



Rethinking Peace, Conflict and Governance

Local to Global - Nonkilling and Maximising Pacifism

Marriage for Peace  
New Country

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## Three-minute PhD

Romance tragedy of '*Romeo and Juliet Style*', happening in the world today and mythological with special focus on India and Nepal.

1993

A local issue goes national and global.



OXFORD

# Contentious Marriages, Eloping Couples



Gender, Caste, and Patriarchy in Northern India



PREM CHOWDHRY

Dilawar Chetsingh





# Mob attacks same-gotra couple, husband killed

**TIMES NEWS NETWORK**

**Patna:** An 18-year age gap and being from the same gotra were among the reasons floating around for the barbaric attack on a newly-wed couple in broad daylight at the Keshav Rai Ghat temple here. While Shailendra Mishra, 42, resident of Maida Toli, died on the spot, his young bride, 24-year-old Pushpanjali is battling for life at PMCH hospital here.

In an ordeal that lasted for three hours, the couple were brutally clubbed with sticks and stones. None of the onlookers gathered enough guts to intervene. The couple paid this difficult price for getting married against the wishes of their parents and community.

After eloping on January 12, the two had just returned to Shailendra's home in Maida Toli, when his brother, who was not

in favour of their match, informed the girl's father, Umesh Mishra.

Umesh, a resident of Keshav Rai Ghat lane, under Khaje Kala Police Station in Patna City came to the boy's place along with his sons and around 30 other persons.

After an altercation, the couple was dragged to the Keshav Rai Ghat Temple where they were beaten with sticks and stones. Shailendra died on the spot, while Pushpanjali was badly injured.

The girl's father and 10 other persons have been taken into custody and a case has been registered.

The couple reportedly had a registered marriage in Hajipur before they came back to seek the blessing of their parents. "Umesh and his family were shocked that Shailendra had betrayed their trust. He was in fact looking for grooms for Pushpanjali," said a neighbour.

## METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

### Qualitative Research



### Grounded Theory

**Phenomenon:** *Romeo and Juliet* style romance tragedies India, Nepal, Pakistan  
Individual instinct, Society-driven

**Data:** Media reports, Personal communications, Legends  
Traditional, Legal, Community, Family

### Analysis – Value analysis relying on universal philosophical values:

Equality, universalism, pragmatism

Individual and social justice

In line with second stream of future research (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005)

**Codes:** Real life and legendary stories

**Concepts:** What caused the tragedies and the participants' responses to their situations

**Categories:** The stories' outcomes



### THEORY

Progression from murder to nonviolence based on the interplay of significant social and personal factors

### Media Reports 2006–May 2013. (First Indian National Press Reports 1993)

2013 (Jan–May)	4
2012	37
2011	3
2010	5
2009	1
2008	4
2007	3
2006	2
(1993–2005)	6

Figure 1.1 Methodological Framework



## Reality

Gudiya and Mahesh Singh  
Divorce or die edict

Mukherjee, U. The Telegraph: getting away with murder <  
[http://www.telegraphindia.com/1070206/asp/opinion/story\\_7345603.asp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1070206/asp/opinion/story_7345603.asp) >



## Gudiya and Mahesh Singh

## Filmmaking

Khap is a 2011 Hindi film based on the Manoj-Babli honor killing, and, Khap Panchayats in villages of Haryana.



Elder, Mr Singh



June 2009. Amreen and Lokesh chose suicide through poisoning.

*In our village, Hindus marry Hindus and Muslims marry Muslims.*

*It's very sad what happened, but what can you expect? The pressure on their families was enormous. They were being disgraced and dishonoured.'*

BBC News 2009, *India's Romeo and Juliet tragedy*, BBC News, viewed 12 September 2012,  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8109805.stm>

Ujjala's father Ashok, makes steps toward tolerance within his community.

***'Family social disaster but we won't become violent'***

BBC News 2004, *Modern love versus old taboo*.  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/this\\_world/3732343.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/this_world/3732343.stm)

