



SASNET Seminar

– in collaboration with Association of Foreign Affairs at Lund University (UPF)



NEPAL: Political Transitions affecting Peace Process

– **PROF. ANJOO SHARAN UPADHYAYA**

Director, Centre for the Study of Nepal,
Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, India

– **H.E. MR. VIJAYKANT LAL KARNA**

Nepalese ambassador to Scandinavia (based in Denmark),
previously political scientist at Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu

Moderator: Dr. Leif Bjellin, Lund University

Wednesday 23 September 2009, 19.30 – 21.00

Venue: Café Athen, Akademiska Föreningen (AF), Sandgatan 2, Lund

In her 35 years of teaching career at Banaras Hindu University, **Anjoo Sharan Upadhyaya** has been the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences; and served twice as the Head, Department of Political Science and also as the Director of Center for Rural Development. She also has been the Research Director, UNU/Ulster University INCORE (Institute of Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity), UK; Fellow at the Department of International Relations, London School of Economics & Politics (LSE), Scholar-in Residence at the Woodrow Wilson Centre for International Scholars, Wash DC, Fellow at Henry L. Stimson Center Wash. and D.C.



She has also served as a member/consultant in the International Planning Study Team, United Nations University, Ulster University (UK), Academic Council of the United Nations System (ACUNS), Commission on International Conflict Resolution at the Council of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), International Alert and the Ministry for Nationalities and External Relations, Republic of Dagestan (Russian Federation) as a subject expert. She has also been an Adjunct Professor at the Concordia University Montreal, Canada, and Visitor at Freie University at Berlin, University of Magdeburg, Germany, Rzeszow and Cracow Poland, University of Darwin and Griffith Asia Institute, Brisbane, Australia.

Professor Upadhyaya has published extensively both nationally and internationally on themes related to issues of self-determination, ethnicity, conflict, federalism, gender, development and peace. She holds a Ph.D. from Banaras Hindu University in International Studies and Master's in Political Science from the Allahabad University. She has undertaken post-doctoral studies at LSE, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden, and Brown University, USA.

H.E. Mr. **Vijaykant Lal Karna** has a solid academic background. Before becoming Ambassador, he was working for 20 years as Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Science, Tribhuvan University in Kirtipur. He has been teaching Political Development, and Ethnic and Conflict studies to post graduate students. During the same time, he has also been the Editor for a number of magazines such as Young Herald, The Independent, and Everest Herald. Besides, he has been working for many years as a devoted rights activist for minority rights, especially for Madhesis, Dalits, Janjatis and religious minorities.



During the period 1979 to 1990, he was imprisoned several times and spent all together two and half years in various jails and police detention centers. Again in the beginning of the April movement in 2006, he was imprisoned for 17 days.

In 2007, he was engaged in a number of peace initiatives. On behalf of the World Bank/DFID, he was Team Leader for a group preparing a Madhesi chapter in the Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment Report. He was also a team member of a group writing on Post Conflict Recovery and Reconstruction in Nepal, for the UNDP Human development report 2007, and Facilitator for a US AID/OTI sponsored project for promoting communal harmony through local level dialogue between Madhesis and hill groups living in the Terai.

Other activities have included being Executive Member for the Nepal Election Observation committee; Executive Member of the National Coalition against Corruption; Executive Member of the Friends for Peace; Ex-President for the human rights organization JAGHRIT Nepal; Ex- Coordinator for the Madhesi Human Rights alliance; and Member of Nepal University Teachers Association (NUTA).