

Craft News

(Quarterly)

FEDERATION OF HANDICRAFT ASSOCIATIONS OF NEPAL

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Leadership Change in FHAN

FHAN Annual General Assembly held during April 15-16, 2007 in Kathmandu elected Mr Pushkar Man Shakya as President for the next two years. FHAN members have indicated, through the election of many new board members, some meaningful changes in terms of direction and vision to mobilize FHAN for the betterment of handicraft stakeholders.

Honorable Minister for Industry, Commerce & Supply, Mr. Rajendra Mahato inaugurated the AGM. On that occasion, addressing the inaugural session, he said that due to unique quality and craftsmanship, Nepalese handicraft are known elsewhere. And in this regard, FHAN has significantly contributed. He also urged to maintain the quality not only to compete with others, but also to be a leader. He opined that economic diplomacy and public private partnership could be used for exploring the possibilities in export promotion, and committed to extend any sort of cooperation from the Government. On that occasion, he gave away certificates and awards to top exporters, best association, best entrepreneur, best artisan and best staff of FHAN for the fiscal year 2062/63. Among its institutional member, Nepal Handmade Paper association was awarded with best association of the year.

Earlier, Mr. Pancha Ratna Shakya President of FHAN during his welcome address, highlighted on the contribution of handicraft sector in national economy. He also shed light on FHAN role and activities for the promotion of handicraft trade & industry. He also urged the Government to extend its support in the areas of Handicraft Design Development, establishment of a Craft Village and Handicraft Emporium. Mr Ajad Shrestha, Vice President of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Mr. Surendra Bir Malakar, President of Nepal Chamber of Commerce, stressed on the need for sustainable development of handicraft sector.

At the end of inaugural session, Mr. Bikash Ratna Dhakhwa, First Vice President of FHAN delivered vote of thanks. Highlighting on aims and objectives of FHAN for the development of handicraft around the country, he asked concerned all to extend their cooperation and participate in promotional activities of FHAN.



Honorable Minister for Industry, Commerce & Supply distributing certificates & awards to top exporters etc.

Top Exporters of Handicraft honored in the 27th AGM (Based on the export of FY 2062/2063)

S.No.	Firm/ Company Name	Exporter/ Proprietor
1	Everest Pashmina Knitting & Weaving Industry	Mr. Karken Kumar Gurung
2	Kailash Exports	MR. Katak Lama
3	Yak & Yeti Enterprises	Mr. Swoyambhu Ratna Tuladhar

Top Exporters in Different Product Category

S.No.	Firm/ Company Name	Product Group/ Category
1	Everest Pashmina Knitting & Weaving Industry	Pashmina Products
2	New Himalaya Akash Export	Silver Jewelry & Goods
3	Bagmati Art & Craft	Woolen Goods
4	Nepali Paper Products P. Ltd.	Handmade Paper Products
5	Laxmi Wood Craft Industry	Bone & Horn Products
6	Eco Himal Bunai	Hemp Products
7	Kailash Exports	Metal Craft Products

Business Session

The business session of 27th AGM was over with presentation on policy statement from President, annual report of board from General Secretary, financial report from 2nd Vice President and discussion on the proposals received from FHAN members. Through proposal, the members urged to plan and implement for expanding FHAN around the country and establishing Handicraft village for over all development and promotion of handicrafts all over Nepal.

New executive board

The 27th AGM elected a new executive board for the next two years with the following composition:

President	Mr. Pushkar Man Shakya	Ex. Member (I)	Mr. Surajman Bajracharya
IP President	Mr. Pancha Ratna Shakya (Ex officio)	Ex. Member (I)	Mr. Kishor Bajra Bajracharya
1st Vice President	Mr. Bikash Ratna Dhakhwa	Ex. Member (I)	Mr. Yagya Man Shakya
2nd Vice President	Mr. Hem Ratna Shakya	Ex. Member (I)	Mr. Siddhi Ratna Shakya
General Secretary	Mr. Dharma Raj Shakya	Ex. Member(In/D)	Mr. Saroj Bajracharya
Ex. Member (O)	Ms. Rajju Ranjitkar	Ex. Member(In/D)	Ms. Shova Shakya
Ex. Member (O)	Mr. Anil Kumar Silpakar	Ex. Member(In/C)	Mr. Durga Bikram Thapa
Ex. Member (O)	Mrs. Malika Shrestha	Ex. Member(In/C)	Mr. Nima Sherpa
Ex. Member (O)	Mr. Nabin Shakya	Ex. Member(N)	Mr. Upendra Shamsher JBR
Ex. Member (O)	Mrs. Yashoda Baidhya	Ex. Member(N)	Mr. Bed Raj Gyawali
Ex. Member (I)	Mr. Shambhu Govinda Tamrakar		



New Executive Board of FHAN

O = Organized members
I = Individual Members
N = Nominated Members

In/D = Institutional Members District Associations
In/C = Institutional Members Commodity Associations

FHAN Awarded with Excellent Commodity Association

FHAN has been honored by Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry for the third time. FHAN understands that this is an honor for the quality services and painstaking efforts of FHAN for the development of handicraft trade sector, FHAN was conferred the Excellent Commodity Award by FNCCI on the occasion of its 41st AGM. FHAN extends thanks to FNCCI for their encouragement and looks forward for other supports for institutionalization of FHAN activities.

