

Mr Suren Ghaley

Organizing committee member of Second Australian Bhutanese Conference, Adelaide. Former Chairperson of Bhutanese Australian Association of South Australia 2012 – 2014. Organizing committee member of Interstate Bhutanese Youth Soccer Tournament, Adelaide 2013.

Founding member of Bhutanese Advocacy Forum Europe (BAF) and Coordinator for Germany (2010). Bhutanese delegates to World Social Forum 2004, India. Bhutanese refugee delegates to United Nations Universal Periodic Review, Geneva 2009.

Bhutanese Youth activist for the establishment of Human Rights and Democracy in Bhutan. Represented Bhutanese Youth in International, Asian regional and National forums representing Youth Organization of Bhutan (YOB) and International Union of Socialist Youth, Austria.

Organizing member of numerous Blood Donation Camps to make blood available to Bhutanese refugees in Nepal. Served as volunteer teacher in Bhutanese refugee school, Nepal, School was jointly run by UNHCR and CARITAS NEPAL.

Mr Indra Adhikari

Customer Relationship Manager with Bendigo Bank. Chief Editor Bhutan News Network. Founder and Presenter Radio Pahichan. Former Secretary – BAASA. Author of several books, research papers and journals. To know more about Adhikari visit http://www.ipajournal.com/about_me/

Dr Naresh Parajuli, MBBSMIPH MM FRACGP

Dr Parajuli is a Resigned from the Department of Health, Government of Bhutan as Senior District Medical Officer in 2000. He pursued further studies including Masters in International Public Health, Masters in Medicine and Fellow of Royal Australian College of General Practitioners from the University of Sydney. He started Medical career in Australia as Senior Manager in Clinical Quality in Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, then Rural General Practitioner and now working as a Specialist Procedural Family Physician.

Special interests in Skin Cancer surgery and Vasectomy; creating awareness in cancer, mental and preventative health and author of a book 'Do I Have Cancer?' He is also an author of a book- 'Do I Have Cancer?' Medical blogger and writer-an expert writer in Ezine.com. Community involvement: Founding Member and Past President of Association of Bhutanese in Australia, Sydney

Mr Suman Chhetri – RN

A Former Refugee from Bhutan. Came to Australia under Refugee Humanitarian Program in the year 2010. Ex General Secretary of ABA Sydney. A Registered Nurse by profession working in mental health facility. Has worked as an Event Coordinator for Australian Bhutanese Youth Festival 2014 and Program Coordinator for the Australian Bhutanese Conference 2016 held in Sydney.

Mr Nanda Kharel

Mr Kharel is the President of Bhutanese Community in Australia Inc. He has been serving Bhutanese Community since his arrival in Nepal (Bhutanese Refugee Camp) as a volunteer, working with different not for profit organisations. After his arrival in Australia, Nanda has served in number of leadership roles in the Bhutanese Community until now. In 2010, he served as the president of Bhutanese Community of Tasmania and in 2012 the president of Bhutanese Organisation in Australia. He served as the president of Bhutanese Senior Citizen Group until April 2018. Nanda has worked and coordinated Bhutanese senior citizens with number of government agencies and service providers.

Mr Diwakar Chhetri

Diwakar is the General Secretary of Bhutanese Community in Australia. Diwakar has served in number of leadership roles in different not for profit organizations. Since his arrival in Australia, he is actively volunteering in Bhutanese Community. He served as the founding president of the Nepali Vashi Student Association at the University of Tasmania. He currently works in the Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre in Melbourne.

Parsu Sharma-Luitel JP

Mr Luitel is a former refugee, arrived to Australia in 2002 from Bhutan. A community connector, negotiator and advocate for grassroots community issues, he is passionate about social justice and multiculturalism. He has obtained Master degree in Horticulture from the University of Melbourne in 2004 and currently works for Victoria Police as the New & Emerging Communities Liaison Officer.

Parsu is Victoria's Multicultural Champion for 2018, appointed by the Victorian Government for his work in breaking down barriers and misunderstanding between culturally diverse communities in Victoria. Parsu has completed the Folio Community Leadership Program in 2016 and he is the member of the Leadership Victoria Alumni.

