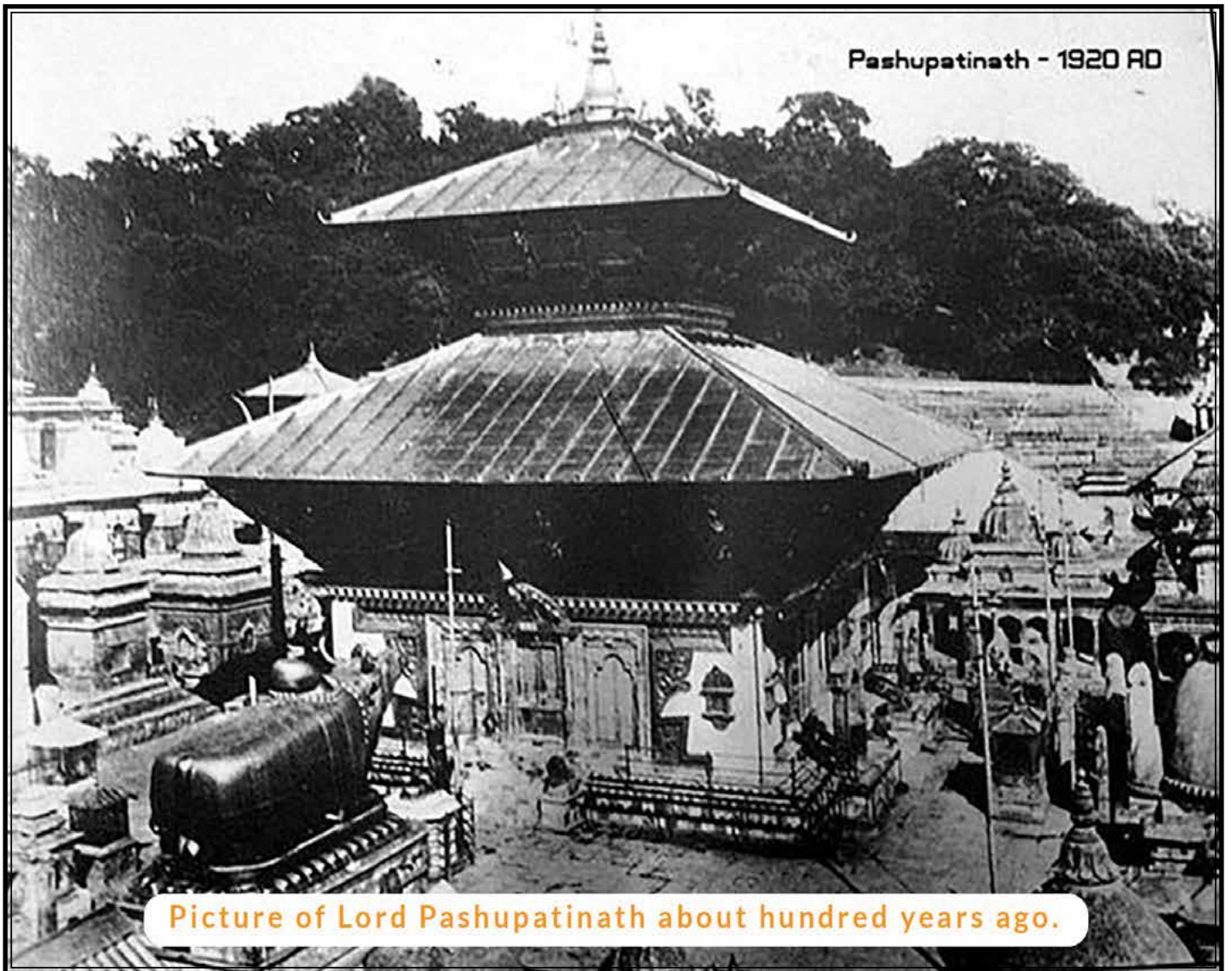


धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः



**पशुपति क्षेत्र विकास कोष**  
**Pashupati Area Development Trust**





Pashupatinath temple and its premises are also included in the UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979.



## Our Says



Nepali soil is imbued with the Pashupati philosophy that governs the entire cosmos from the earliest times of creation to the present time. In the overall development of the country, the culture of religion and spirituality has nurtured every index of development. The sanctity, spirituality, religiosity, and tourist importance around the Aradhyadeva Lord Shri Pashupatinath area have made it easy for all Hindus at home and abroad to promote their faith.

Hinduism, philosophy, and literature are leading a positive way of life all over the world. Bagmati civilization, Shakta Bhav, and the prehistoric history of Hindu Buddhist philosophy have been inspiring human existence since time immemorial.

The sacred land of Vedic and Tantric worship system and way of life and the overall aspect within the Pashupatinath area should be showcased and presented on a global scale. The Pashupatinath region is the abode of Lord Shiva. The collective faith of all sects and classes within Hinduism is linked to Devadhideva. The Pashupati Area Development Trust has now moved forward with a comprehensive structure to enliven the sense of inter-religious coordination of all Hindu Nepalis by highlighting the existing heritages within the sacred area and the historical, archeological, and mythological glory within those heritages.

Pashupatinath should be specially identified on the world map by developing the region as a cultural, religious, and spiritual tourism center by conserving, promoting, and spreading the heritage of the region. The Government has always been committed to advancing the spiritual tourism of Nepal in the pursuit of major strategic goals.

**Bhanubhakta Dhakal**

Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation  
President, Pashupati Area Development Trust



## Our Says



### प्रज्ञा नेत्रो लोकः प्रज्ञा प्रतिष्ठा प्रज्ञान ब्रम्हम् ।

To us, all Sanatana Hindus, whose pursuit has always been in activating the inner eyes of knowledge and conscience to achieve enlightenment by incorporating faith and belief in the concrete fundament of spirituality and philosophy, Holy Pashupat Area has always been a center of faith.

The sanctity of the Pashupat region is incomparable, unparalleled, and infallible. Keeping this importance above all else, the great Jyotirlinga Lord Pashupatinath, who lived on earth for the protection of the country, is now the owner of not only human beings but also of every other creature in this creation. To establish the self-experience principle of eastern philosophy in scientific development and to redefine materialism and spirituality in both subjective and objective ways, there is a paramount need for awakening in every aspect of life. Uplifting the glory of thousands of temples around the Pashupat region can ensure ever-going welfare to us.

Shaiva Philosophy is an integral part of Nepali daily life and this philosophy emphasizes achieving the supreme soul (Paramatma Tatwa) through uplifting self-realization. By embracing this philosophy, Hinduism has always embraced the aspiration of living as a human being. By gaining power from this holy Pashupat Area, only by seeing Lord Shiva, every human life can reach the position of salvation.

Our way of life is tangible in the intangible world of attaining utopia. Lord Shri Pashupatinath as Mahajyotirlinga is communicating welfare everywhere. The Pashupati Area Development Trust has always been dedicated to uplift the glory of this area and increase the height of Shaiva philosophy in every heart.

**Dr. Pradeep Dhakal**

Member Secretary  
Pashupati Area Development Trust





## Our Says



**भावेन लभते सर्वं भावेन देवदर्शनम् ।  
भावेन परमं ज्ञानं तस्मात् भावावलम्बनम् ॥**

Extremely bright aura like millions of suns, millions of rising lunar golden rays, calm, the face of Vishnu, black face of Bhairav , white descriptive face as Kunda flower or milk on the west, to the north, the white Gaurishankar and the luminous face above it with a Srichakra symbol on it, the face of the very bright Kalagni Rudra in the navel, Jatajut in every head, the moon itself as an ornament, decorated with a snake, beautified with Rudraksha mala and Mundamala, Jewelry of Ratnas, Mala of Bilamvapatra till Patal, dual blessing gestures in every form, Veda in one hand, Abhay Dan in the other, thus eight hands, always the vision of a sixteen-year youth, void in the sky, the Padma in the void, in the form of Parabrahma Sachchidananda sitting on it, the holy Pashupat.

