

# पुनर्जीवन (Resurrection)

## Blood Donors of America

“To give blood you need neither extra strength nor extra food, and you will save a life ”



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5/6

May/June, 2015

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## President's Corner

Namaste everyone,

After two devastating earthquakes in Nepal, May and June were the perfect months for giving back to the community here in the USA and to that we left behind in Nepal. After donating the initial contribution of \$5,000 collected by the BDA through American Red Cross for immediate relief efforts, BDA transferred its second phase of contribution of \$5,000 to the earthquake victims by handing over the check to the Prime Minister's Disaster Relief Fund through His Excellency the Ambassador of Nepal to the USA—Dr. Arjun Kumar Karki amidst a function in Atlanta, GA. Simultaneously, BDA State Coordinators and members have been actively involved in fund raising activities in their respective communities and states. Our appreciation and gratitude go to each and every one of you in this crisis. We salute you all collectively for the generous contributors to the fund.

The BDA Earthquake Relief Fund is still continuing and growing. Our commitment now is shifting to the reconstruction phase to help some of the schools devastated by the earthquake. In light of this, different ideas have been floated and we will make

a decision soon for moving forward. BDA believes that you will continue to be engaged and generous in our collective efforts. Also, we are seeking collaborative partners to make the most of our limited resources.

Similarly, we were able to collect 160 pints of blood in May and June to give it back to the community we live here in the USA. This will be enough to save 480 lives in need. BDA in cooperation with state, local, and student organizations hosted 12 blood drives to celebrate World Blood Donors Day, June 14: Alabama (Huntsville 17 pints, Auburn 12 pints), Georgia (Marietta 5 pints), Texas (Lubbock 7 pints), Florida (3 pints), NM (Albuquerque 7 pints), OH (2 pints), CO (Boulder 13 pints), TN (Nashville 20 pints), SC (Greenville 13 pints), and CA (San Francisco 61 pints). Hats off to all generous blood donors, organizers, volunteers, and well-wishers. Thank you, thank you.

Together we can make a difference.

Lila B. Karki, Ph.D.





## हार्दिक अनुरोध (Heartfelt Appeal)



Thank you so much for your generous help and donations with regards to the recent earthquake victims of Nepal. You have already helped us donate \$10,000 to the immediate relief efforts and recovery work through American Red Cross (\$5,000) and Prime Minister Disaster Relief Fund (\$5,000). While the news on the first one was published in the previous issue of this newsletter, the latter is published in this very issue.

We are continuing our efforts in the reconstruction works and would like to establish a separate fund with a view to specifically help rebuild some schools and establish scholarship funds for the affected communities. Therefore, we sincerely and wholeheartedly seek your continued support and generosity and request everyone to participate in it. We understand that many of you may have already committed further support elsewhere. However, we also believe there is some more room in your hearts and minds to be a part of this wonderful endeavor. Join us and express your commitment even further.

**Visit [www.blooddonorosofamerica.org](http://www.blooddonorosofamerica.org) for donation**  
**Blood Donors of America**

# ब्लड डोनर्स अफ अमेरिकाद्वारा प्रधानमन्त्री दैवी प्रकोप राहत कोषमा रु ५ लाख हस्तान्तरण



## List of donors since May 9, 2015 to the BDA Earthquake Relief Fund

Donor	Amount
Tilak Shrestha	\$51.0
Yubraj Kumar Karki	\$25.0
Carolyn Whiltakes	\$5.00
Resham Thapa	\$200.0
Bishnu Ghimire	\$130.0
Alaa Abdrabou & Rasha Elbakri	\$50.0
Chooda Khanal	\$25.0
Bhabindra Basnet	\$50.0

