :

Government of West Bengal
Home Department
Political Branch

Memorandum
No. 8421-P
Calcutta the 5th July, 1978

In continuation of this Department's memo. no. 5676 dated the 11th July, 1974, the undersigned is directed by order of the Governor to say that the Governor has been pleased to declare that henceforth the birth anniversary of Poet Bhanubhakta shall be observed every year as a full holiday in all the offices under the Government of West Bengal in the subdivisions of Darjeeling Sadar, Kurseong and Kalimpong in the district of Darjeeling.

Sd: A.K. Sen
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal

THE AWARDS RECEIVED BY NEPALI SAHITYA SAMMELAN

In recognition of commendable services rendered by Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling in the field of language, literature and culture, the following awards have been awarded:

‘Jagadamba Sri Puraskar’ - by Madan Puraskar Guthi, Kathmandu, Nepal (1993)

‘Siddhicharan Puraskar’ - by Yugkavi Siddhicharan Pratisthan, Nepal (2003). It was awarded on the occasion of the 92nd Birth Anniversary of Yugkavi (Poet of the Era) Siddhicharan Shrestha on 23.05.2003 at Nepal Akademi Bhavan, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Apart from above, ‘Diyalo’, the mouthpiece of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling was awarded ‘Sushri Laxmi Karki Smriti Nepali Sahityik Patrakarita Puraskar’ by Chetaki Rajyalaxmi Karki Smriti Vigyan Tatha Pravidhik Pratisthan, Nepal in 2012 in recognition of remarkable services rendered by Sammelan for the promotion of language and literature outside Nepal.

मदन पुरस्कार गुठी

स्थापनाकाल विक्रम संवत् १९८१ सालदेखि नै नेपाली भाषा र साहित्यको संरक्षण, प्रवर्द्धन र श्रीवृद्धिका निम्ति अनवरत क्रियाशील रही असाधारण संस्थागत योगदान गरेबापत ‘नेपाली साहित्य सम्मेलन, दार्जीलिङ’-लाई २०४९ सालको पुरस्कार जगदम्बा श्री प्रदान गरिएको यो प्रमाण दिइएको छ।

सही : कमल दीक्षित
मदन पुरस्कार गुठी

२०५०/७/४/४

DIYALO PUBLICATION

During the year 1931-1937, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling published its mouthpiece, 'Nepali Sahitya Sammelan Patrika'.

The two eminent intellectuals, namely Shri Padma Prasad Pradhan, B.A., B.L. acted as an editor for the first five issues and Shri Rai Saheb Hari Prasad Pradhan, M.A., B.L. was the editor for the last two issues. In these issues 25 prose writings, 4 critical reviews, 4 poems and 5 speeches delivered by the Chief Guests during different sessions of the Sammelan as well as the activities of the Sammelan with regard to the Meetings, Sessions and Anniversary Programmes etc. have been published.

The first Nepali Sahitya Patrika was printed by Hindi Sahitya Press, Prayag, and the remaining six issues were printed at Mani Press, Kalimpong.

Initially, the objectives of the Sammelan Patrika were mainly to provide informations on the activities of the Sammelan, and to publish the literary compositions.

The first issue of 'Diyalo' came out in November, 1959 with 58 pages (Price Re. 1/- per copy and quarterly) and was printed at Asha Luxmi Press, Darjeeling. 4 issues of 'Diyalo' upto December, 1960 were printed from the same press. The subsequent issues of Diyalo numbering 140 were printed at Mani Printing Press, Darjeeling. Then 7 issues from December 2006 to December 2011 were printed at Unique Printers (Unique Enterprises), Darjeeling. Again 3 issues from October, 2013 to May, 2015 were printed at Mani Printing House, Darjeeling, and the last 4 issues from March, 2017 to May, 2024 have been printed at Mirav Computech Printers, Batasay, Darjeeling.

