

The Nepali Army shares with avid readers the joy of publishing a peer-reviewed *Unity Journal* to feature research articles in specific fields of national interests and strategic importance. An established security body with strong credentials and a high professional integrity, Nepal's Military Institution has consistently been undertaking institutional responsibilities and accountabilities from the formation of a sovereign nation-state during the mid-eighteenth century to the federation of the country early in the twenty-first century.

In the backdrop of inception of National Defense University (NDU), Federal Republic Nepal's National Army's annual publication presents articles both in Nepali and English under the areas: national security and development; nationality and national unity; importance of geo-strategic position of Nepal; civil-military relation; military diplomacy. On the one hand, research-based articles on topics of strategic and military studies and strong nation-state building from the elite and experienced researchers offer scholarships, subjects of humanities and social sciences, to expand readerships and knowledge production to lead the proposed university to right directions. On the other hand, the Nepali Army, with its regular publications of such scholarly works, underscores the university's primary objectives of producing knowledge while inculcating in citizens civic sense and cultural awareness in the best interest of nation building and institutional growth.

Publication of *Unity Journal* underscores the incumbent Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Purna Chandra Thapa's vision: promoting the Academia-Military reciprocal relationships for nation building and leadership preparation. The first ever

research publication in the initiation of the Nepali Army offers space to young scholars for their in-depth study, authentic research, and knowledge production; while serving the academic institutions, such as colleges and universities in their mission accomplishment processes.

*Unity Journal* aims envisions serving the nation and people by integrating ideas and values of the military and academia for the greater cause of the humanity. This research journal aims to:

- prepare reading materials on issues and values in the military and academia for the groundwork of the proposed NDU in the country
- enhance the highest possible youth development programs responsible to people and loyal to the nation
- promote the military-academic bond with trained, disciplined and motivated youths, inculcating in them a high level of civic sense and cultural awareness
- reinforce the Nepali Army's roles and responses to the world peace through credible and reliable information in the process of knowledge production and dissemination

The Editorial Board highly appreciates contributors to the journal with their invaluable ideas and research design skills to support the COAS's vision to strengthen the military institution with supports from the academia prior to the operation of NDU in the near future. We also invite articles based on your in-depth research and investigation on various fields, including military diplomacy, development, security and strategic studies for the next issue of *Unity Journal*.