



Australian Government
Refugee Review Tribunal

Country Advice

Nepal

Nepal – NPL37203 – Baglung – Political parties – Monarchists – Businessmen – Rastriya Prajatantra Party – Maoists – Elections

3 September 2010

- 1. Please provide information on Baglung: administrative information; demography; political influence of parties including the Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP), Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists/YCL) and Nepal Congress; distance from Kathmandu and the surrounding towns and cities; and a map highlighting Baglung city and district.**

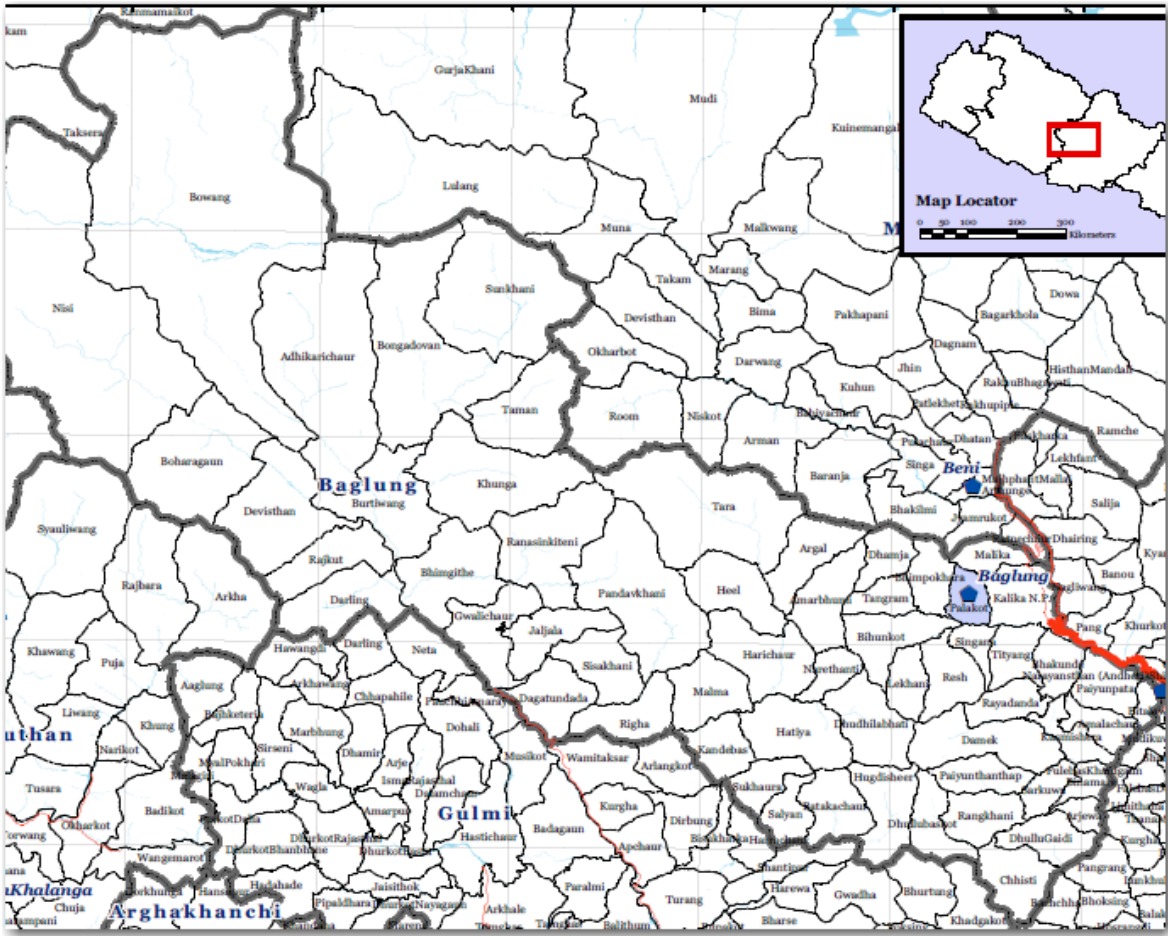
Baglung city/town (also known as Baglung Bazar) is the administrative headquarters of Baglung District and the wider Dhawalagiri administrative zone. The population of the district is estimated at 295,080 (2006). Hinduism is the most common religion practiced in Baglung District, followed by Buddhism and Islam; and the major caste/ethnic groups are the Magar (27.7%), Brahmin Hill (22.1%), Chhetri (19.3%) and Kami (13.1%).¹ Baglung city is approximately 280 kilometres west of Kathmandu. The distance from Baglung city to nearby Pokhara, the most popular tourist destination after Kathmandu, is around 72 kilometres; and the distance from Pokhara to Kathmandu is 206 kilometres, or six to eight hours by bus.²

