

## **Problems regarding Museum Documentation in Nepal**

Bharat Raj Rawat, *National Museum of Nepal, Nepal*

The Historical Gallery as the birthplace of Nepalese Museum which houses natural history and Nepalese fauna in two separate sections. It has section has a collection prehistoric stone tools and axes collected from different parts of the country.

The Art Gallery there is various stone images belonging from 1st century A.D. to 5th in their exquisite beauty and grace. The images are of different Hindu divinities together with some Buddhist images made in bronze.

Buddhist Art Gallery houses the stone, bronze and wooden sculptures of Buddhist tradition which developed in Nepal from the Himalayan section to Terai. (LOWER LAND).

People in their quest for search about roots are bound to go to the records of their history. Our National Museum has not been running in the principle and the ethics of museum. The existence of the museum is ritualistic. Museums in modern terms should be a place for entertainment and education. But the whole place looks like a forgotten site, which does not offer any sense of inquiry. There is no life vibrant with the activities.

The Department of Forest sends Rhinoceros horns after they catch the poachers and again it turns up in the department due to the lack of documentation in the museum. A life size statue of Buddha made out of gold was lost because it was not documented. Numerous valuable objects are getting lost without the proper records. Digital documentation should be implemented and records should be maintained. We have several examples of such incidents' last months three horns of rhinoceros were stolen Nepalese police asked same question although we get back it. Therefore digital or computer documentation technique is urgently requiring Nepalese museums including National Museum of Nepal. Because once object entered inside the computer can prevent plenty's of its proof which may assist for researcher, students, data collector and to identified whether the particular objects belongs Nepalese or not. Although, we are not able to enter to digital documentations lack of skilled manpower, funding and government less priority.

Record keeping in the museum is ancient. There is one ledger like folder some of the pages of which have been torn. The contents are so unreadable due to the older generation alphabets. They have written guns but no mention of type, size and its history. Due to the absence of numbering and cataloguing there is no record of numbering and detail information of the artifacts. This conference provides an opportunity for information professionals, archivists, records managers, record creators, managers, students, and researchers from the sciences, the arts, government, business

including myself to rethink appraisal in the context of the changes brought about by digital technology and the globalization of our society, to network with colleagues, learn about current developments and research, discuss their own experiences, and identify risks and challenges that are likely to emerge from each possible choice.