

Manita Jha

1673 90th St

West Des Moines, IA

Email: manitajha@hotmail.com

Phone: 515-564-9622

Jan-11-2025

To

The Executive Committee

Iowa Nepalese Association (INA)

Subject: Request for Assistance in Raising Emergency Funds for Mr Bal Thakur

Dear Members of the INA Executive Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to seek INA's assistance in raising emergency funds within our community to support the financial burden incurred by my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bal K. Thakur, during their recent visit to the United States.

My parents arrived in the United States on May 23, 2024, to spend time with our family and explore the country, with plans to return to Nepal on November 11, 2024. Unfortunately, during their stay, my father suffered a severe, life-threatening health condition that required an extended hospitalization of 47 days. While he eventually recovered enough to travel, his health remained fragile, and we were advised by doctors, family, and friends to make special arrangements to safely transport him back to Nepal for continued care and recovery.

The hospital initiated a repatriation service using EMS Air Ambulance to facilitate his journey, which required a non-refundable initiation fee of \$3,000. Unfortunately, the process did not work out for him due to unforeseen complications, and the service was ultimately canceled. We then made alternative arrangements, including securing a qualified medical professional to accompany my father during his journey back to Nepal. Dr. Sanjay Shah from South Carolina, my mother, and I accompanied my father to assist him during his journey back to Nepal. While we are grateful that my parents successfully returned home, the expenses related to his hospitalization, ongoing medical needs, and special travel arrangements have placed a significant financial burden on my parents and our family. As my parents were visiting the United States with limited resources and financial support, these unexpected expenses—estimated at \$20,000—have been particularly challenging to manage.

As a longstanding member of the Nepalese community, I kindly request INA's support in organizing a community fundraiser to help alleviate these financial challenges. With the collective generosity and compassion of our community, I am hopeful we can recover the funds necessary to support my parents' financial stability and my father's continued access to care.

I would be deeply grateful for your guidance on how best to proceed with this initiative and your assistance in spreading awareness of this cause among INA members and the broader

Nepalese community. I am including the details of some of the expenses. If you require any additional documentation or details regarding my father's medical condition, expense, or travel arrangements, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Expense for travel arrangements:

1. Air tickets to Nepal for Mr Bal Thakur and Dr Sanjay Shah: \$12,069
2. Air ticket for Dr Sanjay Shah (From SC to DSM): \$557.97
3. Return air ticket for Dr Sanjay Shah: \$880
4. Fare difference for Mrs. Thakur (excluding original fare): \$1,377
5. Fare difference for Manita Jha (excluding original fare): \$2,175
6. EMS Ambulance service (deposit for process initiation): \$3,000

Thank you for considering this request. I sincerely appreciate INA's dedication to supporting community members in times of need and look forward to your positive response.

Warm regards,
Manita Jha