The Baglung District, and the city of Baglung in the district's south-east, is illustrated in the following March 2008 map from the website of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal³:

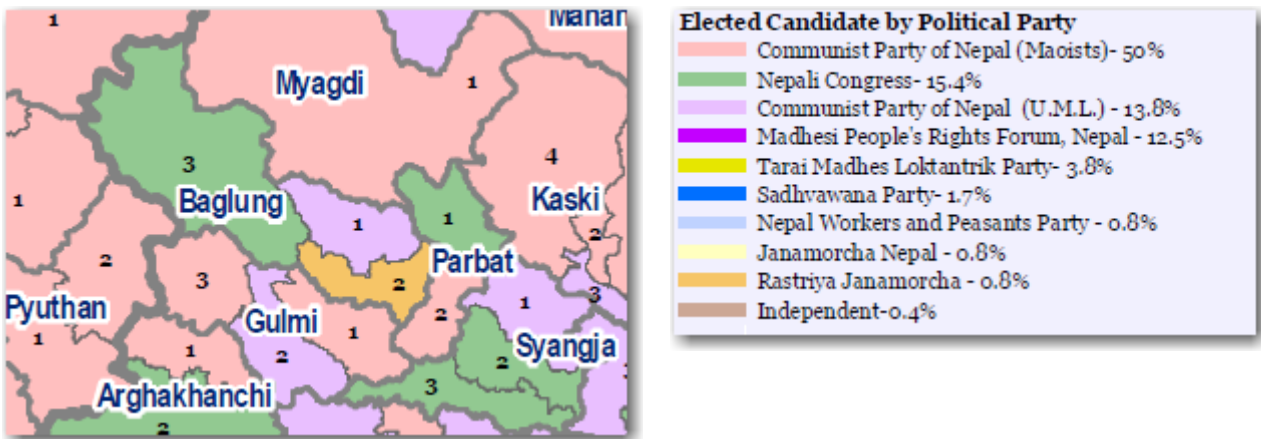
¹ 'Baglung' (undated), Nepal.com website <http://www.nepal.com/western/baglung/> – Accessed 27 August 2010 – Attachment 1; 'Nepal: Population Density (2006)' 2007, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal website, 8 November <http://www.un.org.np/reports/maps/OCHA/2009/2009-02-18-Nepal-Population-Density-2006-A4.pdf> – Accessed 27 August 2010 – Attachment 2; Dahal, D.R. 2003, 'Chapter 3: Social Composition of the Population: Caste/Ethnicity and Religion in Nepal' in *2003 Population Monograph Volume I*, Nepal Central Bureau of Statistics website, p.125 <http://www.cbs.gov.np/Population/Monograph/Chapter%2003%20%20Social%20Composition%20of%20the%20Population.pdf> – Accessed 7 May 2007 – Attachment 3.

² See Baglung' (undated), Nepal.com website <http://www.nepal.com/western/baglung/> – Accessed 27 August 2010 – Attachment 1; *Nepal*, 2003, Lonely Planet Guide Publications, pp. 229, 237, 252 – Attachment 4.

³ 'Baglung District' 2008, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal website, 4 March <http://www.un.org.np/maps/district-maps/western/Baglung.pdf> – Accessed 27 August 2010 – Attachment 5.



The following graphic illustrates the winning political party in each of the three Baglung district constituencies following the 2008 Constituent Assembly elections: Baglung-1, Communist Party of Nepal (UML); Baglung-2, *Rastriya Janamorcha*; and Baglung-3, Nepali Congress⁴.



⁴ 'Nepal: CA Election 2008 under FPTP- Elected Candidate by Political Party' 2008, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal website, 22 April <http://www.un.org.np/reports/maps/OCHA/Election-maps/2008-04-22-CA-Election-Result-by-Party.pdf> – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 6.

Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP):

The political influence of the *Rastriya Prajatantra Party* (RPP) in Baglung district at the level of national politics is not strong. In the April 2008 Constituent Assembly elections, and in previous national elections held in 1999 and 1994, no RPP candidates won seats in the district or were runners up.⁵ The RPP is, however, influential at the level of municipal politics. At the 2006 municipal elections, RPP candidates Bidur Khadka and Marayan Bahdur Thapa were elected (unopposed) to the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively.⁶

Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists/YCL)

While the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists) (CPN-M) won a majority of seats country-wide at the April 2008 Constituent Assembly elections, it failed to win any of the three constituencies comprising Baglung district. The CPN-M ran a close second to the Communist Party of Nepal (UML) in Baglung-1 Constituency (14,386 votes versus 15,786); and ran third to the Nepali Congress (NC) in Baglung-3 Constituency (7,911 votes versus 11,582). The CPN-M did not list in the top three candidates in Baglung-2 Constituency.⁷ Political support for the CPN-M would therefore appear moderate to low in Baglung district based on these election results. No information was found on the strength or influence of the Youth Communist League (YCL) in Baglung. The YCL is present in the district – reports indicate military training was provided to members as recently as April 2010 as preparation for nationwide anti-government protests by Maoists during May 2010.⁸

Nepal Congress (NC)

Political support for the NC is moderate to high across the Baglung district based on election results for the April 2008 Constituent Assembly. The NC candidates won Baglung-3 Constituency, ran second in Baglung-2 Constituency, and ran third in Baglung-1 Constituency.⁹ The NC was also successful in the previous 1999 and 1994 national

⁵ 'Election Commission Constituent Assembly Election 2064 [sic] Constituency Wise Top Three Leading Candidates' 2008, Nepal Election Commission website, 9 May [http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate\(English\)&rand=1282885399](http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate(English)&rand=1282885399) – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 7; 'Previous Election Top Two Candidates' (undated), Nepal Election Commission website <http://www.election.gov.np/EN/toptwo.html> – Accessed 27 August 2010 – Attachment 8.

⁶ 'Newly elected mayors and deputy mayors' *Nepal News* website <http://www.nepalnews.com/archive/municipal%20details%5B1%5D.pdf> – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 9; 'Majority of independent candidates in mayoral posts; Rajaram new mayor of Kathmandu metropolis' 2006, *Nepal News* website, 10 February <http://www.nepalnews.com/archive/2006/feb/feb10/news01.php> – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 10.

⁷ 'Election Commission Constituent Assembly Election 2064 [sic] Constituency Wise Top Three Leading Candidates' 2008, Nepal Election Commission website, 9 May [http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate\(English\)&rand=1282885399](http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate(English)&rand=1282885399) – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 7.

⁸ 'Maoists up training, donation drives' 2010, *Republica* website, 22 April http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news_details&news_id=17783 – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 11.

⁹ 'Election Commission Constituent Assembly Election 2064 [sic] Constituency Wise Top Three Leading Candidates' 2008, Nepal Election Commission website, 9 May [http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate\(English\)&rand=1282885399](http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate(English)&rand=1282885399) – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 7.

elections. In both these elections, NC candidates ran first or second in all three constituencies except one, Baglung-3 in 1994.¹⁰

Rastriya Janamorcha Party (National People's Front – RJM)

The *Rastriya Janamorcha Party* (National People's Front – RJM) is a minor political party in Nepal, winning four seats in the 2008 Constituent Assembly. It has moderate support in Baglung, winning one constituency and running second in another at the 2008 elections. Its policies centre on opposition to a federal structure for Nepal based on ethnic or caste lines, in favour of decentralisation within the existing unitary system. After the 2008 Constituent Assembly elections it opposed CPN-M Prachanda's nomination for prime minister, labelling his party's policies "fascist and militarist".¹¹

2. Please provide the names of the national and Baglung leaders of the Maoists, the RPP, and any other significant political forces between 2006 and November 2009.

National leaders between 2006 and November 2009

Maoists: The CPN-M national leader during this period was Pushpa Kamal Dahal (known as comrade Prachanda, chair/general secretary and former prime minister). Other leading party figures were Krishna Bahadur Mahara, Baburam Bhattarai, Dev Gurung and Mohan Baidya Kirin.¹²

RPP: RPP national leaders during this period were Pashupati Shumsher Rana (party president) and Lokendra Bahadur Chand (former prime minister and party leader). Other leading figures during this period include Padma Sundar Lawati (former vice president), Kem Pandit (former co-general secretary), Deepak Bohara, and Parshu Ram Khapaung.¹³

RJM: RJM leader is Chitra Bahadur K.C. (chair).