Till now 155 issues of 'Diyalo' have been published. During the last 65 years of its existence/publication, 'Special Issues' of Diyalo also have been published as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of Special Issue	Year of Publication
1.	Bhanu Special	1969
2.	Deokota Special	1970
3.	Diyalo Katha Special	1971
4.	Bhasa Visheshanka (Language Special)	1972
5.	Sammelan Swarna Jayanti Special	1974
6.	Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma Special	1980
7.	B.P. Koirala Special	1982
8.	Bhawan Udghatan Special	1982
9.	100th Issue of Diyalo (Diyalo Wangmaya Special)	1984
10.	Surya Bikram Gyawali Special	1986
11.	Parasmani Pradhan Special	1987
12.	Ram Krishna Sharma Special	1987
13.	Bir Bikram Gurung Special	1996
14.	Dr. Jagat Chhetri Special	2000
15.	Dr. Indra Bahadur Rai Smriti Anka	2004
16.	R.P. Lama, Tulsi 'Apatan', Ramlal Adhikari Smriti Anka	2006
17.	Diyalo Swarna Jayanti Special	2009
18.	Mahakavi Laxmiprasad Deokota Smriti Anka	2011
19.	Diyalo Diwangat Anka	2022

After a gap of 28 long years it was decided in the Executive Meeting of the Sammelan held on 14 May, 1959 to start publishing 'Diyalo', as the publication of Sammelan Patrika had been discontinued due to some reasons.

Hence, a Sub-Committee comprised of the following members was formed for the publication of Diyalo in the said meeting :

President	:	Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma
Vice-President	:	Tulsi Bahadur Chettri
Secretary	:	Laldhoj Deosa Rai
Asstt. Secretary	:	Bhanubhakta Kumai

Besides this, Indra Sundas, Indra Bahadur Rai, Deo Kumari Sinha and Bishnu Rai were nominated as the members in the Sub-Committee.

DIYALO PURASKAR

'Diyalo Puraskar' was instituted by the Sammelan with a view to offer incentive to young poets and writers for the promotion of Nepali language and literature.

Earlier, Diyalo Puraskar was known as 'Diyalo Dulichand Swarna Padak', named after late Dulichand Agarwal of Shyam Prakashan, Darjeeling.

This particular award was conferred upon only thrice in its existence, i.e. in 1970, 1971 and 1972.

Later the name was renamed as 'Diyalo Puraskar' by the Sammelan in 1973.

Diyalo Puraskar is given on different genres.

The first recipients of 'Diyalo Dulichand Swarna Padak Puraskar' in the year 1970 were :

1. Kishan Roka (Poem, 'Yesai Bhanchhu')
2. Uday Kumar Pradhan (Story, 'Teen Raatko Gherabhitra')
3. Rashmiprasad Allay (Essay, 'Chhadmaveshma Bardaan')

The second recipients in the year 1971 were :

1. Sushma Sharma (Poem, 'Dhunga Bolchha')
2. Matilda Rai (Story, 'Totalaa Ko Phool')
3. Lain Singh Bangdel (Essay, 'Rome Ko Phool, Paris Ko Kaada')

The third recipients in the year 1972 were :

1. Bhim Thapa (Poem, 'Composition')
2. M.M. Gurung (Story, 'Yo Lash Ani Yahaa Mera Ichhaharu')
3. Mahananda Sapkota (Essay, 'Digmig Ra Uska Saakhaa Santaanharu')

The first recipients of **Diyalo Puraskar** in the year 1973 were :

1. Jas Yonzon Pyasi (Poem, 'Hariyo Hawaakaa Ashruta Geetharu')
2. Radhika Raya (Story, 'Uni Gayeko Gorayto')
3. Tara Prasad Joshi (Essay, 'Adarsha Raghav Ko Kathaabastu')

Since 1970 various writers and poets have been awarded with **Diyalo Puraskar** almost consistently.

SAMMELAN LIBRARY

The library of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan it named as Indira Ojha (Chhetri) Library.

The then Manager of Nagari Tea Estate, Sri J.K. Ojha had donated Rs. 21,000/- (Rupees Twenty One Thousand) to the Sammelan Library in loving memory of his wife, Late Indira Ojha (Chhetri) in 1984, Ever since the library is known as Indira Ojha (Chhetri) Library.