He is the current Chair of New & Emerging Communities Advisory Committee (NECAC) of Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia (FECCA) and has served as Secretary and NECAC Chair of FECCA from 2011 to 2017. Parsu is the Board of Director of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV) and Convenor of the NEC Policy Committee of ECCV.

Parsu is the Co-Chair of newly formed refugee led organisation Refugee Communities Advocacy Network-Victoria Inc. His other work with migrants and refugee communities are: Founder/Patron of Help-Himalayan Youth Foundation Inc. youth led intercultural organisation from Bhutanese, Karen and Nepalese community; established the Bhutanese Community in Australia Inc. in 2009 and served as the founding president to assist in the resettlement of newly arrived Bhutanese community in Albury/Wodonga and Melbourne until 2012 and serves as advisor now.

Parsu has served as the Chair of Statelessness Working Group of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) 2014-2016 and Founding Member of the Organising Committee of Statelessness Network in the Asia Pacific (SNAP) 2015 to 2016. He represented Australian refugee communities at the annual UNHCR NGO Consultations in Geneva for last eight years (2010-2017) to advocate on issues of refugee communities from Australia and the Asia Pacific.

Parsu has been awarded Inaugural recipient of the prestigious New Australian of the Year 2014 presented by Australia Day Council Inc. (Vic) for his volunteer works and introduction of growing shiitake mushroom in Australian native plants and teaching Victoria farmers in regional Victoria and newly arrived Karen refugees at CERES in 2006 to 2009. He has written a book in "Log-Grown Shiitake Manual".

His other volunteer involvement includes: President (2015-2016) of the Rotary Club of Coburg; White Ribbon Ambassador; Welcome to Australia Ambassador; AFL Multicultural Community Ambassador 2013-2017; Melbourne Victory Community Ambassador.

Parsu has received many community awards for his volunteer work, few significant ones are: 1) Multicultural Award for Excellence: Service Delivery to Multicultural Victoria in 2012 and 2) Multicultural Awards for Excellence for outstanding service to the community in 2010, and 3) Victorian Refugee Recognition Record award in 2009 from the Victorian Government.

Mr Khem Khanal

Mr Khanal Left Bhutan in 1993. From 1993 to 2010 lived in Refugee camp. Arrived in Australia in 2010. Work as a Games teacher, Mathematics, Economy and Account teacher in Camp and private school in Nepal for 14 years. Advisory at Bhutanese Community Melton Inc. He worked as a Vice President in BOA, Received Refugee Recognition Award from State Government, Received ASA designation in 2016 from CPA Australia, 2013 Refugee Recognitions award. Certificate IV Business Studies, Bachelor's in Business Accounting at RMIT University Completed BBS in Nepal in 2004. Accountant in Multinational Trading Company, Tax Accountant at H & R Block.

Mr Dal Khadka

Left Bhutan in 1992. From 1992 to 2015 lived in Refugee camp. Arrived in Australia in Jan 2015. Secretary at Bhutanese Community Melton Inc. Advisory Group Member of Gambling Harm Prevention Project: BREAK IT 2018 funded by Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation and run by Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV). Member of Intercultural Young Advocacy Leaders (IYAL) 2017; initiative of the ECCV. Graduates of New and Emerging Community Leadership Program 2017 run by Leadership Victoria. Graduates of Community Leadership Program 2017 run by Melton City Council.

Customer Service Team Member at Frilled Fresh. Studying Bachelor of Information Technology at RMIT University. Certificate III & IV Business Administration, Diploma of Information Technology at RMIT. Digital Marketing Staff at Robert Psaila Marine. Orientation Guide at AMES Australia

Mr Narad Koirala

Left Bhutan in 1990. From 1990 to 2009 lived in Refugee camp. Arrived in Australia in 2009. Multicultural Support Worker Sub-contracting for Department of Education. People of Australia Ambassadors Program Award (TAS) 2013. Former President / Former Secretary / Co-Founder (volunteer) 2010 to 2014 of Bhutanese Community of TAS North Inc. Launceston. Board Director 2014 – 2015. Migrant Resource Centre North.

