

Conflict in Nepal, its causes, consequences, and management initiatives

The Swiss Nepalese Society (SNS) organized a talk program on “On-going conflict in Nepal: causes, consequences and management initiatives” in Zürich on March 12, 2006.

Dr. Poorna Kanta Adhikary from ICPD Nepal* presented a paper on the main issue in the program which was attended by well over fifty SNS members as well as other professionals and students. Participants flooded the wide range of open questions during the two hour-long sessions.

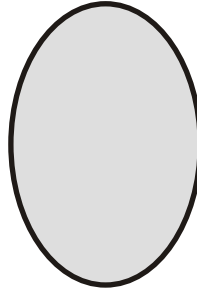
A summary of Mr. Adhikary’s presentation is given below:

The conflict occurrence

Conflict-Coin Model

Side A of the Coin Structural Conflict

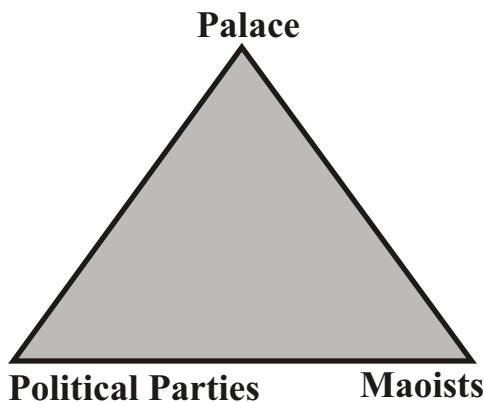
Persistence of historical, structural imbalances due to inequalities related to gender, caste, class, ethnicity, religion, language, regional disparity etc.



Side B of the Coin National Political Conflict

National tri-polar conflict
Palace, Political Parties and Maoists are locked in a conflict of mutually exclusiv ideologies.

Conflict Scenario and Peace initiative



Steps towards Conflict Resolution

- Need to recognize that there is a problem
- Necessary to work on both sides of the conflict coin to end violence
- Need to have a clear strategy to work on either side

Facilitator:

- Connector
- Mediator
- Process Manager

Negotiation Refers to: ...because reality is complex

Competitive Processes
Positional Negotiation or
Cooperative Efforts
Interest-based Negotiation

Participation is the key to all negotiations...

- Nobody has a complete knowledge of a given situation
- Persons at different positions see the same thing differently
- Persons fail to see what others see and develop their ideas
- People cannot always accept a solution given by others

Participation:

- Allows to collect opinions of all concerned
- Harmonizes opinions of all through consensus
- Builds up ownership of the product



Dr. Poorna Kanta Adhikary is a leading Conflict Management Expert of Nepal and is the president of Institute for Conflict Management Peace and Development (ICPD) which is an autonomous non-profit making non-governmental organization committed to conflict management, good governance, human rights, peace and development.

Reported by
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