



Yuba Sansar organizes Teej

Bhutanese resettled in Adelaide, Australia, celebrated Teej festival for the first time on 15 September with cultural show and food fest. The function was attended by over 300 members of the Bhutanese community – majority of them women. There was enthusiastic participation from Nepalese and other communities in South Australia.

The function was organised by radio programme Yuba Sansar. It is aired through Radio Adelaide on Sundays, Yuba Sansar is the weekly youth show produced by seven Bhutanese youngsters. The radio program is funded by Multicultural Youth SA for one year

– until February next year.

The crowd filled with ladies, adorned by red sarees and gold ornaments, was the clear indication that Nepali culture has become integral part of the multi-cultural South Australia.

Young children and youth performed cultural shows including dancing and singing. Senior ladies presented Sangini, an old Nepali folk tune.

The group performance at the end of the show turned the event even livelier as they took to floor for dance. Young people were taking the lead in dance floor. The dance continued for almost an hour – almost sweating.

Yuba Sansar presenters Ganga and Neeru successfully entertained the audience as Masters of Ceremony.

Performers

Sumpika Thapa
Puja, David, Karuna, Amit
Monu Chamlagai
Pabitra Gautam, Hira Devi, Ghaley,
Ganga Ghimiray, Kunti Maya Dahal, Basala
Devi, Dhamala, Chandra Maya Adhikari,
Damber Kumari Ghaley, Lalu Maya Subedi
(Sangini)

Karuna and Amit
Dibya
Laxmi and Sumi
Manu, Abina, Kumari, Karuna
Niruta and Priyanka
Dikchya
Dinesh Adhikari
Bikram Adhikari, Prakash Niroula, Shova
Biswa, Jeevan Koirala, Sushil Niroula, Niru
Mishra and Lok Safal Poudel



No SGP this year

Department of Immigration and Citizenship did not approve the grant application to run Settlement Grant Program (SGP) of BAASA this year. BAASA had run SGP program successfully for last two years providing services to the newly arrived Bhutanese community.

BAASA had applied for two-year long SGP project.

ARA and BAASA officials after the application was not approved, met with DIAC officials to seek advice and comments on proposed programs, activities and concerns and needs of the new Bhutanese community.

Adelaide wins interstate football

Adelaide Dragons Red won the first Australian Interstate Bhutanese Soccer Tournament beating Melbourne's Thunder Dragon Club by 1-0.

The three-day tournament was organized by the Bhutanese Australian Association of Queensland held from July 1 where eight Bhutanese teams from all

over Australia participated. According to the event coordinator Puskar Poudel "The idea is to bring together our cultural heritage and inspire in each other a real sense of belonging here in our new homeland."

The winning team Manager Kamal Timsina said "it was all team effort and support from community in Adelaide. Would like to thank all our sponsors and individuals who supported us to achieve this."

The Adelaide team had entered the final after winning Cairns by 4-3. Suraj Rai for Adelaide Dragon Red scored a goal that secured the team's victory. Adelaide Dragon Blue, another team from Adelaide lost to Cairns on the first day.

Adelaide Dragons were supported by ARA Jobs, MYSA, Multicultural SA and various local councils.

Interstate football in Adelaide

BAASA will be helping young soccer players of the Bhutanese community to host interstate football tournament next year. The

tentative date for the event has been set for first week of July were around 16 Bhutanese community soccer teams – including 4 girls' teams – are expected to take part.

Parafield Gardens Soccer Club will join BAASA to host the event. The club has been providing training to the Bhutanese boys, interested in soccer, for last three years. With their training, Bhutanese soccer team won the first inter-state soccer tournament held in Cairns last July.

Negotiation with Salisbury Council is underway. The matches will be played at Parafield Gardens Soccer Club ground.

Business Workshop

Over 25 Bhutanese community members in South Australia attended Business Workshops organized by Playford Council. The workshops are still underway. Interested Bhutanese can take part in the workshop that run until first week of October. Similar workshops were run before as well.

