







# Speech from Keynote Speaker



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**Mr. Chairman,  
Chief Guests, Respected Delegates,  
Writers and Participants.**

It is my great privilege and pleasure to congratulate the distinguish participants in this magnificent meeting of first International conference of Children's Literature in Nepal.

Congratulations to the host Nepal Academy, Nepalese Society for Children's Literature (NESCHIL), and Room to Read organizations and hard working executive committee members.

Distinguished Conference Chair and Honourable organizers let me express my sincere thanks for allowing me to speak before this august gathering.

We are here to seek, search, and share ideas, inventions, and innovations for the development of children's literature. We are here for the welfare of our children, future heroes and builders of our nations. We are here for the development of humanity, peace, and prosperity of our society. And we are here to promote children's literature for the welfare of the global citizen.

This is a very happy moment to observe the First International Conference on Children's Literature in Nepal. We all are gathering in the laps of the world's tallest mountain patronage of Lord Buddha, the prince of Peace known as the light of Asia, the great son of mother Nepal.

This is my pleasure and privilege to express welcome from my inner heart amidst reputed writers of children's literature.

Many people think children's literature is simple. It is easy writing. But it is not a childish thing to create books for children. I think children's literature is the foundation of human life in the society. So let us work together to change meaningfully the state and status of children's literature.

## Nepal Case

In Nepal, the first inscription of the Nepalese language appeared in 981 A.D. (Dullu Dailekh) Paper entered only in the 12th century and the press started in 1851 A.D. There were handwriting traditions in creating copies. After the introduction of the press in 1851 A.D., printing started in Nepal.

Rana ruler Dev Shumsher opened the school first time in 1958. Then Jaya Pratih Bahadur Singh (1934-1997 B.S.) published texts in 1959 B.S. He became a pioneer of children's Books in Nepal.

A publication came in 1970 B.S. known as Gorkha Bhasha Prakashani Samiti. Books focused on education initiated literary books later, International Year of Child, 1979 launched in this child-to-child program of UNICEF collaboration.

There were few writers and publishers before 1900 A.D. NESCHIL later worked hard after its establishment in 2044 B.S. Nepalese intellectuals started thinking about children's literature. These days children's books

are published more and it has grown to more than 5,000 in Nepal.

Though the publication of children's literature has a short history, Nepal has a rich oral tradition. There were riddles and proverbs as well as religious stories and moral stories which indirectly served entertainment and basic education.

In the Asiatic region, there are publications for the children. Thousands of titles are available. But we lack sharing of those useful books published by our friendly countries.

Nepal is the centre of knowledge where great epic books were written. Earliest book of Nepal is Ashta Shastrika Prajnaparmita (Book of Wisdom, 1015 A.D., Cambridge Library) and great epoch-making people born, the altitude geography furnished this country as a storehouse of nature which one can observe with geo, bio, ethno, and eco diversities. Due to the diverse environment, our children's are facing diverse problems and prospects. All great people of the Himalayan region who have devoted their childhood to this third-pole part of South Asia contributed to our civilization. A child born in any place brings their *lalat* (genes) and grows with the parental household atmosphere.

Sanskrit verse guided us on how to treat children of different age groups.

लालयेत् पञ्च वर्षीणि ताडयेत् दशवर्षीणि  
प्राप्ते तु षोडसे वर्षे पुत्र मित्रावदाचरेत् ॥

Nepal is a rich country of resources with a poor economy of 20% people below the poverty. The existence of the Himalayan country of Himbat Khanda remained free and never colonized since the birth of this nation. The name of Nepal was mentioned in Veda and civilization culminated with the development of *Videha* (Janakpur), *Devdaha* (Lumbini), and *Kalidaha* (Kathmandu), like trio cities with Vedic and Buddhist civilization, Nepal gave birth to great epoch-making people. Though there were different systems of education before the mid of 19th-century the new educational system came only in 1971.

Rana ruler opened the school for the first time in 1853. Then Jaya Prithibi Bahadur Singh (1934-1997 B.S.) published texts in 1959 B.S. He became a pioneer author of children's books in Nepal.

Still, Nepal lacks education based on oriental philosophy. Only a few attempts have been made to view the national perspective. A publication came in 1970 BS known as *Gorkha Bhasha Prakashani Samiti*. The publication focused on textbooks of school-initiated literary books later for children. International Year of Child, 1979 initiated this venture under the child-to-child program of UNICEF collaboration.

NESCHIL initiated to do something after its establishment in 1987 (2044 BS). Nepal Academy has its department to look after children's literature and room to Read helping to disseminate literary works for the children of Nepal.

## Importance of Literature in Life

In a popular old saying, a man without literature, music, and art is like an ape. Literature is important to become man as a real man. Literature in this regard is a sign of civilization and a medium of socialization.

