SCHOOL OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND MUSEUM ETHNOGRAPHY

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8th September 2014

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you in my position as Chair of the **Britain-Nepal Academic Council**, which brings together UK-based academics and researchers interested in Nepal and in Nepalis around the world (please see http://bnac.ac.uk/). We are deeply concerned about the arrest in Qatar of Krishna Upadhyaya and Ghimire Gundev, which has been reported in the *Independent*, the *Guardian*, and elsewhere. We are reassured by messages that have apparently been received from them, indicating that they are being treated well.

I would like to hear from you that the Qatari authorities are working hard to correct the alleged mistakes in their paperwork, and that they will be released and able to return to their families in the very near future.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

David Gellner Professor of Social Anthropology, and Fellow of All Souls College, University of Oxford