

June 2025  
NEWSLETTER

CHICAGO CHAUTARI  
TIMES - 195th Edition

Dharma protects who  
protect it  
धर्मो रक्षति रक्षित

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# Chicago Chautari Times

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## Welcome to Chicago Chautari Times - 195th Edition



### Review of CCT Articles-April 2024 - March 2025

For the adult editorial sections, the following articles stood out as particularly relevant and meaningful to a wider audience. This year's editorials showcased spirituality, the path to divinity, fasting, sports, and Nepal's cultural festivities, to name a few. While all contributions were excellent, these three resonated most deeply with us:

- A Short Note on Hindu Traits
- A Note on the Dominion of Divinity
- The Importance of Fasting

Among the rest, Krisha Pandey's poems were unparalleled in content, depth, and impact. Some of our favorites include: A Laughter Silenced, Invisible Strides, and Life's Laments. Other poetry contributions from Stuti Dhungana, Aishani KC, and Syon Gautam, to name a few also exhibited remarkable qualities.

The content and writing style across editorial pieces continue to evolve each year, showing remarkable improvement. Comparing articles from different age groups can be challenging, as higher-grade students naturally demonstrate greater depth and articulation. A short article may initially seem less significant, but considering the author's age and skill level offers a new perspective, the exceptional quality of work from fourth graders is truly commendable. **Writing standards have advanced significantly over time, reflecting a growing refinement in expression and creativity.**

This year's submissions covered a wide spectrum of topics, including scientific writing, descriptive essays, autobiographical reflections, travel narratives, pet experiences, book reviews, environmental awareness, sports, noise pollution, politics, self-improvement, and personal reflection. Some articles explored a child's perspective on pet ownership, detailing persuasive strategies to possibly convince parents to allow parakeets or dogs :) Others delved into virtual games and favorite restaurants, reflecting impressive creativity and imagination.

Several pieces highlighted aspirations for university education and future careers, with students expressing interest in scientific fields, medical professions, and sports. Some narratives portrayed compassionate life stories, such as that of a young boy affected by the Russia-Ukraine war, while contributions from Nepalese students about Nepal added global perspectives.

Observing the submissions from the past year reveals an extraordinary mother-daughter duo whose contributions are truly inspiring. While the mother finds creativity in the rhythmic dance of dripping water, the daughter skillfully crafts fiction, cleverly reshaping the names of her closest friends and ...

- Mr. Yagna Pant, Dr. Bishnu Phuyal (To be continued on page 2)

Chicago Chautari Times (CCT) has embarked its 17th years of uninterrupted monthly publications from April 2025. CCT would like to express deep gratitude to its subscribers and contributors, especially our young children and youths making this a platform to express their hidden talents via writings and arts.



### A Tale of Two Deaths

Its screams turn to strangled breaths. Its sobs turn to sickening silence. Its throat is raw and it is thrashing and trembling, trying to escape. But the efforts are in vain for the more it tries the tighter it is trapped.

The rope around its neck tightened. The man at the end of the elevated circle holding a flame and a pitchfork. It was he who had tied the rope to the pole. He had accused it of witchcraft.

This person was not an it but a she. Yet she was punished like one. Executed in front of a crowd like a spectacle. They watched as she was hung for a mindless accusation. The woman cheered outside but they feared they would be the next. The men watched with amusement knowing there was little chance they would be the next.

The husband to the woman was the only man who watched in horror. To watch his wife, accused as a witch being hung. He had nearly cried when he no longer heard sobs. He had nearly cried when he watched her stop struggling and go limp.

The death of the woman had led her husband to go insane. He thought that his love for her was nothing but a spell. He couldn't tell what was real and what was fake.

He brought himself the same fate as his wife. It was his choice unlike his wife. His friends thought he was out of his mind for it but nonetheless mourned him more than his wife. He never learned that his wife was not a witch and he was not under a spell. Manipulated by the accusations of the public not by his wife.

- by Prisha Parajuli

### Best Wishes to our June Birthday Stars

Aarya Rimal - June 4



Asvi Bajagain - June 27



Kavin Das - June 5



Nila Kunwar - June 25



Regan Bista - June 7



Ruben Kumal - June 20



Simran Adhikari - June 10



Submit your birthday information with the pictures by via email by 20<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

### Contd. Review of CCT Articles-April 2024 - March 2025

... and family to bring her imagination to life—spanning multiple pages and editions. A beautiful fusion of inspiration and storytelling!