As a valuable component of culture, literature is in reality, the sign of development. Nepal although rich in folklore and cultural tradition formal literary works appeared little later.

I recommend children's books as a medium of enjoyment for old age and retired parents and senior people also.

The growing children need guidance for developing character and building personality while an old man needs happy moments to spend old age. Children's books may serve both stages of human life.

The modern civilization became conscious of environment. Veda since ancient time was creating awareness to the human being by *enchanting Shanti path*:

ॐ द्यौ शान्तिरन्तरिक्षं शान्तिं प्रथिवी शान्तिराप  
शान्तिरोषधय शान्तिं वनस्पतय  
शान्तिर्विश्वे देवा शान्तिर्ब्रह्म शान्तिं सर्वशान्ति,  
शान्तिरेव शान्तिं सा मा शान्तिरेधि ॥  
॥ ॐ शान्तिं शान्तिं शान्तिं ॥

It is intended to keep balance i.e. sound environment and peace.

For thousands of years, people have been shouting about the no-polluted environment and creating awareness to keep all components of the surroundings.

Climate change has created havoc in contemporary society. Our children are facing pollution of all kinds. People are facing all sorts of disasters and fighting different problems. We are here to seek, search, and share the best views and visions, inventions, and innovations as well as to bring better conditions than what we are facing in contemporary times. New problems are coming and creating problems not only in the maintenance of life but also in human existence.

Due to imbalanced development, modern people are suffering from social transformation as well as environmental change including climate change. Development is not in the balanced

State. We feel proud to erect tall view towers like physical development but neglect to develop human character and promote the quality of people's personalities. In national issues, there is a conflict between commonality and ethnicity. Unity of the nation and promotion of the people became difficult. In this situation, writers are feeling difficulties in writing for children. Writers have to forward vision in developing harmony in the society. Literature can improve the condition and bring an amicable environment in society.

Equality is lacking. Discrimination is growing. Society is becoming more and more complicated. A bundle of books prescribed is more than children's weight and beyond the capacity of the household economy to the general people. Formal education in reality is not sufficient to achieve the capability and ability to live a happy quality of life in society. In this regard out-books of literature help to understand life and society.

In our social practices still, people are using poems to enrich highly developed cultural life. From morning to night and from every day of the year we use our poems in the form of mantras, songs, rhymes, and stories.

In every religious and cultural ritual and worshiping ceremony, Guru tells a tale. Most of those stories give some light to the listeners.

Practices of reciting poems are still used in our everyday rituals. We have popular prayer rhymes of Ganesh and Saraswati used in the past for children. Storytelling is active in religious speeches. Not only Sanskrit but also folklore culture is also advanced in our society which indirectly provides informal education.

Asia is rich in literature. Asia is the home of ancient people, origin, and original tradition of creative wisdom and knowledge can be found in countries like China and India. Oriental philosophy, literature, rituals, and cultural practices enriched the lifestyle for which writers should be aware of

its ideals and needed to improve traditional practices. Teaching our wisdom to our children in contemporary Nepal is heading slowly towards enriching our value system.

Only physical development does not work to achieve success in life. Mental development and health also must be sound to behave man to man as a man.

In one of the symposiums of APPREB (Asia-Pacific Cooperative Program for Reading Promotion and Book Development, 1995) in Bangkok, I remember an event. In the panel discussion, a Japanese librarian of children started their condition of robotic interest. Instead of reading books, children are busy playing with machines. So they do not like to read books. She was almost weeping in narrating their contemporary situation. At my turn, I told that we had forgotten age old tradition of telling stories by our grandparents. At that time developed countries were busy in the production of video games. I told them that developed countries should prepare a talking book containing full of pertinent stories and rhymes. After some years there appeared electronic book for children. In the contemporary world, IT AI and GPT are emerging to change the world. With this, I remember a seminar cum workshop on Children's Book Publishing in the New Millennium, 1997. in Malaysia. There was a debate about the changing situation of books versus electronic media. Experts expressed that the existence of the book never perished because it has qualities that we cannot find in electronic media.

In 2017 there was the Third Asia Regional IBBY Congress in Bangkok. This author has a PowerPoint presentation entitled Developing Character and Building Personality through Story Therapy. At that time, I was talking about the development of children's literature. Each country publishes hundreds of books. Many writers in many countries are writing for children. But to my children which book by which writer from which country will be suitable to select? Most of the books are attractive and look interesting. I may compel to select anyone but is it suitable to give my son and daughter?

