

Nirvikalpa

<http://nirvikalpa.fossnepal.org>

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FOSS-Nepal

Problem Statement

Adult **literacy rate is 57%** (2003–2008) in Nepal. Among them only around **60% can afford computer** at home or school, and most of them are **from Kathmandu (Capital City)**.



Internet is no better than **camels in deserts**.

The legacy softwares that has been used is Windows or other proprietary system.

The major problem for the end users is generally unicode, virus and media players.

Even if we realized, FOSS can be one of the best solution to overcome these problems. Considering the skill level and psychology of people, the **migration from legacy system is not as easy as it looks.**



FOSS Community in Nepal



FOSS Nepal Community

Mailing List: foss-nepal@googlegroups.com

Website: <http://www.fossnepal.org>

Wiki: <http://wiki.fossnepal.org>

IRC: #foss-nepal@freenode.net

Twitter: [fossnepal](https://twitter.com/fossnepal)



Software Freedom Day

Website: <http://www.softwarefreedomday.org>

in



CICC OSS Training

Website: <http://www.cicc.org.sg>

Website: <http://www.asia-oss.sg>



Open Content for Development

Website: <http://www.opencontent.org>

twitter: opencontent



FOSS Research and Training Center

FOSS Essential Training
Linux Terminal Server Project (LTSP)
Linux Gyan



Open Technology Research Center

Website: <http://www.otrc.gov>

twitter: [ibmotrc](#)

Nepalinux

Website: <http://www.madanpuraskar.org>

Ubuntu-np

IRC Channel: #ubuntu-np@freenode.net

Fedora-np

IRC Channel: #fedora-np@freenode.net

Nirvikalpa

Introduction to Nirvikalpa

Nirvikalpa

- Nirvikalpa is collection of over 80 free/open source softwares for home and business users using Windows Operating system.

Literally

- Nirvikalpa means No Alternative
- Started development of first version under **Vikalpa**. Later, the community decided to release it under the name **Nirvikalpa**

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- Promote and Educate people about the importance and use of FOSS products.
- Promote local FOSS products
- Make Open Source Software accessible to people.
- Motivate and encourage students towards Open Source arena.
- Behaves as singleton solution to most of the tools required for end users.
- A toolkit for migration to open source platform.

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Local Products

- **eBarnamala** - Learn with fun. Game for kids around 2-6 years.
- **Unicode** - tool by *Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya(MPP)*
- **Unicodify** - Unicode2Font and Fonts2Unicode Converter Tool

The screenshot shows the Nirvikalpa website with the following content:

- Nirvikalpa (निर्विकल्प)** - .net an alternative but the only way.
- About the Nirvikalpa CD 2.0**
- Desktop Applications**
 - Educational
 - eBarnamala
 - GraphCalc
 - Tux Typing 2
 - TuxMath
 - Canesta
 - Stellarium
 - Maping
 - Chessplay
 - The Babbage Machine
 - Games
 - Graphics
 - Internet
 - Server
 - Sound and Video
 - Utilities
- Install / Download eBarnamala** | **eBarnamala Home Page**
- About eBarnamala**

eBarnamala was conceived as a play thing for small children. The Programming effort was started exactly on 20th August, 2008, in Scratch first, and then onto Python. Currently the downloads are available as binary for windows and source for all other platforms. eBarnamala has been test on winxp (home and professional editions) and Ubuntu Linux 8.04. eBarnamala is written in Python and requires wxPython and PIL (Python Imaging Library) for its operation. It uses two fonts - Alekh and Kalimati.
- Contacts**

Pravin Raj Joshi
Email: praverj_at_gmail.com
(C) eBarnamala 2008, Brihaspati Vidyasadan School
Maxal
Kathmandu
Nepal
- eBarnamala Install Notes**

Install / Download eBarnamala for Windows 2000/XP/Vista.

After installation:
Goto to the **start** menu -> **eBarnamala** -> **eBarnamala** and click to start application.

Note: if issue with fonts please check if Alekh and Kalimati fonts are installed.

Global Products

- Open Office Suite , Ganttproject, Freemind
- Gimp, Inkscape, Blender
- Mozilla-{Firefox, Thunderbird}, Pidgin
- Audacity, VLC
- Many more. . .

- The product is developed in HTML and Javascript.
- Compilation of the softwares details was major challenge in the development process. We would like appreciate the effort put forward by community volunteers.
- Released every year on Software Freedom Day.
- Releases
 - Version 2.0 Released on 19th September, 2009
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Nirvikalpa

How is it being used?

- Government official uses basic desktop applications such as OpenOffice.org and nepali unicode.
- In FM stations, applications such as audacity and vlc players are popularly used.
- Nirvikalpa is used as a must-have toolkit for Web developers as it includes gimp, xampp and varieties of web browsers to test their applications.
- Students ranging from pre-school to university uses it for different educational tools and utilities.

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Socio-economic perspective

This project have provided people with an ultimate solution to end user usability.

Academic perspective

This project have been successful to behave as a catalyst for migration to OSS for students and trainers. Also it has been a really effective learning curve for them.

General User perspective

It has emerged as an all in one solution to most of their problems related to their desktops.

OSS Developers perspective

They have found a way out of the closed environment.

Enterprise perspective

Have already started migrating to Open Source products.

FOSS-Nepal

Roles and Responsibilities of FOSS Nepal Community

- To advocate and flourish FOSS in Nepal.
- Provides community member, a platform to collaborate and develop substantial output. Nirvikalpa is an example.
- Localization.
- Assist Government to incorporate FOSS in national development.

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What can we do in ASIA?

- The transformation from proprietary softwares to Open source solution.
- Release a nirvikalpa distribution focused on Students, Developers and Entrepreneurs.
- In our next release, we plan to focus on Graphical user interface of the product, it's work flows and Ajax search feature.

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- Open Source OS has been added to the curriculum of Higher Secondary Schools in Nepal.

Thank You :)

Any queries regarding this session?

Presenters

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The Community

FOSS-Nepal Community

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Twitter: fossnepal

