



Embassy of Nepal, Dhaka

Press Release

To promote Nepal's rich and diverse cultural heritages and tourism, the Embassy of Nepal, Dhaka organised a two-day long grand **Nepal Evening: Cultural Performance of Nepali Folk Music and Dances** on 24-25 June 2014.

The first day's programme on 24 June programme was attended by Heads of Diplomatic Mission in Dhaka and members of Diplomatic and Honorary Consular Corps and prominent Bangladeshi dignitaries. The chief guest of the function was Hon. Shariar Alam, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, who lauded that such event will contribute to enhance people-to-people relations between Bangladesh and Nepal.

Welcoming the guests, Ambassador of Nepal to Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Hari Kumar Shrestha noted that Nepal and Bangladesh share similar values and are closely linked by rich and diverse cultural heritages. Cultural connectivity, through exchange of artists, musicians, litterateurs makes significant contribution to enhance closer relations at people-to-levels between the two neighbours.

The second day's programme was held in the main auditorium of the National Museum of Bangladesh, attended large Bangladeshi audience, including high government officials, business community, university and colleges teachers and students, and Nepali community in Bangladesh.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest of the function Hon. Asaduzzaman Noor, Minister of Culture of Bangladesh underlined that Bangladesh and Nepal are close neighbours with common historical, cultural, religious and linguistic linkages that date back to millennia. Highlighting the rich tradition of folk culture of Bangladesh, Hon. Minister stressed that both Bangladesh and Nepal can share the treasures of folk culture of the people of the two countries for mutual benefits. He also expressed that exchange of artists, musicians, and organizing such cultural events will go a long way to foster cultural relations between the two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Shrestha stressed that promotion of tourism and cultural cooperation play important role to strengthen connectivity and enhance relations at people-to-people level between the two countries. Governor of the Bangladesh Bank Dr. Atiur Rahman spoke about great potential to promote economic cooperation between Bangladesh and Nepal, including development of hydropower projects in Nepal, increased volume of bilateral trade, and greater people-to-people relations through tourism promotion and cooperation in the field of higher education.

Nepali artists from **Sadhana Kala Kendre** mesmerised the audience by various Nepali folk songs and dance to reflect Nepal's diverse and rich cultural heritages. There were performances from Bangladeshi artists as well, arranged by Oikko limited, Dhaka. Col. Sudarshan Bikram Rana, Military Attaché of the Embassy also presented vocal melodies in Bangla and Nepali. The event was widely covered by prominent Bangladeshi television channels: ATN Bangla, Channel I, Independent Television, and Radio Bhumi and Radio Today FM.

On the occasion, colourful souvenir brochures brought out by the Embassy depicting Nepal's unique and diverse cultural heritages were distributed to the audience. The programme commenced with the multimedia presentation entitled "**Naturally Nepal**".

25 June 2014