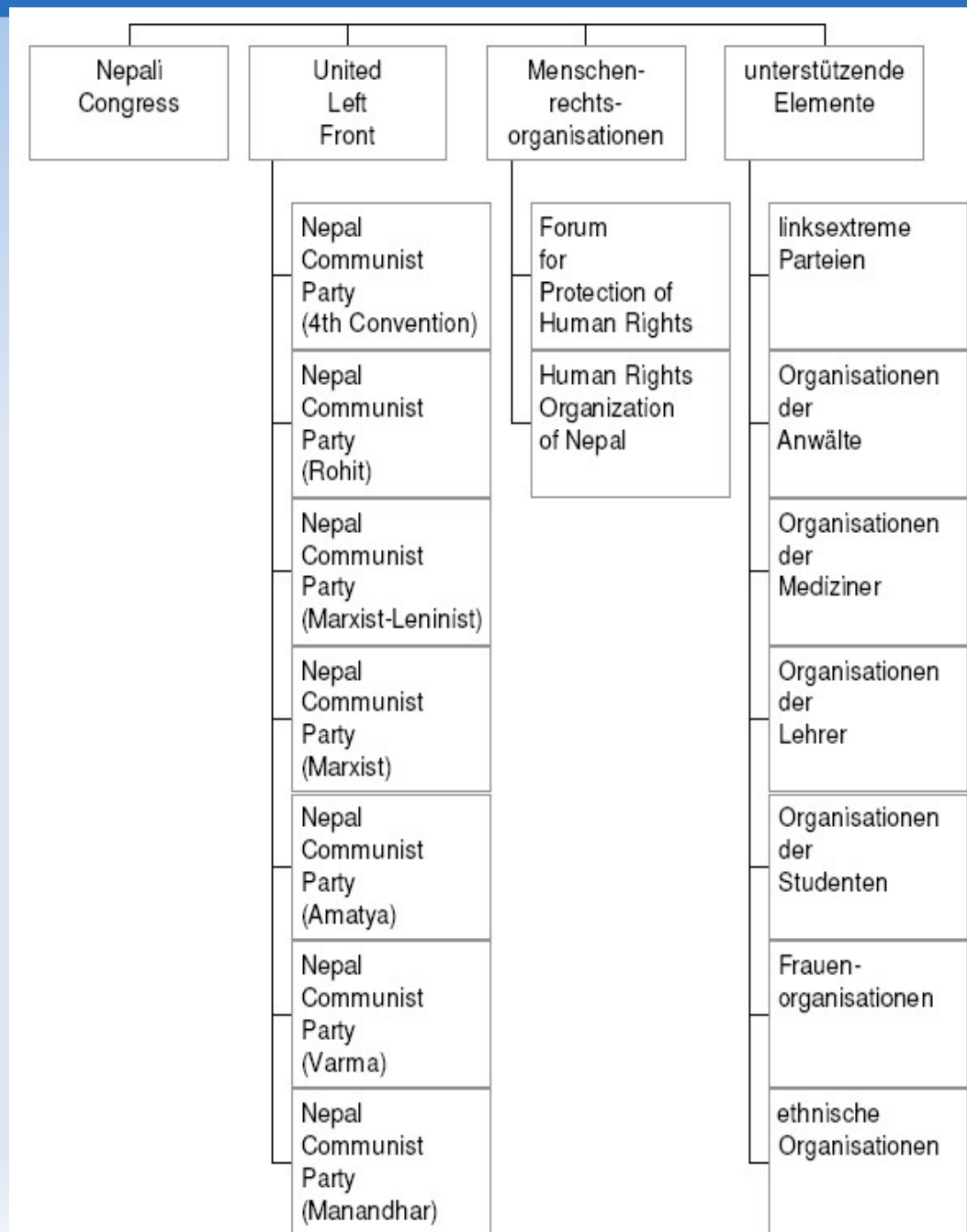


Democratic phase (1990 - 2002)

- Democracy movement (now: Jana Andolan I) (spring 1990)
- Elections of 1991: single-party government of Nepali Congress (NC)
- Early elections of 1994: often changing and partly chaotic coalition governments
- February 1996: begin of Maoist insurgency
- Elections of 1999: single-party government of Nepali Congress, but intraparty power struggles
- Coup by King Gyanendra (4 Oktober 2002)

