



Nepal Geographical Society (NGS) Webinar Series – 24th Episode

Nepal Geographical Society Successfully Organizes 24th Episode of NGS Webinar Series

The Nepal Geographical Society (NGS) successfully organized the 24th episode of the NGS Webinar Series on 31 July 2026. The webinar featured Dr. Dinesh Paudel, Professor at Appalachian State University, USA, as the speaker. He delivered a presentation entitled “***New Himalayan Conjuncture: Geopolitical Infrastructuralism, New Political Ruptures and the Future of Development in Nepal.***”

The presentation highlighted the emerging shift in the Himalayan region from conventional developmentalism toward infrastructuralism and examined the possibilities and implications this transformation may generate for the future of development in Nepal. Dr. Paudel discussed the changing geopolitical and infrastructural landscape of the Himalayas and its potential implications for the development trajectory of Nepal.

The webinar was attended by 84 participants from different countries, including Nepal, India, China, and the United States. The participants represented diverse backgrounds, including professional geographers and geoscientists, university professors and faculty members, researchers, and professionals working in various sectors.

Following the presentation, an interactive discussion and question-and-answer session was held. Dr. Paudel responded to questions, comments, and observations raised by the participants, making the session highly engaging and informative.

Mr. Tibendra Raj Banskota, General Secretary of the Nepal Geographical Society, hosted the webinar. Prof. Dr. Prem Sagar Chapagain, President of the Nepal Geographical Society, chaired the event, welcomed the distinguished participants, introduced the speaker, and concluded the program with a vote of thanks.

The Nepal Geographical Society expresses its sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Dinesh Paudel for his valuable presentation and to all the participants and NGS members for their active participation and support in making the webinar a success.

The 25th episode of the NGS Webinar Series is scheduled to be held in the last week of August 2026. Further details will be announced by the Nepal Geographical Society in due course.

Nepal Geographical Society (NGS) Webinar Series: Episode - 24

TITLE OF THE TALK

New Himalayan Conjecture: Geopolitical infrastructuralism, new political ruptures and the future of development in Nepal

DETAILS OF THE PROGRAM

Date: 31 July 2026
Time: 7:00 PM (Nepal Standard Time) (GMT+5:45)
Venue: Online (Zoom Meeting)
Zoom Meeting ID: 405 667 6406
Passcode: ngs2026


Organized By
Nepal Geographical Society
 Kathmandu, Nepal
 Email: ngs@ngs2018.org.np
 Website: <https://ngs2018.org.np/>

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr Dinesh Paudel is a Professor of Sustainable Development at Appalachian State University, and Adjunct Professor of Geography at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA. His current research focuses on the intersections of infrastructure, disasters and development in the Himalayan region. His recent research program explored the intertwined relationships between evolving new Himalayan ecologies and transforming agrarian practices in rural areas.

Previously, he was involved in studying community forestry, primitive accumulation in the natural resource sector, decolonial development and post-earthquake transformations in Nepal. He is affiliated with several academic and research institutions in USA, Nepal, and internationally.

The talk will highlight how the Himalayan region is shifting toward infrastructuralism from conventional developmentalism and what possibilities this shift has generated for the future of development in Nepal.



SPEAKER
Dinesh Paudel, PhD
 Professor, Appalachian State University, USA



JOIN US ONLINE
 This webinar aims to share knowledge and insights on new Himalayan conjecture and its implications for development in Nepal.



OPEN TO ALL
 Researchers, students, professionals and all interested participants are cordially invited to join.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
 Email: ngs@ngs2018.org.np
 Website: <https://ngs2018.org.np/>

Some glimpses of the NGS webinar



Prem Sagar

Prem Sagar

Keshav Bhattarai

यी सबालमा बिदेशी सिद्धान्तले नेपालको बारेमा गरेका व्याख्या सतही र उनीहरूका उद्देश्यबाट मात्रै निर्देशित छन्

Existing Theories (external)

भूराजनीतिक व्याख्या
Geopolitical explanation

- Extra-territorial power ambition of China/USA
- Logics from powerful actors
- A New Cold War in Nepal
- Zero-sum approach

↓

Undermines the Himalayan complexity, porosity and agency

Geeconomic explanation

- Power of surplus capital
- Chinese economic muscle
- Displacement and extraction
- Revival of Primitive Accumulation

↓

Does not explain the Himalayan mode of production and materialities

यी व्याख्याले नेपाल र नेपालीको आफ्नो भूमिमा कुनै भूमिका नै देखदैन

Prem Sagar

Prem Sagar

Keshav Bhattarai

But the Himalaya is facing new crises, creating a different moment

The diagram features a central red circle labeled "Post-Development Himalayan Crises". Surrounding this central circle are nine blue circles, each containing a number and a description of a crisis. Arrows point from each of these nine circles towards the central red circle, indicating that these individual crises collectively define the post-development moment in the Himalayas.

1. Climate Change/diaster
2. Ecological/biodiversity loss
3. Uneven development
4. Unsustainable Infrastructure / dozer atanka
5. Abandonment/ Outmigration /disarticulated
6. Seismic and Geological
7. Cultural/ social displacement
8. Political unraveling/ geopolitical shifts
9. Poverty/ Livelihoods/ capital

zoom Workplace Nepal Geographical Society's Personal Meeting Room

Suresh Chand Rai Samsung SM-M... Suresh Chaudh... Prem Sagar

Suresh Chand Rai Samsung SM-MT69F Suresh Chaudhary Prem Sagar

Everyone from laptop Non (off)

SS wonderful sir!

Bacanta Neupane (NFBG) 7:43 PM

BN Very nice and informative presentation. Thank you, prof. Dinesh sir. Could you share your idea. In my opinion, Nepal has traditionally maintained a balanced relationship with both China and India. As the proposed China-Nepal railway enhances China's connectivity to South Asia, how can Nepal maximize the economic benefits while avoiding becoming a focal point of Sino-Indian strategic competition?

