



## Chef Santosh Shah Honoured

Office of the President of Nepal has awarded Chef Santosh Shah with Suprabal Janasewa Shree for promoting Nepalese cuisine in the Master Chef UK Professional 2020. Chef Shah was born and raised in Karjanha, a small village in Siraha. Today, he has become the idol for thousands of aspiring chefs.

Chef Santosh Shah from Karjaya, Nepal has shown that Nepalese food can be redefined and served in a modern style. He has also proven that a chef also can be a pride of nation.

Besides the recognition from the President, Mr. Santosh was honored on two different occasions. He was honored by Nepal Academy of Tourism & Hospitality Management (NATHM) on 3rd March, 2021 for his contribution in popularizing Nepali Cuisine worldwide. And on another occasion, special event "Dinner with Master Chef Santosh Shah" was hosted by Marcopolo Restaurant to felicitate Master Chef Santosh Shah on 22nd March 2021. Mr. Shah, who is a proud runner-up of a prestigious cook show Master Chef UK, was honored with a token of love by Mr. Suman Pandey, a leading tourism entrepreneur and the owner of Marcopolo Restaurant. During the event, Mr. Shah also launched Marcopolo's new



menu named "BadaKhana", which is an exclusive platter offering authentic Nepali cuisine.

Before Chef Shah, there was only one other person with the same honor. Legendary Chef Ganesh Shrestha who is now in UK for 50 years was awarded same title Suprabal Janasewashree by Office of the President of Nepal in 2018. He has been running an ethnic Nepalese food restaurant in London named "Jojoloppa" and has served the British Prime Minister as well as the Japanese Prime Minister.

## Nepal Exports More Coffee



Export earnings of Nepali coffee soared by 66.37 percent to Rs. 96 million in fiscal year 2020/21 despite the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic has grappled the global economy during the same period. There are over 100 coffee species in the world. The two main varieties that are widely produced and sold are Arabica and Robusta. Nepal produces and exports Arabica coffee which is typically grown at a height of 1,000 to 2,000 meters.

The records of Nepal Tea and Coffee Development Board (NTCDB) show that Nepali coffee has been fetching good prices in the international market. Last year, the country made earnings of Rs. 96 million by exporting 72.48 tons of Nepali coffee while the country's import during the same period was Rs. 106.7 million from import of 198.76 tons of foreign brands.

Bishnu Prasad Bhattarai, Executive Director of NTCDB, said there is an increase in demand for Nepali coffee abroad. "As importers are also willing to offer high prices for our coffee, coffee shows high prospects of earning foreign currencies from its export" Bhattarai said.

Nepal produces only around 297 tons of green beans, out of which only 25 percent is exported to foreign markets. Compared to the high demand, the domestic production is very low and most of it is consumed by the domestic market.

## Hyatt's Second Hotel

The second Hyatt-branded hotel named Hyatt Place Kathmandu is officially open now in Nepal expanding the brand's footprint. The new hotel features the intuitive design, casual atmosphere and practical amenities, such as free Wi-Fi and 24-hour food offerings. A statement from the group stated that the ownership of the hotel includes Akshay Golyan, Executive Director, and Shakti Golyan, Chairman of The Golyan Group. Akshay Golyan said: "Kathmandu is a vibrant city, filled with historic and artistic sites, friendly people, nice neighbourhoods, and an ever-expanding list of places to visit and experience. Our hotel is central to all of them and we are confident that the Hyatt Place Kathmandu will exceed guest expectations and will provide them with everything they need while visiting Nepal."-TradeArabia News Service

Hyatt Place Kathmandu is located in Kathmandu, set in a valley surrounded by the scenic Himalayan Mountains. Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, is steeped in history, long associated with ancient traditions and a vibrant culture. The hotel is only four kilometers from the city center and its attractions, which include many World Heritage sites such as the ancient temple Swayambhunath Stupa and the Hindu temple in Pashupatinath. For those looking for

retail therapy, the hotel is close to several shopping centers including New Road, Thamel and Durbar Marg.

General Manager Varun Talwar said: "As Kathmandu continues to be a sought-after spot for both business and leisure travelers, we are excited to add to the momentum of the thriving city by welcoming the first Hyatt Place to Nepal. With our smartly designed social spaces and guestrooms with separate work and sleep areas, our multi-tasking guests can accomplish what they need to do while on the road."

Hyatt Place Kathmandu includes 153 guestrooms with separate spaces to sleep, work and play, as well as a Cozy Corner sofa-sleeper. The food options comes with;

- Breakfast Bar featuring a selection of hot and cold items.
- Zing World of Flavors delivers food combining local and worldly ingredients with tastes from South-East Asia with some Italian-Mediterranean options
- Zing Sky Bar & Lounge, a poolside venue with sunset views, offering curated cocktails and Nepal's best brews.

Event Spaces offer 500 sq.m of flexible, high-tech meeting/function space and Fitness lovers can become sweaty on Fitness Center featuring cardio equipment with LCD touchscreens.

## Tropicana, No More Pepsi Brand

PepsiCo will sell Tropicana, Naked and other North American juice brands to a French private equity firm in a USD 3.3 billion deal. The New York drink and snack company will keep a 39 per cent non-controlling stake in a newly formed joint venture in the deal with PAI Partners.

PepsiCo bought Tropicana in 1998 and the Naked juice brand about 10 years later. It was heading in another direction by 2018 when it bought SodaStream, the carbonated drink machine company, for more than USD 3 billion.

Juice sales began to decline significantly in the early 2000s when low-carb diets grew in popularity, and that trend has continued with more families choosing instead to buy waters or other no- or low-calorie drinks. Juice consumption in the US peaked in 2003 at 4.2 billion

gallons, but by 2017 that has fallen to 3 billion gallons, wrote Brian Sudano, the Managing Partner of Beverage Marketing Corp. The group does not see that trend changing. The juice business delivered about USD 3 billion in revenue for PepsiCo last year, but at operating profit margins were below the company's overall margins.

PepsiCo Chairman and CEO Ramon Laguarta said, "This joint venture with PAI enables us to realize significant upfront value, whilst providing the focus and resources necessary to drive additional long-term growth for these beloved brands and the deal will free us to concentrate on our current portfolio of diverse offerings, including growing our portfolio of healthier snacks, zero-calorie beverages, and products like SodaStream."