Syon's ability to weave poetry and sci-fi narratives infused with quantum concepts is an extraordinary display of imagination. The seamless blend of lyrical expression and futuristic storytelling highlights a mind that navigates effortlessly between art and science.

In the descriptive writing category, other outstanding contributions came from: Suvana Gautam, Reeva Baral, and Diya Phuyal, whose descriptive narration added depth to the collection. There were also a few drawings beautifully showcasing cultural diversity and everyday life.

CCT is also very successful in adding many new contributing children each year, this year has seen many more. For this year, the children didn't make our selection easy, but named Syon Gautam for "creative writing" winner. Hope our subscribers agree with us.

It is an editorial understanding that our effort to make CCT a platform, especially for our children, is very personal and also NAC's remarkable history in the service to the community.

Mr. Yagna Pant, Dr. Bishnu Phuyal



## Time Dilation

Time dilation is a theory that is real and related to speed and space and all that stuff. Most people would think that everyone and everything moves at the same speed when it really doesn't. Time can actually pass slower or faster depending on how fast you're moving or how close you are to something with strong gravity. This effect is called time dilation, and it's one of the most surprising ideas from Einstein's theory of relativity.

When somebody moves at a speed that is really fast like close to the speed of light, time will slow down compared to if someone were to stand still. For example, if an astronaut were to travel on a spaceship moving really fast, time would pass slower for them. To the astronaut, everything would feel normal. But when they return to Earth, they would discover that much more time has passed here than they experienced on the ship. That's because moving at such a high speed caused time to slow down for them, a clear effect of time dilation.

Scientists tested the time dilation theory by putting accurate clocks on planes. When the planes flew at high speeds, the clocks on board ticked a little slower than the ones on the ground. Because airplanes can't reach the speed of light they didn't see a big difference in the time change on the ground. The difference was tiny, but it matched exactly what Einstein's theory predicted. This proves that even at everyday speeds, time doesn't pass at the same rate for everyone.

Time dilation isn't just something that happens in space movies. It's real, and it even affects things we use every day, like GPS. The satellites that help your phone find your location move fast and are really high up. Because of that, time moves a tiny bit slower for them than it does for people on Earth. If scientists didn't fix that, GPS would give the wrong locations. So even though it sounds crazy, time dilation is something that actually matters in real life.

Time dilation also happens because of gravity. This is called gravitational time dilation. The stronger the gravity is, the slower time moves. For example, near a black hole where gravity is super strong, time would go by way slower than on Earth. If someone could go near a black hole and then come back, they might see that a lot more time passed on Earth than for them. So gravity can actually mess with time too, not just speed.

So even though time dilation might sound like something out of a sci-fi movie, it's actually real and proven by science. It shows that time isn't the same for everyone and can change depending on speed or gravity. From astronauts in space to GPS in our phones, time dilation affects more than we think. It's a weird idea, but it helps us understand how the universe really works. – **Anjali Das**



## Benjamin Franklin

Do you know who is on the 100-dollar bill?

Do you know Benjamin Franklin is very important because he signed the constitution, and he was a polymath who contributed significantly to American history and the world of science.

He was a founding father, diplomat, author, inventor, scientist and publisher. He played a key role in drafting the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution represented the United States in France during the American Revolutionary and helped the Treaty of Paris. He was also an inventor, known for the lightning rod, bifocals, and the glass harmonica, and a scientist who conducted experiments with electricity. He was in a committee of men who were the founding fathers of our country. He invented the lightning rod and the glass harmonica. Benjamin Franklin died because of pleurisy. - **Rivan Panta**



## Self-Hatred

There's something under my skin.  
It creeps and crawls, makes me wince,  
makes me lost of kin.

*You're not good enough*, it whispers, being correct.  
It's already infected, not knowing what infects.

It's ruining my life, see the sun through my window shades,  
I'm doing fine, even through these blades.  
Points of no return, stabbing my skin, letting the blood go  
through.  
My mind's confused, falling into a spiral of deceit.