ब्लड डोनर्स अफ अमेरिकाले भर्खरै नेपालमा गएको बिनासकारी भूकम्पबाट पिडितहरुका लागि विभिन्न व्यक्तिहरुबाट सङ्कलन गरेको रु ५ लाख आर्थिक सहयोग एक समारोहका बिच अमेरिकाका लागि नेपाली राजदुत डा. अर्जुन कुमार कार्की मार्फत प्रधानमन्त्री राहत कोषमा हस्तान्तरण गरेको छ । उक्त हस्तान्तरण कार्यक्रममा संस्थाका सभापति डा. लिला बहादुर कार्की ले सम्पूर्ण चन्दा दाताहरुलाई धन्यवाद दिदै उक्त रकम कोषाध्यक्ष संगीता डंगोल मार्फत डा. कार्कीलाई हस्तान्तरण गरियो । सो चेक हस्तान्तरण समारोहमा डा. अर्जुन कार्की (देब्रे), संगीता डंगोल (बीच) तथा डा. लिला कार्की (दायाँ)।

सोहि कार्यक्रममा संस्थाले विभिन्न जिल्लामा पाठशाला पुनर्निर्माणको लागि थप राहत संकलन गर्ने योजना रहेको कुराको जानकारी सभापति डा. कार्कीले दिनु भयो । यसका लागि आवश्यक सहयोग जुटाउने उद्देश्यले एक अपिल पुनर्जीवनको यसै अङ्कको पृष्ठ २ मा प्रकाशित गरिएको छ।

संस्थाले यस अगाडि नै अमेरिकन रेडक्रस मार्फत तत्काल राहतका लागि रु पाँच लाख पठाई सकेको कुरा समेत सभापति कार्कीले बताउनु भयो ।

## Appeal from the Editorial Board

We would like to invite everyone in our community and beyond to contribute their creative work, be they poems, art work, quatrains (MUKTAK), short stories, essays, educational materials, and the likes related to blood, health, and the act of giving and donation. These creative works will be published in our monthly newsletter, PUNARJEEWAN. Materials can be written in both English or Nepali. It would be further appreciated if you include your photo. The material could be sent directly to the chief editor Dr. Ramesh Khanal at [rmkkhanal@yahoo.com](mailto:rmkkhanal@yahoo.com) and/or [info@BloodDonorsOfAmerica.org](mailto:info@BloodDonorsOfAmerica.org). Thank you all for your contribution and dedication.



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.BoodDonorsOfAmerica.org](http://www.BoodDonorsOfAmerica.org)

# One Mega Earthquake: The Endurance, the Resilience, the Rehabilitation, the Reconstruction, and the Eternal Hope



## Request

BDA has printed 55 banners in Nepal for providing one to each of the 50 states. With the generous help of many friends and families, we have already imported 47. We are looking for those of you who are in Nepal at the moment and/or planning to visit Nepal soon to bring any number (one and more...) of BDA Banners for us. Being the [501 (c) 3] public charity organization, we always look for your support to make it grow bigger and stronger. Your help is always an inspiration for us to move forward. Please let us know if you and/or your friends are in Nepal!

**“To give blood you need neither extra strength nor extra food, and you will save lives.”**



**Why host a blood drive?**

- Help save lives.
- Support individuals in dire need.
- Energize the community.
- Give back to the community.



**Fifth Blood Drive in California**

The 5th Annual Blood Drive initiated by Lions Club of Berkeley Annapurna concluded yesterday with a grand success. It was initiated almost 6 years ago. Along with Lions Club of Berkeley Annapurna, the event was partnered by Blood Donors of America California Chapter and supported by American Red Cross Northern California Blood Service center in Oakland. Cub President Lion Hema Paneru and four other members of the first family including Zone chair Lion Mani Nepali Paneru, Mahima Paneru, Lion Sapana Paneru and Lion Alisha Shrestha donated their invaluable blood. Similarly, the president elect as well as the program coordinator Dhruva Thapa and Mrs. Sabita Thapa donated their blood.