THE LIST OF SAMMELAN PURASKAR RECIPIENTS

Sl. No.	Name	Place	Year
1.	Shri Mahananda Paudyal	Sikkim	1998
2.	Shri Indra Sundas	Darjeeling	1999
3.	Prof. Gopinarayan Pradhan	Shillong	2000
4.	Dr. Jagat Chhetri (Posthumously)	Darjeeling	2001
5.	Dr. Kumar Pradhan	Siliguri	2002
6.	Dr. Tulsibahadur Chhetri	Kathmandu	2003
7.	Prof. Babulal Pradhan	Darjeeling	2004
8.	Prof. Rajnarayan Pradhan	Darjeeling	2010
9.	Prof. Suryakala Thapa	Darjeeling	2012
10.	Smt. Sanumati Rai	Kalimpon	2013
11.	Yugkavi Birendra	Darjeeling	2014
12.	Shri Gupta Pradhan	Darjeeling	2015
13.	Shri K.B. Nepali	Assam	2016
14.	Dr. Gokul Sinha	Darjeeling	2017
15.	Shri Hasta Nechali	Darjeeling	2018
16.	Shri Bhupendra Adhikari	Dehradun	2019
17.	Shri Karna Thami	Darjeeling	2022
18.	Shri Gopichandra Pradhan	Darjeeling	2023
19.	Shri N.B. Rai	Shillong	2024

The two recipients of this Puraskar, namely Prof. Suryakala Thapa and Shri Gopichandra Pradhan generously handed the cash prize back to the Sammelan as a gesture of their unfailing love and service towards Nepali Sahitya Sammelan.

PREM SHERPA BIROKI SMRITI PURASKAR

Prem Sherpa Biroki Smriti Puraskar duly sponsored by the family of late Prem Sherpa Biroki, a senior member of the Sammelan, renowned poet and an active member of the Language Movement is given to the young literateur on the occasion of 'Nepali Language Recognition Day Programme' organised by Nepali Sahitya Sammelan on 20 August every year.

The names of the awardees are given below :

1. Shri Saran Muskan (Mooldharatira, Poem Collection, 2015)
2. Shri Puskar Singer (Phoolko Thappad, Rubai Collection, 2016)
3. Shri Rahul Rai 'Bogiko' (Kalo Akshar, Poem Collection, 2017)
4. Shri Naresh Katuwal (Gaonka Neeldamharu, Poem Collection, 2018)
5. Shri Sanjok Khawas (Anjan Shaharma Chhu, Ghazal Collection, 2019)
6. Shri Nima Tamang (Shabdachitra, Rubai Sangraha, 2022)
7. Shri Roshan Rai 'Chot' (Deshko Anuhar, 2023)
8. Shri Dhiraj Subba 'Dharya' (Jungali Phool, Poem Collection, 2024)

List of the Presidents of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling (1924-2024)

Sl. No.	Name	Tenure of Post
1.	Hari Prasad Pradhan	25.05.1924 to 26.07.1931
2.	Motichand Pradhan	26.07.1931 to 26.07.1932
3.	Hanjit Dewan Rai	26.07.1932 to 07.10.1939
4.	Motichand Pradhan	07.10.1939 to 23.05.1959
5.	Pandit Dharnidhar Sharma	23.05.1959 to 05.05.1967
6.	Tulsi Bahadur Chhetri	05.05.1967 to 04.06.1978
7.	Jagat Chhetri	04.06.1978 to 28.05.1983
8.	Sidhi Narayan Pradhan	28.05.1983 to 09.07.1983
9.	Amrita Devi Chhetri	09.07.1983 to 26.05.1985
10.	R.P. Lama	26.05.1985 to 27.07.1991
11.	Lakhidevi Sundas	27.07.1991 to 15.09.1996
12.	Haren Allay	15.09.1996 to 30.09.2000
13.	Ramlal Adhikari	30.09.2000 to 29.09.2002
14.	Prem Pradhan	29.09.2002 to 30.07.2006
15.	Dr. Jiwan Namdung	31.07.2006 to 01.06.2008
16.	Satish Rasaily	01.06.2008 to 04.07.2010
17.	Chandrakumar Rai	04.07.2010 to 15.07.2012
18.	Gopichandra Pradhan	15.07.2012 to 30.08.2015
19.	Karna Thami	30.08.2015 to 30.06.2018
20.	Sachen Rai Dumri	30.06.2018 to 18.08.2019
21.	Dr. Chandrakumar Rai	18.08.2019 to 28.08.2022
22.	Gopichandra Pradhan	28.08.2022 to 07.05.2023
23.	Dr. Chandrakumar Rai	07.05.2023 to

