

Editorial

Every year on the 17th day of the month of Magh, the Magar Study Center celebrates its Foundation Day and releases the *Shodhmala* Journal. The Magar Study Center has been publishing a research-oriented journal called *Shodhmala* since B.S. 2062. The goal of the journal is to help the Magar community and society grow, as well as to study, research, and write about different parts of the Magar people's social life. The Center published this publication in book form up to Volume 9, Issue 10, although some important academic norms for scholarly journals had not yet been fully met. But with the release of the eleventh issue in B.S. 2082, the journal has now been added to NepJOL for the first time. We are very happy to announce that this issue has been improved by adding peer-reviewed research articles. This issue of *Shodhmala* is now a peer-reviewed journal, which is a new and important step in its history. The topics covered in the articles offered give us new ways to learn. They have followed the right research methods and academic styles in their assessments. All conceivable efforts have been exerted to eradicate theoretical, conceptual, and practical inconsistencies, in addition to methodological inaccuracies.

This issue of *Shodhmala* has articles written by specialists, researchers, and authors on topics that are important to the Magar people, such as language, culture, customs, traditions, folk beliefs, social behaviors, and current events. The articles provide critical analyses of topics including ancestral worship, Bhume worship, Daidanda Mandali rituals, Lama/Rama and Han (traditional liquor) customs, the Rungma (Chaiti) festival, and gender roles in death rituals within Magar communities across various regions of Nepal. This volume also has serious academic essays about Nepal's demographic changes and healthcare problems, as well as the problems that Magars face in modern Nepal, the settlement of indigenous Magars in unauthorized urban areas of Kathmandu, and the possibility of using the Magar language in government. The thoughts, views, and viewpoints articulated herein are exclusively those of the individual authors; thus, the responsibility for the conclusions formed resides with the authors themselves.

Lastly, the Editorial Board would like to thank the distinguished experts who agreed to be external academic evaluators and helped with the peer-review process: Prof. Dr. Jivendra Dev Giri, Associate Prof. Dr. Chhabilal Chidi, Associate Prof. Dr. Tilu Thapa, Associate Prof. Jagatmani Soti, and Academician Dr. Bishnukumar Sinjali. The Board also wants to thank all of the authors who painstakingly reworked their essays several times depending on the feedback they got. The Editorial Board also wants to thank the advisers who helped with this issue by giving scholarly and intellectual advice. Thanks a lot to Mohan Saud for all the hard work he put into layout and setup, and to the Makalu Press family for their help in producing this book.

Editorial Board

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