Why do we give books to read to our children? What sort of book we should give to our kids? The thought 'Story Therapy in the Building of children's characters' germinated in the new millennium. And was published in Bal Sahitya journal of NESCHIL, 2004 A.D... Later this thought developed more and published a book entitled Story Therapy in 2013. Remedial stories to treat individual abuses became necessary. Individualized weakness and lack of character formation need special individual-based literary materials. Biblio therapy focusing on stories can be used to repair weaknesses and wipe out bad habits. There is another essential part for which a story can help to develop qualities by injecting a value system through the story. During my tenure of presidency of PEN International, we launched two research projects. A Study on Factors Affecting Youngsters Reading Habits in Nepal, 2011. This helped us to know the lack of appropriate books for youngsters. Similarly, in 2013 research was conducted to find out the altitude of school children in civil society. This helped to know teens' attitudes and behaviour.

We all want our children as

an ideal and perfect man. Good character active and able person to care home and contribute to society. We have role models from our old stories. Children who should be ideal like Rama, Children who are powerful like Krishna, and Children who care for parents like Srawan Kumar. In our great festival, the Guru and parents give blessings to become a great role model. We have a 'blessing poem' enchanted by elderly people during great festivals like Dasain. This indicates that became like a person who lived long, won enemies, got prosperity, and was active, honourable, bright, strong, truthful, knowledgeable, and famous to develop common values of universal nature needed by all.

आयुर्दीणसुते स्त्रियं दशरथे, शत्रुक्षयो राघवे  
रेख्यै नहुषे गतिस्त्वं पत्न्ये मानै च दुर्योधने  
शौर्यं सन्तानवे बलं हलधरे सत्यं च कुन्तीसुते  
विज्ञानं विदुरे भवन्तु भवता कीर्तिस्त्वं नारायणे ।

There are many life- ability, and diversity in cultural development. Purposeful writing and free writing are all needed to cover societal issues and bases of cultural elements. We are still writing within the frame of traditional shape and size. We need clinical strategies for individual weakness and lack in achieving such personality literature works as medicine. In this regard, our Gurukul education was able to train our kids to provide perfection in human life.

Formal education helps to develop a strong foundation of education. In the USA, education diverted to prepare competent citizens with subjects like Language, Math, Science, History, and geography as basic compulsory subjects in school.

In our context, Social Studies have been included in the school curriculum. There are few literary contents in the subjects like languages (Nepali and English) and Social Studies All these changes in my observation are not enough to build character and develop the personality of a man to live as an able, capable, and good citizen. Literature is most important to make man as a man. Learning life education from literature needs to change the course of writing in children's literature.

In the modern digital age, our children need literacy of computers, and developing Technology Vocational Skills become essential to enter the job market. Social studies became important to adjust in society became as the study of history and Geography is eyes of time and space help to know more about the world, writers need to focus life building elements while creating books for children. All these things warn our writers to change writing courses. The time came to create children's literature just not to write freely whatever we like. But objectives-oriented writing is to build the character and personality of our students. Society has changed. Crime, corruption, suicide, accidents, illness, and diseases are in the growing trend. Writers need to focus on the issues and problems of society. Moral devaluation became the main problem in society. Age-old folklore and Pauranic stories found in epic books can be ideal reading materials; we need to write biographies to expose thoughts of great personalities.

We need to improve our daily life. Cleanliness, yoga, meditation, vipassana, physical exercise, and sports all became a part of life activities. Balance diet in breakfast, lunch, and dinner became a challenge economically and educationally. Daily work, hobbies, creative works, and fun-making







## धूमपान तथा सूतिजन्य पदार्थ सेवन नगरौ, क्यान्सरलगायत नसर्ने रोगबाट बचौ

### धूमपान भनेको के हो ?

- धूमपान भन्नाले खासगरी सूतिजन्य पदार्थको धुँवा खानु हो । चुरोट, बिँडी, तमाखु, कक्कडजस्ता सूतिजन्य पदार्थको सेवन गर्नु हो ।
- धूमपानको धुँवामा ७ हजार भन्दा बढी किसिमका रासायनिक तत्व पाइन्छन् । तीमध्ये ६९ भन्दा बढी तत्वले क्यान्सर गराउँछ ।

### धूमपान तथा सूतिजन्य पदार्थ सेवन गर्दा हुने असर

- मुख, फोक्सो, पेट, फियो, आन्द्रा, मूत्रनली, पाठेघर आदिको क्यान्सर हुन्छ ।
- दम, दीर्घ श्वासप्रश्वास रोग, उच्च रक्तचाप, हृदयघात, मस्तिष्कघात, गर्भपतन हुने, कम तौलको बच्चा जन्मने, अवधि पूरा नभई बच्चा जन्मने, मृत बच्चा जन्मने आदि गराउँछ ।
- धूमपानको धुँवाले वर्षेनी धूमपान नगर्ने व्यक्तिलाई समेत असर गर्दछ । नजिक बसेकै कारणले विश्वमा वर्षेनी १३ लाख मानिसको मृत्यु हुने गरेको छ ।

### धूमपान तथा सूतिजन्य पदार्थबाट बच्ने उपाय

- साथीभाइको लहैलहैमा नपरौ ।
- दीर्घकालीन असरको मनन गरी कूलतमा नफसौ !
- धूमपानबाट छुटकारा पाउनका लागि स्वास्थ्यकर्मीसँग सल्लाह गरौ !
- सार्वजनिक स्थलमा धूमपान नगरौ !
- घरभित्र र बच्चाको अगाडि कहिल्यै धूमपान नगरौ !



