



Madheshi Association in America (MAA)

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Date: 6/11/18

Press Release

Dear All,

Madheshi Association in America (MAA) is pleased to announce the grand success of MAA 1st Convention held in New York on May 25-26, 2018. About 300 participants including MAA members, well-wishers, friends, national and international guests, representatives from different organizations attended the convention. The theme of the convention was "Strengthening Madheshi Community and Promoting the Culture".

On 25th May evening, a welcome dinner was hosted by Dr. Binod Shah and Dr. Sujata Shah at their residence in New York. An introduction program was done during the dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Shah welcomed everyone and the dinner program was followed by some nice music and songs by Dr. Yogi Raut. Dr. Jay Prakash Sah, Mr. Suneel Sah, Mr. Manoj Singh, Mr. Ram Naresh Pandey, Mr. Sangit Rauniyar, Mr. Mohammad Rafid, and Mr. Raj Sarraf expressed thanks to Dr. Binod Shah and Dr. Sujata Shah for hosting the dinner for all invitees of MAA convention. They also expressed thanks to everyone for joining the convention. An excitement for the convention was seen in participants when everyone started cheering.

On 26th May, the Convention, which was held at Gulshan Terrace located at 59-15 37th Avenue, Woodside, NY, started with welcoming all guests, and playing Nepali and USA national anthem. The convener and chair of program was Mr. Manoj Singh, president of Greater New York Chapter and Mr Suneel Sah, president of MAA respectively. A wonderful welcome dance was performed by a five-year old Anaya Shah. The program was conducted by Mr. Amit Shah and Mrs. Madhu Shah. The program was inaugurated with lighting candles by Dr. Sukhdev Shah and Mr. Suneel Sah. The ceremony was joined by Dr. Binod Shah, Dr. Mahendra Mahato, Dr. Jay Prakash Sah, Mr. Satendra Shah, Mr Manoj Singh, Mr. Ram Naresh Pandey, Mr. Sangit Rauniyar, Mr. Amit Shah and Mrs. Madhu Shah. After inauguration, the program was addressed by the chief guest of the convention, Honorable Chief Minister of Province 2 of Nepal, Mr. Lal Babu Raut, through video conference from Janakpur, Nepal. He expressed thanks to MAA for finding a way around to keep him as a chief guest despite of being disapproval of his US visit by Federal government of Nepal to attend the convention. The crowd started cheering when he addressed in both Bhojpuri and Maithili languages. The program was continued with the address of Special Guests Mr. Madhu Marasini, Counsel General, and Dr. Sukhdev Shah. They expressed thanks to MAA for working for the community and extended their support to MAA. The speech participation was continued by the representatives and guests from other Nepalese organizations, and they wished for the success of convention and extended their support to MAA. Among the organizations, there were NRNA NCC USA, Janasampark Samiti America, ONF, FIPNA, Kirat Society, European Madheshi Society, NRM, Madheshi Around the World and Ridgewood Nepalese Society . Among the international guests, Surendra Narayan Yadav was from Qatar, Dr. Sunil Sah was from London, and Dr. Ramit Rauniyar was from China. Greetings from guests who couldn't attend the convention were read at the program. MAA also received a citation for outstanding service from Costa Constantinides, New York City Council member, for the community service in USA. The inauguration session was finished by closing remarks from Mr. Suneel Sah, MAA founding president. He expressed thanks to everyone for joining the convention and their support to MAA.

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The closed session was continued after lunch break which was followed by By-laws session. Mr. Ram Naresh Pandey and Mr. Sangit Rauniyar presented MAA By-laws to the members and the Bylaws was unanimously approved by participants. The Bylaws session was followed by Madheshi Empowerment session which was moderated by Mr. Chet Narayan Yadav. The panelists were Dr. Ram Ishwar Mahato, Mr. Binod Shah, Mr. Surendra Narayan Yadav, Dr. Sunil Sah, Dr. Ramit Rauniyar, and Mr. Jay Sah. The session was followed by Women Empowerment session which was moderated by Dr. Sujata Shah. The panelists were Mrs. Nidhi Rani Sah, Mrs. Malati Sah, Mrs. Madhu Shah and Mrs. Binam Mahaseth. The program was followed by a brief presentation of Mr. Raj sarraf about Visit Madhesh for how to attract tourists in Madhesh.

After that, the executive committee session started and it was moderated by Mr. Suneel Sah. All chapter's presidents and representatives briefly explained the activities of their respective chapters. Mr. Sangit Rauniyar presented the activity report of MAA and Mr. Navin Sah presented the financial report of MAA. The projects provided by Nepalese organizations: E-kishan, Women Development Academy, DEAN, BHORE, and Madhesh Initiative were discussed and approved by convention for further process. It was followed by cultural program and dinner.

After cultural program and dinner, awards were distributed to the following persons for their contribution to MAA.