List of the General Secretaries of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling (1924-2024)

Sl. No.	Name	Tenure of Post
1.	Parasmani Pradhan Surya Bikram Gyawali	25.05.1924 to 26.07.1931 (Joint)
2.	Surya Bikram Gyawali	26.07.1931 to 01.08.1954
3.	Nandadhoj Rai	01.08.1954 to 23.05.1959
4.	Laldhoj Deosa Rai	23.05.1959 to 28.02.1960
5.	Bhanubhakta Kumai	28.02.1960 to 14.09.1967
6.	Jagat Chhetri	05.05.1968 to 10.10.1971
7.	Lakhidevi Sundas	10.10.1971 to 24.06.1973
8.	L.B. Rai	24.06.1973 to 23.05.1976
9.	R.P. Lama	23.05.1976 to 28.05.1983
10.	Prem Pradhan	28.05.1983 to 31.05.1987
11.	Haren Allay	31.05.1987 to 27.05.1989
12.	Karna Thami	27.05.1989 to 03.09.1989
13.	Prem Pradhan	03.09.1989 to 12.12.1993
14.	Karna Thami	12.12.1993 to 15.09.1996
15.	Ramlal Adhikari	15.09.1996 to 28.06.1998
16.	Gopichandra Pradhan	28.06.1998 to 29.09.2002
17.	Sachen Rai 'Dumi'	29.09.2002 to 30.07.2006
18.	Dr. Rudraraj Maskey	31.07.2006 to 01.06.2008
19.	Chandrakumar Rai	01.06.2008 to 04.07.2010
20.	Surya Shrestha	04.07.2010 to 15.07.2012
21.	D.B. Gurung	15.07.2012 to 30.08.2015
22.	Bhaktaraj Sunuwar (Mukhia)	30.08.2015 to 30.06.2018
23.	Surya Shrestha	30.06.2018 to 28.08.2022
24.	Mahendra Kumar Pradhan	28.08.2022 to

**THE LIST OF PRESENT OFFICE BEARERS AND
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF
THE NEPALI SAHITYA SAMMELAN (2022-2024)**

President	:	Dr. Chandrakumar Rai
Vice-Presidents	:	1. Shri Meghmani Dahal 2. Dr. Geeta Chettri
General Secretary	:	Shri Mahendra Kumar Pradhan
Asstt. Secretary	:	Shri Jogen Darnal Shri Ganesh Chettri
Treasurer	:	Shri Indrabahadur Pradhan

Executive Members

1. Shri Prem Pradhan
2. Dr. Jiwan Namdung
3. Shri Sachen Rai
4. Dr. Bina Hangkhim
5. Shri Satish Rasaily
6. Shri Dhanhang Subba
7. Shri Surya Shrestha
8. Shri D.B. Gurung
9. Shri Bhaktaraj Sunuwar (Mukhia)
10. Smt. Sabita Thapa (Sankalpa)
11. Shri Bharat Prakash Rai
12. Shri Madhusudan Bista
13. Smt. Sumitra Thami 'Abiral'

Legal Adviser
Shri Premchandra Khati

The Present Members of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling

The Hon'ble Members :

1. Shri Krishna Singh Pradhan
2. Shri Sawar Agarwal
3. Shri Mohan Thakuri
4. Shri Chandra Sharma
5. Shri Raju Bista (Hon'ble M.P., Lok Sabha)

Life Members :

