

3rd International Folklore Congress

Kathmandu 2009, June 12-13

Circular

Introduction

Nepali Folklore Society (NFS) was established in 1995 to promote folklore and folk life studies in the country. The Society has established a mode of folklore studies, disseminated the Nepali concepts of folklore studies and established wider contacts with the folklore societies and scholars from both within the country and abroad during this span of time. As part of the same process of establishing a wider forum for folklore studies the Society organized the First International Folklore Congress in Kathmandu in 2001, Second International Folklore Congress in Kathmandu 2003 and First National Folklore Congress in Kathmandu in 2006. The issues of folklore studies in Nepal and the countries of South Asian regions were discussed at the Congress participated in by scholars from South Asia, Europe and America.

Third International Folklore Congress 2009

Nepali Folklore Society was trying to organizing the Third Folklore Congress in Kathmandu on February 6-8, 2009 but due to some unavoidable circumstances we were compelled to postpone it. Now we have decided to organize the 3rd International Folklore Congress on June 12-13, 2009. We are extremely sorry for the inconveniences caused due to the change of dates. The focus of the Congress this time will be the exploration of the dynamics of the creative sensibility of folklife reflected in different forms of folklore through the use of symbolism, structuralism and metaphorical and metonymic forms of folklore. Such studies will bring the creative dimensions of folklore to the foreground and provide insights into the creative elements in folklore and folklife studies. As the nation is celebrating Centenary of the Great Nepali poet Laxmi Prasad Devakota, a poetry recitation will be devoted to him. A new form of cultural studies will also be discussed at the sessions.

The above broad theme will be presented under the following rubrics:

The main theme of the folklore congress will be:

"Folklore, Folklife and Creativity"

The sub-themes will be as follows:

- Folklore and Development Issues
- Folklore, Gender and Power
- Folklore, Creative Writing and Poetry
- Nepali Folklore and Folklife
- Folklore and Performing Arts
- Folklore, Identity and Inclusion
- Folklore, Intangible Cultural Heritage and Ownership
- Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Folklore Studies
- Folklore, Tourism and Cultural Industry
- Folk Elements in Creative Writings
- Folklore, Intellectual Property and Legal Issues
- Folklore, Education and Cultural Empowerment
- Folklore, Creative Process and Modern Sensibility
- Folklore, Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Right

You are requested to present a paper on any topic related to the above themes. Please conform your participation latest by April 30, 2009 sending an abstract of your paper. The full paper can be sent by May 15, 2009.

Congress Languages

Papers in English and Nepali languages will be presented in different sessions. However, the working language of the international congress will be English. Please inform us if you need special accessories such as over-head projector, video player etc. for your presentation.

Registration

Registration fees for the congress will be as follows:

- Nepali participants NR 600
- SAARC countries US \$ 15
- Other countries US \$ 30

The fees will cover lunch, tea and stationeries for two days of the sessions.

Send your registration fees to Nepali Folklore Society by a demand draft. Foreign scholars can pay their registration fees on arrival at Kathmandu. The local participants are requested to pay their fees before May 15, 2009 in order to ensure their participation.

Weather

Weather in Kathmandu gets warmer by the second week of June. However, it can also be a little bit hot. Bring light as well as some warm clothing for the early mornings and evenings.

Hospitality

A modest Nepali hospitality will be provided during the period of the Congress. If your choice is one of a more luxury hotel accommodation, please do let us know so that we will be able to send you information about reservations and rates. Due to financial constraints, we regret to say that this organization will not be able to bear the cost of your travel. As the Society is a non-governmental, service oriented and non-profitable academic organization, **we are not in a position to bear your expenses of TA and DA.** Cultural performances and sight-seeing tours will be organized during the congress.

Travel Formalities

Foreign visitors to Nepal should hold valid passport and visa. The Indian scholars traveling by air/land should hold their passports or some valid documents for identification at the airport and entry point.

Transport

Various international flights operate to and from Kathmandu airport. We suggest you to travel by air to Kathmandu and inform us about your arrivals and departures. If you plan to come by land via various entry points from India, we suggest you to contact us prior to leaving for Kathmandu and tell us about your date and time of departures and arrivals.

A Special Poetry Reading and Folk Songs Session

There will be a special session for reading poems and folk singing by eminent poets and singers on the occasion of Devkota centenary. Poets and singers are requested to inform us if they want to take part in the session. They are requested to email their poems with English translations as well.

Nepali Folklore and Folklife Exhibitions

There will be special exhibitions of Folklore and Folklife study on six different folk groups of Nepal living in different parts of the country, carried out by Nepali Folklore Society with the Finnish support under local co-operation during the congress.

Contact persons

Please write or call the following persons of the Nepali Folklore Society for further information:

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Nepali Folklore Society
Post Box: 3326, Kathmandu

Registration

Name _____

Designation _____

Address _____

Institution _____

Contact Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Title of the paper to be presented _____

Title of the poem to be recited _____

Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____

Special note (if any) _____