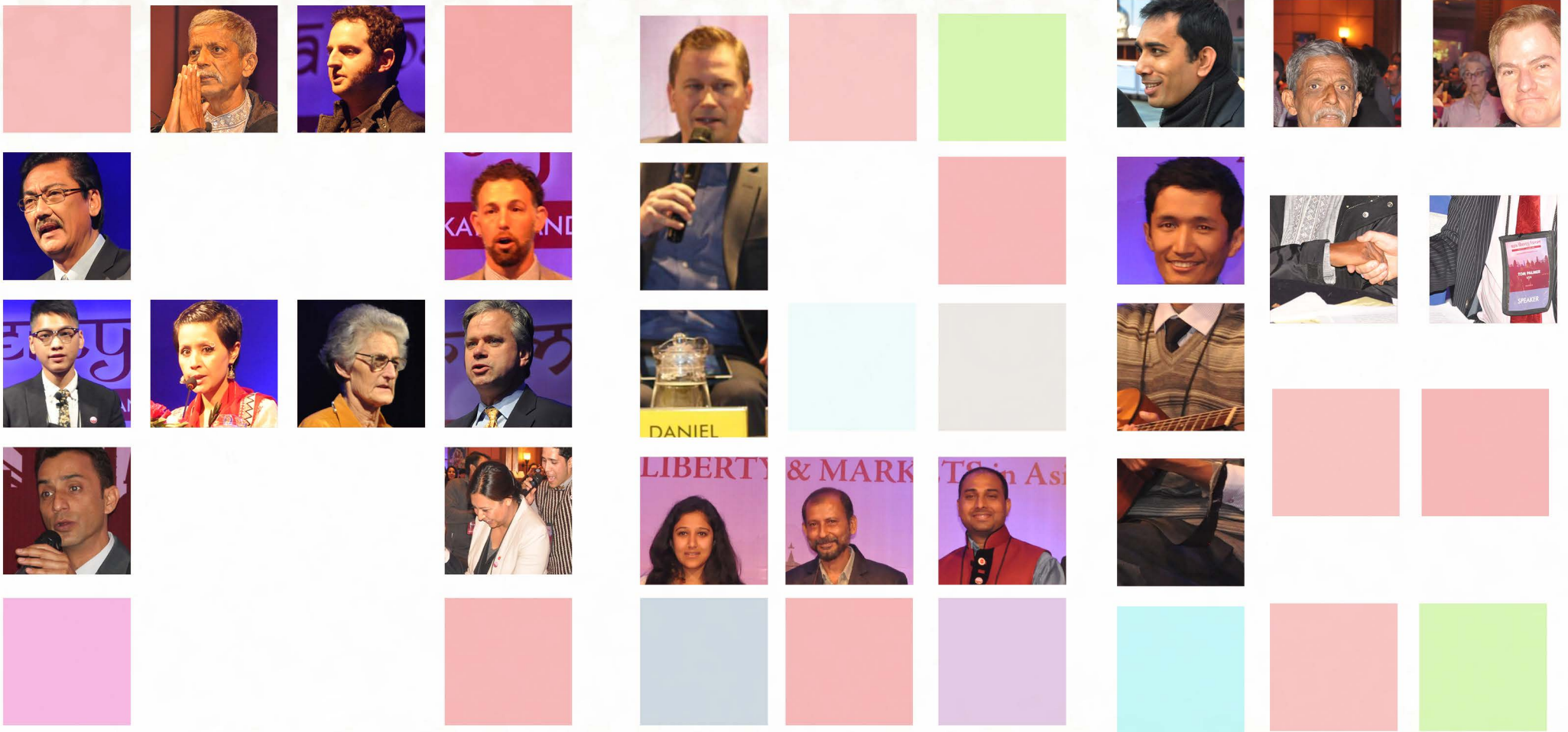


ASIA LIBERTY FORUM



2015 in
Pictures



JANUARY 8, THURSDAY

Opening day

Where?

Hotel Soaltee Crowne Plaza

The Asia Liberty Forum kicked off opening day by addressing and welcoming all present heroes of liberty from over 30 countries and 300 participants.