Almost 100 people attended the donation drive to make it a great success. A total of 61 were found eligible to donate. Among the donors were President of NPRCA California Chapter Purna Sherpa, immediate past president of NPRCA CA and central executive member of Blood Donors of America Lion Chandra Dhital, his spouse Maya Dhital, son Sanjiv Dhital and Sandhya Dhital donated on the occasion. Likewise, NPRCA leader and NANC advisor Binod Bhatta, newly elected NANC president Tej Rai and Mrs. Januka Rai, General Secretary Kailash Thapa, 2nd Vice President elect of Lions Club of Berkeley Annapurna Kaushal Pratap JB Rana and many important people of the Bay area donated.

The function was attended by important Lion dignitaries, Cabinet Secretary of District 4C3 Lion Al Satake, 2nd VDG elect Lion Rajen Thapa, NANC president Uttam Karki, NANC General Secretary Rabindra Rai, state coordinator of Blood Donors of America Iswor Sapkota, Past President of Lions Club of Berkeley Annapurna Lion Laxmi Chaudhary, Social activist Roshan Adhikari, Prakash Thapa, Narayan Khanal and Uddab Paudel were some of the important attendees.

**Every Donation Equally Precious**

BDA executive members and State Coordinator, OH donating their blood to mark the World Blood Donors Day, June 14, 2015. Drs. Biajy Kattel, Suresh Sharma, and Lila Dahal.



## Blood drive in South Carolina

A blood drive was successfully accomplished in South Carolina recently. Even though a total of 19 people wanted to donate their blood, only 13 were able to do so. Other six were not able to donate because of some specific conditions, like low hemoglobin, blood pressure and on antibiotics etc. These donors were Satish Gupta, Prativa Karki, Manish Shakya, Sanjeena Shakya, Pravin Paudel, Neelam Maharjan, Asit Pokharel, Arun Lamichhane, Surendra Karki, Nirmal Lamsal, Paras Pageni, Shashank Gupta, and Nishanta Aryal. However, other dedicated people, such as Narendra Baral, Prakash Kandel, Jyotshna Aryal, Ranjana Gupta, Deepesh Paudel, Danda Chapagai and Shristi Gupta have to wait until another occasion to donate when they become eligible. Our unreserved appreciation goes to each and every one of you, THANK YOU.



## Thank You Auburn, AL

Blood Donors of America (BDA) thanks our 12 generous donors for donating their blood on June 27, 2015 in Auburn, AL. The blood drive was jointly organized by the Nepalese Student Association (NSA) at Auburn University, Tuskegee University, BDA, and Padma Dal Memorial Foundation. We appreciate all of you and would like to thank all volunteers of the community blood drive. Among others, BDA salutes Dr. Sushil Adhikari (bottom right) and our very own president Dr. Lila B Karki (top right) for donating blood and helping save lives.





# Blood Donors of America - The New Members



## Namaste and welcome to new members of the BDA

Will you please join us in warmly welcoming the following general members (GM) and life members (LM) of the BDA? We are very delighted to have you all, see table below, from different walks of life in our prestigious humanitarian organization.

On behalf of the BDA, we heartily welcome all of you on-board. Certificates of membership will be distributed at some opportune time in the near future. Let's give them all a HURRAH.

May you start campaigning for BDA from the get go. Wish you all a great success.

Name	State
Margaret Stevensons, GM	AL
Mohan Gurung, LM	WA
Huni Gurung, LM	WA
Rupal Kadakia, LM	TN
Hari Om Pradhan, LM	FL
Meena Pradhan, LM	FL
Prakash Ghimire, GM	AL

### OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your articles, information, feedback and any comments to the following address.

Emails: [info@blooddonorsofamerica.org](mailto:info@blooddonorsofamerica.org), [rmkkhanal@yahoo.com](mailto:rmkkhanal@yahoo.com)

You may visit us at:

<http://blooddonorsofamerica.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/blooddonorsof.america.5?fref=ts>

## Blood Donation in Atlanta, Georgia

Five pints of blood were donated by the BDA members in Atlanta, GA to mark the World Blood Donors Day on June 14, 2015. They were Bhabindra Basnet, Sonica Basnet (pictured below), Pranay Rana, Narayan Chalise, and Mohan Timilsina. BDA wishes to appreciate their contribution in celebrating the Blood Donors Day the best way possible.