*Why would I exist? What am I here for?*

There's no reason?

The devil creeps up hitting my mind round and round.  
My life, it's all just to die, it's bound,

To not be here. My life's useless, my existence hurts,  
The anxiety swallows me whole, it's the demon that blurts,  
*Hate. Hate no one but yourself.*

Is thy the truth? Should I hate no one but myself?

It's eyes polarize vexation, it's mouth sounds deceit,  
But for me it's hopefulness and truth.  
My minds walls are breaking everyday,  
I'm losing sanity, I'm losing humanity.

I shouldn't be here anymore.  
*You're ugly. You're dumb. You're useless.*  
The devils words don't feel so demonic,  
Like a light brought from dark.

Maybe there's a light beyond my darkness...  
Waiting for me to pull up.  
But if I don't listen, what will happen?  
What shalt be?

If I don't listen will I be saved?  
Or just left alone..?

- Syon Gautam



## No Bummer in the Summer

The summer  
Is no bummer.  
Oh, the fun of the summer  
Is truly a funner.

When someone is zip-lining  
down the mountain  
that's terrifying.

The cold treats.  
The fun beats.

Are no bummer to eat.  
The people are truly fun to meet.

I drink my lemonade  
That I definitely made.

I wonder what  
would happen if I get paid,  
That would be a big, big upgrade.

I love summer times  
I never have a bad time.

- Avah Shrestha



## Buddha Temple

My name is Riya, and I did Nepali school. I don't go anymore because it's summer break! For our last day of school, we went to the Buddha temple. When we got to the temple, we had to take off our shoes. Everyone had to sit on the floor or a chair. I sat on a chair. There was a monk to tell us stuff and to meditate with him. After that we went downstairs to eat pizza. I ate so much! Everyone went back up to put their shoes on and go for a picnic. It was a little far for us to walk so we went in our cars. When we got there it looked cloudy. It looked like nobody cared so I just kept on playing. I was far from the car because I went to the park. My cousin was playing sand volleyball, so I watched her. I felt a drop of rain coming from the sky and my uncle told me and my cousin to run. It was pouring rain!! I ran as fast as I could. When we got in the car we were all soaked! We drove back home, and my birds were outside! They were all wet! I went to change from my wet clothes and ate dinner. It had a fun time!

- Riya Phuyal

### Exaltation of woman

Here are a few of articulation on supremacy of the female aspect of existence as per ancient Hindu religion and traditions.

#### Durga Saptasati, Chapter 11 vs 6

विद्याः समस्ताव देवि भेदाः स्त्रियः समस्ताः सकला जगत्सु ।

त्वयैकया पूरितम्बयैतत् का ते स्तुतिः स्तव्यपरा परोक्तिः॥६॥

अर्थ :- देवि! सम्पूर्ण विद्याएँ तुम्हारे ही भिन्न-भिन्न स्वरूप हैं। जगत् में जितनी स्त्रियाँ हैं, वे सब तुम्हारी ही मूर्तियाँ हैं। जगदम्ब! एकमात्र तुमने ही इस विश्व को व्याप्त कर रखा है। तुम्हारी स्तुति क्या हो सकती है? तुम तो स्तवन करने योग्य पदार्थों से परे एवं परा वाणी हो।

#### Manusmriti

यत्र नार्यस्तु पूज्यन्ते रमन्ते तत्र देवताः।

यत्रैतास्तु न पूज्यन्ते सर्वास्तत्राफलाः क्रियाः॥

#### Gita 10.34

मृत्युः सर्वहरश्चाहमुद्भवश्च भविष्यताम् ।

कीर्तिः श्रीर्वाक्च नारीणां स्मृतिर्मथा धृतिः क्षमा ॥

I am the all-devouring death, and I am the origin of those things that are yet to be. Amongst feminine qualities I am fame, prosperity, fine speech, memory, intelligence, courage, and forgiveness.

#### Vivekananda

In the west woman is the wife. In east she is the mother.