Ashok



Mamata  
and  
Prateek  
With  
Topsy  
Evans

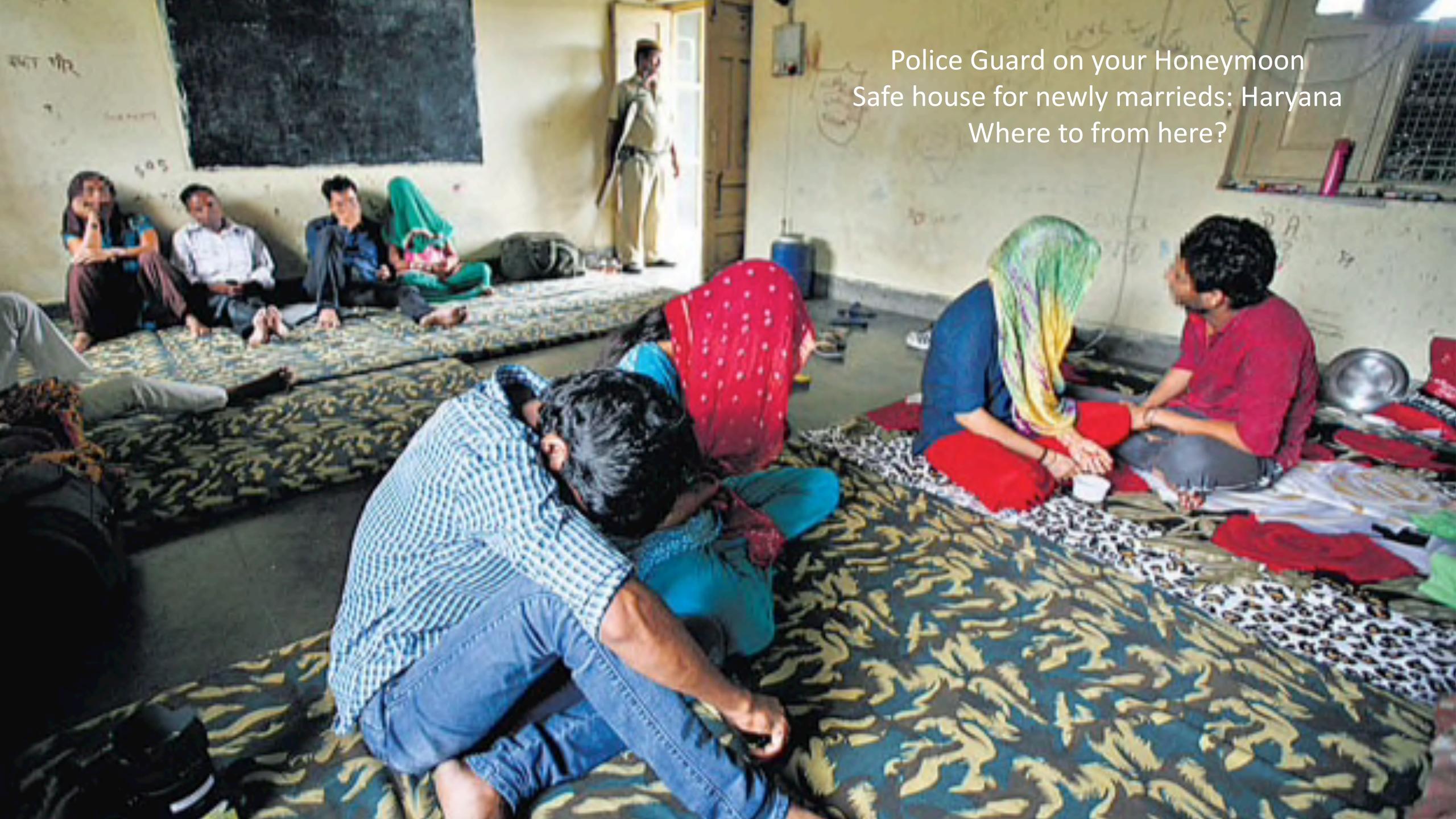


Gospel in a nutshell  
Village violence  
Elopement  
Banishment  
Reconciliation  
Full acceptance

