

SUSHIL PYAKUREL
Former Commissioner
National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

For more than 2 decades Mr. Pyakurel has been involved in a movement of promotion and protection of democratic values based upon human dignity, security and human rights. He is considered to be the most active Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). He himself campaigned for the establishment of HNRC. While serving as a Commissioner he assumed the responsibility regarding protection and promotion of human rights as well as to ensure independence of the Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles. He has boldly campaigned for ending impunity of human rights violators and ongoing disappearances by state and non-state entities. In eighties, he campaigned for multi party democracy and was arrested and subjected to state arbitrary actions.

Pyakurel criticized the step of the Nepal's King to assume executive state power on 1 February 2005, terming it to be unconstitutional. He also pointed out the deplorable state of rule of law and human rights in the country during the King's direct rule. Then Pyakurel was imposed travel restriction twice and barred even from his official visit to monitor the human rights situation of the country as a Commissioner. Later, on March 20,2005 after receiving invitation from the 8 prominent senators of the United States of America including Patrick Leahy, Dianne Feinstein, Barbara A. Mikulski and the UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Mehar Khan Williams Pyakurel was allowed to leaving the country. His visit to USA and UK during March 2005 aimed at lobbying with various international friends and dignitaries for the protection of democracy and human rights of Nepalese people has been significant. He also presented the factual information on human rights situation of the country at the 61st Session of Human Rights Commission's meeting in Geneva in April 2005. That ultimately led to the establishment of OHCHR monitoring office in Nepal through an MOU signed between Nepalese government and UN under Agenda Item 19 in April 2005.

Presently based in Delhi, Pyakurel is active in raising concerns and support from the international communities including friends of Nepalese people for the protection of human rights and restoration of democracy in Nepal. His stay in exile has been encouraging and giving impetus to the democratic movement of Nepal.

WORK/EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

May 2000 to May 2005

National Human Rights Commission
Harihar Bhawan, Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal
Commissoner

Aug 1990 to April 2000

Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)

	Syuchatar – 4, Kalanki (Blue House), Kathmandu, Nepal <u>Chairman</u>
July 1985 to July 1990	Informal Sector Research Centre (INSEC) Syuchatar – 4, Kalanki (Blue House), Kathmandu, Nepal <u>Coordinator/Director</u>
Feb 1985 to May 1990	Forum for Democracy and National United (FODENU) Putali Sadak, Kathmandu, Nepal <u>General Secretary</u>
Jan 1984 to Mar 1993	Forum for Protection of Human Rights Naxal, Kathmandu Nepal <u>Founding Member and Central Committee Member</u>
1982 to 1983	Weekly pro-democracy newspaper “Sagarmatha Sandes” (Sagarmatha News). <u>Editor</u>
1976 to 1979	Bansh Gopal Lower Secondary School & Bhutan Devi High School, Hetaunda, Makwanpur District <u>Teacher</u>