### Beneath The Silence

If you looked into their eyes,  
You'd find the depth where silent  
sorrow lies

If you looked into their heart,  
You'd see the fragile threads that

hold their soul apart

If you looked into their restless minds,  
You'd hear the echoes of the love they left behind

If you looked into their secret dreams,  
You'd see haunted silence breaking at the seams

If you looked into their hidden scars,  
You'd feel the weight of wounds that never spars

Their life is like a whisper lost in the rain  
A song with no echo, a smile stained by pain  
Their heart lost in silence, too cold to remain.

- Princa Kumal

## The Magic of Rolling waves

There are big waves,  
Little waves,  
Blue waves,  
And green waves.  
Waves that rise,  
Waves that come down,  
Waves that splash,  
Waves that run to the shore,  
And waves that play happily with you.  
They bring you peace  
Making your surroundings  
feel **calm** and **smooth**!!

Ruby Phuyal



### Six Flags – Reeva Baral

Six flags is like the ultimate hangout spot in the summer, right? I mean going on crazy roller coasters with your friends sounds pretty fun right? But that's not all the six flags is about. It's way more than just a bunch of rides. It's like a whole day getting to hang out with your friends, trying new food and getting over some of your fears. In this article I'm going to tell you about a few of the popular rides and different information about them. A fan favorite ride is a ride called Raging Bull. This ride is in my top 10 because of the thrill. Its drop is 208 feet and it goes around 73mph. This ride is worth the wait because it's not one of the short rides where you're barely on it. It lasts around 3 minutes. That's 3 minutes of fun! A fun fact about this ride was when it first opened on May 1st, 1999, it was the tallest and fastest roller coaster at Six Flags Great America. Raging bull is known for its airtime which is the feeling of floating out of your seat as the train goes over a hill.

The next ride is a ride I love and always go on a few times. This ride is in my top 5 for sure. This ride is called "The Drop" The height of the drop is around 125 feet which is 38 meters tall. In this ride Riders are lifted to the top of the tower then dropped unexpectedly. A trick I use with my friends is if you hear some clicking then that means you're gonna drop soon. This ride lasts a few minutes, but the drop is short but very insane. Once you're at the very top you can even see the Chicago skyline. This ride is popular in the park so make sure to try it while you're there. My favorite ride in the park is "Superman." It's a flying roller coaster so you're faced down by it but it makes it fun. The tallest point in that ride is 115 feet and the speed reaches up to 51 mph. This ride lasts about 2 minutes and 30 seconds. The line for this ride is always a bit long but it is worth it. They also have superman themed decorations and music while waiting in line. This ride includes a loop called the pretzel loop and the potion you're in for the ride makes you feel like you're really flying. Going along with the superhero theme is a ride called "Batman" This ride is fun and the vibes from the waiting to going on the ride are worth it. This ride first opened in 1991 and is 100 feet high. The speed of this ride is up to 50 mph. This ride is around 2 minutes, and it is worth the wait. While waiting in like there's batman themed decoration and smoke that comes inside. This ride provides an intense and thrilling feeling. This ride also got recognized as one of the best inverted coasters. Overall, this ride is one I always look forward to.

– Contd. Page 7



### Blooming

from each blossom,  
befell a silken bud,  
awaiting the tranquility  
of fluorescence.  
from beauty enveloped  
through green, yet austere;  
hopeful, wondrous  
of the whimsy of ephemeral youth.  
and bewitched;  
a precious land it lives.  
however, it radiates  
a naive eagerness to bloom.  
although out of turn,  
although too soon,  
believing to be lifeless  
in the serenity of all else.

– Aishani KC

### NAC Temple Fund — June '25 Summary

Thank you all for attending June 2025 anniversary puja, celebrating our journey for 19th years together. And thank you for your contribution. Thanks to our sponsors and devotees. Your presence and donation makes it possible to give the continuity to our regular monthly puja and gathering. Here is the summary of collection from June puja.

Total collection (Cash and Zelle): \$1408  
Total expense: \$305 (Temple \$225, Pandit \$50, Supply \$30), Saving: \$1103

Number of NAC Trustees: 33 as of June 25  
Total assets so far: ~\$200,000

Children learn many things by participating in various kinds of social events and activities. Unless we bring them to be part of our tradition, institutional education only covers the half.

#### Gandhi on cultural heritage:

We and our children must build on our own heritage. If we borrow another, we impoverish our own. We can never grow on foreign victuals.



