

Source : Source : Hospital survey, 2002

Table 4 : Type of School Attended by Patients, Number and Percentage

Type of School	N	%
Government School	24	14,29
Private Day School	7	4,17
Private Boarding School	136	80,95
Other, Specify	1	0,60
Total	168	100,00

Source : Source : Hospital survey, 2002

Note: Only 186 of the 424 patients were 6 years and older

Table 5; Occupation of the Person the patient is Living with, Number and Percentage

Patient's Guardian's occupation	No.	%
Government Employee	70	16,51
Private sector/INGO/NGO employee	117	27,59
Self Employed	40	9,43
Farmer	28	6,60
Employed	1	0,24
Other, Specify	168	39,62
Total	424	100,00

Source: NMC Hospital Based Study

Table 6: Number and Percentage of Patients Who Stated That They were Employed or Unemployed in the last one week

Situation	N
Worked for Wages	3
Have not worked for wages	173
Total	176

Source: NMC Hospital Based Study

Note: Out of a total of 424 patients and/or parents interviewed, 176 responded to this question. This is due to the very low ages of the remaining patients.

## AN OBITUARY TO PROF. GS. NEPALI

Ganesh Man Gurung\*

**"I will never forget that cold Kathmandu morning in January 1994, when Madam Lajja offered me a cup of tea. At that point, Prof. Nepali mixed a spoon of khukuri rum in my black tea. Not only was taste quite different, and cheery on a chilly morning – the man himself was a unique individual, cheerful and jolly with his many friends and colleagues."**

Today the Department of Sociology has lost a renowned professor, an amiable colleague and a knowledgeable scholar, a man well known in Nepal and abroad. Especially noteworthy is this scholarly achievement in his book, "The Newars".

For 10 years, Prof. Nepali taught in our department with zeal and enthusiasm, after his retirement from Benaras Hindu University. I always found him alert, enthusiastic, energetic and interested in his teaching work. He was well respected by colleagues and the administrative staff of the department, and revered by his students. Despite his age, he rarely missed a class and was always attentive of his duties. He was equally popular among professors and scholars of Nepal and abroad, due to his open-hearted cooperation to all. He was always smiling and jolly with colleagues and juniors. However, among the professors in Kirtipur, he especially loved to conduct lengthy discussions with

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Dr. Ram Niwas Pandey of the culture department. These two excellent scholars had become close friends.

His home at Balkhupul was never closed to visitors. Prof. Nepali welcomed equally friends and colleagues of the department, students and others. To visitors, offering of tea/coffee and biscuits was normal in his house but if the tea were a bit delayed, he would say his wife..... :

*Lajja..... . . . abhi chaya nahi mila ... kya huwa ?*

Madam Lajja used to say..... OK OK I know well ..... . . . . Getting ready.

Madam Lajja, herself a well-educated lady, was really supportive. She always showed her hospitality to the guests and visitors. Sometimes the old couple used to joke like newly-weds! I first met Dr. Nepali at Benaras Hindu University when I was looking for a university where I could register for my Ph.D. research. I visited Delhi University, Poona University, Madras University and Nagpur University, Ultimately, I decided to choose the Department of Sociology in Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi due to easy access from Kathmandu. One of my friends indicated who Prof. Nepali was. When we met, he was just taking a seat in a rickshaw. I saw an elderly gentleman, well-dressed with tie and nice shirt, neatly combed hair all in all, a pleasant and smart-looking fellow. He greeted me courteously and agreed to discuss my registration as a research scholar in Benaras Hindu University. Next morning I went to his residence and Madam Lajja served me a cup of tea with few biscuits. I was highly impressed with the rooms provided at BHU, quite sophisticated in comparison to my own Professor's quarter in TU, Kirtipur. After a short meeting, he assured me that he would help me in my research work.

He was not unhappy with the academic performance of my supervisor Prof. Srivastava. But he was more inclined to the anti-Srivasta/Kayastha/Lala group of Varanasi mini-politics due to his affiliation with Rajput group of Benarsi professors. Perhaps he was interested in power politics too. Prof. Nepali,

being a versatile genius, was never looked down on by the "lala group". They would never dare to go against him.

Prof. Nepali was proud of having been a student of the renowned sociologist Prof. Ghurey at Bombay University, from where he received his Ph. D. degree in 1959. He devoted his whole life in academic exercise both in teaching and research, and was an active participant in the seminars of BHU.

And then one morning in the month of Chaitra, I received call from Prof. Rohit Nepali, but with different tone. It was about the sad demise of Prof. GS Nepali in a hospital in Bombay. What a shock ! I remembered the days when I was him together in BHU as a student and as a colleague in the department. For all his colleagues and friends, the news came as a blow. It was day of sadness for all.

Thus we lost a versatile and brilliant friend and colleague. Prof. G.S. Nepali born on June 18<sup>th</sup> 1926. He taught for 2 years (1965-67) at Gorakhpur University and 19 years (1967-86) at BHU. He died on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2002 at the age of 76 in Candy Hospital in Bombay.

*May he rest in peace.*