

# **SANSAD salutes tens of thousands of Nepali people who demonstrated in Kathmandu and other cities, demanding an immediate restoration of Democracy in Nepal**

**South Asian Network for Secularism and Democracy (SANSAD)**, comprising a cross-section of the South Asian Diaspora in British Columbia, endorses the demand by the five parliamentary parties in Nepal for a return to democracy. This movement for democracy is led by the Nepali Congress, the Communist Party of Nepal (UML), People's Front Nepal, Nepal Workers and Peasants Party, and Nepal Sadbhawana Party (Anandi Devi).

After 30 years of autocratic monarchic rule, a people's movement in 1990 restored multi-party democracy and brought in a constitution. Nepal became a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democratic system.

**But on Oct. 4, 2002, through a royal proclamation, the King usurped all executive state power and dismissed the elected Prime Minister in violation of the Constitution.**

This autocratic regime of the king and his corrupt henchmen is being maintained by the political and military support of India and the United States for their own reasons. While the country has been in the grip of a civil war for many years, India and the U S have intervened in support of the monarchy to contain the increasing strength of the Maoist insurgency. The U S has recently committed the Royal Nepal Army 20, 000 M16 rifles and has conducted joint military exercises with them. It is a part of the global design of the USA to declare civil war, insurgency, or any movement of the people for democracy and sovereignty, as "terrorism" or potentially harboring "terrorism". The USA has proclaimed its intention to take "preventative" action through military assaults. But it is well known that military solutions to insurgency are both fruitless and exact a heavy price in human life and cause gross violation of peoples' civil and human rights.

**We strongly deplore the attack on and the arrest of thousands of peaceful demonstrators in Kathmandu who were exercising their civic right to demand the restoration of democracy in Nepal. And we condemn the Royal Ordinance issuing "Terrorist And Destructive Act" (TADA).**

The support of the regime that is engaged in this heinous anti-democratic act by the governments of India and the USA exposes the hypocrisy of their claim to be champions of democracy in the world.

The five major political parties represented in the House of Representatives in Nepal have been organizing a nationwide people's movement to restore democracy,  
human rights and peace in Nepal. SANSAD strongly supports this movement.

**We demand:**

An end to Indian, U S and other foreign military support for the autocratic regime in Nepal.

Restoration of the Constitution and the formation of a democratic government.

Return to dialogue with the Maoists for a negotiated settlement and peace.

Immediate Release of all the people arrested in Kathmandu and elsewhere, and immediate revocation of TADA.

--

SANSAD  
Suite 435  
205 - 329 North Road  
Coquitlam, Greater Vancouver, B.C., Canada  
V3K 6Z8

phone: (604) 420-2972  
fax: (604) 420-2970  
e-mail: [sansad@sansad.org](mailto:sansad@sansad.org)  
website: [www.sansad.org](http://www.sansad.org)