Nepal and India share a unique relationship of friendship and cooperation characterized by open boarders and deep rooted people to people contact of kinship and culture. Geographically, socially, culturally and historically these two countries linked the most intimately. Cultural ties between Nepal and India lies since the dawn of civilizations.

Multilateral relations between Nepal and India includes various aspects like cultural, religious, educational, political, economic and so on.

The ebb and flow of freedom in India had its influence on democracy in Nepal. Late B.P. Koirala who grew up in Varanasi as a student, involved in the Indian nationalist movement. During World War II, he was interned by the British in Dhanbad for two years (1942–1944). Following his release, with Indian independence imminent, he set about trying to bring change to Nepal. In 1947 he founded from India the socialist Nepali National Congress, which in 1950 became the Nepali Congress Party. During the process, Varanasi has provided its land for establishing political party and raising awareness among the people about their rights and establishing democracy. Koirala led the Revolution of 1951 which overthrew Nepal’s 104-year-old Rana regime.

Varanasi is one of the oldest living cities in the world. A holy place and pilgrimage for Hindus all over the world. No other city in India has such close historical and cultural ties with Nepal. Our religious bonding constitutes several aspects. Such as Lord Buddha born in Lumbini, chose Sarnath to preach his first sermon, Nepali priest serving in Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Indian priest in Pashupatinath temple, Kashi being the one major religious destination for each of the old age people of Nepal, Kathmandu and Varanasi considered as sister city relations with each other, Ganga Arati of Varanasi is followed in Pashupatinath temple on the bank of Bagmati river. These shows our strong religious relation.

Besides these religious aspects, Varanasi was and is the major destination of Nepali students for higher education. Various political figures, litterateur, poets, bureaucrats etc. are the product of Varanasi.. First elected prime minister to the current governor of NRB are the products of BHU itself.

The great leader of Nepal, B.P. Koirala groomed and developed himself in this holy land. Many political leaders of Nepal have taken hostage in Varanasi during their exile. B.P. has always preferred Vanarasi for his democratic movement..

Varanasi has played a very crucial role in the democratic movement of Nepal. Varanasi has a legacy of grooming many democratic leaders of Nepal as well as India. The relationship between Nepal and Varanasi cannot be expressed in single word. Varanasi has served Nepal in manifolds. History of Nepali democratic moment is incomplete without Varanasi.

Considering this importance, Centre will be organizing a two days International seminar on ‘Commemorating Democracy of Nepal: Different facets’ which is aimed to foster the educational, religious and cultural ties between two countries. We thought we must play some
initiative to promote such valuable assets of two countries that can provide nourishment on our multilateral relationship.

Title of Programme:

One Days Seminar on

‘Commemorating Democracy of Nepal: Different Facets’

Organizer: Jointly organized by Centre for the study of Nepal, Faculty of Social Sciences, BHU, Varanasi and Nepalese Students in BHU