



ललित धारा

RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty

President Elect & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

Secretary: Bishwa Bandhu Sharma

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Date: 9 Falgun 2073 / 20 Feb. 2017

Today's Programme:

Kamalmani Educational Excellence Award (KEEA) Programme

Forthcoming Programme:

- 27 Feb. - Rtn. Santa K. Shrestha's son Abhisekh Shrestha's presentation followed by fellowship.
6 Mar. - Business Meeting
13 Mar. - Talk programme on 'Creating informed consumers on Food'
20 Mar. - Classification Talk: Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka
27 Mar. - About Rotary: Q/A and discussion

Congratulatory Events

Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries:
To be celebrated next week

Minutes of Meetings No.1546

Date: 2 Falgun 2073 / 13 Feb. 2017

1. President Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty called the meeting no. 1546 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for peace and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Ms. Chandni Joshi, Gender, Rights and Policy Specialist; her daughter Ms. Sristi Joshi Malla; Rotaracts Peshal Bhattarai & Sagar Maharjan; and District Chairman and Members of Inner Wheel and spouses of RCP Members.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. 'Happy News' Contributions:
 - Rtn. Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Padam L. Maharjan – for 'Happy Birthday'.
 - Rtns. Kiran Shrestha, Dr. Shivaji B. Silwal, and Kamal B. Nyachhyon - for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary'.
 - Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary', and for the happy attendance of a minimum of 25 members in today's meeting (NRs. 400).
 - Rtns. Lalita Thapa, Bijaya Mallapaty, Gabriele Mallapaty, Lochan Gyawali, Siba Rajbhandary, Spouse Mrs. Shanta Shrestha – for having Ms. Chandni Joshi as today's guest speaker.
 - IW Chairman Bijaya L. Shrestha – for successful completion of 3rd IW District Conference and having Ms. Chandni Joshi as today's guest speaker (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Kamala Maharjan – for the 'Happy Birthday' of spouse Rtn. Padam L. Maharjan (NRs. 500). She also shared a cake with the RCP family on this occasion.
 - Rtn. Ramesh Maskay – for obtaining US Visa.
5. Rotary News/Information:
 - Kamalmani Educational Excellence Award (KEEA) awardees were being interviewed by the KEEA Committee and the Award Ceremony date would be decided as soon as it is completed. (Subsequently, it has been decided to have the next week's meeting as a special meeting for this Award Ceremony).
 - Updates on the District Conference were provided, and RCP family was encouraged to support our Rota Quiz team during the semi-final round being held at Bagaicha Restaurant, Jawalakhel on 17 February at 10 a.m.

6. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha - RC of Phnom Penh; Chartered: 1995; Members: 17. District: 3350, Clubs: 88, and Members: 2427.
7. Please see below for a summary of today's talk programme.
8. Before the closure of the meeting by the President, the Joint Secretary announced: contribution of NRs. 6,700 (NRs. 3,100 for attendance and NRs. 3,600 for Sunshine Fund, including a top up of NRs. 50 by the President); attendance: 2 guests, 27 members, 2 Rotaracts, 7 spouses of RCP members, and 5 make-ups.

Rotary Q/A presented by Rtn. Nirmal Pradhanang

Q. Where was the first Rotaract Club?

A. Charlotte, North Carolina, USA.

Q. Which is the first club in Nepal admitted to RI under District 3292?

A. Rotary Club of Baneswor.

Summary of the talk programme by guest speaker Rtn. Chandni Joshi, Gender, Rights and Policy Specialist, on 'Women Empowerment'

Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha introduced Ms. Chandni Joshi who is well known not only in Nepal, but internationally for her exemplary contribution on women's empowerment and gender issues. In her over 50 years of working experience, Ms. Joshi had 26 years of national civil service in teaching and government service, 18 years of international civil service, which included the position of Regional Director of UNIFEM for South Asia, and freelancing. Currently she is the enforcer of Home Net South Asia, which advocates the rights of women in the informal sector in the region, and the Chair of South Asia Partnership International.

Ms. Chandni Joshi first acknowledged so many of RCP friends who are well known to her and to have this opportunity to speak in this audience. She then made a comprehensive presentation on the broad topics of 'Women's Empowerment'. She iterated that it is every country and every citizen's responsibility, and it is a global challenge of today. The theme of equality, development and peace started with the declaration of International Women's Year in 1975, followed by 1975-1985 declared as the international women's decade. Since then, there has been 4 world conferences on women - Mexico, Copenhagen, Nairobi and Beijing. In the last two she had participated and contributed.

Ms. Joshi reminded that the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), Goal No. 3 to promote gender equality & empower women was not achieved by any country. Lately the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Goal No. 5 on Gender Equality has been mainstreamed. She emphasized that 'Gender' does not signify women, but men and women.

Explaining the difference between biological roles vs. social roles women play, Ms. Joshi elaborated on how societies have deep-rooted gender discrimination as confirmed by the following status - while women represent half of the world's population, they only have 10% of world's income and 0.8% of property. On the other hand, 67% of work is done by them.

Ms. Joshi summarized, with various excellent examples in Nepal as well as around the globe, the concept of unequal race in the prevailing scenario of unequal starting point. This prevents women's advancement to become an equal partner to men, and she emphasized that a lot still needs to be done.

On behalf of the RCP Family, Rtn. Keshab B. Mathema gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Ms. Chandni Joshi for the excellent presentation on 'Women's Empowerment' and responses to the questions raised by the RCP members; and the President presented her with 'Lalitdhara Souvenir' and 'Rotary Ka Kura' as a 'Token of Appreciation'.