सूचना

भूटनिज ईथ्निक स्कूलले १० नोवेम्बर २०१२ का दिन बडा दर्श तथा तिहार कार्यक्रम आयोजना गर्ने भएको छ । यस कार्यक्रममा विभिन्न नाच, गान, नाटक, हास्य-ब्यंग्य का साथै छोटा कथा, कविता, मुक्तक र टाँका प्रस्तुत गरिने छ । सो कार्यक्रममा उपस्थितिको लागि भूटनीज इथ्निक स्कूल यहाँहरुको उपस्थितिको लागि अनुरोध गर्दछ । समय र स्थान भने अर्को सुचनामा प्रकाशित गरिने छ ।

Notice

BAASA invites expression of interested from young Bhutanese to participate in the 10-day long IT and media law training to be held in December. The training is funded through Port Adelaide Enfield Council. Thus, preference will be given to Bhutanese living in Port Adelaide Enfield Council area. However, interested candidates from other councils can also register their names.

Write to: basa@bhutanese.org.au

Bhanu Jayanti in Melbourne

Bhutanese community in Melbourne also celebrated Bhanu Jayanti in two separate functions. Bhutanese Association of Victoria and Bhutanese Organisation in Australia organized separate events to mark the most most observed in Nepali literature.

Poems and gajals were recited and folk dance and songs were present during the event while children presented dance and elderly women sang sangini.

NRN leaders and Australian community workers, who were invited to the event as guest, appreciated the initiative of Bhutanese community to preserve Nepali culture and literature. They said they are ready to extend all possible help for this endeavour.

Interstate soccer in Albury

Bhutanese Association in Albury organised a one day interstate soccer challenge on September 22 at Jelbert Park Ground in Albury. Altogether five teams from Adelaide, Albury, Melbourne and Sydney participated the championship.

BAA chairperson Radha Guragai highlighted the significance of the event saying "This is an opportunity to brings Bhutanese from different states together and strengthen our ties and find ways to engage in common purpose"

Initially league matches were played between the teams with two consecutive matches being conducted at different football grounds. At the end of the league matches the results were; Boys United (Adelaide)-9 , Three Star Sporting Club Senior -3 Three Star Sporting Club

Junior-0, Thunder Dragon Football Club (Melbourne)-7 and Druk Football Club (Sydney)- 4.

The final match was played between Boys United Adelaide and Thunder Dragon Football Club Melbourne. Both These teams had entered the final after scoring highest points in the league rounds.

Boys United scored 2 goals against Thunder Dragon FC, which secured the team's victory of the championship. Parsu Acharya of Druk Football Club was declared best player of the tournament.

Three Star sporting Club Manager and Championship Co-ordinator Bhawani Subedi congratulated the winning team handing the trophy. He also thanked all the teams for their participation and praised their commitment to sports.

This event was sponsored by Albury City, Multicultural Council of Wagga Wagga, Albury-Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau, Thurgoona Community Centre, Melrose football Club and Thurgoona Baptist Church. This event was attended about 300 community members. *Teju Chouhan/ Albury*

Football in Tasmania

Hobart's Bhutanese community participated in the cross cultural football game hosted by Football Federation Tasmania (FFT).

Players aged from 7 to 50 took part in training event at the South Hobart football ground. On the occasion, FFT donated soccer gear to the group, including boots and balls.

