Following request of our teachers, we wore Sari and Panjabi and then hoisted our University flag and the Bangladesh Flag in the chilli breeze yet wonderfully sunny weather and walked on with the other universities to the centre of the huge field of KU.

Speaker of the Legislature Parliament, Mr. Subash Chandra Nembang inaugurated SAUFEST 2008 on Thursday in Kathmandu University to mark the official beginning of the five-day long mega event. Speaking in the program, Mr. Nembang emphasized on the importance of interaction among the youths in South Asian region.

Addressing the event, Vice Chancellor of Kathmandu University, Prof. Suresh Raj Sharma, expressed his happiness. The event was also addressed by General Secretary of Association of Indian Universities (AIU) Prof. Dayanand Dongaonkar, SAUFEST Chief Coordinator Mr. Sampson David, and Vice Chancellor of BITS Prof. L. K. Maheshweri.

As a gesture of friendship and collaboration, a simultaneous flag hoisting event was organised by the Vice Chancellor of KU, Prof. Suresh Raj Sharma, Chief Coordinator of SAUFEST, Mr. Sampson David, and AIU General Secretary, Prof. Dayanand Dongaonkar who hoisted the flags of KU, SAUFEST and AIU respectively. Prof. Sanjay Nath Khanal, Secretary of the organizing committee of SAUFEST 2008, welcomed all the dignitaries and participants. The program concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Registrar of KU, Prof. Bhadra Man Tuladhar.

In the program, students of Kathmandu University High School sang the National Anthem and Nepal Army displayed their colorful band. Other attractions of the program were ethnic dance, musical performances and cultural processions by various groups of Panauti, Panchkhal, Dhulikhel and Banepa.

8th February, Friday:

The cultural exchanges attained a vibrant colour on the second day as the participants from all the Universities rendered majestic diversity in their performances in the CV Raman Auditorium KU. The students from Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidiyapeetha, Tirupati, India showed their exclusive performances of Kali dance that featured the Human pyramid. Then came the Spellbinding performance of Banasthali University, India, with their tribal dance with fire in the pots on their head. The dance was fast paced and facial expression was well matched with their steps. In the climax they stood on plates by its borders on steel glass while their smiles showed that they would not loose balance no matter what. It was a marvel to watch a simple poetry in motion or in this case a rhythmic drama. Then came Shabnam Mustafa from BRAC University who alone lit the stage on fire with her mind-blowing dance with Ghate lagaiya dinga paan khabar jao. There were ghazals from Punjab University and equally enticing light vocals from the Visvesvaraya Technological University, Jadhavpur University of India and BRAC University and Independent University of Bangladesh. Among the other noteworthy performances were the modern and folk dances from National University of Bangladesh, Banepa Municipality, Tribhuvan University and Kathmandu University, which instilled the cultural richness in our minds.

After the mind-blowing performances at the CV Raman Auditorium, we all headed for the warm reception awaiting us at Dhulikhel Municipality.

After the mind-blowing performances at the CV Raman Auditorium, we all headed for the warm reception awaiting us at Dhulikhel Municipality. Their smiles, marigold flowers and khadi shawls ushered us towards the streets of Dhulikhel, where the local musicians, elderly people from the senior citizen service centre and school children stood clapping to greet us.