Other significant political forces in Nepal are the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) – CPN (UML) and the Nepali Congress (NC). Significant leaders of the CPN (UML) over this period were Madhav Kumar Nepal (former prime minister and general secretary), Bamdev Gautam (former vice chair), and Ishwor Pokharel (general

¹⁰ 'Previous Election Top Two Candidates' (undated), Nepal Election Commission website <http://www.election.gov.np/EN/toptwo.html> – Accessed 27 August 2010 – Attachment 8.

¹¹ 'Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T Muller, W Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1038

http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0 – Accessed 4 August 2010 – Attachment 12; and 'NWPP, RJM to boycott PM election' 2008, Nepal News, 15 August <http://www.nepalnews.com/archive/2008/aug/aug15/news05.php> - Accessed 3 September 2010 – Attachment 14.

¹² 'Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T Muller, W Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1033

http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0 – Accessed 4 August 2010 – Attachment 12; Banks, A.S., Muller, T.C. & Overstreet, N.R. (eds) 2007, *Political Handbook of the World: 2007*, CQ Press, Washington D.C., pp. 872-875 – Attachment 13.

¹³ 'Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T Muller, W Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1035

http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0 – Accessed 4 August 2010 – Attachment 12; Banks, A.S., Muller, T.C. & Overstreet, N.R. (eds) 2007, *Political Handbook of the World: 2007*, CQ Press, Washington D.C., pp. 872-875 – Attachment 13.

secretary). High-ranking leaders of the NC were Ram Baran Yadav (former president of Nepal), Girija Prasad Koirala (president of the party), Sher Bahadur Deuba (former prime minister), and Ram Chandra Poudel (vice president and former general secretary of the party).¹⁴

Baglung leaders between 2006 and November 2009

The names of the leading candidates of the main political parties in Baglung in 2008 are given in the following table. It lists the names of the three candidates from each party with the most votes from each of the three constituencies at the April 2008 Constituent Assembly elections¹⁵:

District	Const	Candidate	Party	Sex	Votes
1 Baglung	1	Ramjee Prasad Sharma	Communist Party of Nepal (UML)	M	15786 Elected
2 Baglung	1	Chandra Bahadur Budha	Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists)	M	14386
3 Baglung	1	Hari Prasad Shrestha	Nepali Congress	M	12017
1 Baglung	2	Chitra Prasad K.C.	Rastriya Janamorcha	M	12594 Elected
2 Baglung	2	Mani Bhadra Sharma	Nepali Congress	M	11975
3 Baglung	2	Lil Bahadur Thapa Magar	Communist Party of Nepal (Unified)	M	7669
1 Baglung	3	Nara Bahadur Pun	Nepali Congress	M	11582 Elected
2 Baglung	3	Tel Bahadur Gharti	Rastriya Janamorcha	M	9591
3 Baglung	3	Balawoti Sharma	Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists)	F	7911

Various news reports published between 2006 and 2009 refer to other political leaders in Baglung. Other Maoist leaders associated with the district during this period are Dinanath Sharma (2007); Maoist district secretariat member and area in-charge, Bikiran (August 2006); Maoist Baglung district-in-charge, Ananta, and secretary, Nabin (August 2006); and Baglung district-in-charge, Parasmani (May 2006)¹⁶. Other political figures associated

¹⁴ Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T. Muller, W. Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1036

http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0 – Accessed 4 August 2010 – Attachment 12; Banks, A.S., Muller, T.C. & Overstreet, N.R. (eds) 2007, *Political Handbook of the World: 2007*, CQ Press, Washington D.C., pp. 872-875 – Attachment 13.

¹⁵ 'Election Commission Constituent Assembly Election 2064 [sic] Constituency Wise Top Three Leading Candidates' 2008, Nepal Election Commission website, 9 May

[http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate\(English\)&rand=1282885399](http://www.election.gov.np/reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate(English)&rand=1282885399) – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 7.

¹⁶ 'Nepal Maoist district leader says talks will succeed "at any cost"' 2006, *BBC Monitoring South Asia*, 16 August – Attachment 15; 'Local Maoist leader accuses Nepal army of breaching code of conduct' 2006, *BBC Monitoring South Asia*, 31 May – Attachment 16; 'Nepal Maoists abduct communist student leader' 2006, *BBC Monitoring South Asia*, 7 August – Attachment 17.

with Baglung during this period include CPN-UML district coordinator Yam Bahadar Khatri (2009); and district secretary of the CPN – UML, Janak Puadel (May 2008).¹⁷

3. Are there reports indicating that Maoists subject pro-monarchy businessmen to extortion or torture? Are there any other anti-monarchy political parties or activist groups active in Nepal?

