

Report on

BCN Get-together cum Second General Assembly



Get - together cum 2nd General Assembly
6th August 2011
Utrecht , The Netherlands

Programme Report by: D.P.Mainali

President, Bhutanese Community in the Netherlands (BCN)

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1. Introduction

Bhutanese Community in the Netherlands (BCN), an officially registered welfare forum of the Bhutanese living in the Netherlands and was founded on 19th September 2009 successfully organized its 2nd General Assembly cum a cultural programme on 6th August 2011 at a multi-cultural Center hall in **Kanaalweg 86**, 3533 GH, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Amidst various cultural programs the much awaited general election was conducted to elect BCN executives for the period of its official tenure of two years.

2. Participants

Around 150 Bhutanese living in different parts of the Netherlands have shown up at the programme. This is the highest number of participation from our community so far since the establishment of BCN in 19th September 2009.



Audiences of the Day

Cultural activities and BCN 2nd General assembly was the main schedule of the programme. Besides these, few other people from FORUM Instituut voor Multiculturele Vraagstukken were also present in the hall to assist BCN.

3. Activities of the Day

3.1. Cultural Activities

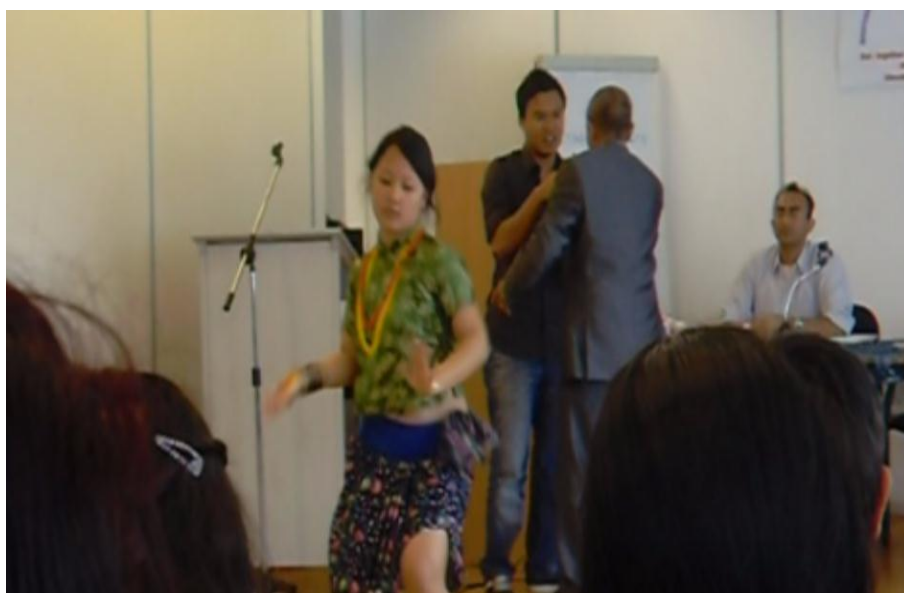
First part of the program was cultural activities. Cultural activities play an important role to bring unity and integrity in our society and it further helps to enrich our wellbeing and experiences. Such activities in our community contribute significantly to our well-being and enrich the experiences of our children. Participation in the arts and cultural activities not only entertains, but teaches us more about who we are. It also provides those involved in the culture sector the opportunities to develop skills and share ideas. Therefore the goals of organising such activities by BCN are to share that relationship within and among community members making them more energetic and sustainable. With the hope of fulfilling our goals, many of our children demonstrated their talents by dancing in Nepali and Hindi songs. Following are some of the beautiful pictures taken during the programs.



Rupa Khanal dancing in Nepali song Bhun Bhun ...



Nisha Neopaney dancing in Munny badnaam hui..



Kalpana Rai dancing in Fula manjarilay

Speech and jokes are other interesting part of the cultural activities. Manish Rizal delivered his nice speech in the programme and Subash Mainali added another aspect of joy to the programme where people laughed to see his caricature of different Nepali comedians.



Manish Rizal delivering his speech



Subash Mainali with his caricature

The main intention of the cultural program was to protect our culture and give opportunities to our children to show their talents. At the same time, these types of activities will also help our children to introduce among each other, to share their views, ideas and achievements among themselves. Above all such activities could also benefits parents and community in the long run.