## Go to Dallas, Texas, May 28-30, 2016 (Memorial Day weekend) to celebrate the very first convention of the Blood Donors of America (BDA).

Someone needs blood every two seconds. One pint of blood can save up to three lives. You too can save those three lives and feel the joy of giving.

— If you're a blood donor, you're a hero to someone, somewhere, who received your gracious gift of life —



## कोलोराडोको बोल्डरमा रक्तदान कार्यक्रम सम्पन्न



विश्व रक्तदाता दिवसको अवसर पारेर बिआरटी नेपाल डटकम तथा ब्लड डोनर्स अफ अमेरिकाको संयुक्त आयोजनामा शनिवार कोलोराडोको बोल्डर स्थित रक्तसंचार केन्द्रमा रक्तदान कार्यक्रम सम्पन्न भयो । कार्यक्रममा ९ जना नेपाली ४ जना स्थानीय अमेरिकीहरूले रक्तदान गरेका थिए । रक्त दान गर्न ईच्छुक २४ जना भन्दा बढी भएपनि विभिन्न कारणले गर्दा १३ जना मात्र रक्तदान गर्न योग्य ठहरिएका थिए । अमेरिकी नियम अनुसार रक्तदान गर्न अमेरिकामा बस्न थालेको ३ वर्ष हुनुपर्ने तथा लगातार एकवर्ष देश बाहिर नगएको हुनु पर्दछ ।

रक्तदान जिवनदान भन्ने मान्यतालाई मनन गर्दै यसरी रक्तदान गर्नेहरूमा नेपाली घरका अध्यक्ष नारायण श्रेष्ठ, आयोजक संस्था बिआरटी नेपाल डटकमका अध्यक्ष शैलेश पोखरेल, टिका पौडेल, राजु सिटौला, स्थानीय डेबीड लीब, लुना पौडेल, क्रिस्टिन जहन्सन, केविन फार्वेल, जुनु श्रेष्ठ, रोहित श्रेष्ठ, रिपेन्द्र कार्की, जन स्कट, राजेश प्रधान रहेका छन् ।

आयोजक संस्थाका अध्यक्ष शैलेश पोखरेलले नेपाली समुदायको पहिचान गराउन कार्यक्रमको आयोजना गरिएको बताए । उनले यस पटक समेत अमेरिकामा आठौं पटक रक्तदान गरेका थिए । आठ पटक सम्म रक्तदान गर्दा १ ग्यालेन हुने हृदा उनलाई १ ग्यालेन पिन समेत प्रदान गरिएको थियो ।

**BLOOD DRIVE  
2015**



**June 20, 2015  
Boulder  
Colorado**



**Organizers  
BRTNEPAL.COM  
&  
Blood Donors  
of America**



## Blood Drive in West Palm Beach, FL on May

A special event was organized in West Palm Beach, FL to create the awareness for the Victims of Earthquake in Nepal as well as to save lives locally on May 17, 2015. A large number of Nepali and Non Nepali community gathered to be the part of this event. West Palm Beach Nepali community members extended special thanks to Jina Satyal and Ruby Satyal for organizing the event dedicated to our beloved country Nepal. It was supported by Blood Donors of America and United FNA-FANS. Kudos to 17 big hearted donors for donating their blood.



## Blood Drive in Huntsville, Alabama

A total of 17 pints of blood was collected during a blood drive in Huntsville, AL. Three of our BDA members donated their blood. They were Madhav Mainali, Santosh Pokhrel, and Tom Sitaula. There were fourteen others who were from outside of our immediate community, but responded to our cause and opened their hearts and arteries. They deserve our special thanks. Several other willing volunteers could not contribute to the cause and were deferred for various reasons. They expect to be able to donate during the next blood drive. BDA would like to express its sincere gratitude to all the donors, organizers, volunteers and others for successful completion of the project. Lets continue with the same spirit and enthusiasm in the future too.

