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The February 1 Royal Move: Comment

Mani Nepal*

As expected, representatives from five different political parties commented that February 1 was unnecessary, and each representative has expressed their view regarding the reasons for the Royal move and their views regarding who is responsible. However, Mr. Pradip Nepal's comment, that the political parties bear no responsibility for the February 1 move, conflicts with the comment by Mr. Pari Thapa, that the NC and UML contributed to the current crisis.

Mr. Thapa also notes that these two big parties disregarded the Nepali reality of a multicultural and multiethnic society where social inclusion should be the guiding principle of political processes and policies. He claims that political parties are responsible because they chose exclusionary policies that resulted in frustration among the people.

Analyzing the past is as important as charting the future. Generally, it is expected that the big parties like the NC and UML should reflect on past mistakes. Hopefully, LDN will continue to offer a forum in which we can raise such issues so that responsible parties will get more chances to make their policies and intentions clear to the people who care about the future of Nepal.

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