Reports of Maoists subjecting members of the Nepalese business community (small and large business owners, entrepreneurs and business managers) to abduction, extortion, assault, and threats of murder are widespread.¹⁸ These tactics are employed by Maoists to generate funds. These reports do not specify whether those targeted hold pro-monarchist views, and reports were not found to indicate that Maoists especially target pro-monarchy businessmen as opposed to other sections of the business community. Given the Maoists' strong opposition to the monarchy, however, it would be reasonable to conclude that known pro-monarchist business owners would be at greater risk. The US Department of State's current reports on human rights abuses in Nepal highlights the continued use by Maoists of financial extortion against businesses and the accompanying use of threats and violence against those who refuse to provide funds in such circumstances:

Members of the security forces, the Maoist militias, the Maoist-affiliated Young Communist League (YCL), and members of other small, often ethnically based armed groups committed human rights abuses...Maoist militias engaged in arbitrary and unlawful use of lethal force and abduction. Violence, extortion, and intimidation continued throughout the year...

Maoists and Maoist-affiliated organizations continued to commit abuses during the year in contravention of the CPA [Comprehensive Peace Agreement]. Maoists regularly extorted money from businesses, workers, private citizens, and NGOs. When individuals or companies refused or were unable to pay, Maoist recrimination was violent or implied the threat of violence.¹⁹

Specific cases of Maoists abducting, assaulting, and threatening business owners in a number of Nepalese districts since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of April 2006 are provided on the South Asia Terrorism Portal website:

2010

April 29: Workers at Himalayan Distillery foiled Unified CPN-Maoist cadres' attempt of abducting Uday Bhandari, General Manager of the Distillery in Parsa District.

¹⁷ 'Nepal party cadres angry over selection of proportional poll candidates' 2008, BBC Monitoring South Asia, 4 May – Attachment 18.

¹⁸ See Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) 2010, *Nepal: Failed implementation of IDP Policy leaves many unassisted*, 28 January, UNHCR website, pp. 23, 27, 34, 267, 274 <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,COI,IDMC,,NPL,,4b61a32f2,0.html> – Accessed 19 August 2010 – Attachment 19; Freedom House 2010, *Countries at the Crossroads - Nepal*, p.11 – Attachment 20.

¹⁹ US Department of State 2010, *2009 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices*, 'Political prisoners and Detainees', 11 March – Attachment 21.

February 4: Police arrested six Unified CPN-Maoist cadres in Itahari District in the charge of abducting a businessman. According to the Police sources, the Maoists were arrested under the Public Offence Act.

February 2: The Police arrested 11 cadres of the Unified CPN-Maoist, including Kochila State Committee Secretariat member Mohan Timsina, from the ward office of the party in Janata Basti of Itahari District for their involvement in the abduction of Pasang Sherpa, an entrepreneur of Chainpur in Sankhuwasabha...

2007

June 3: Three cadres of the Maoist-affiliated Young Communist League (YCL) abducted a businessman, identified as Sitaram Prasai, who had been evading arrest despite a warrant against him, from his office of the Cottage and Small Industry Development Bank in Kamaladi.

May 16: Maoists abducted Balgopal Shrestha, a local businessman, from his house at Barahakshetra in the Sunsari district, on the charge of “illegally selling mobile SIM cards.”

March 18: Maoists abducted the operator of Hotel Woodland at Durbarmarg, Hari Shrestha, from his hotel in Kathmandu and assaulted him after he refused to give NR [Nepalese Rupee] two million as demanded by the Maoists. They later released him after making an agreement paper, which states that Shrestha will pay NR 10 million to the Maoists and will also provide 10 rooms free of cost for them...