From the point of view of sadhana, three types of Pashupat Vidya are found in Tantra, Laghupashupat Vidya, Madhyam Pashupat Vidya, and Mahapashupat Vidya. Pashupati's appearance in Laghupashupat Vidya is as bright and radiant as the midday sun, with the moon on his head, fierce laughter, trinetra, bhujangbhushan, jatajut, mustache, beard, Trishul in four arms, mungro, Khadga and power-armed teeth and fierce dibya Astrarup is explained. In Madhyam Pashupat Vidhya, Pashupatinath meditates on five mouths, ten hands, three eyes in each mouth, a fiery radiance like a flame of fire, jatajut and mustache, beard, fierce teeth. Thus Pashupati is essentially nirguna Brahma. From this, the Sadhak can become the Sadhya and there can be contemplation between the Sadhak and Sadhya can be established.

He is armed with swords, arrows, garlands, Trishul, power, Parshu, khat, bow, kundika, brahmadanda, and other weapons. Lord Shri Pashupatinath, the protector of the world, is enthroned with many deep, snake ornaments, crystal clear aura, in calm form. Aradhyadeva Lord Sri Pashupatinath is the abode of all divine power. There is a religious belief that not only Shiva resides in Pashupatinath but also other deities. Therefore, the Pashupatinath region is the center of faith of all Hindus in the world.

The holy land of Pashupatinath is a cultural and archeological heritage not only for Nepalis but also for the entire human community of the world. The Pashupatinath region is the identification area for an entire Nepal. Remains of history, art, religion, tradition, society, literature, and culture from the past to the present can be found in this Pashupatinath region.

**Dr. Milan Kumar Thapa**

Treasurer

Pashupati Area Development Trust



## Our Says



### पाशुपत क्षेत्रम् परमं पवित्रम् !!

The current world is at the point of embarking on the next level of consciousness by embracing the core beliefs of Eastern philosophy. This is the concrete manifestation of the Renaissance. The world is awakening. Every faith burns the lamp of consciousness and creates obedience in the human mind. The gradual background of adherence will build the highway of the future. Inspired by religion, meaning, work, salvation, and self-righteousness, the asceticism done by our oriental sages to build the ultimate Mount Everest of science from Gyan Ganga on the global stage is the best life highway in the universe, where life goes on unchallenged and fearless. Awakened consciousness is reflected in karma. The four Vedas and the eighteen Puranas have paved the way for us to embody the trinity of human service and karma as a means of primordial and spiritual power.

Lord Shiva, the hero of the entire creation created from the universe, is the innumerable source of intangible expressions of welfare. We enshrine Lord Shiva in our minds as the main deity of all creatures. So we are always healthy, civilized, and always striving to be on the right path.

Today, the formless form of Lord Shiva is bestowed not only on human beings but also on all creatures. Maha Jyotirlinga in the form of Pashupatinath as the transcendental god of Nepal has always been giving darshan to all human beings. His mercy is the current world universe and every happening in his commandments.

We, as to awaken religious sentiments in the universe can gain more compassion through the sacred Pashupatinath darshan. Millions of Hindus around the world are in Nepal today as they are spreading the message of Hinduism and compassion as they come to visit Pashupatinath. The Pashupatinath Development Trust has always been committed to the spiritual, cultural, and social development of the sacred Pashupatinath region. There is no doubt that the development of religious and spiritual tourism in Nepal will be accelerated by the rapid spread of Pashupatinath philosophy and religious and spiritual renaissance in the universe.

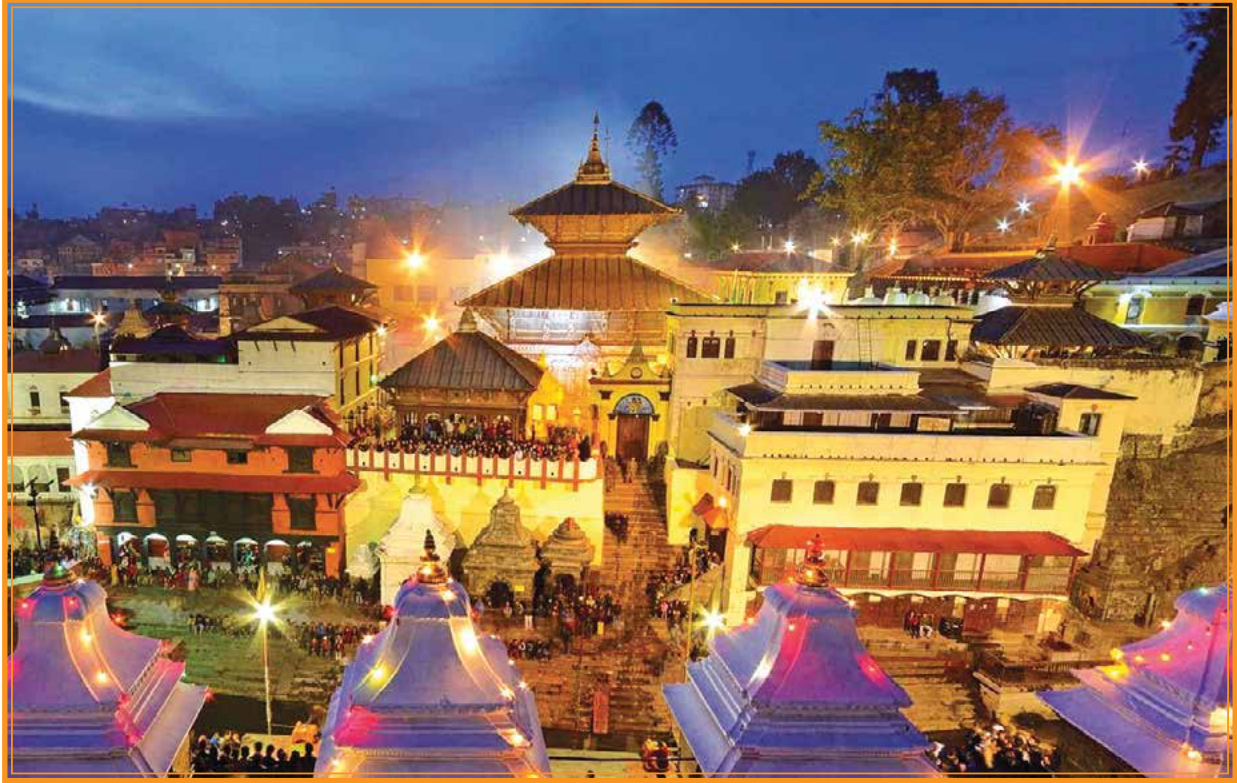
**Dr. Ghanashyam Khatiwoda**

Executive Director

Pashupati Area Development Trust



## Pashupatinath Temple: Center of belief for every Sanatana follower across the globe



**Shiva is Sha + ee + Va**

**Sha is Shareeram or body**

**ee is eeshwari or life giving energy**

**Va is vayu or motion**

**Thus, Shiva represents the body with life and motion.**

**If the 'ee' is removed from Shiva, it gets reduced to sha+va = shava.**

**Shava means a lifeless body. Shiva is with the potential of life, whereas Shava is lifeless.**

That which you cannot see, touch, or perceive through five sense organs is nothing or a No-Thing. And this "No Thing" is referred to as Shiva. This could be a constant reminder to every one of us to look beyond the physical form or realize beyond what is there in front of us. The source of everything that exists here as physical stuff essentially originates from something that is nothing, which is referred to as "Shiva" in Sanatana philosophy.