Contd on page 7

संस्कृति (कथा)

निकै दिन भयो, सिमसिम पानी परेको । रोकिने छाट नै छैन । पानी मा रुइदै सिरुवाल दाई बज्रमानकोमा पुगे । अपरान्ह एउटा छलफल डाकिएको छ – सामाजिक संस्था खोल्ने बारे । निकै दिन भयो गाउँका भद्र भलाबीहरुको दौडधुम, यसका लागि । सिरुवाल दाई पनि केही दिन देखि मरिमेटर लागेका छन् ।

बज्रमान खानदानी मानिस । बाबुबाजेका पालादेखि गाउँमा हैकम जमाएका खाएका । सिरुवाल दाई, थोरै पढेका तर सबैलाई परेका बेला सहयोग गर्ने भएकाले गाउँलेका असाध्यै प्यारा । दुखको बेला सहयोग लिन होस वा कुनै काम गर्नु परे सल्लाह लिन, सबै गाउँले उनैकोमा जान्छन् । उनी साहित्यमा पनि निकै रुची राख्ने मानिस ।

बज्रमानलाई लागेको थियो, सिरुवाल दाई आजको छलफलमा केही ढिला आउनेछन् । उनलाई समयमै छलफल सुरु गर्ने र माहोल आफ्नो पक्षमा पार्ने अवसर मिल्ने छ भन्ने लागेको थियो ।

'बज्र सर नमस्कार' सिरुवाल बोले । बज्रमानले मन नपरी नपरी जवाफ फर्काए ।

'तिम्रो यो समाज सेवाको समर्पणलाई मैले माने । पानीमा रुइदै भए पनि छलफलका लागि समयमै आयौं,' बज्रमानको बाहिरी मन बोल्थो ।

दुइ चार जना अघि नै आइसकेका रहेछन् । केही बेरमा अरु पनि आए । छलफल सुरु भयो । सिरुवाल दाईले सुरुमै संस्थाको नाम प्रस्ताव गरे 'सृजनशील सेवा समाज' । कसैले त्यसमा नाइ नास्ती गरेनन् । बज्रमानलाई यो मन परेन । संस्थाको नाम भन्दा पनि सबैले सिरुवाल दाईको प्रस्तावको समर्थन गरेको मन परेन ।

'यो अलि साहित्यिक नाम जस्तो भयो' सौंँ विरोध गर्न नसकेपछि उनले भने । —थप केही दिन सोचौ नामका बारे' उनले त्यो विषयलाई थाती राख्ने प्रस्ताव गरे ।

दुइ-चार जनाले संस्थाको प्रस्तावित विधान र कार्यक्षेत्रबारे लिखत प्रस्ताव पेस गरे । सिरुवाल दाई, सबै प्रस्तावलाई समेटेर एउटा राम्रो विधान बनाउने पक्षमा उभिए । आफ्नो प्रस्ताव राम्रो भएको, स्थानीय सरकारी अधिकारीहरु सित यसबारे छलफल भएको र उनीहरुले यसलाई

स्वीकार गर्न तयार भएकोले आफ्नो प्रस्ताव नै स्वीकृत हुनुपर्ने ठिप्पी गरे बज्रमानले । छलफल निकै लम्बियो तर पनि निचोड निस्किएन । अर्को छलफलको मिति तोकेर सबै विदा भए ।

बज्रमानलाई कता कता चिसो पस्यो । निर्णय क्रममा सहभागीले सिरुवाल दाईको हरेक प्रस्तावलाई स्वीकार गर्नु भनेको संस्थाको चाबी उनको हातमा जाने संकेत हो । उनको लागि यो निकै ठूलो हार हुनेछ ।

भोलि पल्ट देखि नै उनले मनले खाएका मानिसको कान फुक्न थाले । उनले अनेकन हर्कत प्रयोग गरे । अर्को पटकको छलफलमा उनलाई सहयोग गर्ने पक्षका मानिसहरु भेला गर्ने प्रयास गरे । निकै ठूलो जमघट नै भयो । सिरुवाल दाईले भने यसको सुइको पनि पाएनन् । धेरै मानिसको सहभागिताले उनलाई लाग्यो यो विषयमा सबैका लागि चासो विषय बनेको छ ।