Introduction to the ALF 2015 and all that followed began with:

- **Baishali Bomjan**, *Asia Center for Enterprise*
- **A welcome address by Suraj Vaidya**, *Chairman, Samriddhi Foundation*
- A keynote on 'Engaging Youth on the Ideas of liberty' by **Linda Whetstone**, *Chairman and CEO, Network for a Free Society, UK*
- A sumptuous opening dinner served as the perfect ending to the day and all that was left to come!





JANUARY 9, FRIDAY

Speed Networking:

The day kicked off with Samriddhi's Director of Operations and Outreach hosting a fast-paced networking session out in the beautiful rose gardens of Hotel Soaltee, ensuring everyone got to know everyone else.

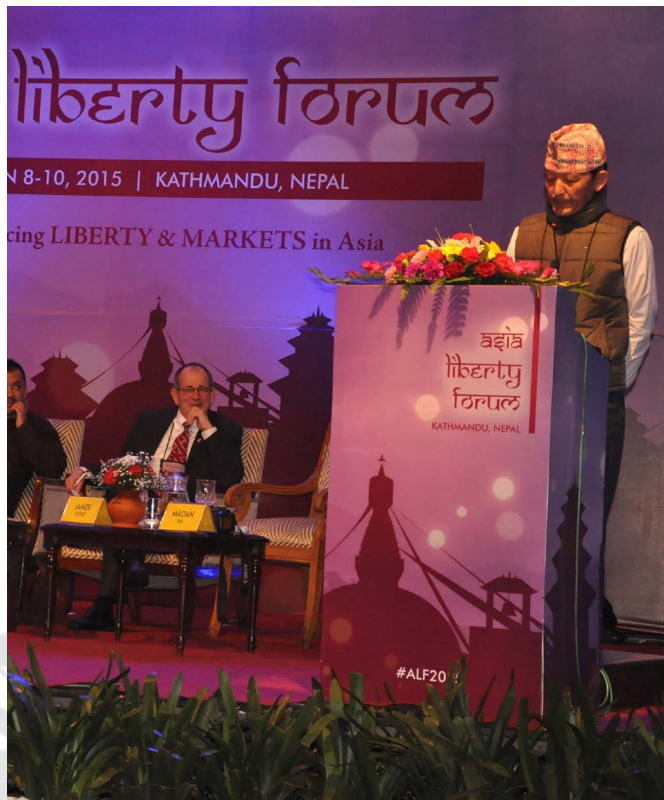
Liberty in 2014:

An overview on what's happening in the liberal movement around the world and especially in Asia--our successes, challenges and roadmap for the future was presented by Dr Ronald Meinardus, Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation South Asia.

Freedom Champions in Asia: Reasons for Hope

Wonderful things are happening; there are reasons to be hopeful about the liberty movement in our hemisphere. Among the grounds for optimism are the successes of impassioned projects by think tank leaders around Asia. This panel highlighted some of the most innovative and successful of these projects and programs, chaired by Peter Goetler of Atlas Network, USA.





JANUARY 9, FRIDAY

Elevator Pitch by Think Tank Start Up Training Graduates

25 graduates from the Think Tank Start-up Training each delivered a one minute pitch to the audience. This year's winner, Kelly Dhru of Lawtoons India won by audience voting a sum of USD 500, for her idea of creating law-based comics for children in order to aid their understanding of law and the state.

Concurrent Breakout Session – 1

The second day played host to 6 concurrent sessions; out of which 3 were presented and interacted upon in the first part of the day. National and international speakers spoke on a variety of topics namely:

- **Fund Students, Not Schools: Education of Choice for all,**
Chaired by: Hon. Gagan Thapa, Constituent Assembly Member, Nepal
- **Ensuring a Policy Win: Strategies & tactics to engage with governments,**
Chaired by: Dr Ronald Meinardus, Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation South Asia
- **Innovative products to replicate,**
Chaired by: Judd Weiss, Weiss Investment, USA



JANUARY 9, FRIDAY

Concurrent Breakout Session – 2

The second half of the day was followed by more concurrent sessions, where speakers dealt with more ideas on free markets, the need for effective boards and bettering institutional performance. The sessions were namely divided into:

- **Free market environmentalism,**
Chaired by: Dalibor Rohac, Cato Institute, USA
- **Effective Board Management for greater outreach,**
Chaired by: Dan Grossman, Atlas Network, USA
- **Measuring Institutional Performance,**
Chaired by: Kriengsak Chareonwongsak, Institute of Future Studies for Development, Thailand



When Mr. Taxman made an appearance through the classic Beatles song and had a change of heart after learning from the crowd what high taxes can do to entrepreneurs, we all sang and danced 'Happy' with him in the first ever flashmob to take place in ALF.



