



नेपाल दामा सुन्दर अमेरिकामा Nepa Pasa Pucha Amerikaye नेपा: पासा पुचा: अमेरिकाय

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Press Release: Nepa Pasa Pucha Amerikaye Celebrates 1st Yomari Punhi

Nepal Educational and Cultural Center, Germantown, December 4, 2025

Nepa Pasa Pucha Amerikaye (NPPA) came together this week for a joyous celebration of Yomari Punhi, honoring tradition while passing culinary and cultural knowledge to younger generations through hands-on learning.

The event, held at the Nepal Educational and Cultural Center in Germantown brought together community members of all ages to commemorate this auspicious festival that marks the end of the rice harvest season. The celebration centered on the preparation of yomari, the traditional steamed dumplings filled with chaku (molasses) and sesame seeds that are synonymous with this beloved festival.



Under the guidance of community elders and skilled home cooks, children and young adults learned the intricate art of shaping the distinctive fish-like dumplings from rice flour dough. The intergenerational workshop created a warm atmosphere where stories, laughter, and cultural heritage flowed as freely as the ingredients being mixed and molded.

"Yomari Punhi is not just about the food—it's about bringing our community together and ensuring our traditions live on," said Mrs. Shanti Shrestha, president of NPPA.

The chief guest, Mr. Krishna Lal Maharjan, past President of the Lalitpur Chamber of Commerce briefly highlighted the history and significance of Yomari Punhi in Newah culture and society. Community members who brought their young children were pleased

to have their children learn about yomari making and the festival from their elders found the event truly heartwarming.

The celebration included traditional prayers and offerings to Kuber, the god of wealth, followed by the communal preparation of hundreds of yomari. Participants enjoyed both sweet and savory varieties of the dumplings, along with traditional sweets, yogurt and dinner.

The organizing committee expressed its gratitude to all volunteers, participants, and sponsors who made the celebration possible, and announced plans to make this an annual intergenerational learning event.



Nepa Pasa Pucha Amerikaye is grateful to all participants who donated \$10 per person and for the contributions of all its food donors:

Mr. & Mrs. Ram & Bisnu Malakar
Mr. & Mrs. Pancha & Shanti Shrestha
Mr. & Mrs. Rahendra Suwal & Mrs. Kanchan Khwaunju
Mr. & Mrs. Binesh & Mrs. Ramita Maharjan
Mr. & Mrs. Nabin Shakya & Mrs. Pranita Shrestha Shakya
Mr. & Mrs. Sunil Suwal & Mrs. Sabin Maharjan Suwal

NPPA sincerely thanks its media partners, eNepalese and DC Nepal, for supporting this event. Over 51 people participated for this event.

NPPA will strive to maintain this tradition and looks forward to your active support and suggestions. Let us continue to preserve our Nakha (festivals) here in the USA.

Please mark your calendar for NPPA's upcoming event:

Event: Youth Mobilization and Networking

Date & Time: Saturday, February 21, 2025 (10:30 AM–2:00 PM)

Venue: Twinbrook Library, Rockville, MD (more details to follow)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Subhay,

Executive Committee

Nepa Pasa Pucha Amerikaye (NPPA)