This brings us to the deeper understanding that Shiva is life, Shiva is potential for life, and Shiva is all-encompassing - the universal soul or consciousness. Realizing this Shiva Tattva leads to Ananda or bliss. And the Pashupatinath is a manifestation of an aspect of Shiva, a non-physical dimension of the existence of everything in this universe.



## Lord Pashupati

Pashupati is an aspect of Lord Shiva, one of the supreme trinities and the God of destruction, creation, and recreation. The term 'Pashu' means 'animal' and can also refer to 'any being'. 'Pati' is 'the Lord' or 'the Protector'. The name Pashupati is said to have been conferred on Shiva, by Vishnu, the God of protection, as Shiva was given the position of the Lord of the demons.

## Depiction

Pashupati is a God, who symbolizes many profound aspects of five each. He has five heads, which represent the five important incarnations of Shiva, which are Sadyojatha, Vamadeva, Tatpuruasha, Aghora, and Ishana. The five faces also look in five directions, in the four cardinal directions, and at the zenith. The first of the five Avatars, Sadyojatha signifies Brahman or the universe, and hence denotes one of the five elements, the Earth; Vamadeva, the second signifies Lord Vishnu and denotes the element water; Tatpuruasha denotes the sages and the element air; Aghora is linked to Rudra and the element fire, and Ishana is associated with all that exists in nature and the element space.

Pashupati is not merely the Lord of animals. Even human beings who are governed by anger, pride, jealousy, ego, avarice, and ignorance are no superior to animals, and hence, it is believed that praying to Lord Pashupati can help people to overcome such vices and shortcomings. Lord Pashupatinath also teaches to acknowledge the vast nothingness which is tremendously powerful in this universe.

From time immemorial, Mahajyotirlingi, the supreme Shivalinga manifest, on the most sacred Bagmati coast of Kathmandu, besides the holy and Pauranik Sleshmantak forest, the capital of Nepal, is unique in the entire universe.

Shivalinga is the supreme form of Shiva. Many forms of this Shivalinga exist in Bharatbarasa in the form of Dvadeshjyotirlinga. The Holy Bishnu Devi area is in Kathmandu where the mythical Sleshmantak forest lies on the banks of the holy river Bagmati flowing from the Vishnu Devi region.

Pashupatinath temple is built in pagoda style. All the archeological and religious features are found in the pagoda style. The two-story roof of the temple is made of gold and copper. The four main doors of this temple are made of silver. The golden gajur in this temple is a symbol of religious and spiritual high thought. There is a large idol of Nandi at the west gate of this temple. The Jyotirlinga here is 6 feet high. To the east of Pashupatinath is the divine Temple of Vasukinath.

## Prehistoric anecdotes of Pashupatinath

Legend has it that after the battle of Mahabharata, Pandavas asked Krishna and Bhisma what measures should be taken to get rid of the war sin. After Krishna said that after seeing Lord Shiva, one is freed from the sin of "Gauhatya" killing a holy cow. Thus Pandavas went to the Himalayas to see Shiva. Seeing the Pandavas coming, Shiva disguised as a buffalo and hid in a herd of buffaloes. As the Pandavas approached to recognize and worship the buffalo-like Lord Shiva, the buffalo-like Shiva disappeared into the earth. Before it could disappear, Pandavas grabbed the tail of the buffalo. It is said that the head of that buffalo appeared as Lord Pashupatinath in Nepal and the tail appeared as Lord Kedarnath.





According to another story, Lord Shiva took the form of a deer and roamed in the Sleshmantak forest on the bank of the Bagmati River. Later, when Parvati did penance and found out that Shiva was deer in the form of a deer on the banks of the Bagmati River. In the form of an animal, this Shiva was referred to as Pashupatinath, the owner of the creatures in this world, the owner of every possibility of lives in this universe.

### Opening and closing schedule of Temple

- 4:00 AM: West gate opens
- 9:20 AM: Jal Abhisekh of Kalash
- 9:30 AM: All four entrance opens
- 10:00 AM: Panchamrit Snan
- 10-11:30 AM: Panchamrit Puja and on-demand Puja
- 12:00 Noon: Sringer starts
- 1:30 PM: Balvog
- 1:45 PM: Vog
- 2:00 PM: ShankhaJal
- 2:30 PM: All four entrance closed
- 5:30 PM: Door opens for Sandhya Aarati
- 6:15 PM: Aarati starts
- 7:00 PM: Post Aarati ShankhaJal



### Nitya Puja

In the main temple of Lord Pashupatinath and the temple of Vasukinath, daily Puja/ worship is performed according to the rituals.

In the surrounding temples, special festival puja is also conducted along with daily puja.

### Bises Puja

Since 2054 BS, The Pashupati Area Development Trust has provided special contribution opportunities through organizing special pujas for devotees. The contribution amount ranging from NRs. 1,100, 2,100, 5,100, 11,000 and even more.

It has been providing services to the devotees by arranging special pujas for NRs 27,000, 55,000, 156,000, 251,000, 551,000, and more. Similarly, special worship has been arranged for Vasukinath's Dugdharpan service for NRS 255 and daily puja NRS 505.

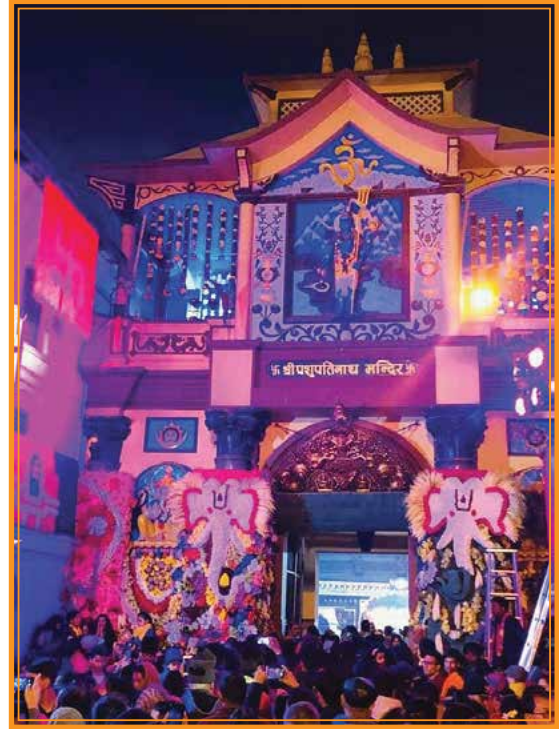
## Special festivals celebrated in the Pashupatinath temple area

### Mahashivaratri, The day of consciousness and the night of awakening

Shiva, Adiyogi, and hundreds of other names, the source of divine power which manifested this world, even before the creation started and till the end, again from the start of a newer post-apocalyptic creation, even before humanity were socially and psychologically defined, beyond the limits of nature there lies Lord Shiva and this divine day is super dedicated for that Shiva-Shakti, the ultimate supreme power.

Every Sanatan followers gather together to please their supreme deity on this auspicious day, the crowd of devotees gathers around Shivalinga with their purest and abundant offering to appease their Lord Shiva.