6. Shri Prem Pradhan
7. Shri Aim 'Pathik'
8. Shri B.B. Tamang
9. Shri L.D. Moktan
10. Shri Gopi Chandra Pradhan
11. Shri G.S. Yonzone
12. Shri Rajendra Pradhan
13. Shri Ramakant Gupta
14. Shri Krishna Kharka
15. Dr. Mahendra P. Lama
16. Shri Sachen Rai
17. Shri Madhusudan Bista
18. Shri Shyam Puri
19. Dr. Jiwan Namdung
20. Smt. Kumari Khati
21. Smt. Rukmini Chhetri
22. Shri Vijay Bantawa
23. Shri Navin Fago
24. Shri Buddhadev Dewan
25. Shri Mahendra Kumar Pradhan
26. Shri Arjun Gurung
27. Shri Gyan Chandra Lama

28. Dr. Chandra Kumar Rai
29. Shri Ram Prasad Sharma
30. Shri Ram Sharma
31. Shri Satish Rasaily
32. Shri Jogen Darnal
33. Sushri Kaushalya Giri
34. Shri Tilak Sharma
35. Shri Subhas Chettri
36. Shri Ganesh Pradhan
37. Shri Bhanu Chhetri
38. Shri Bichandra Pradhan
39. Dr. Geeta Chettri
40. Smt. Bindya Subba
41. Shri Surya Shrestha
42. Shri Dhruba Kumar Tamang
43. Dr. Rajkumar Chhetri
44. Shri Meghmani Dahal
45. Smt. Pranitalata Lama
46. Dr. Jiwan Rana
47. Shri Dhanhang Subba
48. Shri P.D. Rai
49. Shri C.K. Sharma
50. Smt. Indira Thapa Gurung
51. Dr. Bina Hangkhim
52. Dr. Nina Rai
53. Dr. Sangmu Lepcha
54. Smt. Snehlata Rai
55. Smt. Kaushalya Mukhia
56. Shri Pradumna Shrestha
57. Shri Amar Baniya 'Lohoro'
58. Shri Pranay Lamichanay
59. Shri Bhaktaraj Sunuwar (Mukhia)
60. Smt. Sunita Allay
61. Shri D.R. Thapa
62. Dr. Irshad Gulam Ahmed
63. Shri Ram Gurung
64. Dr. Rinji Eden Wangdi
65. Shri D.B. Gurung
66. Shri Krishna Pradhan

67. Smt. Sabita Thapa 'Sankalpa'
68. Shri Kamal Regmi
69. Shri Indrabahadur Pradhan
70. Shri Bhim Thapa
71. Prof. Navin Poudyal
72. Smt. Basanti Shah
73. Smt. Ushakiran 'Satyadarshi'
74. Smt. Namita Rai 'Bal'
75. Smt. Renuka Bista
76. Shri Sunil Rai
77. Shri Bharat Prakash Rai
78. Lt. Col. Sukul Pradhan (Retd.)
79. Smt. Ganga Rai
80. Smt. Rama Devi Sharma
81. Shri Rajendra Pasha
82. Dr. (Prof.) Surendra P. Shrestha
83. Prof. Devasish Rai
84. Shri Rahul Shrestha
85. Shri Rishikesh Gurung
96. Shri Indra Prasad Rai
97. Smt. Rita Thakuri
98. Shri Bijay Kumar Rai
89. Dr. (Prof.) Sujata Rani Rai
90. Shri Norjang Syangden
91. Shri Pawan Pradhan
92. Shri Bishal Sarghai
93. Smt. Sumitra Thami 'Abiral'
94. Dr. Nakul Chhetri
95. Shri Shankar Pradhan
96. Shri Uttam Pradhan
97. Smt. Lalita Dewan
98. Shri Bhaskar Mainali (Sharma)
99. Shri Saurav Rai
100. Shri Milan Bantawa
101. Dr. Pramod Chhetri
102. Smt. Muna Rai Tamang
103. Smt. Pramita Gurung (Sherpa)
104. Dr. Binita Sunar Rizal

105. Shri Subhamoy Chatterjee
106. Kamala Lepcha

General Members :

