

## Appendix

### **Journalists arrested and beaten – April 5-13, 2006**

#### **April 5, 2006**

##### **13 journalists arrested in Kathmandu – 7:35am**

At approximately 7:35am on Wednesday April 5, 13 journalists were among 37 professionals arrested in front of the international convention centre during a peaceful protest rally organised by the Professional Alliance for Peace and Democracy (PAPAD).

The peaceful rally organised in protest of the Kathmandu and Lalitpur district administrations indefinitely banning public protests was scheduled to begin at 7:30am from Baneshwor where it would proceed to Mandala of Maitighar. Five minutes after the rally began, police intervened by using force to remove protestors.

Among the journalists arrested were: Bishnu Nisthuri, president, Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ); Mahendra Bista, general secretary, FNJ; Binod Pahadi, Central Committee member, FNJ; Balram Baniya, secretary, FNJ; senior journalist, Harihar Birahi; senior journalist Gopal Thapaliya; Krishna Humagain; Yuvraj Acharya; Bharat Pokherel; Navaraj Sharma; Rishi Dhamala; Kosh Raj Koirala; and Sudarshan Acharya.

Amongst the others arrested were 13 lawyers, 5 professors, 3 doctors, 2 film artists and a civil society activist.

Several protesters sustained minor injuries as police dragged them away. Gopal Thapaliya, president of the South Asia Free Media Association (SAFMA) Nepal was taken to Kathmandu Model Hospital at Bagbazaar for treatment of injuries to his right elbow sustained while being arrested.

##### **24 journalists arrested in Kathmandu – 3:30pm**

Approximately 24 journalists were arrested at around 3:30pm while participating in a peaceful protest organised by the Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ). Among those arrested were: Shiva Gaunle, vice-president, FNJ; Hemanta Kafle, FNJ treasurer; Purna Basnet, FNJ Central Committee member; senior journalist Kanak Dixit; Gyan Ram Shrestha; Laxman Karki; Bal Kumar Nepal; Navin Paudyal; Baburam Dhakal; Rojan Rai; Ujir Magar; Kiran Pokhrel; Indra Baniya; Damodar Dawadi; Govinda Chaulagain; Prakash Silwal; Lila Raj Khanal; Rajendra Aryal; Bimal Gautam; Dharmendra Jha; Uddhav Acharya; Nirmala Sharma; Shankar Layal Malla; and Dev Raj Rimal. All were detained in Janasewa Police Office, Newroad.

To break up the protest police used excessive force and manhandled the journalists before arresting them.

The demonstrators were protesting the arrest of 37 professionals, including 13 journalists, at a protest rally organised by the Professional Alliance for Peace and Democracy (PAPAD) earlier that day.

The journalists and other professionals that were arrested in the morning and originally detained at Ward Police Office, Tinkune, were transferred to the Police Club at Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu, at 2:30pm. All the detained journalists and professionals were released at 5:30 pm.

##### **Journalist arrested from his house**

Journalist Laxmi Prasain, chief editor *Kutumba Weekly* was arrested from his house on April 5.

#### **April 6, 2006**

##### **Four journalists arrested in Kathmandu**

FNJ central representatives: Sudarshan Acharya; Bhaktadhowj Bohara; Shyam Badan KC, editor *Roadmap Weekly*; and Kamal Koirala, chief editor, *Roadmap Weekly* were arrested from

Kathmandu on April 6. Acharya and Bohara were detained at the women's training academy, Jawalakhel.

### **Media vehicle vandalized in Kathmandu**

In a separate incident, an unidentified group vandalised a vehicle of the *Himalayan Times* at Bhaktapur on April 6 while the vehicle was en route to Surya Vinayak to drop home members of the editorial department.

The attackers hurled stones at the vehicle shattering its windows. Another group at Tinkune Kathmandu later attacked the vehicle.

The driver and passengers managed to escape unharmed from both attacks.

### **April 7, 2006**

#### **Five journalists arrested at Hetuada at 7:45am**

Five journalists including: Khem Bolakhe, secretary, Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ), Makwanpur branch; Gokarna Adhikari, treasurer; Girija Adhikari; Pratik Dainik; Sunhil Khadka, *Nikash Weekly*; and Hari Humagain, *Hetauda Shandesh* were arrested at 7:45am from Hetuada. The journalists were arrested at a peaceful protest rally organised by the Professional Alliance for Peace and Democracy (PAPAD) against the mass arrests from protests the day earlier.