Shivaratri happens every fourteenth day of every month, considered the darkest night of the month. But the darkest night of Magh (February/ March) month is considered and acknowledged as the main Shivaratri, this night is every important and divine for all Hindus across the globe. Shivaratri or Mahashivaratri is the celebration of darkness. See, this is very intellectually placed because without the existence and acceptance of darkness one cannot acknowledge the light, and in other words, darkness is the base of every light, isn't it? Any logical definition would opt for a light yet the logic behind the light is entirely based upon the existence of darkness. Light is a limited possibility because this happens and concludes, the light comes with expiry periods and after the end of the light, every light is darkness. **Sun "The biggest manifest of light" is scientifically explained as a source of light delivered by the huge amount of hydrogen being converted into helium, even the sun has to expire when all of its hydrogens is converted into helium. Several black holes are now a massive source of darkness as they are now entirely covered into helium, Shiva is the power beneath that darkness that manifests a newer way of creation after destruction. Just an alarm to buzz, this entire universe is 95 percent of darkness and only 5 percent mass of astral bodies. "Shiva" represents that magnificent happening of nothingness, the perceptive of the vast emptiness of this giant existence.** This lap of emptiness is what we refer to Lord Shiva, the power of destruction and the destruction is the only origin of assembling a newer creation. Because of the tilt and precision of the planet, at 11-degree latitude, the centrifugal force of the planet becomes nearly vertical on the night of Shivaratri.







To absorb the energetic gravitational force and purify themselves, people stay awake "Jagram" on this divine day. This day Shiva became "Nischala" merged still with a mountain "Kailash Parwat". There are many ways to define this auspicious day and night, the day of consciousness and a night of awakening.

People observe fasts, take a divine bath in rivers and stay awake the whole night. Nepal is a land of "Pashupatinath" it observes this day very keenly, a river of human beings are seen floating under the attraction of Lord Shiva in the holy Pashupati area. Shiva, the greatest of all givers, the most compassionate, and the vastness of this emptiness, May Lord Shiva nurtures the seed of existence and intellectuality in us and adds compassion to our humanity. Shiva is not a science trapped in the drawer of human logic, Shiva is beyond time and religion, praise the Shivashakti, and praise the creator.

Mahashivaratri special pre-preparation operation-closing.  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



## Haritalika Teej

Teej is an important festival celebrated by Hindu women. This festival is celebrated for 4 days from Bhadra Shukla Dwitiya to Panchami. In Teej, Lord Shiva is worshiped, danced, and entertained. Nepali women of other religions and castes have also started celebrating Teej, which is celebrated freely and happily by Nepali Sanatana Hindu women.



This festival is mainly celebrated all over Nepal and even beyond borders where Nepalis live.

It is said that Parvati, the daughter of Himalaya and the beloved of Lord Shiva, the mother of the primordial power, had fasted for the first time to get Lord Shiva as her husband. Hindu women have been celebrating this festival since that day.

Haritalika Teej in the premises of Shri Pashupatinath Temple  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



## Bala Chaturdashi

Mangsir Krishna Chaturdashi or Bala Chaturdashi and today are considered a very important day for the salvation journey of the deceased members of family and society.

Various Shakti Peeths and Triveni Dhams in Nepal and India are crowded with pilgrims scattering Shatbji. Shatavbji means seven types of grains to be sown in religious forests such as Kailash Danda, Shleshmantak

forest, and other forests for ancestral salvation. To sow the Shatbji, one day before Chartudashi, that is, on the day of Triodashi, it is customary to stay awake at night, light the lamp, and chant hymns without blinking one's eyes. It is believed that the seeds scattered in the world will be germinated in another world of the deceased ancestors and they will never go hungry due to these reasons.



Special fairs are held at Pashupatinath and surrounding Kirateshwar, Gaurighat, Guheshwari, the coast of Aryaghat, Shleshmantak forest including Chatara, Barakhshetra of Eastern Nepal, Setiveni Dham of Parbat district, Chakreshwar temple of Gulmi Santipur, Devghat Dham of Nawalparasi, Kshireswar of Dhanusha, and Shivalayas and Triveni Dhams. However, the prevalence of COVID might have adverse impacts upon these pilgrimages.

The most interesting context today is related to the idol of Ganesha next to the Pashupati Vishwarupa temple. The idol of Ganesha is considered as a symbol of the deaf ear and therefore the devotees try to make the idol hear by shouting, yelling, and shaking loudly.

Bala Chaturdashi celebrated in the premises of Shri Pashupatinath Temple  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



### Shrawan Sombar/ Monday

Shrawan Monday is specially taken for worship and darshan of Lord Shiva. Adherents of Vedic Sanatan Dharma observe the fast on Monday of Shrawan month with the worship of Devadeva Mahadev. The month of Shrawan and Monday are mentioned in the scriptures as the month and day of Lord Shiva. Offering even a small stream of water to Lord Shiva on the Monday of Shrawan, Lord Shiva is happy to fulfill his wish and give peace and happiness to the family.



Those who fast on all Mondays of Shrawan have the method of breaking the fast on the last Monday evening or Tuesday morning. It is mentioned in the scriptures including Shiva Purana that if one fast on Shrawan Monday, one will attain happiness and peace in this world and the hereafter. Although it is seen



in the practice that only women fast on the Shrawan Monday, according to the classical opinion, both men and women should fast. In most families, women fast on behalf of all.

Importance of Shravan month in Shri Pashupatinath temple  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



## Janai Purnima

Different festivals have their importance or treatise, such as Janai Purnima is related to a sacred thread where thread means the bond of purity or security. Hindu Nepalese men of Brahmin and Chhetri group perform their annual ritual of changing Janai. After childhood, after practicing ritualistic rituals, chanting mantras in the ears that others do not listen to by the guru priest, they are prepared by the guru purohit, with a firm resolve to follow the path of truth and right-handed fall on the left shoulder. In this way, the mantra is made by placing two raw knots (2 cotton yarn) for each of the two different knots. It is customary to change the present-day annually, one of the ghagora doras of the two coins in Janai, the three strings on the coins, is considered as the sum of karma, worship, and knowledge.



Today's chant:

**येन बद्धो वलीराजा दानवेन्द्रो महावलस ।  
तेन त्वां प्रतिबध्नामि रक्षे मा चल मा चल ॥**

Meaning:

I will tie you with the same thread that protects (the black-colored thread) that was tied to Bali, the great king of the demon.

On the occasion, of the cow worship Day (Laxmi pooja) in about October, this thread is then taken out from the wrist and tied on the tail of the cow. It is believed that doing such rituals cow will help him/her to cross Baitarni River, the way to heaven. Some people also go to the temple with the priest and tying the thread on the temple.

This festival is also marked by tying off a colorful Rakhi or holy thread, by the sister on the wrist of her brother blessing his success. The rituals and importance of these festivals are of great importance in the coastal areas of Nepal as well as in India, Bangladesh, and other countries.



Today, it is also customary for the son-in-law to go and raise his father-in-law. Today Pashupatinath of Kathmandu, kumbeshwar mahadev of bhaktapur, gosaikunda of rasuwa , Gangasagar of Janakpur, Dhanusanagar, Dolkunda of solukhumbu , halesi of khotang, Danasadhu of Jumla.

Especially: It is celebrated in the community of Brahmins, Chhetri, or some other Buddhist worshipers by wearing string mantras in the hands of a Brahmin priest. According to the Hindu Vedic scriptures, there is a group of 7 cotton yarn that is made of raw yarn, used accepting merit for performing Brahma sutra, Vedantic work, and for the study of Vedas. Brahma, Bishnu, and Maheshwar, one of the coins, is considered as the sum of the symbols of karma, worship, and knowledge.

In the context of change, the followers of Sanatan Dharma, who have been purified beyond the Brahmanas or Kshatriyas who have been subjugated or worshiped, cannot be applied to the sacrificial people, and they can wear them. Remember that wearing the sacred rituals is believed to receive direct energy from the Sun God, and the pronounciation of Gayatri Mantra is believed to increase physical, mental, and spiritual potential.