2006

October 30: In the Jhapa district, Maoists assaulted and subsequently abducted the owner of the Munal Wood Industry, Shiva Upreti, from Chandragadhi-6. The group later called Upreti's family and asked for ransom and warned that they would kill Upreti if the family members do not give the money.²⁰

One high-profile case widely reported in the media involved the torture of a businessman by Maoists. On 27 April 2008, the Kathmandu businessman Ram Hari Shrestha was allegedly abducted by members of the United Communist Party of Nepal and later died due to severe ill-treatment inflicted through torture by members of the Maoist People's Liberation Army (PLA). A District Court has formally charged five cadres, only one of whom had been arrested by August 2010. The Unified Communist Party of Nepal – Maoist (UCPN-M) has not cooperated with the authorities in helping to arrest those charged.²¹ The use of torture more generally by Maoists and affiliated groups is documented by non-government organisations (NGOs) in Nepal. The Nepalese NGO Advocacy Forum-Nepal, which focuses on the monitoring of incidents of torture in the

²⁰ ‘Abductions by the CPN-Maoist since the April 2006 Cease-fire’ 2010, South Asia Terrorism Portal website <http://www.satp.org/satporgrp/countries/nepal/database/ceasefire.htm> – Accessed 31 August 2010 – Attachment 22.

²¹ Asian Human Rights Commission 2010, ‘Police unable to arrest the murderers of Ram Hari Shrestha’, 20 August <http://www.ahrchk.net/ua/mainfile.php/2010/3524/> – Accessed 30 August 2010 – Attachment 23. International Crisis group 2010, *Nepal: Peace and Justice*, 14 January, p.16 – Attachment 24.

country, indicated that for the period from October 2008 to June 2009, 32 cases of torture could be attributed to the UCPN-M and its youth wing, the YCL.²²

No information was found on other political parties or groups that are actively anti-monarchist in Nepal in ways comparable to the CPN-M and the YCL. Surveys of the main political parties and groups in Nepal indicate that the CPN-M is the only political organisation that actively campaigns against the monarchy.²³

4. Please provide an update on recent elections in Nepal.

Two years after the Constituent Assembly elections of April 2008, political instability continues in Nepal. The CPN-M, which had led a new ruling coalition government after winning 220 of the 601 seats in the new Constituent Assembly, left the coalition and went into opposition in May 2009. (In January 2009, the party merged with the Communist Party of Nepal [Unity Center-Masal] to become the Unified Communist Party of Nepal [Maoist] or UCPN-M). The move into opposition followed UCPN-M party leader Pushpa Kamal Dhala's (known as 'Prachandra') resignation as Prime Minister on 4 May 2009.²⁴ Prachandra's decision followed his attempt to dismiss the chief of the Nepalese Army, which was ruled unconstitutional by then President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav of the Nepali Congress Party.

On 23 May 2009, a new coalition government was sworn in, led by the main opposition party, the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist-Leninist (CPN-UML). The CPN-UML coalition consisted of 22 parties with 350 seats in the Constituent Assembly. CPN-UML leader, Mr Madhav Kumar Nepal, then became Prime Minister. Prachandra's UCPN-M remains in opposition with control of 238 seats.²⁵ On 30 June 2010, CPN-UML leader Kumar Nepal also resigned as prime minister, triggered by Maoist insistence that, as the largest party in the Assembly, they had the right to elect the prime minister. The country currently remains without a Prime Minister and without an effective government.²⁶ Since Kumar Nepal's resignation, Nepal's parliament has failed on five separate occasions to elect a new prime minister; a sixth vote is scheduled for September. Prachanda won the most recent vote on 24 August 2010, without however gaining the

²² Advocacy Forum, Redress and APT 2009, *Review of the implementation of recommendations made by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Manfred Nowak, after his mission to Nepal in 2005*, 28 August

http://www.advocacyforum.org/SubmissiontoNowak_28_August_Final.pdf – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 25.

²³ 'Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T Muller, W Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1033-1034, 1037

http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0 – Accessed 4 August 2010 – Attachment 12; International Crisis Group 2008, *Nepal's election and beyond*, 2 April, pp.3-4 – Attachment 24.

²⁴ 'Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T Muller, W Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1037

http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0 – Accessed 4 August 2010 – Attachment 12.

²⁵ Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 2010, 'Nepal country brief', May

http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/nepal/nepal_country_brief.html – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 26.