Our thoughts go out to all suffering from devastating Earthquake in Nepal.

Visit us @ Facebook

Upcoming Events



Visit [www.blooddonorsofamerica.org](http://www.blooddonorsofamerica.org) and donate now.

Let's help with Earthquake relief fund !

Comments: Earthquake Relief Fund

Donate



Our Mission



Non-profit, non-religious, and non-political 501(c)3 organization

dedicated to work on community services including but not limited to: Hosting blooddrives in the local community, creating awareness on blood donation and healthy living in all 50 states in the USA and around the world.



**Together we can make a difference. Lets donate blood. Lets help save lives.**



**Blood Drive in Nashville, Tennessee**

A total of 23 willing big hearted volunteers donated their blood recently in Nashville, TN. It was 8 over the goal and can save up to 69 lives!!! Kudos to you all. They were Ghanshyam Bhatt, Narayan Bhusal, Robin Subedi, Sarita Acharya, Atul Dongol, Anish Adhikari, Santosh Thapa, Deependra Bhatta, Rakshya Kunwar, Deepak Baral, Suraj Adhikari, and Roshan Shrestha. Two of the willing volunteers were deferred.



**Blood Drive, Lubbock, Texas**

Blood Donors of America (BDA), Lubbock, Texas hosted a Blood Donation Drive in United Blood Services Center on June 13, 2015. BDA-Texas salutes our 7 generous blood donors, true social HEROES! and greatly appreciates the support of volunteers, individuals and the United Blood Services, Lubbock! The donors were: Ishwor Shrestha, Kamal Humagain, Kishor Gautam, Prem Shrestha, Raj Shrestha, Saugat Parajuli, and Siroj Pokhrel.



**Go to Dallas, Texas, May 28-30, 2016, Memorial Day weekend, to participate in the very first convention of Blood Donors of America (BDA).**

We appreciate all of our society members for their support, co-operation, and generosity. Without you nothing would have been possible. We look forward to your continued help and support in our blood drives, social events as well as the appeals for helping fellow citizens and countrymen in need. Our thanks and appreciation to all of the staffs associated with blood drives for helping and being very kind, nice and supportive.

**BDA State Coordinators**

Santosh Pokhrel, AL  
 Sagar Tamang, AK  
 Mohan Acharya, AR  
 Prem Khatri, AZ  
 Iswor Sapkota, CA  
 Bhusan Lal Shrestha, CO  
 Dr. Gandhi Bhattarai, CT  
 Manju Sangraula, DC, VA  
 Dr. Lekh Nath Paudel, DE  
 Ajaya Satyal, FL  
 Bhabindra Basnet, GA  
 Surendra KC, HI  
 Sanjaya Shrestha, IA  
 Basu Kafle, ID  
 Dr. Ranjit Amgai, IN  
 Kiran Byanjankar, IL  
 Amrit Pahadi, KS  
 Hemanta Bhetwal, KY  
 Basu Bhandari, LA  
 Maheshwar Pant, MA  
 Kemika Bhandari, MD  
 Anil Adhikari, MN  
 Bharat Kandel, MO  
 Dr. Nawa Pradhan, MS  
 Jaya Tripathi, ME  
 Dr. Anil Paudel, MI  
 Arjun Pandey, MT  
 Dr. Thakur Karki, NC  
 Roshan Sharma, ND  
 Sanjaya Basnet, NE  
 Din Bandhu Premi, NH  
 Sanjeev Shrestha, NJ  
 Ananda Regmi, NM  
 Bishnu Neupane, NV  
 Nima Sherpa, NY  
 Dr. Lila Raj Dahal, OH  
 Rachana Paudel, OK  
 Dr. Resham Thapa, OR  
 Lok Chantyal, PA  
 Sarita Oli, RI  
 Satish Chandra Gupta, SC  
 Krishna Acharya, SD  
 Buddhi Pant, TN  
 Basu Shrestha, TX  
 Niranjan Bhandari, UT  
 Yam Mishra, VT  
 Mohan Gurung, WA  
 Tilak KC, WI  
 Bhusan Aryal, WV  
 Sujana Dhakal, WY

**BDA Celebrates World Blood Donor Day**

Blood Donors of America celebrated the World Blood Donor Day, June 14, 2015 by hosting several blood donation campaigns throughout the USA. Additionally, many of our members went to donate their precious blood individually or in small groups at the local blood donation centers.