JANUARY 9, FRIDAY

Remembering the lost heroes of Liberty

This session served as a tribute to the great champions of Liberty we've lost this past year and a toast to continuing their legacy. This year the memories of Kakha Bendukidze, Gary Becker, John Blundell, Leonard Liggio, Nathaniel Branden, Sauvik Chakraverti and Tawfik Bin Saud were honored; all hailing from different countries but who had led life-long struggles for freedom in their respective parts of the world.



Expressing ideas for a Free Society; a Creative Competition – Awards Ceremony

Samriddhi, The Prosperity Foundation hosted its first 'Expressing Ideas for a Free Society – A Creative Competition' to hundreds of visual and audio applications. The first prize went to Lopsang Dorje Lama for his music video on Adam Smith's invisible hand. Gopal Trital won the second spot for a short-movie on the same theme while Nabin Bhatt and Rajan Lama won the third spot for a documentary on school choice.



JANUARY 10, SATURDAY

The next big idea: Alternatives to current governments

Randy Hencken talked of his revolutionary organization, the Seasteading Institute, which is a nonprofit working to enable sea steading communities - floating cities - which will allow the next generation of pioneers to test new ideas for government. The most successful can then inspire change in governments around the world.

Concurrent Breakout Session – 3

The continuation of the concurrent sessions continued during the third and final day of the Asia Liberty Forum 2015 with speakers discussing open borders, free trade, policy issues and fundraising. Sessions were thus namely divided into:

- **Open borders & Free trade: migration & trade policies in Asia**
Chaired by: Ali Salman, Prime Institute, Pakistan
- **Raising money for Liberty: How, What & Whom,**
Chaired by: Daniel Green, Templeton Foundation, USA
- **Evidence-based policy,**
Chaired by: Tom Palmer, Atlas Network, USA





JANUARY 10, SATURDAY

Jeevika Awards Ceremony

Now in its 11th year, Centre for Civil Society's Jeevika Asia Livelihood Documentary Festival provides a unique platform for filmmakers to disseminate information about livelihood trials and tribulations, and has provided inspiration for causes championed by the Centre. What started as nine film entrees for the festival today boasts of over 100 entries each year from all over the world.

Following a 2-day screening in Delhi, the awards ceremony was held during the conference with a screening of the best films followed by a discussion on the theme. The sub-event was hosted by Santa Arora & Sadaf Hussain of Centre for Civil Society, India.

Concurrent Breakout Session – 4

The last phase of the concurrent sessions took place in the later part of the 3rd day of the ALF 2015, focusing on issues such as religion and liberty, communicating our message of freedom and the importance of high-performing teams. Sessions were mainly divided into:

- **Are Religion & Liberty Compatible?**,
Chaired by: Charu Chadha, Business 360, Nepal