After holding the sacrificial offering, he also qualifies to be the creator and engineer of all the external deeds. Today, Vedic Sanatan Dharma is traditionally regarded as caste-based and untouchable, which is only a narrow blip.

Yagnapavit acts as a passenger to the Brahmanpath, however, Brahmanpath means that birth is not the path through karma. Brahmin is the path of spiritual purity, the god of the whole world, and the pursuit of diligence. Brahmins do not need to be remembered merely as caste, language, and religion. Regardless of religion or caste background, one can become absorbed in the Brahmin path of modernity and spiritual purity.

## Maghe Sakranti

Sun changes its direction from Dhanu Rashi to Makar Rashi so this particular day is also called Makar Sakranti.

The first day of the month of Magh, an important month of mid-winter. Sun enters Capricorn from Sagittarius and this day is celebrated as Maghe Sakranti, Tiluwa Sakranti, or Makar Sakranti or Maghi with its characteristics and cultural significance.

Sesame has a special significance in Sanatan Sanskar, whether it is for home chanting as a charu or for worship and charity or any patriarchal and good deeds, sesame is indispensable. Today, it is famous







for sesame laddu. Laddu made by frying sesame seeds and covering it in sakhkar is a special dish of today. That is why Maghe Sankranti is also called Tiluwa Sankranti.

On the other hand, we have read in geography about the North Pole and the South Pole. The direction of the Sun and Earth is also calculated and measured based on the relative positions of those poles. From today the direction of Sun is moving towards North, It is believed to be decreasing and spring, as well as summer, is increasing. So this day is also called Uttarayan.

In the Mahabharata, Bhishma Pitamah who was lying in the death bed because of the Arjun's arrow, wished for death today. This day is so auspicious for salvation and spiritual gravity that is why Bhishma who had a boon to make a wish for his death choose this day for ending his life.

Today, there are crowds of pilgrims bathing in various ghats, rivers, and shrines, Devghat of Nawalparasi, Chatara of Sunsari, Kaligandaki bank, Setiveni of Parwat, Bagmati bank of Kathmandu Shankhamul, etc.

Today, it is believed that the Kirat dynasty invaded the Kathmandu Valley and achieved victory and the same victory celebration is considered to have started as Kirat Samvat.

In the Newar community, Maghe Sankranti is celebrated with the name 'Ghuchaku Salhu'. They make laddu by mixing sesame seeds in Sakhhar and eat and donate it. Today, a historical Makar fair is held in Panauti near Kathmandu Valley, this fair started from the regime of King Mandab.

Maghe Sankranti is also a major festival of the Magar caste in Nepal. Maghe Sankranti has been recognized as the national festival of the Magars. In the Magar community, the archery game is played today. In this festival, the Magars duly worship the daughters and ancestors for three days.

Makar Snan officially starts on this day, by burying Lingos (bamboo poles in the bank of Devghat), the confluence of Krishnagandaki and Trishuli rivers. On the eve of Maghe Sankranti, after the bamboo linga is buried in Dobhan, the ritual of Makar Snan officially begins. Since the Sun enters Capricorn from Sagittarius on this day, this day is called Makar Sankranti and the bath starting from today is called Makar bath.

## Traditional festivals are celebrated in the Pashupatinath temple



### Dashain

Someone longs for the Dakshina (Money received by younger after Tika), someone longs for blessings, new clothes, shoes, and the memory of missing relatives ... maybe! Dashain is a handful of gifts of love, affection, respect, and laughter that may be needed at any time in the past, present, and future. People are seen with red foreheads of Akshata in this day. Akshyata is a mixture of red aber, curd, and rice which is mixed, and the colorful mixture is placed on the forehead as an auspicious Dashain gift and followed by



blessings. All family member gathers together, worships the deities today and later they worship the main pillar of the house, main entrance and formally starts the Tika process.

Elderly people go to a person older than themselves to get Tika, normally the elder one puts Tika to the younger ones. Now this year, the number of people going for Tika has simply decreased, there may be a decrease in the numbers and the availability of the foreheads, but there is certainly no barrier to blessings and remembrance.



This holy festival is not limited to Hinduism but is a traditional festival. It has been celebrated with joy and rejoicing even by Buddhists. The only difference is that Hindus worship the new Durga Bhagwati with a red tika, while Buddhists worship with the white Tika. Dashami Tithi i.e. the tenth day of Vijayadashami and this day which falls on this day is a word derived from Dashmi and Dussehra. Dussehra means the defeat of Dashanan Ravana (Dashanan means Dus = ten + anan = mouth). Ravana had ten heads and today is celebrated for the victory against him.

It is also mentioned that Durga Bhavani killed an asshole named Mahishashur on this day. This atmosphere of Tika, Jamra, and fun is considered as the victory of the gods over the demons, the victory of truth over untruth, and the victory of humanity over the inhuman elements.

Different blessings are given to men and women while applying Tika, bringing simple meaning of those Mantras here.

#### Mantra for Male

ॐ

आयू द्रोण सुते. श्रूयं दशरथे शत्रुक्षयं राघवे  
ऐश्वर्यं नहुषे. गतिश्च पवने. मानं च दूर्योधने ॥  
सौर्यं शान्तनवे. बलं हलधरे सत्यं च कुन्ती सुते  
विज्ञानं विदुरे भवतु भवतां कीर्तिश्च नारायणे ॥

***May you live long like the age of Drona's son Asvatthama, may your deeds be famous like of King Dasharatha, may your enemy be diminished like of Lord Rama, May your prosperity be like of King Nahusha, may you attain the speed of Vayu, may you acquire the respect like of Duryodhana.***

Be generous like Surya Putra, be strong like Bhima, be truthful like Yudhisthira, be wise like Vidura, be well-known like Narayan.





For Female

ॐ

जयन्ती मङ्गलाकाली,  
मद्रकाली कपालिनी।  
दुर्गा क्षमा शिवाघात्री,  
स्वाहा स्वधा नमोस्तुते।

***That is the goddess who has the power to conquer the whole world, who can diagnose every darkness, the goddess who is beyond the bounds of time, who wears a garland of human skulls and can diagnose all kinds of misery. O Goddess who protects this world! Accept the devotion offered by your devotee, we bow to you.***

Worship of Guheshwari Darshan Peeth by His Excellency President Vidyadevi  
Bhandari Jew on the occasion of Baradshah  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



## Tihar

The biggest festival after Dashain is Tihar, the festival of lights. This festival begins on the day of Kartik Krishna Paksha Triodashi with the name of Kaag Tihar and falls on the second day of Kartik Shukla Paksha till Bhaitika (five days) It is also called Yamapanchak as it is celebrated for five days. This festival is celebrated especially in Nepal.



These five days are called Yamapanchak as Yamaraj, the lord of death, received hospitality at his sister Yamuna's house. This festival is considered to be of great importance as it shows reverence to the god of death-Yama- and animals including crow, dog, cow, and ox, who maintain a close relationship with humans in everyday life.

## Chath

All the festivals and powers of the Vedic Sanatan Dharma revolve around nature and the earth, the experimental significance of which is extremely scientific. The Chaath festival is a ritual of the Sun God.

The role of the sun on this earth is super significant, including the rising sun in the morning, the light that penetrates through the corners of the windows, the sun that nurtures the plants, the sun that creates clouds, the sun that gives warmth, and the interdependent relationship between humans and the sun.