Welcome / Interaction with new Board Members of FHAN

FHAN new board members had series of welcome/interaction with organizations involved in handicraft development. Institutional members like Lalitpur Handicraft Association, Bhaktapur Handicraft Association and Nepal Handmade Paper Association organized welcome program at their own premises. Similarly, Nepal Ceramic Cooperative Society have also organized such program. FHAN board members had interaction with officials of concerned organizations for mutual cooperation for institutional development and promotion of handicraft trade and industry in the country.

Study on FHAN as federal organization

FHAN was a different kind of organization before its conversion into federation. The conversion process officially started before six months. In order to streamline FHAN along the line of federation, study on organization and a work plan was carried out by a German Expert Mr. Hans Joachim Hanusch. After completing the study, he presented the study report on 24 June, 2007 to the board members. In this course, he apprised the participants with a draft on FHAN Charter along the line of federation, its composition and its organizational structure. After presentation he asked for the participants' view and suggestion to make proper modification in the draft. The participants made different queries and shared their personal experiences to make the FHAN new Charter more practicle and suitable to meet its objective.

At beginning, highlighting about the program, FHAN President asked all the participants to share their experiences. At the end, delivering vote of thanks to resource person for his hard effort in the study of FHAN and meaningful to make FHAN more worthy for its members. Reminding on various reform activities done in past for betterment of organization, he would positively consider to implement the suggestions for the sustainability of FHAN.

Workshop on Effective Time management & Conducting Meetings

With a view to apprise on the effective time management and meeting conducting processes, FHAN organized one day workshop on Time Management and Conducting Meeting during 29 June, 2007 in Nagarkot, Bhaktapur. The workshop had participation of 18 participants comprising the Officials, Executive members and staff of FHAN

At the beginning, highlighting on the importance and objective of the program, Mr. Pushkar Man Shakya, President of FHAN appealed all for their active participation and share the personal experiences. The workshop was conducted by Mr Bikal Prasad Sherchan and Ms Usha Malla Singh. The workshop participants were apprised with importance of time management and approaches/methods for effective

meeting. During the workshop the participants raised different queries in regard to effective meeting and time management in the case of FHAN.



Glimpse of Workshop on time management & conduct meeting

Exclusive Pashmina Designs Exhibition

FHAN's undertaking HANDECEN is working for the development of innovative Pashmina designs. For this, Pashmina Design and Product Development Unit (PDPDU) was established. More than 150 new pashmina designs were developed. FHAN, Nepal Pashmina Industry Association and HANDECEN jointly organized an Exclusive Pashmina Design cum Sale during 4-5 May, 2007 in Lalitpur. The program was organized on the day of 7th AGM of Nepal Pashmina Industry Association. Inaugurating the exhibition, Mr. Rajendra Mahato, Honorable Minister for Industry, Commerce and Supply opined that competing in present global market needs quality products and it must accommodate the interest of the users. After observing the designs he appreciated the initiative and expressed hope that such activities would certainly help promote the export of Pashmina Products. On that occasion, Mr. Pancha Ratna Shakya, then President of FHAN welcomed the participants and Mr. Bikas Ratna Dhakhwa, Chairman of HANDECEN highlighted on the objective of the program. About 150 exclusive Designs of Pashmina in harmony with international color trend for the year 2007/08 were exhibited in the exhibition. Sizable number of Pashmina producers and exporters observed the exhibition and shared that they have found the exhibition useful for improving the marketing initiative in export markets. During the exhibition, 40 such designs were sold outright.

Mr. Purushotam Ojha, Acting Secretary to Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Supply attended the exhibition on the last day. He said that with limited products and markets, export trade can not develop in a sustainable manner. On that occasion, FHAN President highlighted the need of design development and protection of rights related to design and asked the government to extend cooperation. Mr. Shankar Prasad Pandey, President of Nepal Pashmina Industry Association and Mr. Sunil Chitrakar, Coordinator of PDPDU also elaborated on the importance & essence of the design exhibition. At the end, 1st Vice

President of FHAN as well as Chairman of HANDECEN delivered vote of thanks to all for their cooperation to make the program successful. He also presented the review of the program.