### Six Flags - Contd.

This next ride has a steep drop that is intense but in a fun way. This ride is called "Goliath" It is one of the fastest wooden roller coasters in the world. It features the steepest drop for a wooden coaster. The ride's name Goliath reflects its massive size and intense thrills. It has won awards and recognition for its innovative design and thrilling ride experience. The height for this ride is 175 feet and the drop 180 feet. This ride goes around 72 mph. This ride is about 1 minute and 25 seconds of thrill. This is a popular attraction that you should try. This next ride is a ride that goes really fast and is intense. This ride is called "Max Force" It is 100 feet tall and goes 60 mph. This is one of the shorter rides, only 35 seconds but it is a fun ride. When you're on the ride you get pulled back due to the speed and the ride first starts off strong. This is a high intensity ride with rapid acceleration. Many people enjoy this ride with its quick burst of speed. I enjoyed this ride a lot but I wished it was longer. The lines for this are really long so it's too long of a wait just go sometime later when it gets shorter. A classic ride in the park is "American Eagle. Its height is 127 feet tall, and it goes 66 mph. The drop is 147 feet and it's 2 minutes and 30 seconds long. This ride is a classic wooden coaster with a racing element. It also is one of the tallest and fastest wooden coasters. This ride has a patriotic theme with red, white and blue colors. This ride is highly popular due to its racing element and classic design. In conclusion, Six Flags is pretty awesome. Whether you're screaming your head off on a roller coaster or just chilling with your friends, it's an experience you won't forget. Six Flags promises excitement and entertainment that will leave you the feeling of wanting to come back again soon. – Reeva Baral



### The Unseen Burden

At dawn, the house wakes  
with a sigh  
A mother's hands, a father's  
quiet eye.  
She leaves for work, her  
shoulders bent

While he stays home, hours unspent.

The kitchen waits, the stove grows cold  
Yet no meal is made, no story told.  
She returns to labor, worn and slow  
But the table is empty, the evening aglow.

She asks for help, just a simple plea  
Yet silence falls, a distant sea.  
"Why must I do it, day after day  
When you're here, and I'm far away?"

A voice once kind, now raised in fire  
"Why question me? It's what I desire."  
But behind the words, there's a hidden cry  
A wish for balance, a longing to try.

Family isn't just one's task  
It's shared with love, no need to ask.  
So let the kitchen be a place for all  
Where every hand can answer the call.

The house can thrive, the meals can flow  
When all contribute, as they know.  
For in the giving, there's strength to see  
A family united, strong and free.

- Krisha Pandey



### Nepal – Rasik Panta

**Introduction:** Have you ever wondered how us Nepalese people came to existence? People could say we came from India, but that couldn't be true since we gained independence hundreds of years before India, but how did we come to be? Well, we came from different ethnic groups and mixed with others. We also developed cultures and traditions that we still practice today.

**Ethnic confusion:** If you think about our ethnicity, we come from many different ethnic backgrounds, but most of the Nepalese people came from the Indo-Aryan and Indo-European groups. They migrated to Nepal and India thousands of years ago, and believe or not, we are closely related to Ukrainian people, but we are most closely related to the Indo-Aryan people. The Indo-Aryan people came from central Asia and brought many cultures that we use today. For example, the reason we don't slaughter or eat or do any harm to a cow came from the Indo-Aryan cultures and traditions. We also developed languages from the Indo-Aryan dialects. The development of the Indo-Aryan language derived from the Indo-European dialects. More than a thousand languages are derived from this particular dialect, including Nepali, and other forms of Nepalese languages. The oldest language is Sanskrit, which is a big part of history and is the oldest known language which dates back 5000 years ago. As we progressed, we were influenced by the Hindu religion and more religions were influenced in Nepal. Contd. Page 8.