Police baton charged participants of the rally.

#### **One journalist arrested at Srijana, Pokhara at 10am**

Tribhuwan Paudel, executive member, Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ), Kaski chapter and reporter of Pokhara-based Annapurna FM, *Pokhara Hotline* and *Himan Khabar* online was arrested from Srijana Chowk, Pokhara while reporting the news of the protests by the SPA.

Paudel was arrested and taken to the police barracks at Pokhara. He has since been released.

### **April 8, 2006**

#### **Seven journalists receive serious injuries at Baglung**

At least seven journalists were injured at the hands of police on Saturday April 8, while covering a peaceful protest organised by the SPA in the district headquarter of Baglung.

Hari Narayan Gautam, secretary, Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ) Dhaulagiri Branch received a serious injury to his head.

Police beating left five other journalists including Himal Bahadur GC and Ram Krishna Sharma injured.

Also injured by police while covering the protests in Kathmandu were: Suresh Regmi, journalist with Chitwan based Synergy FM; Tej Prakash Pandit, chief editor, *Nayayug Bani*; and Santosh Sharma, journalist, Kantipur; Shyam Shrestha, cameraman; and Tilak Koirala, Nepal One Television were manhandled by police while covering the protests in Bagbazar, Kathmandu.

#### **Journalist arrested in Kathmandu**

Kanak Mani Dixit, senior journalist and editor, *Himal South Asia* magazine, and Kedar Sharma from Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ) were arrested on April 8 for defying curfew orders imposed by the government.

Dixit was arrested in front of the TU Teaching Hospital at Maharajgunj along with 24 rights activists and professionals.

They continue to be in detention.

### **Independent media including Kantipur excluded from curfew passes**

The government has refused to issue curfew passes to some independent media houses including; *Kathmandu Post* and its sister publication *Kantipur*, after the ministry of information and communication excluded Kantipur Publications name from the list of the media houses to receive passes for vehicles to ferry staff and drop off newspapers.

### **April 9, 2006**

#### **Six journalists' injured in Butawal - 8am**

At 8am on April 9, six journalists were brutally beaten by security forces while participating in a pro-democratic rally defying the dawn to dusk curfew order imposed by the local government.

R. Ghimire, president FNJ Rupandehi district; Karna Bahadur Karki, editor, *Lumbini daily*; and Kamala Kuwar were forcefully pushed into a police van and taken into police custody. They were released the next day.

Dipendra Kunwar; Yanendra G.C; and Dinesh Pandey were hospitalised after policed baton charged them at the rally.

#### **Journalist beaten up in Panga, Bhaktapur – 11am**

Bhadra Sharma, correspondent, *Budhabar Weekly* was severely beaten by security forces while on his way to his offices at Panga, Bhaktapur.

#### **Five journalists arrested in Doti – 12:30pm**

Five journalists participating in a pro-democracy rally in the far west town of Doti, Silgadhi were arrested at around 12:30pm on April 9.

The arrested journalists include: Ram Bahadur Ayr, editor, *Bimb Weekly*; Yogendra Balayer, correspondent, *Rajdhani Daily*; Dil Bahadur Chhatyal; Min Bahadur Bum; and Ran Bahadur Bohora.

They were released after an hour.

#### **18 journalists arrested in Butawal –1pm**

Eighteen journalists were arrested at a pro-democracy protest rally in Butawal where 20,000 protestors moved through the main road of Butawal defying the curfew order imposed by the local administration.

After police failed to control the crowd the Royal Nepal Army (RNA) began firing randomly into the crowd resulting in dozens of injured protestors and the crowd running into laneways where they were chased by police and arrested.

The journalists arrested were: Sher Bahadur KC; Dinesh Pandey; Dipak Gyawali, secretary FNJ Rupandehi; Dipendra Kuwar; Dipendra Baduwal; Top Raj Sharma; Amrit Giri; Prakash Shrestha; Arjun Shrestha; Bharat KC; Yuvaraj Pandey; Hari Sundar Basi; Shyam Lal Pokhrel; Siddhi Charan Bhattarai; Laxman Paudel; Manoranjan Sharma; Ramesh Pokhrel; and Pradeep Acharya.