1. MAA Leadership Award: Dr. Binod Shah
2. MAA Executive Award: Mr. Sangit Rauniyar
3. Founder President Award: Mr. Suneel Sah (Award Sponsor: Uma Pandey)
4. MAA Women of the Year Award: Dr. Sobha Mandal (Sponsor: Dr. Sujata Shah)
5. MAA Excellence Award: Dr. Ram Ishwar Mahato
6. MAA Donor of the Year Award: Nepalese Society of Texas (NST)
7. MAA Youth Award: Mr. Rakesh Yadav, Mr. Satendra Shah (Sponsor: Satendra Shah for Rakesh Yadav)
8. MAA Student Excellence Award: Ms. Harshita Mahaset (Sponsor: Dr. Jay Prakash Sah & Mrs. Seema Sah)
9. MAA President Award: Mr. Mohammad Lalbabu Raut, Honorable Chief Minister of State # 2 of Nepal; Dr Keshab Paudel, NRNA NCC USA President (Sponsor: Mr. Suneel Sah)
10. MAA Friendship Award: Ridgewood Nepalese Society, American Association of Physician in America, Mr. Kishor Panthi, Khasokhas, Mr. Anant Anurag, Today Khabar (Sponsor: Mr. Amit Shah - 1 Award)
11. MAA Life Time Achievement Award: Dr. Sukhdev Shah (Sponsor: Dr. Binod Shah)
12. MAA Recognition Award: Mr. Navin Sah, Dr. Sanju Mahato, Mr. Manoj Singh, Mr. Surendra Chaudhary, Mr. Lal Kishor Mahaseth, Dr. Umesh Yadav, Mr. Mohammad Rafid, Mr. Sanjay Verma, Mr. Dinesh Shah
13. MAA Special Honor Award: Dr. Ram N. Sah, Dr. Mangal Jha, Mr. Tribhuvan Chaudhari, Nepalese Consular, Muralidhar
14. MAA Social Hero Award: Mr. Saroj Ray

Finally, Election committee announced the names of new Executive Committee of MAA 2018-2020, Board of Trustee, date and venue of next MAA convention. The following persons were unanimously elected for MAA 2018-2020 central Executive Committee.

1. Mr. Ram Naresh Pandey, President
2. Mr. Satendra Sah, Senior Vice-President

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3. Mr. Binay Kant Chaudhary, Vice-President
4. Mrs. Madhu Shah, Vice-President
5. Mr. Surendra Chaudhary, Vice-President
6. Dr. Sunil Ray, Vice-President
7. Mr. Sangit Rauniyar, General Secretary
8. Mr. Anand Yadav, Secretary
9. Mr. Navin Kumar Shah, Treasurer
10. Mr. Mohammad Rafid, Joint-Treasurer
11. Mr. Rakesh Yadav, Media Coordinator
12. Mr. Raj Sarraf, Spokesperson
13. Mr. Chandra Dev Mandal, Member
14. Dr. Ranju Rani Karna, Member
15. Mr. Jay Yadav, Member
16. Mr. Shyam Yadav, Member
17. Mr. Dharmendra Jha, Member
18. Dr. Sanju Mahato, Member
19. President of all chapters, Members
 - a. Mr. Manoj Singh- Greater New York Chapter
 - b. Mr. Lalkishor Mahaseth- New England Chapter
 - c. Mr. Jay Sah-Pittsburgh Chapter
 - d. Mr Sanjay Verma- Ohio Chapter
 - e. Mr. Mithilesh Yadav- Austin Chapter
 - f. Dr. Umesh Yadav- Dallas Fort Worth Chapter
 - g. Mr. Dinesh Sah- California Chapter
 - h. Mr. Rajeshwar Chaudhari-Chicago Chapter
 - i. Mr. Chet Narayan Yadav- Greater DC

Board of Trustee:

1. Dr. Binod Shah, Chair
2. Mr. Suneel Sah, Member
3. Dr. Mahendra Mahato, Member
4. Dr. Bijay Jha, Member
5. Dr. Madhav Yadav, Member

MAA members and guests congratulated the newly elected committee members. Newly elected members expressed thanks to MAA members for providing opportunity and trusting them to serve for the community. The program continued by music and entertainment where everyone enjoyed with a lot of fun. MAA would like to thank all participants, guests, and everyone for their presence at the convention and their support to MAA. It would not have been possible without the support of donors, MAA wishers, and participants. We would like to thank MAA Greater New York Chapter for hosting the convention. A special thanks to Honorable Mr. Lal Babu Raut, Chief Minister of Province 2 of Nepal, and his team for their coordination to make the convention a grand success.

The declaration of convention was finalized in the closed session of the convention, which are summarized below:

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1. MAA will work on the projects of the MAA affiliated organizations in Nepal who have signed the memorandum of understanding (MOU).
2. MAA will Set up a MAA foundation to help in the severity of Madhesh and Madheshi.
3. MAA will launch scholarship program in the twenty districts of Madhesh.
4. MAA will set up MAA LLC for the benefit of Madheshi and non Madheshi in the USA.
5. MAA will live in harmony with other Nepalese-organizations, who are friendly with MAA.
6. MAA will stay away from the internal politics of Nepal, but stick with the development of Madheshi.
7. MAA supports the agendas initiated by NRNA because they are working on possible benefit to all the Nepalese living around the world.
8. MAA 2nd General Convention will be held in Dallas, TX on Memorial weekend of 2020.

Below are some pictures of the convention.



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Regards,
Ram Naresh Pandey
President, MAA
Ph: (937) 245-0389
www.maamadhesh.org

Thanks,
Sangit Rauniyar
General Secretary, MAA
Ph: (682) 583-8150
www.maamadhesh.org

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