If you want to host a blood drive in the future, do not worry about how to manage everything for the very first time. Believe in yourself. This is a team work. BDA is here to help you. Please remember that blood donation is life donation and one pint of blood is above and beyond any other kind of donation because it has the potential to save three lives.

Do not worry about the number of donors. Even if only one or two donors participate, you do not need to be discouraged. Number of donors does not matter much as we are creating awareness in our respective communities to participate in a noble cause of saving lives.

You may host a blood drive either at the donor center or in a blood mobile. If you find only a few donors, pursuing the former option is better. Simply find a date and possible times at the donor center and bring your team to the center for donation. However, if you are planning to host a bigger blood drive, i.e., 15 donors or above, it would be beneficial to lock a date and request for a blood mobile at your desired location, where you can organize other social functions like potluck, a social gathering, or a celebration. You are more than welcome to contact us if you need some ideas in this regard.

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to BDA Adviser, Co-chair, and Life Members on getting elected for various positions in NRN-NCC-USA, 2015-2017. Left to right are: Keshav Paudel (BDA Life Member and Advisor), Gobinda Shrestha (BDA Life Member and Co-Chair, Fund Raising Committee), Radha Paudel (BDA Life Member), and Ram Chandra Pokhrel (BDA Life Member).



We kindly request all of you to become life members of Blood Donors of America by using following ink: <http://blooddonorsofamerica.org> The life membership for first person of the family is \$100.00 and just an extra \$50.00 each for additional family members.

## Prahlad & Bindu Pant Scholarship Award

Awarded on the basis of student's financial needs

Managed by

**Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASeA)**

1. Beginning in 2013, a \$2,000 (two thousand US Dollars) scholarship award has been established by Dr. Prahlad and Bindu Pant. This award is managed and coordinated by Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASeA).
2. This scholarship is awarded annually to one student on the basis of the financial needs of the student and not on the basis of merit.
3. The scholarship award is open to any freshman or sophomore undergraduate student of Nepali origin (one or both parents from Nepal) residing in the United States, who is a US high school graduate and has been admitted as a full-time student to a US college or university.
4. The selection process involves completing the application form together with all the documents (listed in no. 15 in page 3 of this application form) and the verification of the total annual income of the student and/or the student's parents.
5. NASeA Academic and Professional committee will make the selection on the basis of the financial needs of the applicant, and its decision will be final.
6. Application forms are due by the second Saturday of every August. For this year, **the application deadline is Saturday, August 8, 2015**. For application and other details, please contact Academic and Professional Committee chair at [ramjee.sharma@gmail.com](mailto:ramjee.sharma@gmail.com) by August 8, 2015.
7. The decision on the winner and a runner-up of the award is made by the fourth Saturday of every August. For 2015, the selection will be made by Saturday, August 22, 2015 or at the earliest possible date thereafter.
8. The award is given out to the winner at the NASeA/ ANMA Joint Convention in Greensboro, NC during the cultural program. **The student must be present at the convention to receive the award.** Visit convention website <http://www.jointconvention.org> for more information about the convention. If the winner fails to show up at the convention, the award will be given to the runner-up if he/she is present.
9. For questions or information, please contact [ramjee.sharma@gmail.com](mailto:ramjee.sharma@gmail.com).