Several of the journalists were badly beaten by police after they were arrested.

The arrested journalists were held at Butawal police station and released the next day.

#### **Newspaper office attacked at 1:30pm**

Army personnel attacked the office of Chitwan based *Paradarshi daily* at around 1.30pm on April 9.

Army personnel hurled stones at the office of the daily on accusation of dissemination of news related to movement and exaggeration of police action.

#### **Three journalists arrested in Dhankuta – 3:30pm**

Three journalists were arrested at 3:30pm on April 9 while participating in a peaceful rally organised by the Appellate Court Bar Association against the arrest of journalists and professionals across the country.

Amongst the journalists arrested were; Sanjay Santoshi, vice president, FNJ; Bijay Shantoshi Rau, president FNJ Dhankuta Chapter; J.B Ghale Magar, vice president FNJ Dhankuta.

Magar was severely beaten by security personal resulting in severe injuries to his head.

All three journalists were held at the District Police Office in Dhankuta, and released the same day.

#### **Journalist arrested in Dailekh**

Sita Ram Jaisi, FNJ executive member of FNJ Dailekh was arrested in the far western district of Dailekh while reporting the protests staged by the seven party Alliance.

#### **Journalists arrested in Baglung**

Hari Narayan Gautam, secretary, FNJ of Shaulagiri Branch was arrested on April 9 from Baglung, headquarter of Dhalagiri zone while reporting on the news of the democratic movement organised by the seven party alliance. He continues to be under detention.

#### **Journalist arrested and beaten up in Sokedhara, Kathmandu**

Security forces arrested and beat up Bed Prakash Dhakal, sub-editor of the *Annapurna Post*, from the Cyprus School compound at Sokedhara, Kathmandu.

Dhakal was waiting for his office car to pick him up when security forces was beaten up despite showing his media identity car, when teachers from the school attempted to intervene, they were also beaten up by the security forces.

#### **Journalist arrested in Kathmandu**

Thirlal Bhushal, reporter, *Kathmandu Post* was arrested from his residence during the afternoon on April 9. He was released the same day.

#### **Media vehicle targeted in Kathmandu**

A *Himalayan Times* vehicle was vandalised by the second time in two days by protestors.

#### **Journalist injured in Handigaon, Kathmandu**

Sabin Chandra Acharya, sub-editor, *Annapurna Post* was hit in the cheek by a stone thrown by unidentified people in the afternoon in Handigaon, Kathmandu.

#### **Journalist beaten in Dhangadi**

Tek Raj Joshi, reporter for Dhangadi based Ghodaghodi FM, Tika Upreti and Prayag Joshi of *Sudur Sandesh*, were severely beaten in Dhangadi by security forces while they were reporting news on the democratic movement staged by the Seven Party Alliance (SPA).

#### **Journalist beaten in Chitwan**

Binod Poudel, correspondent, *Annapurna Daily* was beaten by police and severely injured by police while reporting on the SPA democratic movement.

Poudel was taken home after his injuries were treated in hospital.

### **April 10,2006**

#### **Two journalists arrested in Dhangadi**

Jagat Saud, correspondent, Farwest and Prayag Joshi, correspondent, *Sudur Sandesh* were arrested in the morning of April 10 while reporting news of the democratic movement organised by the seven party alliance in Dhangadi, far western town and district headquarter of Kalali.

According to FNJ, Joshi was severely beaten by police despite showing his media identity card. Prayag Joshi was released on the same day while Saud is still under custody.

#### **Four journalists beaten in Boudha – 5pm**

Police personnel brutally beat four journalists including: Balram Baniya, secretary, FNJ; eKantipur editor, Akhilesh Tripathi; assistant senior sub-editor Gopal Khanal; and reporter Ekindra Kunwar. at Boudha on Monday April 10 at 5pm.

The journalists were deliberately singled out and targeted by police when they arrived at the SPA demonstration as police realised they were from Kantipur Publications.

More than a dozen police surrounded the four journalists, using their batons to systematically beat them as they showed their press cards.

When asked for help, a Sub-Inspector of Police, who was apparently leading the policemen, was heard saying, “Hit them... but not on the heads.”

The police broke nearly half a dozen batons while hitting the journalists on their arms, backs and legs. Police also hurled stone at a photojournalist, Saligram Tiwari.

