

Article for:

“Celebration of Olympism”

Introduction

As part of the commitment and pledge to promote the Olympic Truce and Olympic values, the National Olympic Committee (NOC), Nepal has organised a 4-day forum. This forum theme “Celebration of Olympism” is organised in partnership with the UNESCO Club and Olympic Truce Peace Campaign Network and sponsorship of the ministry of Youths and Sports. This joint efforts and collaboration is aimed at commemorating the Olympic Day in Nepal from July 15th to 20th at the National Olympic Academy, Kathmandu, Nepal. This forum is organised to promote sports, peace and education, while using their principles to inspire youths from Nepal and participating countries to be involved in development and social improvement in their respective communities.

Future advantage for Nepalese Youths

The strategies and approaches which will be taught by national and international facilitators will provide youths in Nepal with understanding and tools which can help them to be positively involved as well as empower themselves. Case studies and evidence of results in countries such as England, Netherlands, Mali, Jordan, Suriname to mention a few where some of the international facilitators have facilitated projects will be showcased. This experiential learning will both encourage and reassure participants especially Nepalese Youths of the common trends of societal issues in countries of the world. Hence, the forum has both immediate and future advantage of teaching Nepalese youths, approaches for better social good and involvement using sports, education and peaceful coexistence.

In addition to the future benefits of opening up opportunities for international synergy between youths in Nepal and Youth in other countries where the Olympic values and educations have been instrumental to development and social good. There are also youth exchange programmes which will be a direct advantage of this forum with International Sports Alliance in Netherlands who are also sending facilitators to support the forum. Based on tangible outcomes, it is believed that this forum will saddle Nepalese youths with skills for social enterprise, thereby increasing their employability and their ability to contribute to the development in Nepal.

Future advantage for International Youths

Benefits also abound for international youths who will be attending this forum to network, share experiences as well as enjoy the culture and tourism of Nepal. Although the advantage for international youths is not limited to this, the international youths will create the initial platform for the exchange programs to advance. There will be exchange of skills, culture, expertise and opportunities (career, vocational and academic) which will promote cohesion, integration and friendship beyond borders in Asia and across the world. It is one of the outlined outcomes of this forum for international Youths to also replicate the learning curve of this forum in their respective countries.

Future engagements

While this forum promises ample opportunity and platform for interactions, sharing and networking, it has been designed in a way that all participants can be free to interact and express themselves. It will also be a forum designed to help youths bring on board the challenges in their respective countries and seeking opportunities within it to advance development. The successful interaction and networks achieved in this forum will serve as a launch for future engagements. Engagements to involve youths locally, nationally, regionally and internationally for social good, harnessing the energy of youths and utilising this for development plans by the government. This makes this forum both strategic to community involvement in development process.

One of the reasons the ministry of youth is involved and the Nepal Olympic Committee is playing a major role in supporting and sponsoring this forum. Thus this forum and related networks will create opportunities to share achievements through sports, peace building, culture, tourism and internationalisation. Above all, it is important to note that Nepal will be getting international recognition for contributing and living out the mission to promote the Olympic Truce and Olympic values through sports, education, culture exchange and positive youths and community engagements.

We therefore welcome everyone to the beautiful country of Nepal and the opportunities which are possible when people of different backgrounds come together in friendship, sports, culture and to utilise the power of unison.

Written By:

Dolapo Fakuade (Campaign Manager; Olympic Truce Peace Campaign)

&

Rimesh Khanal (President; Youth UNESCO Club)

June 2014

For further Information, interview and photo opportunities, please contact:

Contact Person(s): Rimesh Khanal

Email: youthsunescoclub@gmail.com