It is believed that the name of this festival is Chaath as it is celebrated on the 6th day (Sasthi) of the lunar calendar. The Chaath festival, which is celebrated in the Terai region, is now becoming popular in the mountains, hills, and the Terai. Symbol of harmony and brotherhood, this festival is celebrated with great joy and rejoicing.



It is customary to bring the offerings given by the neighbors such as bananas, coconuts, sugarcane, and other fruits to the Chaath fasting person's ( Vratalu's) house. It is customary to take the fruits brought home in the morning on the last day of Chaath after seeing the rising sun. Devotees have taken vows for the fulfillment of various aspirations for Chaath and accordingly, the practice of offering prasad on Chhath has continued.

Chaath is a purely religious festival and there is no tradition of slaughtering animals or sacrificing animals.

The first day of this four-day festival is called Arba or Nahai Khay, the second day is called "Kharna", the third day is called "Sanjhiya Arghya" Chhath because the third day of this festival starting from Kartik Shukla Chaturthi is Chaath i.e. Shashti and the last day is called "Vihaniya Arghya" Paran.

On the day of Araba, it is customary for the youth of the village to celebrate Chaath by cleaning the banks of rivers or lakes or ponds, scraping the grass, and purifying the water. While cleaning the pond in this way in the Terai, a boat made of banana pillars is made that does not drown in water.

On the third day, "Sanjhiya Ghat", in the evening, the Vratals offer milk Argha to the sun being half-submerged in the water. And on the morning and evening of the fourth day, before the sun rises, it is customary to reach Chaath Ghat and end the fast by offering argha to the rising sun.

In the Mahabharata, it is said that the immense wealth and power attained by Karna was all due to the effect of the Chaath fast, while it is mentioned that Draupadi also took the Chaath fast.





A unique example of nature and civilization. Happy Chaath Festival to all! All of us human beings are forever blessed by the radiant presence of the sun and the grace of the sun god towards us.

Worship by His Excellency President Vidyadevi Bhandari on the occasion of Chhath festival in Pashupati area  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



## Holi

Whether it is the Ayodhya kingdom or the Awadh state, the Mithila kingdom, or any corner of the world, the background of this great festival of spring is described by the tradition that celebrates it. Holi festival begins formally after a ceremonial Chir (A traditional pillar standing ritual) at Basantapur in Kathmandu. At the Gaddi baithak of Hanuman Dhoka Kathmandu, a three stored chir is placed. This signifies the victory of truth over untruth and later this chir is dissolved at Tudhikhel.

The ashes of the burnt chir are perceived as very holy and positive and are carried back home by devotees. Holi resembles the Bhakta Prahlad of ancient times, he was conspired to get burnt by his aunt (Dad's sister) under the consent of his dad. Bhakta Prahlad was accused of worshipping Lord Vishnu and chanting his hymns and prayers, Later his aunt gets burnt and he gets protected, a strong message is then delivered to the world that the truth is glorified against untruth.



Holi is also cited in Vawisya Purana and Narad Purana, it is also stated that on the day of this Holi Lord Krishna killed the demon "Putana" in her attempt of killing Lord Krishna during his childhood. Upon this victory of Lord Krishna, residents of GokulDham celebrated the day by marking the village, houses, and faces in blue color, the color of humanity and peace.

Blue is also the favorite color of Lord Krishna. The shadow of the full waxing moon and the prayers of Holi and songs, the brightness in darkness, the depth of the heights, and the smiles and ecstasy, Holi is everything a human heart desires to pump happily. Today is a public holiday in Nepal, Kathmandu valley and hilly areas celebrate Holi on the full moon day however the Terai observes Holi on the next day. This is because the Mithila Parikrama ends on the full moon and they observe Holi the next day.

"Malpuwa" a traditional sweet is very popular in Holi and Taruwa, Varuwa's (Traditionally deep-fried vegetables) are popular in the Terai region. Be it hills or flatlands, Nepal is colorful in Holi, the ponds in Terai are colored in the real color with the semantic significance of integrity, brotherhood, and inclusion.



## Ghode Jatra

In the history of human civilization such as horses, horseback riding, horse riding knights, the cooperation between horses and human beings has been continuously explained in various documents of history and various stories about this relationship are still alive. Horses have always been and still are the classic and traditional ways of human mobility. From Europe, America, Middle East Asia to the invention of trains and vehicles around the world, horses were the only reliable and fastest way to ride. Be it ancient Mahavarata or the conqueror's conquests, horses and horse riders were the primary intervention of war strategy.

Even the prehistoric scriptures and Sanatan texts have mentioned and acknowledged horses as a very important creature for human existence and human life. The biggest Yagya performed in Sanatan philosophy is called "Aswomegh Yagya", Aswo means horse in Sanskrit, hundreds of horses are released at the end of this Yagya and these horses are believed to have peace, harmony, and happiness wherever they go, whichever direction they choose.



Horse races and several other such acrobats are celebrated today in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, in honor and cooperation of these extremely loyal and speedy horses who have left their mark both on the pages of history and their footsteps on the dust of Nepali soil. The presence of the horses is a must, whether it be a picture or a statue, to remember the ranks and various other warriors in different places of Kathmandu. A ruler's statue is not complete without them being on a horse. Be it Napoleon or Kublai Khan or Junga Bahadur or Prithvi N Shah, without horses their legacy and anecdotes are incomplete.

Ghode Jatra as one of the most original Jatra of Kathmandu has been exhibiting endlessly and continuously for centuries in Tundikhel, Kathmandu. On the waning fortnight's new moon day (Aaunshi) of the concluding month (Chaitra) of the Bikram Sambat Calendar, this Ghode Jatra is commemorated with thousands of spectators with their real Nepali enthusiasm. Nepal Army and Nepal Police display special parades, acts, and practices of horse riding on this day.

This day is also important because a different form of Lord Shiva "Luka Mahadev" is offered prayers and sacrifices on this day, a huge crowd is seen also on the Annapurna temple of Ason to witness the "Khat" chariot of two Ajima sisters which are made touched to each other to remember their sisterhood. Ajimas are the all-female ancestors of Newa culture who are digitized. A day before Ghodejatra, Pahacharey festival is commemorated by Newa people, these festivals and events are very important for Nepali and they hold a crucial value in Bagmati civilization.





## Services of Pashupati Area Development Trust

### Ghat Service

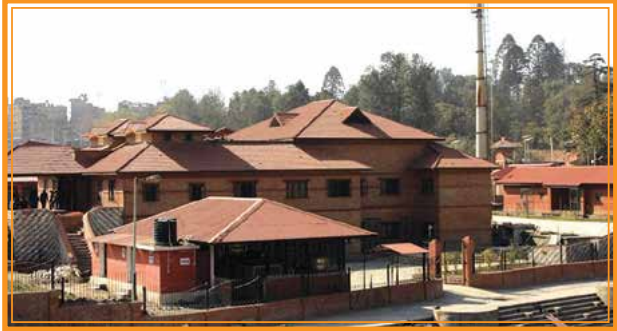
Ghat Service Center is the managerial side of Aryaghat, Bhasmeshwar Ghat, and electric crematorium. Every corpse must be registered for cremation. As per the rules, the fee should be registered before the arrival of the body.

However, the Ghat service center does not provide the vehicle to carry the corpse.

There is an arrangement of different service charges according to the service distance of the body carrying staff and vehicle inside the Pashupati premises.

If there is no relative for anyone in the ceremony, all arrangements are made. Priests are also arranged. There is a provision according to the rules as to what kind of work should be done in the crematorium ceremony and what goods are needed and how much will be charged for it.

Ghat Service Center is open 24 hours a day.