The attackers were deployed under the command of Police Officer Keshev Bahadur Shahi.

The journalists were later treated for massive swollen backs, limbs and legs at the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital at Maharajgunj.

#### **Journalist beaten in Parbat**

Om Prakash Upadhyaya, *Himalayan Times* correspondent for Parbat district was brutally beaten by security personnel while covering the protests despite showing his media identity card. Upadhyaya is now being treated at Parbat District Hospital.

#### **Journalist beaten in Dadelhura**

Police severely beat up D R Pant, vice president, FNJ and *Kantipur* reporter while he was covering a protest demonstration at Tufandanda in Dadeldhura bazaar.

Police took him under control, systematically beat him and snatched away his camera. Pant who was seriously injured in the police beating and was treated for severe bruises.

#### **Government infiltration witnessed at democratic rallies**

Dozens of plainclothes soldiers carrying explosives infiltrated the SPA's peaceful demonstration in Kohalpur Bazaar of Banke, which was part of a nationwide democratic movement

The UN's Human Rights team spotted the plainclothes army carrying grenades as they entered the gathering and asked the infiltrators to show the hidden objects. One of the soldiers immediately revealed a grenade but when he was asked to show the object in his other pocket, he left the gathering.

Major Anirudra Nagarkoti commands the troops who were deployed to foil the peaceful demonstration and Lieutenant Ram Bahadur Karki led the ambush.

#### **Two journalists beaten by police in Ratnanagar, Chitwan – 2pm**

Keshav Bhattarai, FNJ central council member and Narayan Dhungana, reporter of *Bargikrit Dainik* were beaten by the police at Ratnanagar, Chitwan when they were reporting on the democratic movement organised by the SPA at Ratnanagar. They were beaten even as they showed their media identity cards to the police.

Dhungana received minor injuries and Bhattarai returned home after being treated at the hospital.

#### **April 11, 2006**

#### **Journalist beaten in Myanglung**

Journalist Krishna Yogi was severely beaten by police while he was reporting a torch rally organised by the SPA. He received severe injuries to his head and wrist.

**Three journalists arrested in Dailekh – 12noon**

Three journalists Yagya Raj Thapa, Pushkar Thapa and Umesh KC.Narayan were arrested from Dailekh, mid western district while they were reporting news on the democratic movement organised by the SPA. Police also manhandled them before the arrest. They were also threatened of further action and warned not to report on democratic movement. They were released after six hours of detention.

**Ten journalists arrested in Chitwan – 1pm**

Ten journalists including Bishnu Chimeki, central committee member of the FNJ and Janak Aryal, president of FNJ's Chitwan chapter were arrested from a protest rally organised against the nation-wide arrest and attack on journalists and professionals.

Narayan Sapkota and Babu Ram Ghimire, secretary and treasurer of FNJ-Chitwan respectively were also arrested.

Other arrested journalists included: Krishna Giri, Hari Prasad Pokhrel, Binod Adhikari, Sanad Kumar Chaudhari, Anup Raj Kanel and Hari Prasad Upreti.

All arrested journalists are detained at Women Police Academy, Chitwan. They were released at 6pm

**President of FNJ Pachthar chapter brutally beaten by police - 1.45pm**

Lavdev Dhungana, president of FNJ Pachthar Chapter was brutally beaten by police while participating in a protest rally organised by professionals against continuous arrest and attack on journalists and professionals.

Five police personnel surrounded him and brutally beat him despite showing his identity card.

Dhungana received severe injury to his head and being treated at hospital. He received four stitches to his head.

**April 12, 2006**

**21 journalists arrested in Naya Sadak, Pokhara – 11.45am**

At least 21 journalists were arrested from a peaceful protest organised by Professional Alliance for Peace and Democracy (PAPAD) against the government imposition of curfew and restriction order on demonstration. Around 200 professionals were also arrested.

Four of the journalists arrested were: Gangadhar Parajuli, FNJ vice-president; Badri Binod Pratik, former vice president, FNJ; and Rabindra Bastola, president, FNJ-Kaski chapter.

The rally began from Prithvi Narayan Chowk. Police arrested the participants as they reached Naya Sadak.