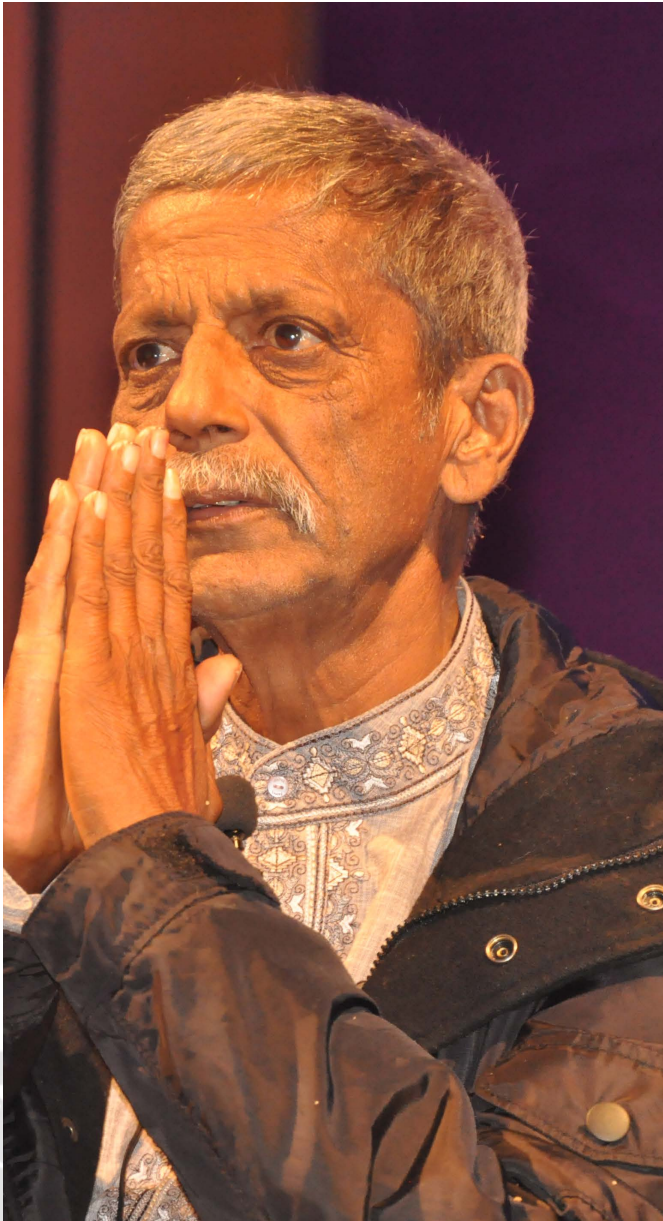
JANUARY 10, SATURDAY

- **Building & retaining a high performing team,**
Chaired by: Nupur Hasija, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, South Asia
- **Messaging for liberty,**
Chaired by: Daniel Anthony, Atlas Network, USA

Zero Hour with Freedom Champions

An in-person mentorship chance like no other, the Zero hour with Freedom Champions had 11 international mentors who were willing to informally discuss ideas further with the younger crowd in groups of 10. Conversation was sweetened with tea and the sharing of trials and tribulations by all in their fight for liberty. Mentors included Prof. James Tooley of Newcastle University, UK, Prof. Ken Schoolland of International Society for Individual Liberty, USA, Rainer Heufers from Siap Solutions Inc, Singapore, Robin Sitoula of Samriddhi, Nepal and Tom G Palmer, Atlas Network, USA among others.





JANUARY 10, SATURDAY

Freedom Dinner

The gala Freedom Dinner was an exclusive event closing of what had been two incredible days of making new friends, learning new ideas and sharing your work with those who are equally passionate about being in this movement.

This year, Nepal's senior economist, Dr. Bhola Nath Chalise was awarded the 'Freedom Champion' of 2015 by Dan Grossman (Atlas Network, USA) and felicitated for his lifelong struggle for freedom and liberty in Nepal. During the closing address, Dr. Chalise highlighted some of the major challenges to promoting liberalism in Asia.

Freedom toasts were given by Pinky Gurung, Blue Diamond Society, Nepal and Louis Lo, Democracy Activist, Hong Kong, who spoke on personal struggles and the necessity of freedom.

ALF 2015 concluded with a grand performance by renowned music group Kutumba, who enthralled all with their orchestral tunes on freedom. The mega event concluded with Arpita Nepal, Director of Research, Samriddhi Foundation giving out a vote of thanks and tokens of appreciation to the organizers.

“ In my part of the world, where everyone takes freedom for granted, I think it’s really important to promote freedom as mine. ”

- BRIDGETT WAGNER

“ Meetings of this kind are an absolute win-win situation. ”

- DR. RONALD MEINARDUS

“ Platforms like Asia Liberty Forum help identify ideas and issues that will help Asia advance in terms of markets and economic growth. ”

- PROF. DR. KRIENGSAK CHAREONWONGSAK

“ Bankers, shopkeepers, students, academics, school-teachers: all present here and all really interested in the problems and the solutions! ”

- LINDA WHETSON

“ It’s the informal sessions that really bring people together and enable us to discuss ideas about freedom and think of ways to move forward on shared ideas. ”

- PROF. JAMES TOOLEY

“ It is good for all of humanity if people in this region are able to shake off crazy European ideologies, like Socialism and Communism and become wealth-creating societies and work towards greater prosperity and liberty. ”

- TOM G. PALMER