**Nepal – contd. from page 7**

**Timeline:** Nepal had a rich history and in 1768 and onwards, Nepal was a unified country ruled by a monarchy. The Shah monarchy is the most famous and dates back to the 1550s. This monarchy ruled for 449 years and put a great influence on our country and how it stands out. Nepal was ruled by the Shah dynasty of the Gorkha kingdom after conquering the Gorkha area mainly inhabited by Gurungs and Magars. They went on to rule until 2008 when protests forced the then current king, Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah to step down from the throne. In 1768, Prithivi Bikram Shah established and united Nepal. From then on, we had a unified country that was untouched, even by the tyranny of the British empire. Then came the Mukthiyars of Nepal. The most well known Mukthiyar was Bhimsen Thapa. He was a de facto ruler, or a person who directly calls themselves the ruler of a country or empire. Bhimsen Thapa was a successful leader but was also involved in a massacre as the perpetrator and thus was killed by the Pandes or Pandeys. While Nepal already had a monarchy, one wouldn't be enough, but before that, the British had tried to control Nepal, but had to go through two battles, since Nepal won the first one and the second one was victorious for the Brits, it seemed like Nepal was going in to British ruling, but the British let Nepal be an independent country by signing the treaty of Sugauli. This treaty ensured that clashes between Nepal and the British would be no longer. This treaty also gave Nepal the authority to continue being an independent nation. The next important part of history came when the Rana Sasan (dynasty) ruled Nepal. They replaced the Shah monarchy with a permanent hereditary role of Prime minister. The Rana Sasan was formed in 1846 when Jung Bahadur Rana replaced the monarchy and became Prime minister and introduced authoritarianism or the strict obedience of authority. He stopped gambling, gave an English education, etcetera, but before this he had to go through a brutal moment with the king Rajendra Bir Bikram and Queen Rajya Laxmi. Now back then, Laxmi wanted to crown on her biological son, Rajendra, instead of future king Surendra.

**To be continued in next issue.**

**- Rasik Panta**



**All about Tigers – Shrija Kabra**

Tigers are wild cats. Tigers like to live in tropical forests. Adult tigers can weigh about 220 to 660 pounds. A new born cub (baby tiger) weighs about 3 to 4 pounds.

Tigers are predators. Although both male and female tigers hunt but majority of hunting is done by the females. The mother tiger gives birth two to three cubs at a time. The mother tigers take care of baby cubs until the baby cubs are grown enough for hunting which is about two years. The life span of tiger is about 18 to 25 years.