दोस्रो भेलामा पनि बज्रमानको केही लागेन । उनका पक्षका भनिनेहरु केही कराए पनि अधिकांस सिरुवाल दाईको प्रस्तावको पक्षमा उभिए । उनलाई कार्यकारिणी समितिको अध्यक्ष्य छानियो । बज्रमानलाई सदस्यमा बस्न अनुरोध गरे पनि मानेन । उनको अध्यक्ष हुने धोको पूरा हुन नपाए पछि उनी मर्माहत भएका छन् ।

—गतिलो योजना, स्पष्ट नीति र कुशल नेतृत्व नभएको संस्थामा बसेर कुनै राम्रो काम गरिएला भन्ने देखेको छैन मैले । दुइ चार जना भेला भएर अवसरवादीहरुले बनाएको संस्थामा बस्नु उचित हुन्न', बज्रमानले कडुकेर भने ।

कुमार कान्छालाई चित्त बुझेन । जोड्किएर जवाफ फर्काए, —बज्र सर, आफैले भनेको र गरेको मात्र सही, अरुको जे पनि गलत भन्न त मिलेन नि । कस्तो योजना र नीति बनाउने भन्ने त तपाइको हातमा पनि छ नि । कार्यसमितिमा बस्नुहोस । प्रस्ताव राख्नुहोस । सबैले जसको उचित ठान्छन्, त्यसलाई लागू गरौला ।'

—साहित्यकारले सामाजिक संस्था कसरी चलाउन सक्छ?' बज्रमानले भने । कसैले जवाफ दिएन । बुझ्नेहरु गलल हासे मात्र ।

—मैले प्रस्ताव गरेकै योजना मान्नु पर्छ भन्ने हैन । सबैको प्रस्तावलाई मिलाएर एउटा राम्रो, गतिलो बनाउ', सिरुवालले भने ।

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Bhutan Updates

झापा, नेपालको बेलडाँगी बजारलाई व्यवस्थापन गर्न बजार समिति र सशस्त्र प्रहरी सहितको एक टोलीले २ दर्जन अव्यवस्थित टहराहरु भत्काएको छ । बेलडाँगी बजार क्षेत्रमा लामो समयदेखि बजार व्यवस्थापन गर्न खाटिएको समितिले नयाँ क्षेत्रमा बारम्बार बजार बस्न आग्रह गर्दा समेत व्यवसायीहरुले नटेरेपछि ती टहरा भत्काइएको समाचार छ ।

बजार व्यवसायीहरुले भने दमक नगरपालिकाले बजार तोकेको क्षेत्रमा हिलो र फोहोर भएको कारण व्यवसाय संचालन गर्न नपाएको दुखेसो पोस्दै आएका थिए । फलफूल, कपडा र सब्जी पसलहरु बजारको उत्तर क्षेत्रबाट हटेपछि कुन स्थानमा बस्ने भन्नेबारे धेरैलाई अर्थ निको हुन नसकेको व्यवसायीहरुले गुनासो गरेका छन् ।

शिविरभित्र बाटोमा रहेका अव्यवस्थित पसल पनि हटाइएको छ । उक्त कार्यमा सहयोग गर्न समितिले नगरपालिकाले पठाएको पत्रमार्फत शिविर सचिवलाई आग्रह गरेको थियो भने शिविर व्यवस्थापन समिति सित पनि छलफल भएको थियो । नयाँ बजार क्षेत्रमा १ सय ५० पसलको स्टल तयार गरिएको र हाल सम्म १ सयभन्दा बढी पसल सञ्चालन भएको छ ।

२०१२

संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको महासभामा आफ्ना मागहरु राखिदिन भूटानी शरणार्थीहरुको

एक समूहले नेपालका प्रधान मन्त्री डा. बाबुराम भट्टराईसँग अपील गरेको छ ।

भूटानी शरणार्थी जेष्ठ नागरिक स्वदेश फिर्ती समितिले एक प्रेस विज्ञप्ति प्रकाशित गरी सो अपील गरेको हो ।

प्रधानमन्त्रीको कार्यालयमा पत्र पठाउँदै शरणार्थीहरुको स्वदेश फिर्ती अधिकारलाई संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको भेलामा कुरा राखिदिन सो समूहले प्रम भट्टराईलाई ज्ञापन पत्र पठाएको छ ।