नेपाल सरकार  
स्वास्थ्य तथा जनसंख्या मन्त्रालय  
**स्वास्थ्य कर कोषको सचिवालय**  
रामशाहपथ, काठमाडौं

## टेलिभिजन/वासिड मेसिन चाहिएमा

नेपाली बजारमा आफ्नै नेपाली पहिचान  
टेलिभिजनको दुनियाँमा नेपाली अभियान

- नेपाली ग्राहकको चाहना हामी उचित मूल्यमा पूरा गर्दैछौं ।

काठमाडौं उपत्यका तथा वीरगञ्जमा जहाँ चाहियो त्यहाँ



**अभियान डिजिटल वर्ल्ड प्रा.लि.**

काठमाडौं

विष्णु काफ्ले (९८५१११७५७२)



**सडक बोर्ड नेपाल**

मिनभवन, काठमाडौं ।



सडकको मर्मत सम्भार गराउने, सडकको मर्मत सम्भार गर्दा लाग्ने खर्चमा न्यूनिकरण गर्ने तथा सडकको मर्मत सम्भार कार्यलाई पारदर्शी एवं प्रभावकारी बनाउने सम्बन्धमा आवश्यक व्यवस्था गर्न वाञ्छनीय भएकोले सडकको नियमित, पटक, आवधिक तथा आर्कास्मिक मर्मत सम्भार गर्न तथा सडकमा चल्ने सवारी साधनहरूमा दस्तुर लगाई उठाउने व्यवस्था गर्न मिति २०५९/०९/१५ मा प्रातिनिधि सभाबाट **सडक बोर्ड ऐन, २०५८** जारी भई विधिवत रूपमा **सडक बोर्ड नेपाल** को स्थापना भएको हो ।

(क) सडक बोर्ड नेपालको कार्यक्षेत्र:

- सवै राष्ट्रिय राजमार्ग तथा सहायक राजमार्गहरू,
- कालोपत्रे भएका सवै शहरी तथा ग्रामिण सडकहरू,
- न्यूनतम सवारी चाप र स्तर भएका सवै खण्डास्मिथ ग्रामिण सडकहरू,
- न्यूनतम सवारी चाप र स्तर भएका सवै कच्ची ग्रामिण सडकहरू,



(ख) सडक मर्मत सम्भार कार्य:

- राजमार्ग र सहायक राजमार्गको मर्मत सम्भार सडक विभाग मार्फत,
- शहरी तथा ग्रामिण सडकको मर्मत सम्भार स्थानीय तह अन्तर्गतका नगरपालिका (महा/उप) र गाउँपालिका कार्यालयहरू मार्फत,



(ग) सडक उपभोग दस्तुर सञ्चलन कार्य:

- नेपाल राजपत्रमा उल्लेखित सडक खण्डहरूमा तोकिएको सवारी साधनबाट निर्धारित सडक उपभोग दस्तुर सञ्चलन कार्य गर्न,
- दस्तुर सञ्चलनबाट प्राप्त हुने रकमको कम्तीमा दुई तिहाई रकम सोही सडकको मर्मत सम्भार गरिने,



मिनभवन, काठमाडौं, नेपाल फोन: ०१-४५९३५१५/...५२९/...५३९

इमेल: roadsboardnepal.org@gmail.com वेबसाइट: www.rbn.org.np

दिगो सडक मर्मत संभारका लागि सडक बोर्ड नेपाल

## नेपालको संविधानका मुख्य विशेषताहरू

- जननिर्वाचित संविधानसभाबाट जारी भएको पहिलो संविधान,
- सार्वभौमसत्ता एवम् राजकीय सत्ता नेपाली जनतामा निहित,
- संघीय लोकतान्त्रिक गणतन्त्रात्मक शासन व्यवस्था,
- संसदीय शासन प्रणाली, स्वतन्त्र न्यायपालिका,
- धर्मनिरपेक्षता तथा समावेशीकरणको सिद्धान्तलाई आत्मसात,
- आवधिक, प्रत्यक्ष र समानुपातिकसहितको मिश्रित निर्वाचन प्रणाली,
- मानव अधिकार र विधिको शासनको प्रत्याभूति,
- संविधानवाद एवम् लोकतान्त्रिक मूल्य मान्यतामा आधारित ।

नेपाल सरकार

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