### Kiriya Putri Service

Kiriya Putri Sewa is a service dedicated to the purification of mourners for their deceased members. After death, worship, shraddha, and Kiriya Putri activities are conducted here. Kiriya Putri Service Center provides residential and worships services as per the need. The Kiriya Putri Service Building has 52 rooms.



## E-Puja

All the Hindus around the world have faith and devotion to the deity Lord Sri Pashupatinath.

E-puja is a special online worship service run by the Pashupati Area Development Trust. Devotees who are unable to attend Shree Pashupati Nath Temple can easily book the daily Pooja at Pashupatinath from anywhere in the world by booking online. Details are available in our website.



## Promotion of Vedic education

The main objective of the Pashupati Area Development Trust is to preserve Hinduism and promote the Shaiva and Shakta traditions including the Pashupati philosophy. As it promotes Shakta and Vedic education along with Sanskrit education, this Trust has also run Nepal Bed Vidyashram. At present, about 300 students are studying in this school.

Contact Address: Nepal Bed Vidyashram, Bankali, Gaushala, Kathmandu, Phone: 01 5241336,  
Email: vedvidyashram@gmail.com

46th Annual Ceremony of Nepal Bed Vidyashram  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)



## Preservation of classical and folk music

The crux of Eastern philosophy underlies its classical music. Music is born from the Sama Veda. The essence of Nepali land is connected with folk and classical music. The main responsibility of the Pashupati Area Development Trust is to conduct promotional campaigns while protecting it. Accordingly, the protection of classical and folk music has been promoted in the Pashupati area through musical institutions like Naad Sangeet Pathshala, Kiranteshwar Sangitashram, Pashupati Sangeet Kala Pratishtan.

Contact Address: Naad Sangeet Pathshala, Itapakha, Pashupati, Kathmandu-8, Phone: 01 5241166,  
9841286056, Email: infonaadsangeet@gmail.com

Bhajan Evening organized by Naad Sangeet Pathshala Pashupati  
(Scan the QR to watch the video)







## The fame of Pashupati Area and Pashupati Area Development Trust



At one time, Pashupatinath was widely promulgated in India and neighboring countries and even in distant lands like Cambodia. Holy Pashupatinath was the chief deity of the followers of Sanatana philosophy and devotees and even great seekers from different places used to come to Nepal to pay homage to their deity. Thus, the fame of the Pashupati and Pashupatinath region had spread in the international world long ago. This region had become a powerful means of identifying Nepal and Nepalis. The importance and fame of this region, which is still included in the World Heritage List, is attracting devotees, scholars of history, and culture from all over the world.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of Nepalis to protect and develop this region and introduce it to the world in a more powerful way as a symbol of mutual harmony and global brotherhood.

Many of its features inspire the entire Hindu world with self-righteousness, mutual harmony, intimacy, and global brotherhood. The objective is to organize and develop the holy Pashupati region as a symbol of divinity following its prestige and dignity. The Pashupati Area Development Trust was established in 2044 BS as an autonomous organization with an unbroken succession and has been active in its duty path.

### The objective of Pashupati Area Development Trust

- ☛ To manage the temple premises, daily worship, and devotees of Lord Pashupatinath.
- ☛ To administer lands affiliated to Pashupatinath Guthi and land affiliated to Amalkot Court.
- ☛ To manage the income of Pashupatinath temple and Guthi land.



- Proper management of health and food of deer, nandi, pigeon, monkey and other animals reared in Pashupati area.
- To manage Mahashivaratri festival, Balachaturdashi festival, Akshay Tritiya festival, Haritalika Teej festival, and other special festivals in Pashupatinath temple.
- To manage various Jatra and parvas around the Pashupati area.
- To promote internal and external spiritual tourism by proliferating Pashupati region in the international and national arena.
- To coordinate the security management of Pashupati area
- To publish and broadcast the writings of Vedic and Tantric rituals including the study and research of Pashupatinath's Mahatmya and Shaiva sects.

### **The main sources of income of Pashupati Area Development Trust**

- Tourism fee in Pashupati area
- Income from Akshaykosh
- Kutbali
- Service charges
- Offerings and donations
- Rent
- Income from land tenure
- Income from special worship
- Income from Dharamshala
- Income from the parking fee
- Bhetighati and Danadakshina provided for Puja
- Kiriyaputri service, cremation service, cremation fee, etc.

### **Activities of Pashupati Area Development Trust**

- Mahashivaratri festival management
- Balachaturdashi festival management
- Bolbom Festival Management
- Shrawan Sombar/ Monday festival management
- Haritalika Teej festival management
- Management of local Jatra festivals
- Ghat management
- Cremation management
- Mrighasthali management
- Saints reception and shelter management
- Pashupati Bagmati Ganga Aarti management
- Guheshowri temple management

### **Expenditure conditions of Pashupati Area Development Trust**

- Office operation
- Staff salary management
- Management of monthly salary allowance of Bhatt priests and Bhandaris
- Salary and allowance management of shift guards and musicians
- Feed management of pigeons, monkeys, and deers.
- Development construction
- Festival and Jatra management - Special Puja Expenses
- Nitya Puja expenses
- Dakshina expenses of Brahmins
- Grants for Vedavidyashram
- Land conservation management
- Promotion
- Bagmati cleaning
- Temple cleaning and painting
- Operation of Ghat / Electric Crematorium
- National and international conference participation and planning
- Gaushala operation
- Dharamshala operation
- Guheshwari temple management
- Operation of Kiranteshwar Sangitaasram and temple



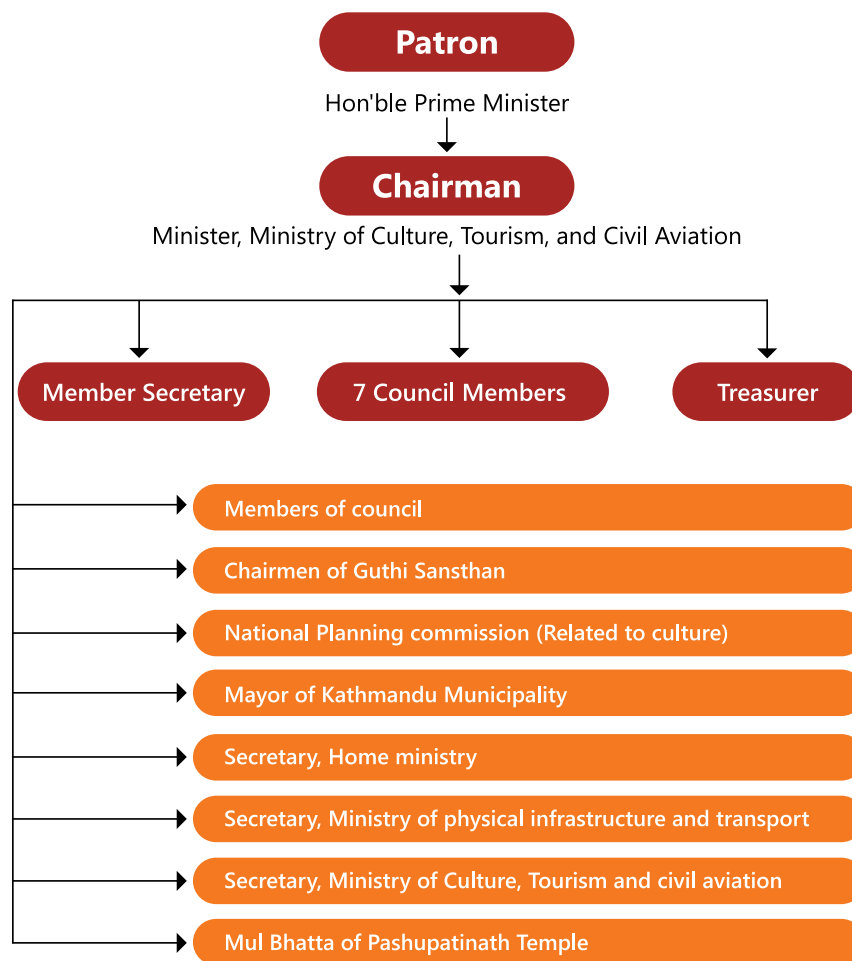


## Structure of Pashupati Area Development Trust

This organization has been formed as per Pashupati Area Development Trust Operation Act 2044 BS. Currently, this institution operates under the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation under the patronage of Hon'ble Prime Minister and chaired by Hon'ble Ministers.