Forces of Jana Andolan I (1990)



Minimum goals of Jana Andolan I

- Abolition of Panchayat system
- Introduction of multiparty system
- Conversion of absolute monarchy into constitutional monarchy

Phases of Jana Andolan I

- Start of the movement: 18 February 1990
- Reapproval of political parties: 8 April 1990
- Dissolution of Panchayat system: 16 April 1990
- Swearing-in of an interim government: 19 April 1990

Interim government of 1990



Minimum goals of the interim government

- Abolition of Panchayat institutions
- New constitution within three months (drafted by a selected Constitutional Drafting Commission)
- Parliamentary election within one year

Basic changes of constitutional definitions (1990)

	Panchayat constitution	constitution of 1990
souvereignty	"The souvereignty of Nepal is vested in His Majesty and all power – executive, legislative and judicial emanate from him." [Art. 20 (2)]	"The sovereignty of Nepal is vested in the Nepalese people and shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of this constitution." [Art. 3]
nation (<i>rastra</i>)	"Having common aspirations and united by the common bond of allegiance to the Crown, the Nepalese people, irrespective of religion, race, caste or tribe constitute the nation." [Art. 2 (1)]	"Having common aspirations and united by a bond of allegiance to national independence and integrity of Nepal, the Nepalese people irrespective of religion, race, caste or tribe, collectively constitute the nation." [Art. 2 (1)]
kingdom (<i>adhirajya</i>)	"Nepal is an independent, indivisible and sovereign monarchical Hindu Kingdom." [Art. 3 (1)]	"Nepal is a multiethnic, multilingual, democratic, independent, indivisible, sovereign, Hindu and Constitutional Monarchical Kingdom." [Art. 4 (1)]

Other features of the 1990 constitution

- Democratic basic rights (Art. 11-23)
- Executive: king and council of ministers (Art. 35 ff.)
- Legislative: king, House of Representatives (*pratinidhi sabha*) and National Assembly (*rastriya sabha*) (Art. 44 ff.)
- Independent judiciary (Art. 84 ff.)
- Political parties (Art. 112 ff.)
- National Defence Council / Supreme Command of the Royal Nepal Army (Art. 118 f.)
- Special powers and rights of the king

Constitutional councils (1990)

	Constitutional Council	National Defence Council	Judicial Council
composition	Prime Minister Chief Justice Speaker of House of Representatives Chairman of National Assembly Leader of the opposition in the House of Representatives	Prime Minister Defence Minister Commander-in-Chief (COAS)	Chief Justice Minister of Justice the two seniormost judges of the Supreme Court one jurist nominated by the king
tasks	suggestions for the nomination of members of constitutional bodies	recommendations of operation and use of the Royal Nepal Army	recommendations and advice concerning administration of justice

Problematic aspects of the 1990 constitution

➤ Definition as Hindu state

Nepal is a multiethnic, multilingual, democratic, independent, indivisible, sovereign, Hindu and Constitutional Monarchical Kingdom. [Art. 4 (1)]

➤ Definition of languages

The Nepali language in the Devanagari script is the language of the nation of Nepal (*rastra bhasa*). The Nepali language shall be the official language. [Art. 6 (1)]

All the languages spoken as mother tongue in the various parts of Nepal are the national languages of Nepal (*rastriya bhasa*) [Art. 6 (2)]

➤ Exclusion of parties / organisations with non-Hindu orientation

The Election Commission shall withhold recognition from any political organisation or any party which has been formed ... on the basis of religion, community, caste, tribe or region. [Art. 112 (3)]

Governments (1990 - 2002)

