

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Though Kathmandu was not an unknown destination for me, yet it presented an uninviting look in the January of 1999. The winter cold heightened the air of fear and apprehension let loose by the continuing Maoist insurgency. In such a situation, my earliest tries for collecting documents related to the Communist movement of Nepal yielded nothing but despair. After several visits to the Party Office of NCP (Masal) at Bagbazar, Kathmandu I was informed that their leader Mohan Bikram Gharti was underground and that their documents were not available. My other attempts to contact leaders of the several Communist factions proved equally futile. However, after spending more than two weeks I accidentally came across a building at Putalisadak—the Pushpalal Foundation. My entry into the Foundation Office changed everything. I came across Lok Krishna Bhattarai, the then General Secretary of the Foundation. Through him, I came across the movement's many old documents which were stored there. Besides, he proved valuable in helping me build my contact with the different Communist leaders, whom I hardly knew. From then on, he with his team of the Foundation, namely Laxmi Bhakta Upadhyaya, Gauri Bhakta Pradhan, Buddha Maharjan and Laxuman Bista were my constant companion whenever I reached Kathmandu. I thank them for their sincere help.

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