The officials as per the details are the institution.

At least, under the presence of 7 council members, chaired by the member secretary can take functional decisions. There will be institutional structures according to the working procedure so that the decision can be made in the presence of the members and a proposal can be made and submitted to the council.



### Council Members



Mr. Bhagawati Prasad Dev



Mr. Arjun Prasad Bastola



Mrs. Asha Pandey



Mr. Bishwa Karan Jain



Mr. Devi Prasad Baral

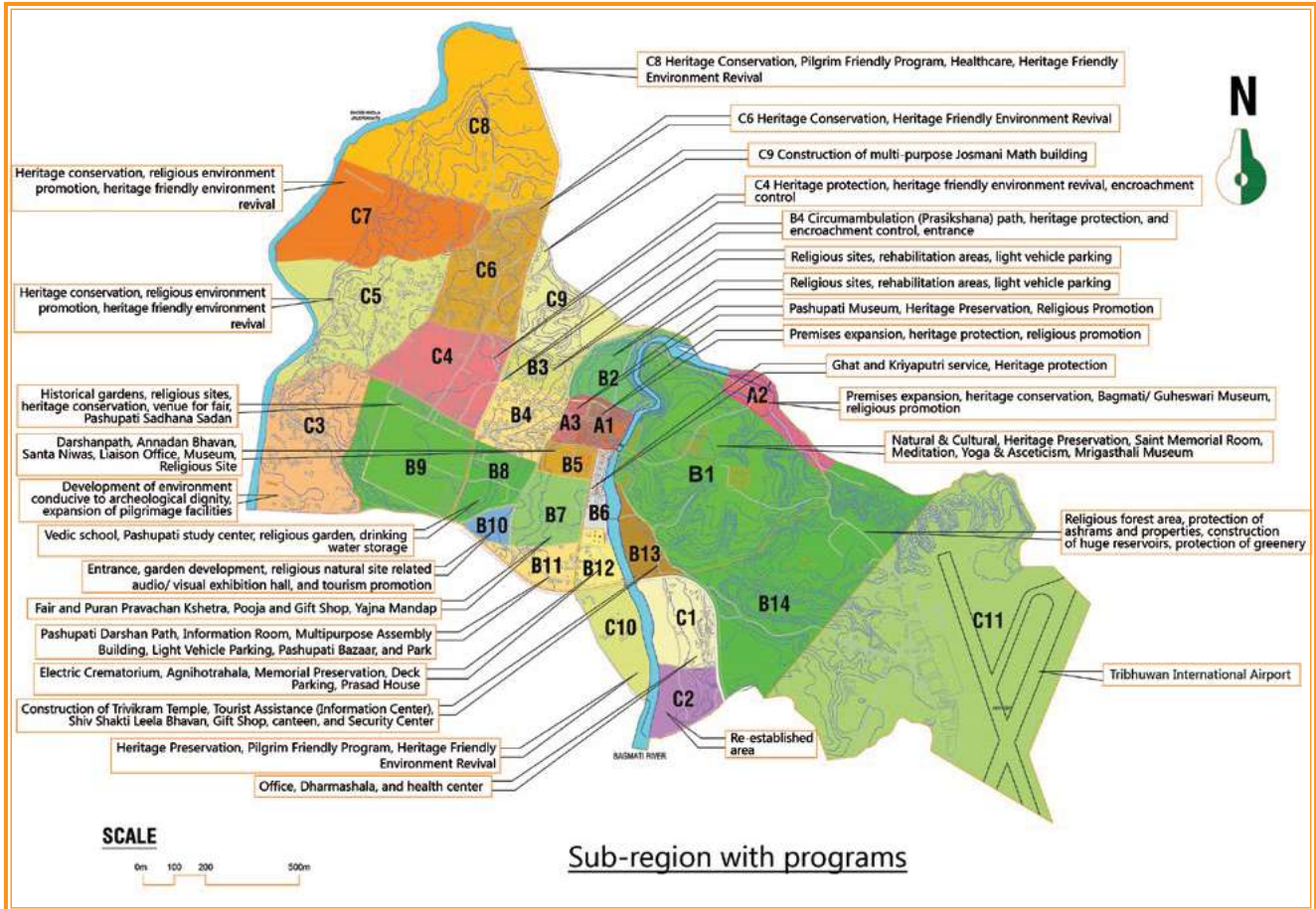


Mr. Uddhav Prasad Badal



Mr. Ramesh Raj Shiwakoti

# Master Plan of Pashupati Area



- 📍 PADT launched the Conceptual Master Plan for the planned development of the Pashupati region in 2053 BS and was implemented with the approval of the government.
- 📍 The ten-year master plan implemented till 2067/2068 BS.
- 📍 A detailed master plan including land utilization has been prepared at present.

## Policies & programs of the Government of Nepal for the fiscal year, 2076-77 BS

- 📍 A comprehensive master plan of the Pashupati area will be formulated and implemented.

## Achievements so far

- 📍 Preparing the survey map of the Pashupati area through the survey department has been completed.
- 📍 Completion of study report of tangible and intangible heritage through the Department of History and Culture, Tribhuvan University.
- 📍 Data collection of diversity within the Pashupati area was completed.
- 📍 Completion of Master Plan write-up.



## Earthquake damaged property reconstruction progress in Pashupati area



| Detail  | Numbers |
|---|---------|
| To be reconstruction                            | 90      |
| Reconstruction completed                        | 37      |
| In the current program                          | 21      |
| Maps sent to archeology department for approval | 06      |
| Programs in the process of public procurement   | 13      |
| The rest of the program to start                | 13      |



ॐ नमः शिवाय  
ॐ त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे सुगन्धिं पुष्टिवर्धनम् ।  
उर्वारुकमिव बन्धनान् मृत्योर्मुक्षीय मामृतात् ॥  
आराध्यदेव मगवान श्री पशुपतिनाथले  
हामि सबैको कल्याण गरुन ।

**CONTENT**  
Dr. Ghanashyam Khatiwada

**LAYOUT DESIGN**  
Sanjeev Karmacharya

**RESEARCH & COORDINATION**  
Bhanu Bhakta Dhamala

**PHOTOGRAPHS/ARCHIVE**  
Chungba Sherpa  
Santosh Karki

**CONCEPT & CREATED BY**  
Aashish Prasai  
Digital Development & Promotion  
Pashupati Area Development Trust

**TRANSLATION AND  
CONTEXTUALIZATION BY**  
Suyog Dhakal



Nepal Government  
**Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation**  
Singha Darbar, Kathmandu, Nepal

**धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः**



**पशुपति क्षेत्र विकास कोष**  
**Pashupati Area Development Trust**

Devuddhan, Gaushala, Kathmandu, Nepal

Phone: +977 01 44718828

Fax: +977 01 4472967

Email: [info@pashupati.gov.np](mailto:info@pashupati.gov.np)



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