समितिका संयोजक हर्क जङ्ग सुब्बा र प्रवक्ता तथा सह-संयोजक सन्तवीर घलेले हस्ताक्षर गरेको विज्ञप्तिमा ४ बूँदे माग राखी प्रमलाई ज्ञापन पत्र पठाइएको थियो ।

शरणार्थीको स्वदेश फर्कने अधिकारको सम्मान गर्न, पन्ध्रौं चरणमा नेपाल भूटानबीच भएको वार्तालाई पूनः शुरु गर्न लगायतको माग राखिएको छ ।

२०१२

तलब थोरै भयो भन्दै राजीनामा दिने स्थानीय निकायका जननिर्वाचित प्रतिनिधिको राजीनामा आयोगले स्वीकार नगर्ने बताएको छ ।

DYT र GYT मा निर्वाचन जितेर आएका गाउँ प्रतिनिधिहरुले आफ्नो तलब नबढाएकोमा आक्रोस व्यक्त गरेका छन् । मण्डलको तलब ४० हजार भन्दा माथि भए पनि अन्य निर्वाचित पदाधिकारीको तलब ५ हजार भन्दा कम छ ।

यति थोरै तलब भए पनि गाउँका हरेक काम उनीहरुले गर्नु पर्छ । मण्डलको जिम्मेवारीमा परेका कामका लागि पनि मानिस गाउँ प्रतिनिधिकैमा आउने गर्छन् ।

आफ्ना सबै घरघन्था छाडेर अरुको मात्र काम गर्नु पर्ने भएपछि धेरैले व्यार्थमा निर्वाचनमा लडिएछ भनेका छन् । निर्वाचन आयोगले भने चुनाव गर्दा धेरै खर्च भएको र राजीनामा दिनेहरुले त्यो खर्च तिर्नु पर्ने भन्दै थर्काएको छ । भूटानको कुनै पनि कानूनमा निर्वाचित प्रतिनिधिले राजीनामा दिन पाउदैन भन्ने लेखिएको छैन ।

२०१२

भूटानको चुनाव आयोगले स्थानीय निकाय निर्वाचनको लागि अन्तिम प्रयास गर्ने भएको छ । यस अघि भएको तीन पटकको चुनावपछि पनि ६३ स्थानमा कुनै उम्मेद्वारी परेको थिएन । चुनाव आयोगका अनुसार स्थानीय निकायको लागि यो अन्तिम प्रयास हुन सक्छ ।

यस पछि आगामी साल हुने संसदीय चुनाव (केन्द्रीय सदन) चुनावका लागि आयोगको ध्यान केन्द्रित हुने छ । यस पटक केन्द्रीय सदनको चुनाव २ पटक गर्नु पर्ने संभावना छ । केन्द्रीय सदनमा २ दलको मात्र हुने संवैधानिक प्रावधान भए पनि धेरै दल देखा परेका कारण यसो हुने संभावना छ ।

उच्च रक्तचापको लागि दही

एक अध्ययनले खानामा दही समावेश गर्दा उच्च रक्तचापको जोखिम कम हुने पत्ता लगाएको छ । नियमित दही सेवन गरेकाहरूमा उच्च रक्तचापको आशंका कम देखिएको अध्ययनले औल्याएको हो । अमेरिकन हर्ट



एसोसिएसन, उच्च रक्तचाप अनुसन्धान २०१२ को बैठकमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको एक अनुसन्धान पत्रमा यो जानकारी दिइएको हो । अनुसन्धान अनुसार लामो समयसम्म दहीको उपयोग गर्ने व्यक्तिमा उच्च रक्तचापको समस्या उत्पन्न हुने आशंका कम हुन्छ ।

