

Editorial

With the promulgation of the new Constitution of Nepal on 20 September 2015, Nepal is envisioned as a Federal Democratic Republic. As per the provision of the Schedule 4 of the Constitution, the country has been structured into seven provinces and 753 local governments. This restructuring of a formerly unitary state to a nation with federal structure offers myriad opportunities despite some challenges that might come across simultaneously. It is thus crucial to assure/guarantee good governance in all spheres/sectors such as legislatures, executives, and judiciaries of all levels and making the governance bodies more accountable to the people and the nation with their proper functioning. It is also equally important to strengthen all political, economic, social, and cultural/educational institutions and carefully work in all fields, but not limited to, infrastructure development, economic growth, trade and commerce, productivity increase, environment protection, and a host of other issues with the aim of achieving the goals of sustainable development.

Considering this as urgent need of the day Molung Foundation decided to call for research papers from among the scholars from home and abroad on the central theme **Strengthening Governance Structures in Federal Nepal: Moving towards Development and Prosperity**. The purpose for so doing was to provide a platform where experts from different fields - researchers, intellectuals, civil society members, development partners, practitioners, bureaucrats, policy makers and students in various fields of study would be involved into the research of these issues and suggest ways forward by sharing their valuable views on the issue.

As had been expected, a number of scholars agreed to send their plans and purposes of research and writing. On the basis of their abstract and the preliminary draft on different subthemes, the Foundation organized a symposium program on the issue whereby the researchers could get more insight into the matter and made their draft final. Then the Editorial Board sent all research papers without author's identity to the expert reviewers who offered valuable remarks and comments on the papers. Taking the reviewers' comments and suggestions positively the researchers revised their writings which the Editorial Board edited finally. Here is thus the final product of a peer reviewed journal in front of the public. The editorial Board would like to thank all researchers who made great effort to offer their research findings into papers and also Molung Foundation which took initiative to publish this scholarly journal.

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