Interaction on Nepal China Trade & Investment Promotion

The Governments of Nepal and China are in the process of reviewing Nepal China Trade and Investment. Nepalese Government has sought suggestions for improving Nepal's export to China and promote Chinese investment in Nepal. In this context, FHAN organized interaction on Nepal China Trade & Investment on June 22, 2007 in Kathmandu. The participants discussed on the present trade status between Nepal and China, existing difficulties and practical problems and solutions for simplification of export procedure. The interaction was useful as to improve Nepal's improved trade access to China. Such suggestions covered, but not limited to, duty free entry for Nepalese products in China, facilitation need to participate in trade fairs in China, simplification of Chinese visa requirements for easy access of traders, need for establishing diplomatic missions in major cities of China, compliance with export procedures of Nepal and need for transfer of payments through bank. FHAN has sent these suggestions to Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies for safeguarding the interest of Nepal during the review. The interaction was participated by FHAN officials, representatives of Nepal Himalayan Border Trade Association, Nepal Trans Himalayan Trade Association, Trade & Export Promotion Center, Ministry of Industry, Commerce, & Supply and Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

News / Views

18th Industrial Exhibition & Excellent Entrepreneur Award Program

With an objective to publicize creative products and improve market access for various industrial products produced in different parts of the country, Cottage & Small Industry Development Board has been organizing Industrial Exhibition annually. In this series, 18th Industrial Exhibition and Excellent National Entrepreneurs Award Program was organized during 21-25 June, 2007 in Kathmandu. The products displayed in the exhibition were classified into 13 major categories. All together 250 entrepreneurs involved in cottage and small industry from 69 districts participated in the program. The program was inaugurated by Honorable Minister for Industry, Commerce & Supply, Mr. Rajendra Mahato on 21 June, 2007 in Kathmandu.

Honorable Vice Speaker of the Parliament, Mrs. Chitralekha Yadav distributed certificate and awards to excellent entrepreneurs in the closing ceremony held on June 25, 2007. The excellence awards are sponsored by different organizations. Champa Kapada Industry received the best entrepreneur award sponsored by Federation of Handicraft Associations of Nepal (FHAN). Among the participants, FHAN member, Shakya Stone Carving secured excellent award in Stone & Clay Product Group. Furthermore, Quilted Craft, Amit Metal Craft Industry and Khokana Stone Carving also bagged consolation prizes from handicraft sector. Both the organizer and participants have similar feeling on the importance of such events to promote handicrafts and other industrial products of the country.

Handicraft Export Statistics

Mid July - Mid July

FY 2005/06 - 2006/07

According to the HAN export statistics, various handicraft products equivalent to NRs. 2,71,63,84,047 were exported during FY 2006/07 (Mid July - Mid July), it indicates the decrease of 4 percent compared to the export of FY 2005/06. During the period, export of Pashmina, Woollen Products, Metal Craft, Handmade Paper Products, Silk Products, Wood Craft, Hemp/Allo Products, Beads Items, Dhaka Products and Stone Craft have gone down and export of all other products have shown positive growth compared to the last year.

S.No.	Particulars	Mid July - Mid July		-/+ % change in Export compared to 2005/06	% Share in Tot. Export of 2006/07
		FY 2005/06	FY 2006/07		
1	Pashmina Products	619,391,984	491,205,766	(21)	18.08
2	Woollen Goods	657,726,442	475,270,083	(28)	17.50
3	Silver Jewellery	360,079,696	371,174,442	3	13.66
4	Metal Craft	437,790,118	381,198,709	(13)	14.03
5	Handmade Paper Prod.	269,630,462	242,019,925	(10)	8.91
6	Silk Products	126,521,848	121,662,533	(4)	4.48
7	Cotton Goods	92,564,129	101,935,371	10	3.75
8	Felt Products	-	224,742,173	-	8.27
9	Wood Craft	66,806,760	60,984,160	(9)	2.25
10	Hemp/Allo Goods	56,379,084	34,137,753	(39)	1.26
11	Leather Goods	20,761,121	21,629,804	4	0.80
12	Paubha (Thanka)	15,411,112	16,397,750	6	0.60
13	Incense	17,726,273	22,048,909	24	0.81
14	Ceramics Products	15,081,348	20,647,331	37	0.76
15	Bone & Horn Products	23,824,695	26,041,350	9	0.96
16	Plastic Items	8,921,345	21,697,113	143	0.80
17	Other Textile Prod.	13,452,267	14,098,867	5	0.52
18	Beads Items	9,519,405	8,525,295	(10)	0.31
19	Stone Craft	3,018,383	2,749,158	(9)	0.10
20	Dhaka Products	4,661,928	2,192,217	(53)	0.08
21	Bamboo Products	2,198,939	1,647,215	(25)	0.06
22	Miscellaneous Goods	59,177,511	54,378,122	(8)	2.00
23	Total	2,880,644,848	2,716,384,047	(6)	100.00