अनुसन्धानकर्ताले डेढ दशकको अनुसन्धानमा यस्ता दुई हजार व्यक्तिको अध्ययन गरे जसलाई सुरुमा उच्च रक्तचाप थिएन । अध्ययनमा जुन व्यक्तिले दिनहुँ आफ्नो क्यालोरीको मात्रामध्ये न्यूनतम दुई प्रतिशत दहीको माध्यमले हासिल गरे उनीहरूलाई उच्च रक्तचाप उत्पन्न हुने आशंका ३१ प्रतिशत कम रह्यो ।

संस्कृति [कथा]

पृष्ठ ४ को बाकी

—ती ! तिम्रो भाषाले नै बुझिहालियो नि । मेरो प्रस्ताव भनेर के संस्था नीजि बनाउन खोजेको? यहाँ तिम्रो प्रस्ताव हैन, गाउँलेको प्रस्ताव पास हुनु पर्छ । संस्था तिम्रो लागि हैन, गाउँलेको हितको लागि हो । उनीहरूको निर्णय हामीले मान्नु पर्छ ।'

बज्रमानकै माग अनुसार सिरुवाल दाइले गाउँलेको भेला बोलाए । गाउँलेले जसको योजना ठीक ठान्छन, त्यसलाई नै पारित गर्ने निस्कर्ष भयो ।

बज्रमान जसरी भए पनि सिरुवाललाई हटाउनु पर्छ भन्ने अभियानमा लागेका छन् । यसका लागि उनी गाउँ निकै घुमे । धेरैलाई आफ्नो योजना सुनाए । तर माहोल सिरुवाल दाईकै पक्षमा देखियो ।

अब बज्रमानका लागि दुःप्रचार गर्नु बाहेक केही बाकी

रहेन । सिरुवालले संस्था खोलेर कमाइ खाने भाडो बनाउने प्रयास गर्दैछ भनेर हल्ला गरियो । सिरुवाल दाइको राजनीतिक नेतासितको चिनजानलाई आधार बनाएर संस्थालाई राजनीति करण गर्न खोजियो भन्ने प्रचार गरियो । पाको उमेरको र अनुभवी मान्छेको नेतृत्व नभएका कारण संस्थाले राम्रो काम गर्न सक्दैन भनियो । यति गर्दा पनि अधिकांश गाउँले सिरुवाल दाइकै पक्षमा उभिनै देखियो ।

बज्रमानले सिरुवाल विरुद्ध पर्चा छाप लाए । पर्चा गाउँभरी छरियो । गाउँले भेला तोकिएको दिन बज्रमानका सहयोगीहरूले नारा जुलुस गर्ने निर्णय गरे । जसरी भए पनि सिरुवालको योजना अघि बढ्न नदिनु बज्रमानको लक्ष्य हो ।

जुलुस त्यति ठूलो नहुने र दुइ पक्षविच झडप भएमा आफ्नो

समुहले हार्ने देखेपछी बज्रमानले जुलुस भेला नभएकोतिर गर्न अर्हा ए । भेलामा सिरुवालले के प्रस्ताव राख्दा रा'न भनेर बुझ्न बैकुण्ठलाई त्यता पठाए । भेलामा उनले आफै प्रस्ताव राख्न आँट गरेनन् ।

गाउँलेको निकै ठूलो भीडमा सिरुवालले प्रस्तावित संस्थाको विधान, कार्यक्रम र उद्देश्य पेश गरे । जम्मा भएका अधिकांशले त्यस्तो समर्थन गरे ।

बैकुण्ठले उठेर चर्को स्वरमा भन्यो,—एउटा लुगा लाउन सम्म नजान्नेले कसरी संस्थाको नेतृत्व गर्छ? हाम्रो धर्म संस्कृतिमा कालो रंगलाई नराम्रो सुचकको रूपमा मानिन्छ । आज यहाँ नेता हुन चाहाने व्यक्तिले कालो लुगा लाउनुको संकेत के हो भने यो संस्था जन्मिनु भनेको गाउँका लागि अपसूचक हो ।' ईन्द्र अधिकारी

Annual Day in Sydney

Association of Bhutanese in Australia (ABA) Sydney celebrated its 4th anniversary with cultural function in Sydney predominantly with musical performances by Bhutanese and local Aussie youths.