Certificate III in Spoken & Written English – Bachelor of Arts/Accounting – University of Tasmania 2014-current (part time). Certificate II in Aged Care -Selmar Institute of Education 2017. He is a Personal Care Assistant at Manor Court

Mr Tejman Rayaka

Mr Rayaka was born in Bhutan and raised in a refugee camp, Jhapa Nepal. Tej currently works at Centacare FNQ as a Bicultural and an Admin Worker. He came to Australia in September 2013 from Germany where he lived as a refugee for almost twelve years. While in Europe he was actively involved in advocacy works to garner global support for the repatriation of the Bhutanese refugees who were then languishing in refugee camps in Nepal. In February 2014, i.e. shortly after coming to Cairns, he was elected to the president of the Cairns Bhutanese Community Inc. for a two-year term and in the current executive committee he is the secretary of the association. He is also a trained face-to-face Refugee Speaker in the Cairns region through which he educates the wider community on refugees and their journey. Beside his work commitment and voluntary engagement, he has been pursuing Social Work studies at James Cook University, Cairns campus. A father of two, settled in Cairns, Tej prides on being able to recognise himself as a dignified Bhutanese Australian.

Prahlad Dahal,

Mr Dahal holds a Bachelor's degree in Commerce, (University of Delhi), and an Masters in Social Work (MSW) from James Cook University, Australia. Prior to leaving Bhutan as a refugee he worked as Rural Credit Account officer in Bhutan Development Finance Corporation, Royal Government of Bhutan. Prahlad is one of the founding members of Students Union of Bhutan (SUB) and continued to support Bhutanese movement being a secretary of Peoples Forum for Human Rights, Bhutan (PFHRB) when he was a refugee. He worked as Logistic & Stores Officer in CARITAS Nepal (Bhutanese Refugee Education Program) as a refugee volunteer for 15 years. Prahlad has established a healthy relationship in Nepali local social service network as a founding secretary of "Lions Club of Damak Mt. Everest". He has received "Top Ten Secretary Award in 2003" and he was a ruling President of the club when he was resettled to Cairns, Australia in March 2010. Prahlad continued his active involvement in the community development providing leadership to Cairns Bhutanese Community Inc., and serving the Cairns community as a Treasurer and Vice-President of Cairns And Region Multicultural Association Inc. (CARMA). He received the TropEco Awards, James Cook University - for developing sustainable partnerships and engagement between the University and the local community as well as the Cairns Regional Council Cultural Diversity Award, in the Outstanding Volunteer / Individual category in the year 2014. Prahlad authored Two chapters in a book, "Losthampa People of Bhutan – Resilience & Survival" edited by Dr. Venkat Paulla. He is presently the President of Cairns Bhutanese Community Inc. and an International Public Relation officer of Lions Club of Damak Shreeantu.

Name- Durga P. Rimal
Birth Place – Dagana Bhutan

Involvement

Vice-President -Bhutanese Association in Albury-Wodonga (Current)
Founding Executive board- Bhutanese Association in Albury-Wodonga
Founder/Presenter- Nepali Ethnic program “Sajha Awaj” from 2 REM 107.3 FM, Albury-Wodonga
Coordinator- Bhutanese-Nepali Ethnic School, Albury-Wodonga
Treasurer- Bhutanese Community Farm, Albury-Wodonga
Event Manager –4th Bhutanese Australian National Soccer Championship, 2015
Representative from Albury as a New and Emerging Community youth Leader to participate in training of Community Awareness of Policing program (CAPP), a program designed for law enforcement by New South Wales Police Force Customer Service Team in Sydney, 2011.

Profession

Support Worker, Aspire Support Services

Passion

Nepali Language and literature
Social Work/ Community volunteer
Youth empowerment

Published book

“Vugol ko Nasho” - book featuring Nepali poem (Gazal)
More than a dozen of Nepali songs recorded and included in different Nepali album so far

Editor

“Amar Spandan” – book featuring local history and articles from different writers, Dhading Nepal, Year of 2065 BS
“Kangaroo ko Deshbata”- book featuring Nepali poem (Gazal) by 25 resettled Bhutanese writers from Australia

Graduate

Certificate iii- Home and Community care, 2011 / Aged Care, 2012
Certificate iv – Disability. Wodonga Institute of TAFE, 2013
New and Emerging Community Leadership Program, by Leadership Victoria, year of 2017
Diploma of Community services, TAFE Albury, NSW, year of 2017

Current Study

University – Latrobe University, Albury-Wodonga
Course title – Bachelor of Human Services and Master of Social Work