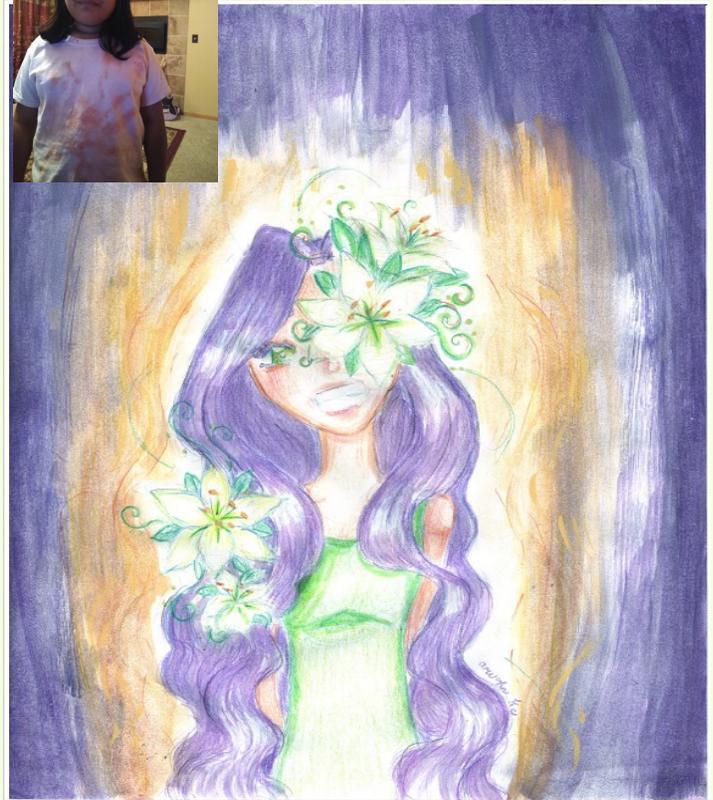


## World War II - Arvik Baral

Once Steve was watching tv he was watching highlights from World War I, then he wondered what would happen if world war happened again. He closed the tv and went outside. He said what a beautiful day in LA. He sat on the curb to call his aunt she lived in Germany. When she picked up she told Steve something. Steve, Hitler is making Germany better. He said I will make this place more powerful. Then Steve said wow he must be a good man. Then his aunt hung up. Then Steve said I like my job being a soldier for USA. He still remembered his dad from World War I, he got shot. Then Steve went. I am going to call my buddies from all across the world. After he called his buddies, he wanted to call his friend Alex. Steve has been with Alex since he was 3. When Alex picked up, Steve told what Hitler was doing. After that, Steve asked if Alex wanted to come over, and he said yes. When Alex came, they played football until 2 am when Alex left, Steve went to bed. When Steve woke up, he tuned on the TV breaking news, Hitler had taken over Germany and started World War II.



## Flower Girl - Aawahni KC



Then, the next second the sirens went off. Then Steve's boss called and said get to the battlefield, a jeep is outside your house and get in it. When Steve got into the jeep, Alex was there. When the jeep arrived at the battlefield Steve got into his uniform, then he got a gun Alex got the same thing. To Steve and Alex, the boss told them to invade Germany. When they started to leave the big battlefield, they saw the nuke. They were close to the border but they saw a German, Steve started shooting at the German when the German died, Alex looted the body, he had grenades. When Steve crossed the border, things got worse. He saw footprints then ten Germans came out of the bushes. they started shooting They shot Steve in the leg, but he was fine. Steve killed five well Alex killed four there was one left.

One person had a sniper then he headshot, Alex fell. Then Steve got mad and killed the one German when he was dead.

Steve went to Alex. He said Alex. Please talk to me but there was no response. Steve knew he was dead. Steve had no choice but to leave him behind. He spoke in the walkie Alex is gone. When Steve came to the coast, he saw an American boat one person was yelling his name and it was Alex, turns out Alex was playing dead. Steve told Alex to drive the boat when they came to the ocean. Steve saw 3 German boats. Alex said don't worry, then he pulled out an RPG, Alex shot at all of the boats, the boats exploded. Then Alex and Steve went past the sunken ships. When they started to see broken boats, they knew they were getting close to Germany. They saw more weird stuff like a German army uniform. Then they saw the border for Germany. They had to hide the boat so the Germans will not know that they were there. They saw a big bush; they hid their boat there. When Steve and Alex left the boat, they were greeted by a missile from Japan that was about to hit. - Contd. On page 10

## World War II - Contd from page 9

- Arvik Baral

Steve and Alex took cover, then they heard a boom! When they got out, they saw flames. They still kept on going, they saw a German camp they saw 20 Germans then Steve got an idea, he threw a grenade in the camp. Steve and Alex ran. Five seconds later, they went back to the camp. It was all on fire. Steve grabbed some water and splashed it on the camp. After looting the camp, they kept on going. They got out of the forest and into the city, where they explored. They saw broken buildings and dead people. But then Steve and Alex got attacked by Germans, Steve easily shot them down.

Then Steve and Alex saw the unthinkable. They saw Hitler himself as soon as they saw him, they hid behind a wall. They looked again; they saw soldiers. Steve threw a grenade and ran, he saw Hitler run. After the area was clear, they kept on exploring but then his walkie-talkie went off it said come back home. So, Steve and Alex started going back. When they got out of the city, they heard a big boom. They did not want to look behind them, but they had to. When they looked, they saw a big mushroom cloud; they could not believe it. The nuke was on the other side of Germany. They saw the ship and they drove it, but on their way back they came across 20 German boats. One of them shot Steve and Alex's boat but they were fine. Steve took out a minigun, he exploded all of the ships. They continued. when they saw the shore, they saw a lot of soldiers. Steve and Alex did not know if they were German. When they hit the shore, the soldiers started shooting. Steve got out and shot them all down with a minigun. When they got to the battlefield, the nuke was gone! So, Steve went to his boss and told him they put it back. Then Steve's boss told Steve that Japan was nuking Germany using a full nuke. Then boom! The war was over. One week later Steve was playing with Alex then Steve said what if world war III happen?