<u>nomination</u>	<u>Prime Minister</u>	<u>involved parties</u>
19 Apr 1990	Krishna Prasad Bhattarai (NC)	Nepali Congress (NC), United Left Front, Forum for Protection of Human Rights, Human Rights Organization of Nepal, representatives of the king
26 May 1991	Girija Prasad Koirala (NC)	NC
30 Nov 1994	Man Mohan Adhikari	CPN (UML)
11 Sep 1995	Sher Bahadur Deuba (NC)	NC, National Democratic Party (NDP), Nepal Sadbhavana Party (NSP)
10 Mar 1997	Lokendra Bahadur Chand (NDP)	CPN (UML), NDP, NSP, Samajwadi Janata Dal
6 Oct 1997	Surya Bahadur Thapa (NDP)	NC, NDP, NSP
12 Apr 1998	Girija Prasad Koirala (NC)	NC
26 Aug 1998	Girija Prasad Koirala (NC)	NC, CPN (ML)
23 Dec 1998	Girija Prasad Koirala (NC)	NC, CPN (UML), NSP
27 May 1999	Krishna Prasad Bhattarai (NC)	NC
20 Mar 2000	Girija Prasad Koirala (NC)	NC
22 Jul 2001	Sher Bahadur Deuba (NC)	NC

Nepal political events (1990 - 1994)

- promulgation of constitution (9 Nov 1990)
- arrival of Bhutanese refugees (late 1990)
- parliamentary elections (12 May 1991), G.P. Koirala PM
- local elections (May/June 1992)
- K.P. Bhattarai loses by-elections; intraparty opposition against G.P. Koirala
- no-confidence motion by M.M. Adhikaris (UML) fails
- list of demands by Nepal Janajati Mahasangh
- resignation of PM G.P. Koirala and dissolution of parliament

Nepal political events (1994 - 1995)

- early elections (14 November 1994): UML becomes strongest party and forms minority government
- numerous populist decisions by government
- campaign against Padma Ratna Tuladhar
- NC, NDP and NSP apply for no-confidence vote; M.M. Adhikari recommends king to dissolve parliament (9 June 1995)
- World Bank pulls out from Arun III project (4 Aug 1995)
- PM M.M. Adhikari survives helicopter accident (14 Aug 1995)
- SC decides that M.M. Adhikari's recommendation to dissolve parliament was unconstitutional (28 Aug 1995)
- reinstatement of parliament and no-confidence vote against PM M.M. Adhikari (11 Sep 1995)

Nepal political events (1995 - 1997)

- Sher Bahadur Deuba elected Prime Minister (11 Sep 1995)
- militant suppression of the formation of CPN (Maoist)
- Maoists forward 40 demands to PM Deuba (Jan 1996)
- India suppresses peace march of Bhutanese refugees by force (17 Jan 1996)
- Maoists start their "people's war" (12 Feb 1996)
- unsuccessful no-confidence vote against Deuba (24 Mar 1996)
- cabinet is extended to 48 members (18 May 1996)
- unsuccessful no-confidence vote against Deuba (24 Dec 1996)
- Lokendra Bahadur Chand Prime Minister (10 Mar 1997)
- unsuccessful no-confidence vote against Chand (10 Mar 1997)

Nepal political events (1997 - 1999)

- Surya Bahadur Thapa elected Prime Minister (11 Sep 1995)
- split of National Democratic Party (4 Oct 1997)
- split of CPN (UML) (6 Mar 1998)
- NC forms minority government (12 Apr 1998)
- CPN (ML) joins government (26 Aug 1998)
- CPN (ML) pulls out of government; new elections announced (11 Dec 1998)
- NC, CPN (UML) and Nepal Sadbhawana Party form coalition government (23.12.1998)
- Man Mohan Adhikaris dies (26 Apr 1999)
- NC wins absolute majority of MPs in elections only thanks to earlier split of CPN (UML) (03/17 May 1999)

Nepal political events (1999 - 2002)

- K.P. Bhattarai Prime Minister (31 May 1999)
- Bhattarai resigns (16 Mar 2000); G.P. Koirala new PM
- massacre in royal palace (1 June 2001)
- G.P. Koirala resigns (19 Jun 2001); Deuba new PM
- ceasefire and dialogue with Maoist insurgents (end July - end November 2001)
- dialogue fails, mobilisation of army on recommendation of Deuba (24 Nov 2001)
- dissolution of parliament on recommendation of Deuba (22 May 2002)
- dissolution of local bodies by Deuba (July 2002)
- first phase of coup by King Gyanendra, Deuba government dismissed by king (4 Oct 2002)

Map of Nepal

(Political and Administrative)

