

we all work



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Nepal Making Pottery

Bhaktapur, Kathmandu and Patan were the capitals of the three ancient kingdoms of the Kathmandu Valley. Each has its own Dhurbar Margh or Royal Square. And just around the corner from the Dhurbar Margh in Bhaktapur is another landmark, Potters' Square.

Thousands of perfect and identical pots lie drying in the street, and the shops and stalls are filled with fired black and red pieces. The "engine" of this open-air factory consists of three men sitting at large wheels anchored in the floor. The sunshine is warm in November and the light angles in to the rear wall of the studio.

The wheels are so big that the men must sit well back from the clay. Their ability to reach out and work the clay at arm's length hurts the observer's back. Yet the swirling mounds of clay yield pot after perfect pot. -- *Jim Good, Peace Corps/Philippines, 1982-84*

Nepal (Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal)

Capital Kathmandu

Population 28,563,377 (2009 est.)

Life Expectancy 65.46 years

Literacy 48.6% (age 15 and over can read and write)

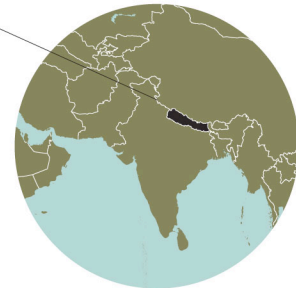
Languages Nepali 47.8%, Maithali 12%, Bhojpuri 7.4%, Tharu 5.8%, Tamang 5%,

Religions Hindu 80.6%, Buddhist 10.7%, Muslim 4.2%, Kirant 3.6%

Government federal democratic republic

Source: *The World Factbook, 2009*

Nepal



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