

**Sabitra, Maoist:**

We are not weak in any ways regarding resources, both economic and human, but the core problem in the past for us was the central authoritarian rule. Our wealth is embedded in five Ja's: *Jangal* (forest), *Jamin* (land), *Janasakti* (human resources), *Jal* (water), *Jaributi* (herbs). We must manage them in the most efficient, scientific and just manner.

Our party has invested quite a lot on raising the awareness level of people for their rights and this can also be another opportunity for Naya Nepal. A consensus-based culture is rising within the Nepali society and within the political forces. We have managed our conflict in a most efficient way. For this Nepal receives widespread international attention, sympathy and support.

## Challenges along the way towards “Naya Nepal”?

**Laxmi, NC:**

Our country is in a transitional phase which always includes dealing with challenges. I see the fight against the prevailing feudal mentality in our society as the major challenges for us. Although we have demolished the Monarchy as the core feudal institution, there are still many forms of feudal practices in our society such as restrictions for Dalits to enter temples in many parts of the country.

Furthermore, the self-centered behavior of groups and individuals across the entire society is a big problem. We increasingly see people just thinking of themselves and often forgetting the impact of their activities on the society and finally on the nation. People are often confined with their small benefits, but entirely lack the broader view. We need to work on bringing the whole society closer together to build a prosperous future – a crucial aspect where our political leaders should show their statesmanship.

One of the major political challenges is the highly undemocratic culture inside most major political parties. No matter what the parties claim, the internal processes are far from being democratic.

**Sabitra, Maoist:**

On the challenging side, ending the Samanti (feudal) culture from Nepali society is probably the biggest challenge for us. Though we have overthrown the Monarchy, the feudal culture still exists in many sectors of the Nepali society and we have to work hard to overcome it. Now we live in a global village and our foreign policy needs to be revisited and focused on acting in the interest of the entire nation based on the *Pachasheel* principles.

Nepal has gone through the cycle of violent conflict which was important to destroy the feudal institutions and culture. Now we need to do our homework reducing the widespread prejudices towards different strata of our society still persisting in our heads and instead forming social cohesion between the diverse groups of Nepal.

Economically Nepal is poor at the moment although we are very rich in resources. We need to bring economic revolution to meet the needs, expectations and aspirations of the people – no doubt a serious challenge. Additionally, arranging finances for bigger infrastructure projects is also a big task.

**Sarala, CPN-UML:**

We still face a long list of major challenges for Naya Nepal such as the growing intolerance among different segments of the population, major financial constraints, lack of education, the tremendous un- and underemployment rates, social stigma such as the "untouchability", persisting discrimination of women, a last but not least a frightening lack of democratic culture within the political parties.

**Sukdaiya, Maoist:**

We are very good in reaching agreements, making nice plans and introducing good rules and regulations, but we often fail when it comes to materializing these ideas. We need to improve on the implementation part, and take the political and economic revolutions side by side. Currently, we tend to politicize everything.

We have to improve on the partnership (*Sahakarya*) culture and on reaching consensus through dialogues. Presently, we are seeing many groups taking their demands to the streets without trying other ways first.