

Joint declaration for a united effort to resolve the national crisis

There is a national crisis in Nepal today; five years of democratic had not passed that a armed struggle was initiated by the Maoist, which has led to the lose of live of nearly 12000 Nepalese, with many injured and a large number being displaced from their homes. Instead of finding a political solution the King on the 1st of February took power in his hands, since then the country has further been divided, peoples rights have been curtailed, political activist, the press and the human right activists been locked up.

In the name of curbing corruption, the unconstitutional Royal commission has been established which is moving to punish the kings detractors and political leaders, Due to all these reasons the standing of the Nepalese government has diminished in the international field. Even when the emergency was withdrawn there has been no significant improvement in the situation of the country.

The political parties, vocational organizations, human rights organizations and the citizens of the nation have been opposing the Kings move and they have been struggling for the restoration of democracy. We the seven political parties of Nepal have made this declaration so as to restore full democracy, rights of the people and to move the nation in a positive and peaceful direction.

Past evaluation

Since the movement of 1990 which ushered in democracy in the country the nation has moved forward in all spect of development, even than not enough was done to bring about social justice and gender equality across Nepal. In this period via the parliament measures were taken towards curbing corruption and ushering in good governance, still the problem of corruption was not done away with in our society. Politics of violence was not seriously taken up and dealt with in time by the parties. We accept our short comings and promise not to repeat them, and that we shall strive to safe guard democracy brought about by the movement of 1990, and promote democratic norms in the nation for its overall development.

1. Take up the democratic road and not the one leading to extremism

At the moment Nepal is suffering from two extremes one by the King and the other by the Maoist, we have to guide the nation towards democracy and peoples representative rule, the nation must be governed by the rule of law under the constitution, than alone all the forces and actors in the national politics of the country will find a peaceful common platform

2. Today's need is to do away with the Kings autocratic rule

The King's direct rule has made a mockery of the rule of law, supremacy of the parliament and the constitution of the nation. This has made the people of Nepal to lose face in the international field. These unconstitutional steps of the King must be immediately stopped, rule of law enforced, political prisoners released, parties allowed to continue heir activities peacefully, the

rights of the people restored, the constitution must be reactivated and a peoples representative government reinstated. At the moment when a representative government is not ruling the country, the political parties must be considered to be the true representatives of the people, and the demand of the political parties to reinstate representative rule must be considered as the true demand of the people of Nepal.

3. Reinstatement of the parliament for a people's representative government.

We believe that at a moment when all rights of the people have been withdrawn by the king and when the nation is facing such an enormous crisis, the dissolved parliament must be reinstated so that the people's representatives may bring about much needed peace, security, development and democratic norms shall be restored. This struggle for the reinstatement of the dissolved parliament is at the moment the joint agenda and demand of the political parties backed by the entire people of the nation.

4. Some important points to resolve the national crisis

The reinstated parliament shall with the support and backing of the people, will do the following deeds to resolve the current crisis.

- a) The government shall be responsible to the parliament: To resolve all conflicts in the nation an all party government shall govern the nation, which shall be responsible to the parliament.
- b) Management of Violent conflicts and reinstatement of peace The all party government shall create a conducive environment so that the Maoist shall be able to leave their violent path and come into the main stream of politics, all their grievances, economic social educational etc shall be looked into. A situation shall be made where all political parties and the civil society will be able to contribute towards building a long lasting peace.

c) Commitment towards the future progressive programs

All actions to revive democracy and resolve the on going conflict shall be based on the principle that the people are the ultimate bearers of power that the rule of law shall prevail, the judiciary shall remain independent and that multiparty democratic norms shall be followed. Provisions shall be made to hold referendum on vital national issues, the army shall remain responsible to the peoples representatives, decentralization shall be ushered in, principles of good governance shall be adhered to, the country and the constituencies can be restructured so as to accommodate the people of various regions, races and caste who have been left out of the main stream of national life, women and children shall be given priority when planning is done. The activities of the political parties shall be made transparent and democratic.

d) The constitution shall be adhered to

The constitution of 1990 has granted the sovereignty of the country in the hands of the people, this aspect of the constitution, at no rate shall be compromised and the people shall be further empowered to rule the country via their representatives, the nation shall be taken forward in all aspects of development. All the political parties are united to uphold the constitution, and all democratic norms including national referendum shall be taken into consideration while defining and moderating the constitution.

5. Progressive movement to be based on the constitution of 1990

We declare that we shall make all progressive moves and resolve the political crises in the nation based on the constitution of 1990.

6. Plans to hold National elections

To end the uncertainty prevailing in the country, national elections will be held in due time which will be free and fair, this will be done with the help of all national and international organizations.

From a united stand we feel that the crisis in the country can be solved, by following the above path. It is possible to resolve the political crisis through a peaceful people's movement. With this mandate, it is possible to restore democracy and we the seven political parties are committed to this peaceful movement and are hereby declaring the joint program, which shall launch the peaceful movement in the country to restore democracy.

1. Nepali Congress
2. CPN (UML)
3. Nepali Congress (D)
4. Jana Morcha Nepal
5. Nepal Majdoor Kissan Party
6. Nepal Sadbhavan (A)
7. Samyukta Bam Morcha

Girija Prasad Koirala (President)
Madhav Kumar Nepal (General secretary)
Gopal Man Shrestha (Acting President)
Chitra Bdr Ale (Acting President)
Narayan Man Bijukche (President)
Bhogendra Thakur Leader
C P Mainali President.

Date: Baishak 25, 2062

8, May, 2005