

## CPA TALK 5

**Krishna Prasad Sitaula**

*Leader, Nepali Congress*

Nepal's peace process is unique. It was resolved after repeated talks between the warring parties. There was no mediation in the real sense. The first decade has been positive and TRC and CIEDP have started their works accordingly. Although the process has been delayed, a progress has been started so far.

The political dynamics changed after king Gyanendra took over power which actually brought the political parties and the Maoists together. Girija Prasad's personality and his international reputation also helped Prachanda to be onboard with the peace process. The peace process is an opportunity to end the conflict and suffering. Maoists accepted multi-party democracy and gave up arms.

The 12-points agreement had the Indian government's goodwill, which would have been impossible otherwise. However, India was not involved in the process. After king Gyanendra took over power, India, Europe, USA, and China supported in restoring peace in Nepal.

Two talks during king's reign did not come to a conclusion as King was intent on destroying the political parties and democracy rather than bringing Maoist to the peace process. Political parties became an important part of the whole process and soon realized that the palace was the enemy of peace. Baburam and Prachanda were brought to Kathmandu without any security to meet the prime minister. Then the CPA was signed and UNMIN was invited to monitor the ceasefire.

The interim constitution stated that the very first meeting of the CA will declare Nepal a federal republic. The political parties were working together and trusted each other that time.

It was only UML and Nepali Congress representing the seven party alliance. The agreement was brought without signature, which was then signed on November 21. The seven parties and Prachanda signed the agreement. This was then publicized. This brought together parties for peaceful protest against the monarchy, and the Maoists committed to end the violence and partake in multiparty democracy. The incident of 9/11 also played a vital role to bring them into peace process.

Rules of war have been ignored and lots of innocent people have lost their lives. TRC and CIEDP should ensure that there is no vengeance in society at this time.

*[For further information regarding the book, contact Nepal Transition to Peace Institute \(NTTP-I\) or send an email to contact @nttpinstitute.org.np.](mailto:nttpinstitute.org.np)*