1. Shri Tekdhoj Zimba 'Asha'
2. Shri D.S. Moktan
3. Shri Abinash Pradhan
4. Shri Dhruva Kumar Lakandri
5. Shri Keshav Gurung
6. Shri Jatish Baraily
7. Shri Man Bahadur Rai
8. Shri Bhuwan Giri
9. Shri Pravin Zimba
10. Smt. Menuka Pradhan
11. Shri Sachin Khawas
12. Shri Uday Thulung
13. Shri Bilok Sharma
14. Shri Hemant Kumar Pradhan
15. Shri Ganesh Chhetri
16. Shri Surya Mohan Rai
17. Shri Prem Gurung
18. Shri Raju Chhetri
19. Shri Kalusingh Ranapaheli
20. Smt. Neera Subba
21. Shri Purna Kr. Sharma
22. Shri Pawan Mahima
23. Shri Kamal Bhandari
24. Shri Nuran Rai 'Judu'
25. Shri Rishi Rai
26. Shri Nirankar Thapa
27. Shri Umed Golay
28. Smt. Sharda Steffi
29. Shri Pushpa Kr. Pradhan
30. Shri Raj Bahadur Rai
31. Shri Kabir Basnet
32. Smt. Pavitra Lama
33. Shri Naresh Katuwal
34. Shri Jayendra Xenium
35. Smt. Yogita Rai

36. Shri Sanjok Khawas
37. Shri Roshan Rai 'Chot'
38. Shri Rashik Chhetri
39. Smt. Swarnima Pradhan
40. Shri Narendra Lama
41. Smt. Bimala Pradhan Joshi
42. Shri Amit Thapa
43. Shri Binesh Pradhan
44. Shri Rahul Rai 'Bogiko'
45. Shri Binod Rai Sagar
46. Shri Manjil Thamden
47. Smt. Chinku Tamang
48. Dr. Sukraj Diyali
49. Shri Jiwan Bantawa
50. Smt. Saroja Pradhan
51. Shri Kiran Syangden
52. Smt. Manjula Tamang Subba
53. Smt. Monika Pradhan
54. Shri Ajay Kumar Thapa
55. Shri Kubir Pradhan
56. Smt. Subhadra Bomzon
57. Smt. Bhumika Rai
58. Shri Arjun Pradhan

**Photos of Eminent Personalities related to The Nepali
Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling**



Suryabikram Gyawali, Dharnidhar Sharma & Parasmani Pradhan
(Su-Dha-Pa)
Founders of Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling



Sitting from left to right :

Shri Tulsi Bahadur Chhetri, Smt. Lakhidevi Sundas, Shri Jagat Chhetri, Shri Siddhi Narayan Pradhan, Shri R.P. Lama, Shri Gurudas Mukherjee and Col. Siddhiman Rai

Standing from left to right :

Shri D.R. Mukhia, Shri Dhanraj Lama, Shri Janaklal Agarwal, Shri Thum Bahadur Chhetri and Shri Surya Kumar Giri



Dr. Shyama Prasad
Mukherjee
Vice Chancellor
Calcutta University



Seshmani Pradhan



Raisaheb Hari Prasad
Pradhan



Rev. Kalu Singh Peters



Krishna Bahadur Gurung



Harkadhoj Pradhan



Damber Singh Gurung
M.L.A.



Maharajkumar
Udaychand Mahtab
M.L.A.



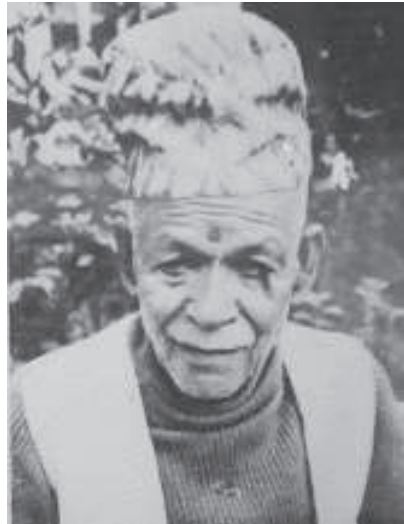
Agam Singh Giri



Rupnarayan Sinha



Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee



Mahananda Sapkota



Dr. Indra Bahadur Rai



Motichand Pradhan



Left to right :
R.P. Lama, Ramlal Adhikari and
Jagat Chhetri



Prem Sherpa 'Biroki'