The annual function aims to spread the Nepali-Bhutanese culture and tradition to the wider multicultural Australian community.

Chief Guest of the function, David Bradbury MP, inaugurated the program by lighting a candle, followed by Hindu rituals recitation by Bhutanese priests. Children performed spectacular traditional dances.

ABA Sydney adviser Om Dhungel, who is also ABA's former president, appreciated Australian government's decision to

resettle Bhutanese refugees on humanitarian grounds. "We are also celebrating the fourth year of our life in Sydney," he said.

Speaking in the occasion Bradbury highlighted different aspects of emerging communities in multicultural Australia. He praised the Bhutanese culture of respecting seniors and exemplary works done by Bhutanese community in Western Sydney to stand on its own.

ABA Sydney President Dr. Om Dhungyel presented a report that highlighted activities and achievements of the Bhutanese community in Sydney.

The participants were from our smart tiny tots to adult youths who are well prepared to sneak the hearts of hundreds of our

audience.

The association organises cultural programs every year in the month of October. It successfully organised three such programs in the past after the resettlement of Bhutanese in Sydney started.

Similarly, the youths also had shown their active participation with three cultural programs in a Cross Cultural Program organised by Penrith City Council last August 18. The countries which participated in the program were Bhutan, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka. The Bhutanese group took part with three dances; one from Northern Bhutan (Dzongkha dance) and other two with typical Nepali dances of Southern Bhutanese. *(By Nanda Bhandari)*

Tasmania..... from page 3

FFT Technical Director Kurt Reynolds said there were "some talented players in amongst the group and we're encouraging them to link in with the local club network". State Liberal MP Matthew Groom helped arrange the day after Bhutanese community leaders approached him with concerns about a lack of opportunity for younger members to take part in sport and recreational activities.

Peace Day festival

Another news from Hobart says, Bhutanese took part in the Peace Day festival hosted by Migrant Resource Center on September 23. The festival was supported by three local councils. Three young Bhutanese girls (Hiru Khadka, Geeta Subba, Narbada Thapa) presented spectacular Nepali-Bhutanese dance on the occasion.

Bhanu Jayanti in Adelaide

Bhutanese and Nepalese communities in South Australia again came together to celebrate the 199th birth anniversary of the first Nepali language poet Bhanu Bhakta Acharya July 14.

Over 500 Bhutanese, Nepalese and local residents participated in the Bhanu Jayanti function this year organised jointly by Bhutanese Ethnic School and International Nepali Literary Society (INLS) – Australia. Apart from showcasing some literary talents but dancing and singing also mark the event. Young children, who have been attending the Bhutanese Ethnic School, performed dances in traditional Nepali songs.

Bhutanese Ethnic School was established in May this year with the objective to help the Bhutanese children to learn Nepali language and culture. Over 60 children are currently enrolled in

Over two dozen writers recited their poems, gajals, songs and short stories. It was interesting to note that even children as young as 6 came forward to recite their poems. Some senior members of the community read out lines from the epic Ramayana.

Wrapping up the four-and-half hour programme, Nepalese businessman in Adelaide Deepak Bista said he felt new Nepal in Australia after the arrival of Bhutanese who have brought with them the enthusiasm to preserve, protect and promote Nepali culture and literature.

“We had never been able to organise such great events before the Bhutanese community came,” Bista said, adding he is ready to extend all his helping hand to preserve Nepali culture in this land.

Treasure of BAASA Jeevan Koirala said he is encouraged by the overwhelming participation from community. He said even larger community participation is expected in future.

This is the fourth Bhanu Jayanti celebration held in Adelaide by the resettled Bhutanese community. Since last year, they have joined with INLS to organise literary events.