### Best Performing Children of Chicago Chautari Times (CCT) April 2024 – March 2025/Temple Fun Time (TFT)

Nepali American Center mouthpiece Chicago Chautari Times has experienced satisfactory progress from year to year since it started publication of this popular eNewsletter from April 2009. But this year (April 2024 – March 2025) remained quite different than all the past issues. This time we received an increased number of subscriptions in quantity more than any past years. The table below shows in the order of quantity our subscribing children names and number of articles they submitted.

Chicago Chautari Times April 2024 – March 2025  
Subscribers and Counts

S. No	Name	Counts	S. No	Name	Counts	S. No	Name	Counts
1	Prisha Parajuli	12	14	Anya Sharma	3	27	Anjali Das	1
2	Krishna Pandey	11	15	Naman Pant	3	28	Anup Phuyal	1
3	Suvav Bhusal	9	16	Namin Pant	3	29	Arvik Baral	1
4	Rasik Panta	7	17	Rivan Panta	3	30	Avirag Hosakote	1
5	Stuti Dhungana	7	18	Sanvi Yadav	3	31	Ayuksha Joshi	1
6	Syon Gautam	7	19	Shrija Kabra	3	32	Evana Dev	1
7	Aishani KC	6	20	Suvana Gautam	3	33	Ichha Chhetry	1
8	Aawahni KC	6	21	Aadi Sharma	2	34	Kritam Dhungel	1
9	Abhodaya Phuyal	5	22	Avah Shrestha	2	35	Pramsu Parajuli	1
10	Riya Phuyal	5	23	Jaiya Putnam	2	36	Purnima Pathak	1
11	Deeya Phuyal	4	24	Moksha Rijal	2	37	Rajnish Yadav	1
12	Reeva Baral	4	25	Ruby Phuyal	2	38	Shristi Hosakote	1
13	Sazisa Sharma	4	26	Vedanth Shrestha	2			
							<b>Total articles</b>	<b>132</b>

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## Best Performing Children of Chicago Chautari Times (CCT) April 2024 – March 2025/ Temple Fun Time (TFT) - Contd.

As per long standing tradition of Nepali American Center (NAC), these children were recognized and awarded them with certificates and medals for their contribution. Prisha Parajuli, Krisha Pandey and Suvav Bhusal were recognized as the first, second and third most articles submission. As per our tradition, the editorial board also named Syon Gautam as the winner of the Creative Award for 2024-2025.

The quality of the articles was extraordinary given the age of the authors, the young children from our community, the subscribers of the articles have shown us the true glimpses of their hidden talents and proven to us what they are capable of. The editorial board of the Chicago Chautari Times also likes to thank the parents for their effort to motivate the children to write and develop their skill in expressing their thoughts and quality of expressing in language. Sarana Parajuli very rightly stated that “reading the children articles is like getting a free prescription of wisdom.” Yagna Pant summary on the yearlong publication is included in this issue that gives a great review on the quality of the articles submitted by the 38 children.

Similarly, NAC monthly puja on the first Saturday of every month conducts program for our children coming to the temple with their parents. This program, called Temple Fun Time (TFT) gathers the children at the basement and provide them lessons in culture, society, religion, history and geography of Nepal. Children also learn cooking, cleaning and presentation skills from each other. NAC executive team members volunteer to carry out this special program. At the end of the program, they come upstairs in the main puja hall surrounded with idols of deities filled with puja attendees. The encircle the deities according to the tradition, receive tika, prasad and blessings from the priest and elders. NAC started awarding some notable participating children of the TFT program as shown in the Table.

Tempe Fun Time (TFT) program award recipients

Excellent attendance	Ruby Phuyal and Rivansh Phuyal
Mental health workshop	Stuti Dhungana
Cooking demonstration	Arith Dhakal
Nepal Festival Presentation	Deeya Phuyal

These two examples show a clear sign of interest shown by our children and their ability. We can perceive that with them every day. More is needed to help our children to engage in our cultural, religious and social gatherings. They need platforms to express themselves, but they cannot create such a platform by themselves. They should not be ignored when we can and when we witness their peers with so much more engagement and learning from their society. So, it is up to us adults now to become serious in putting aside some of our earned assets for their well-being as a responsible and civil member of a cultured Nepali society. We cannot sleep longer to do our part. It is something that they will admire for our little sacrifice in their future.