**Application deadline August 8, 2015**

## Congratulations graduating seniors

Congratulations to the graduating seniors of the children of BDA members. We know there were many others who have graduated and we would like to congratulate each and every one of you. However, we were unable to get the details or the photos, so here are only a few. We wish you all the very best in your future paths, academic or otherwise. From left to right are Pant (MA), Sapkota (CA), and Dahal families (CA)



## Advisory Council

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**Dr. Prahlad Pant,**  
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Economic Advisor  
**Sanjeeb Sapkota,**  
Public Health Advisor  
**Binod Roka,**  
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Adviser  
**Dr. Tara Niraula,**  
Adviser  
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Adviser  
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Adviser  
**Dr. Gopi Upreti,**  
Adviser

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Entrepreneurs Committee for Community Service

## FIRST BDA CONVENTION



Dallas, Texas  
May 28-30, 2016  
(Memorial weekend)

### Our Mission:

Non-profit, non-religious, and non-political 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to work on community services including, but not limited to: Hosting blood drives in the local community, creating awareness on blood donation, and healthy living in all 50 states in the USA and around the world.

### Mini Blood Drives in New Mexico and Florida

A mini blood drive was organized in New Mexico to celebrate the World Blood Donors Day. A total of seven people donated their blood; four from our own BDA community. They were Ananda Regmi (pictured), Premananda Chaudhary, Bed Pantha, and Janardan Paudel. Similarly, Ajay Satyal and Bhaskar Dawadi also donated a pint each of their blood in Florida.



### Congratulations masters graduates

Congratulations to Min Prasad Khanal (right) for the successful completion of a masters degree in physics from Auburn University, Auburn, AL. Similarly, Rachana Paudel completed her masters degree in horticulture and landscape agriculture from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK.



We wish you both a clear and wonderful future career wherever you will be pursuing. We are sure both of you will also be taking an active role, be it here in the USA or back home, in community service and BDA programs.



## Editorial Board

Dr. Ramesh Khanal, WI

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## Daana: the Charity, the Donation

In Sanatana (or Hindu in more common parlance) tradition, daana, or donation or charity is associated with an act of conscious and willing relinquishment of possession and transfer of ownership of certain things, mostly materialistic and worldly in nature, to another willing recipient who consciously accepts the transfer, and as a consequence, becomes the new owner.

Accordingly, daana could be of various natures, such as a. donation of the knowledge or vidya-daana. It is the training of a worthy disciple by the master. Though not truly of materialistic nature, it still involves the act of giving and taking, b. donation of the life or jeevana-dana. It is the sparing the life of a defeated, weak opponent in war. Donation of one's blood can also be included in this category since the blood thus donated can save someone's life, c. donation of the food or anna dana. It is the offering of water and food for quenching of thirst and hunger, and d. donation by protection or abhaya-dana. It is the offering of protection to those who come seeking safety and those who surrender. It is something like providing asylum in a broad sense. There is also a fifth type of daana, which our intelligent readers can easily find with some research.

Consequently, every earning member of the society is also strongly advised and encouraged to donate as per one's capacity, be it of any kind, which would then help earn future merit. Even by today's somewhat selfish motives of getting something back, how can we expect anything in the future if we don't even try to sow the seed at an opportune time? What can be more opportune than helping those affected by the recent earthquakes in our own country and for our own folks or here in our own community? Haven't we felt the joy and satisfaction after completing the act of donation, including that of blood, so many times in the past? Isn't it the very purpose of our organization? Lets do some more and contribute to making the real difference, together.

*Ramesh Khanal, Madison*

Blood is precious, but it is replenished by our body in a cyclic manner. Donating it in a timely and conscious way doesn't affect our health and wellbeing, while helping save many lives.

**LET'S DONATE, LET'S HELP SAVE LIVES.**



**Blood Donors**  
**of America**

Most people have blood to spare... yet, there is still not enough to go around. Most people don't think they'll ever need blood, but many do. By donating blood, you will help ensure it is available on time and help save more than one life with just one donation. So, please come forward and contribute to this great cause by donating your blood, which would otherwise be replaced anyway. Who knows that blood may be used for you or your own family one day.