Message everyone

Audio Video Participants Chat React Record More Leave

zoom Workplace Meeting Dinesh Paudel's screen

Nepal Geographical S... Dinesh Paudel Prem Sagar Keshav Bhattara

Conjunctural Analysis

It allows for politics, positionality, and alternate futures

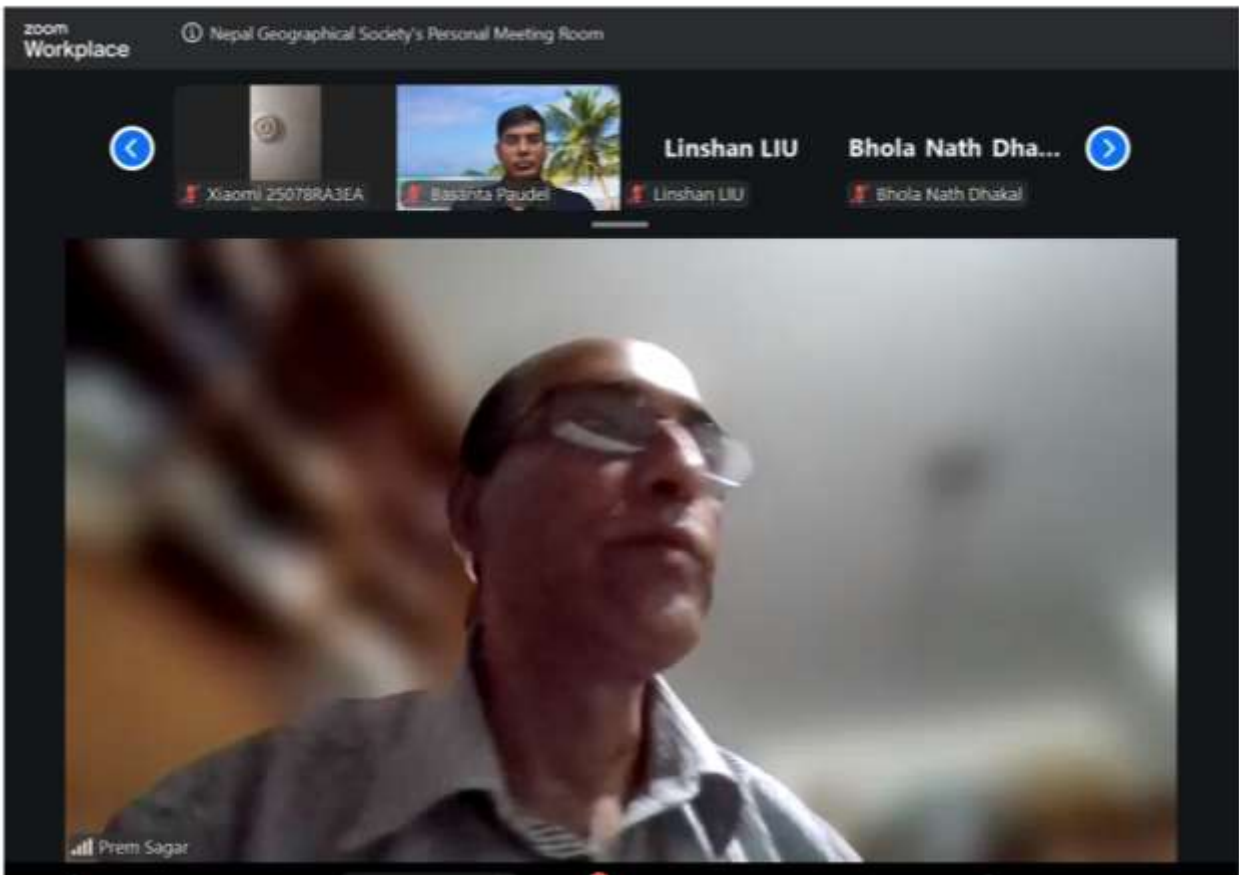
- Conjunctures
- Conjunctural crisis
- New Conjuncture
- Articulation

Conjunctures are the 'major turning points to create new possibility' (Hart, 2020)

Conjunctural crises can lead to a new conjuncture with the opportunity for a different 'historic settlement' (Hall)

Hegemony and Commonsense (Gramsci)

Grundrisse (synthesis of multiple determinations)
↓
Gramsci/Althusser (articulation/collective whole)
↓
Stuart Hall (contexts/unraveling of hegemonic structure/new possibilities)
↓
Human Geographers (spatialities/multi-layered/poly-crises/alternative imaginaries)



Nepal Geographical Society
Would like to honor
Dinesh Paudel, PhD
Professor, Appalachian State University, USA
For his insightful presentation and distinguish contribution as a speaker in the
Nepal Geographical Society (NGS) Webinar Series – Episode 24
titled
*New Himalayan Conjuncture: Geopolitical infrastructuralism,
new political ruptures and the future of development in Nepal*
Held on 31 July 2026

Tibendra
Mr. Tibendra Raj Banskota
General Secretary

Prem Sagar
Prof. Prem Sagar Chapagai
President

Nepal Geographical Society, Kathmandu Email: ngs2011@gmail.com Website: <https://ngs2011.org.np>

The certificate is displayed within a Zoom meeting window. The Zoom interface shows a toolbar at the top with icons for Audio, Video, Participants, Chat, Share, Pause, Layout, Annotate, Remote control, Show meeting, and More. On the right side, there is a vertical stack of participant thumbnails, including "Keshav Banskota", "Xiaomi 25078RA3EA", "Basanta Paudel", and "Linshan LIU".