²⁶ 'Nepal fails to pick new PM for second time in week' 2010, *Reuters*, 23 July

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SGE66M0IO.htm> – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 27; 'Nepal PM announces resignation 'to end deadlock' 2010, *BBC News*, 30 June <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10464705> – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 28.

necessary majority, against Ram Chandra Poudel, the leader of the centrist Nepali Congress.²⁷ The key controversial issues in the country are the integration of Maoist cadres into mainstream society and the Nepalese Army, and the writing of a new constitution, both seen as central to the peace process which began with the end of the Maoist insurgency in 2006.²⁸

Attachments

1. 'Baglung' (undated), Nepal.com website <http://www.nepal.com/western/baglung/> – Accessed 27 August 2010.
2. 'Nepal: Population Density (2006)' 2007, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal website, 8 November <http://www.un.org.np/reports/maps/OCHA/2009/2009-02-18-Nepal-Population-Density-2006-A4.pdf> – Accessed 27 August 2010.
3. Dahal, D.R. 2003, 'Chapter 3: Social Composition of the Population: Caste/Ethnicity and Religion in Nepal' in *2003 Population Monograph Volume I*, Nepal Central Bureau of Statistics website <http://www.cbs.gov.np/Population/Monograph/Chapter%2003%20%20Social%20Composition%20of%20the%20Population.pdf> – Accessed 7 May 2007.
4. *Nepal*, 2003, Lonely Planet Guide Publications, London. (RRT Library)
5. 'Baglung District' 2008, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal website, 4 March <http://www.un.org.np/maps/district-maps/western/Baglung.pdf> – Accessed 27 August 2010.
6. 'Nepal: CA Election 2008 under FPTP- Elected Candidate by Political Party' 2008, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal website, 22 April <http://www.un.org.np/reports/maps/OCHA/Election-maps/2008-04-22-CA-Election-Result-by-Party.pdf> – Accessed 1 September 2010.
7. 'Election Commission Constituent Assembly Election 2064 [sic] Constituency Wise Top Three Leading Candidates' 2008, Nepal Election Commission website, 9 May [http://www.election.gov.np//reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate\(English\)&rand=1282885399](http://www.election.gov.np//reports/CAResults/reportBody.php?selectedMenu=Constituency%20Wise%20Top%203%20Candidate(English)&rand=1282885399) – Accessed 30 August 2010.
8. 'Previous Election Top Two Candidates' (undated), Nepal Election Commission website <http://www.election.gov.np/EN/toptwo.html> – Accessed 27 August 2010.

²⁷ 'Nepal's parliament again fails to elect new PM' 2010, *ABC News Radio* website, 24 August <http://www.radioaustralianews.net.au/stories/201008/2991325.htm?desktop> – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 29.

²⁸ Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 2010, 'Nepal country brief', May http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/nepal/nepal_country_brief.html – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 26; 'Nepal fails to pick new PM for second time in week' 2010, *Reuters*, 23 July <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SGE66M0IO.htm> – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Accessed 1 September 2010 – Attachment 27.

9. 'Newly elected mayors and deputy mayors' *Nepal News* website
<http://www.nepalnews.com/archive/municipal%20details%5B1%5D.pdf> – Accessed 30 August 2010.
10. 'Majority of independent candidates in mayoral posts; Rajaram new mayor of Kathmandu metropolis' 2006, *Nepal News* website, 10 February
<http://www.nepalnews.com/archive/2006/feb/feb10/news01.php> – Accessed 30 August 2010.
11. 'Maoists up training, donation drives' 2010, *Republica* website, 22 April
http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news_details&news_id=17783 – Accessed 1 September 2010.
12. 'Nepal' 2010, *Political Handbook of the World Online Edition*, eds A Banks, T Muller, W Overstreet, and J Isacoff, CQ Press, Washington, p. 1033
http://library.cqpress.com/phw/document.php?id=phw2010_Nepal&type=hitlist&num=0
– Accessed 4 August 2010.
13. Banks, A.S., Muller, T.C. & Overstreet, N.R. (eds.) 2007, *Political Handbook of the World: 2007*, CQ Press, Washington D.C., pp. 872-875. (RRT Library)
14. 'NWPP, RJM to boycott PM election' 2008, *Nepal News*, 15 August
<http://www.nepalnews.com/archive/2008/aug/aug15/news05.php> - Accessed 3 September 2010.
15. 'Nepal Maoist district leader says talks will succeed "at any cost"' 2006, *BBC Monitoring South Asia*, 16 August. (FACTIVA)
16. 'Local Maoist leader accuses Nepal army of breaching code of conduct' 2006, *BBC Monitoring South Asia*, 31 May. (FACTIVA)
17. 'Nepal Maoists abduct communist student leader' 2006, *BBC Monitoring South Asia*, 7 August. (FACTIVA)
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