Other journalists arrested during the demonstration include Madhav Sharma, Nav Raj Subedi, Him Nidhi Laudari, Bal Krishna Kaucha Magar, Shiva Sharma Chanchal, Krishna Anjan, Bishnu Prasad Bhandari, Aarju Bista, Dol Raj Pokhrel, Bishwa Shankar Palikhe, Hari Bastola, Binod Dhaulagiri, Beda Nidhi Timilsina, Sanjay Kishore Bastola, Navin Sigdel, Bibhu Bhushal, Punya Poudel and Yem Sangeet Shrota.

All arrested journalists were kept in Area Police office, New road, Pokhara.

Police interfered with the protest and used excessive force on the participants. Police also manhandled the journalists and other professionals before arresting them.

**29 journalists arrested in Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu - 10.45am**

29 journalists including Mahendra Bista, FNJ secretary general, central committee members of FNJ, Ramji Dahal and Binod Pahadi were arrested from Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu while participating in a peaceful protest rally organised by the FNJ against the government attack on media and freedom of expression.

The other journalists arrested were Nirmala Sharma, Kishore Shrestha, Damodar Dawadi, Bharat Raj Pokhreal, Rajendra Aryal, Punya Bhandari, Ishwori Neupane, Ishwori Wagle, Dambar Giri, Dipak Acharya, Chet Nath Dhama, Amar Nath Dhakal, Shree Babu Karki, Nav Raj Sharma, Sanat Acharya, Sita Ram Baral, Rohit Dahal, Surya Neupane, Santhosh Kanel, Bharat Khadka, Dev Raj Rimal, Nanda Rishi Neupane, Krishna Humagain, Shiva Devkota, Kapil Kafle and Shyam Bashnet.

All were detained at Singhadurbar Ward Police office, Kathmandu. They were released on same day in the evening at 8 PM.

Four journalists beaten by security forces in Udayapur, eastern district of Nepal  
Security personnel used sharp objects to beat journalists Rabindra Kumar Chaudhary, Kushal Babu Basnet, Shanta Rai and Mohan Gole who were reporting a peaceful rally organised by the SPA against the autocratic regime.

#### **Four journalists arrested in Terhathum**

Chatra Rimal, treasurer, FNJ Terhathum Chapter and central representative of FNJ Uddhav Timilsina was one of four journalists arrested from Myanglung, district headquarter of eastern district Terhathum.

Bharat Ingnam, correspondent for Saptakoshi FM, and Rajendra Baral, correspondent for *Hank Weekly*, were also among those arrested while reporting news on a peaceful demonstration organised by the SPA. They are still under detention.

#### **Two journalists arrested in Bagbajar, Kathmandu**

Kedar Khadka and Drishna Abiral were arrested in the morning while they were raising funds for the treatment of people injured during the democratic movement organised by the SPA. They were released the same day in the evening.

#### **Plain-clothed police infiltrate journalists' peaceful protest gathering**

Assistant Sub Inspector Sailesh Giri and police personnel Ram Hari Karki infiltrated a protest gathering of journalists at Bhrikutimandap in the morning of April 12. The police wore plain clothes pretending to be journalists and tried to provoke the protestors to behave violently.

One of the infiltrators seized a wireless phone from a security personnel who was deployed to control the crowd, and threw the phone away to provoke a reaction. The security worker started baton charging the crowd. They arrived in a pick-up van with a number-plate Ba.2.Cha.

#### **April 13**

Deepak Adhikary, executive member of Federation of Nepalese Journalists(FNJ), Makwanpur branch was arrested from his residence at Hetauda, district headquarter of Makwanpur on 13 April at 6 PM. Adhikary he was brutally beaten during the arrest and he is now severely injured. His thumb was broken and his back and knee have also been injured. At the time of arrest, he was wearing a jacket with a 'Press' emblem. He has not been provided with necessary medication in the custody. He is detained at District police Office, Hetauda.

#### **Journalists still in custody as of April 13**

Journalists Sudarshan Acharya, Bhakta Dhoj Bohara, Shyam Badan KC, Kamal Koirala, Laxmi Prasain, Suresh Kumar Yadhav, Kanak Mani Dixit, Kedar Sharma, Hari Narayan Gautam, Jagat Saud, Chatra Rimal, Uddhav Timilsina, Bharat Ingnam, Rajendra Baral and Deepak Adhikary are still under custody.