

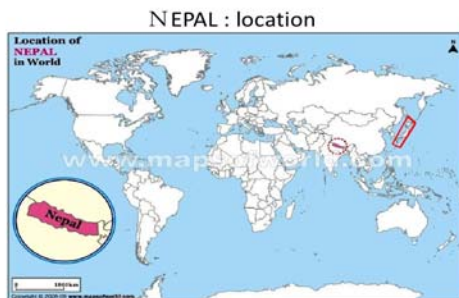
Culture and Environment of Nepal

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Presentation outline

- Nepalese culture
- Discussion about Nepalese way of living
- Environmental issues in Nepal
- Discussion and solution for the environmental issues of Nepal

Nepal lies between India and China



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Nepal at a glance

Region	South-Central Asia
Currency	Nepalese Rupee (NPR)
Surface area	147181 square km.
Population in million	29.25 (2009)
Population density (per sq. km.)	195.7(2008)



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Social structure

-Joint/extended family, gather in birth, marriage and death ceremony, arrange marriage is still common

Birth, marriage and death



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Main occupations

- About 76% of total population in Nepal still belongs to traditional agriculture system, others in cottage industries, general manufactures, goods trading, government officials, tourism and others

Major festivals



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Some technical words

- **Dashain**-It is the biggest and the most auspicious festival in Nepal. It symbolizes the victory of the God over the evil. On this day, a mixture of rice, yogurt and vermillion mixed. This is known as "tika". Senior people put tika for junior ones.
- **Tihar** - also known as Deepawali in terai region of Nepal is a five-day-long Hindu and Buddhist festival ,comes soon after Dashain. The five-day festival is not just the humans and the Gods, but also to the animals like crow, cow and dog, who maintain an intense relationship with the humans. The fifth and last day of Tihar is *Bhai Tika*, a day where sisters put *tika* on foreheads of brothers, to ensure long and secured life. Brothers give gifts or money in return.
- **Teej**-women's festival, worship for husband's long life, return their birth place, express their feelings through songs.
- **Holi**-Colorful festival, reestablishing friendship.
- **Do you know the meaning of the words: victory, vermillion, in return, express, reestablishing, extended family?**

Nepalese foods



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Changing housing structure

Housing



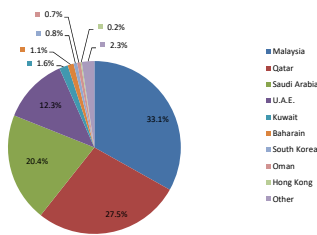
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Nepalese economy at a glance

- weak industrial sector
- less job opportunities
- low growth
- About 4 million Nepalese are abroad-migration
- remittances is the backbone of the economy
- imports is bigger than export
- high prices -inflation

Let's discuss about migration, remittance , backbone and inflation.

Nepalese migrants' destination, FY 2010/2011



Source: Department of Foreign Employment and Economic Survey-2011

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Some strange but true about Nepal

- Buddha was born in Nepal, not in India
- Big stomach means rich people and good **personality** otherwise poor people
- Women don't touch people or food in the **menstruation** period(4 days)
- In the public bus people talk on the phone-sometimes one hour talking in a big voice-no problem
- Most of the people when they cross 50 years, don't do any work and go to temple every day
- Rich people study in private school where as poor people in the public school
- There is **open border** between Nepal and India

Do you know what is **personality**, **menstruation**, **open border**

Questions for discussion

- Is joint family better than nuclear family?
- Now most of the youths are migrating from rural to urban or abroad but old aged parents are alone. Is this development? Can you share Japanese experiment?

Environmental issues in Nepal

- Loss of forest-overgrazing, excessive fuel wood collection, fire, conversion of forest land to cropland and infrastructure development such as roads, canals
- Soil erosion- natural causes, encroachment on the forest land, cultivation on steep land
- Air pollution- indoor air pollution in the rural areas(combustion of biomass in the poorly ventilated kitchen room) and outdoor pollution(vehicular, road construction and industrial emissions) in the urban areas
- At least 225 fires burning in 2012

Indoor and Outdoor air pollution



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Forest fire 2012, Nepal



Environmental Issues continue..

- Water pollution-urban solid waste disposal and dumping are responsible for deteriorating-waterborne diseases e.g. diarrhea, dysentery, cholera and typhoid

Terai(flat land) range-Arsenic Poisoning



7% of Tube Wells in Tarai Region is unsafe for drinking,
UNICEF/DWSS

Himalayan range issue

- Himalayan range issue-rubbish & waste materials near the Everest Base Camp- plastic bottles, empty cylinders, & even toilet papers that remain frozen in the high mountains

Everest base-camp garbage



Snow river flood-2012 in Pokhara



Surprise-surprise

- Nepal is second richest country in water resources(potentiality of 83,000 MW hydroelectricity production) but in the dry season there is 14 hour load-shedding even the Kathmandu city
- There are no waste bin or astray in the public area even in the capital city capital Kathmandu.
- Vehicles association trade union is so strong that government can not remove old vehicles from the city
- **Lets discuss about hydroelectricity, trade union, overgrazing, encroachment**

Discussion session

- Agriculture and housing land is not separated by the government. This results shortage of fertile land and loss of urban beauty. Do you agree with argument?
- Who is more responsible to maintain neat and clean city? The government or everybody?

Thank you for your kind attention!