3.2. BCN 2nd General Election

The second and the most important agenda of the day was the BCN 2nd General election. Bhutanese living in the Netherlands participated in large numbers to elect the office bearers of their community organization.

Former BCN President Dr Lakshmi Prasad Dhakal, General Secretary Ram Bahadur Karki Chhetri and newly arrived Bhutanese social worker Amber Singh Subba were members of the election commission. Election commission open the secret ballot by asking the candidate to lead the voting process and community members above the age of 18 follow them.

The secret ballot system was introduced to elect the office bearers of the BCN due to the presence of two presidential candidates registering themselves for the contest. Thus election commission formed for the purpose conducted the election in a free and fair manner. After the counting of votes Mr. D.P Mainali was declared winner by securing majority votes to the post of the BCN President for the official tenure of 2 years.

Soon after the result was declared former BCN President and election commissioner Dr. L.P Dhakal delivered his congratulatory speech to the newly elected president Mr. Mainali and asked the house to elect the other office bearers. The house nominated the following community members in the various positions of the BCN through the method of consensus.

4. BCN CC Structure 2011-2013

President: Mr. D.P. Mainali
Vice-President: Mr. Nawaraj Gazmer
General Secretary : Mr. T.B. Gurung
Co-ordinator: Mr. Jigme Gurung
PR Coordinator: Mr. Khada Ghimirey
Treasurer: Mr. Lalit Basnet
Assistant Treasurer: Ms. Sarita Bastola

Executive members

Mr. Parhlad Karki – Frisland
Mr. Bhanu Gurung – Harderwijk

It was decided that remaining executive members will be elected in future, if need arises, nomination may be done to fill the vacant post based on individual's ability, skills, region, and genders.

The new team elected through this 2nd general assembly conducted on 6th August are responsible to drive BCN for the next 2 years.

5. Conclusion

Concluding the program the newly elected BCN President Mr. Mainali expressed his sincere thanks and appreciations to the outgoing office bearers for concluding their assigned responsibility successfully. He also extended his thanks to the election commission for their hard work and conducting the first ever democratic process in the most transparent and free and fair manner. He also thanked all the Bhutanese in the Netherlands for their participation in the program in large numbers and to also those due to their own limitations could not make their presence in the program. Mr. Mainali further requested all the participants to take a message to everybody that BCN is our own forum that works for the general welfare and wellbeing of all Netherland based Bhutanese people. He stressed his commitment to dedicate his two years of his tenure as president to bring unity among all Bhutanese, helps each other in their integration process, assist younger generations in education cum trainings and overall organizing similar types of get-together, cultural activities and other programs that helps to preserve our culture and history.

Finally Mr. Mainali requested to all Bhutanese brothers and sisters to extend their helping hands so as to carry his assigned responsibility in the most fruitful manner.

6. Acknowledgement

This program has been undertaken as a part of the BCN regular activities of our community. BCN would like to acknowledge the supports from FORUM and team for their great supports on 6th August 2011 programme. BCN would also like to extend its thanks and acknowledgement to our senior brother and former General Secretary Mr. Ram BK Chhetri who has always helped us in one or the other. BCN would not have been able to conduct this program had he not being able to find a Hall free of cost for the purpose. BCN would like to say **“Big Thank You”** to Mrs. Krishna Maya Gurung, Mr. Hem Rizal and other families from Zwolle and Utrecht for providing us with meal and drinks. Similarly, we would also like to thanks Shaker Rizal, Laxmi Rizal, Jigme Gurung and Lachuman Panday for assisting BCN in arranging songs, anchoring the program and working as technician respectively.

Finally, BCN is grateful to Election commission and all the other participants for their presences and supports so as to make this program a grand success. BCN has benefited a lot from your generous contributions. I on behalf of BCN and on my own behalf would like to say thank you very much all for your kind cooperation and we expect similar types of assistance and cooperation in our upcoming community programs.

Appendix

Some other pictures of 6th Augusts 2011



Participants Observing Cultural Programme



BCN new team receiving documents from former team



D.P. Mainali giving his speech before the election

