Preliminary Suggestions to

the Thematic Committees of the Constituent Assembly of Nepal

2065

Submitted to: Thematic Committees of the Constituent Assembly of Nepal

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Constituent Assembly

1. Committee on Restructure of the State and Distribution of the State Power

- 1.1. Nepal is a multiethnic and multilingual country with geographical diversity therefore; the regions should be divided on the basis of ethnicities, languages and geographic features as according to the specialty of Nepal.
- 1.2. While naming the regions on the basis of ethnic and historic identity, there should be a Magarat autonomous region established by the historic civilization of Magar peoples. Only this could ensure the full emancipation of Magar peoples.
- 1.3. Three layers of government, i.e. central, regional and local, should be formed in Nepal.

2. Committee to Decide on the Basis for Cultural and Social Commitments

- 2.1. Regarding the government official work, the Magar language should be recognized as the official language in the Magarat autonomous region. In addition, giving priorities to other languages, Khas Nepali language should be recognized as a medium language and English as an international language.
- 2.2. Provision should be made for education in Magar language,
- 2.3. At least a Magarat university should be established in the Magarat autonomous region.
- 2.4. Multilingual central university should be established.
- 2.5. The ancestral original art, skill and traditional knowledge of Magar ethnicity should be protected and promoted.
- 2.6. An Indigenous Janjati Cultural Academy should be established for the protection and development of disappearing culture and language of indigenous janjati peoples including Magars.
- 2.7. The state should not recognize any language, religion, fashion and culture of a single ethnicity.

3. Committee on Protection of the Rights of the Minorities and Marginalized Communities

3.1. Magar community is a large community in terms of population. Though Magar are 'son of soil' and history-maker of this country, they have been being discriminated and deprived from the mainstreaming in every mechanism of the state including political,

- economic, social, cultural, lingual, religious sectors, therefore the place of Magar ethnicity should be ensured in bringing them into the mainstream.
- 3.2. Magar ethnicity is a backward ethnic group from every mechanism of the state for a long period of time. Therefore, as a form of compensation to the indigenous nationalities including the Magar, there should be a constitutional provision for special reservation in the state on the basis of population.

4. Committee on Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles

- 4.1. There should be constitutional guarantee to fundamental rights. These rights should not be limited stating as their enforcement in accordance with or by enacting the law.
- 4.2. The provinces/regions developed in the land of indigenous peoples should be mentioned as the province/region with the right to self-determination.
- 4.3. Indigenous peoples particularly the Magars, as they are 'son of soil' of this country, the state should protect their land related to cultural, traditional and livelihood aspects and not to be alienated by any agency by any means, the customary law should be recognized to establish the right to land ownership.
- 4.4. Each indigenous janjati should be entitled with the right to study and write in own languages in all the notices, acts and constitutions enforced by the government. In addition, The state should guarantee protection and promotion of language, culture, history, religion and fundamental rights of indigenous janjati peoples along with their political, economic and social development.

5. Committee to Decide on the Structure of the Constitutional Bodies

- 5.1. The state should form an Indigenous Janjati Commission in order to manage the constitutional rights of indigenous janjati peoples.
- 5.2. As the state has discriminated indigenous janjati peoples at every agency therefore Indigenous Janjati Judicial Commission should be formed to return their deprived rights.

6. Constitutional Committee

6.1. The proposed name of the new constitution of Nepal will (shall) be **"The Constitution of Federal Democratic Republic Nepal 2067"**. A united society characterized with justice, brotherhood, equality and equal opportunity that makes the Nepali people

sovereign and reflects the concept of diversity in unity should be mainly guaranteed in the preamble. As according to the aspirations of the sovereign citizens of a multiethnic, multilingual, multi-religious, geographically diverse Nepal by achieving equal opportunities socially, economically, educationally and politically; aiming towards peace, prosperity and progressive economic and social development; and to create a just society with unity and brotherhood among all ethnicities, classes and communities in order to establish citizens' rights, the Constitution of Federal Democratic Republic Nepal 2067 should be made and enforced through the Constituent Assembly.

7. Committee on Preservation of the National Interest

- 7.1. The wrong and centralized politics of the state till present have caused for Magar people including suppressed communities remained backward. Since upliftment of their status is not possible until the autonomous state on the basis of ethnicity be established but with maintaining the national integrity therefore, a Magarat autonomous state with the right to self-determination should be provided for the upliftment and development of Magar ethnicity.
- 7.2. Indigenous Magar peoples have worked and been working in the security sectors in Nepal as well as in India, UK and Singapore for a long time, therefore, they should be provided with the special opportunity to work in the field of security of internal and natural heritage and resources of the country.