THE KATHMANDU POST

## Killing to Nonkilling to Celebration -- is a slow generational change

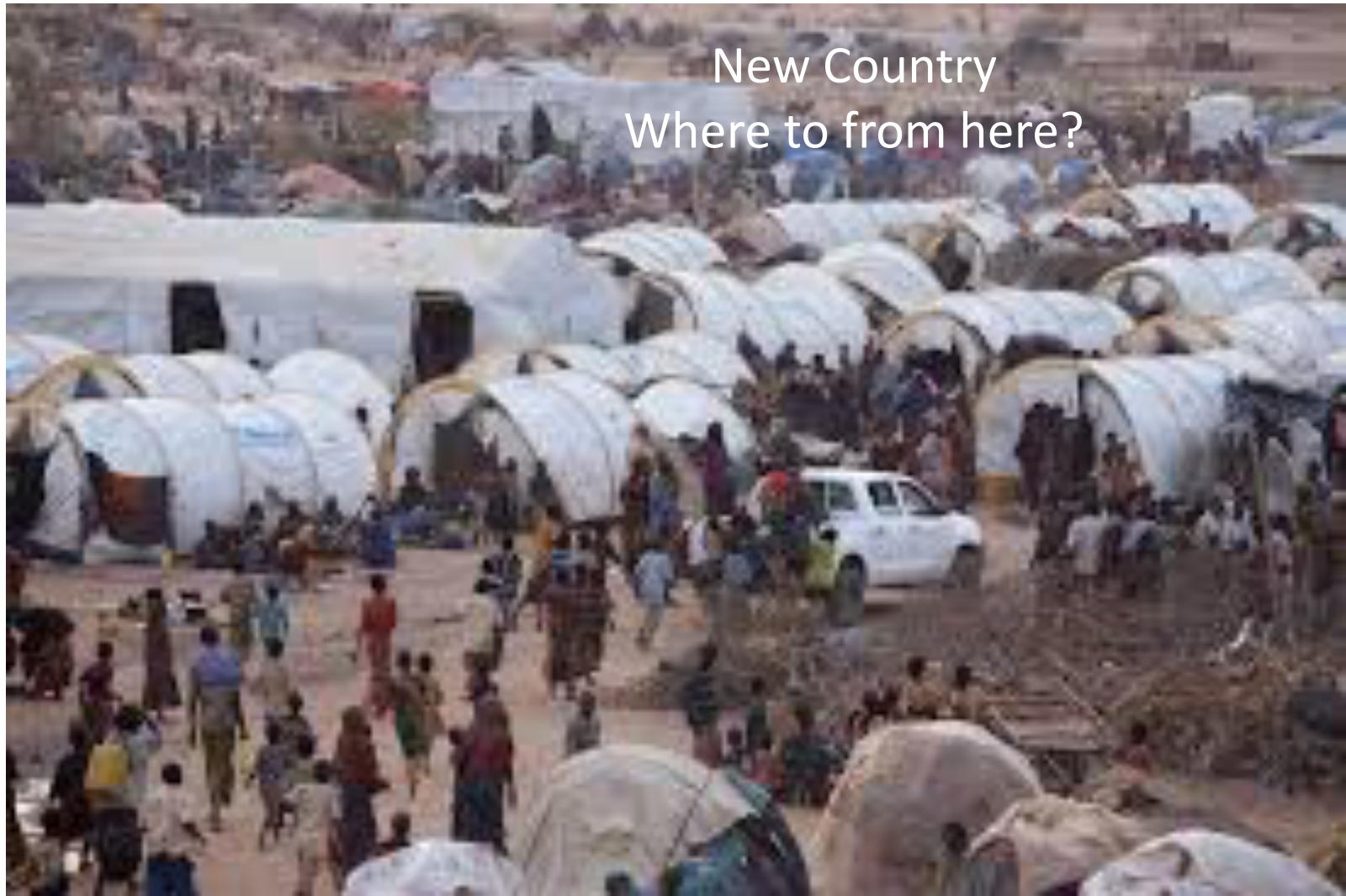
- There are marital taboos in every culture.
- Romance is compulsive. Eros and Rati will continue to be mischievous and shoot their darts across cultures and social standings.
- Human rights are allowed or withheld by the society or family within which a person lives.
- Nonviolence is the first acceptable end point in a globalising world, and appropriate law and order is imperative.
- Family estrangement remains a legal option.
- Reconciliation is good and can happen at any time.
- Acceptance which may involve renouncing previously held convictions is very good.
- Welcome and celebration are ideal.



Police Guard on your Honeymoon  
Safe house for newly marrieds: Haryana  
Where to from here?

**First Global Refugee Forum, 17 and 18 December 2019, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

22 August 2019 | [Español](#) | [عربي](#)

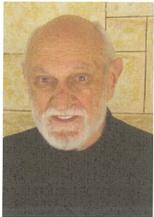




Refugee Economies in Dollo Ado: Development Opportunities in a Border Region of Ethiopia [EN/SO] - Ethiopia | ReliefWeb  
<https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/refugee-economies-dollo-ado-development-opportunities-border-region-ethiopia-enso>

### Executive Summary 20 dot points

- The next challenge is to ensure sustainable economic opportunities for both refugees and the host community by creating growth and development within the border economy. This will require building on the legacy of the IKEA Foundation's investment and extending its benefits across the community. Recognising and building upon the realities of the cross-border economy; improving infrastructure and transportation; catalysing growth in the digital economy; creating viable capital markets; developing a formal labour market; moving from a camp to a settlement model; and introducing cash-based assistance all represent some of the untapped opportunities.



# Lateral solutions to developing better global arrangements for displaced people

**David Evans**

David Evans OAM is a retired medical practitioner whose work in Tasmania specialised in Pathology and in Sexual Health Medicine. In retirement he has completed a PhD in Humanities with the University of New England entitled 'Romance Tragedy in India and Nepal in the time period 1993–2013'.

My first thoughts regarding those needing to leave their homeland under the threat of 'leave or be killed' are for their family and associates not able to get away who have to remain at their home in imminent danger.

Refugees who escape are lucky if they find a refugee camp where life's necessities are available. The flight for a family known to me now living in Australia was from Burundi to Zimbabwe. Six years living in the refugee camp was described as 'like living in a boarding school', yet they told me camp life was meaningful and positive. This theme is echoed in a 2014 article in The New York Times entitled 'How to Build a Perfect Refugee Camp', which reported that meaningful and positive life is possible within such confines

The shame of our Australian-supported refugee camps is that the talents of refugees are not being fostered and the concept of positive living in the camps is hard to find. In part this is due to the jurisdiction of the camp, where conditions cannot be first world western style with social support equivalent to what we have in Australia. Such conditions are also not feasible for the vast majority of global refugees.

Is there a way forward with realistic possibilities? Could we build a new country?

## 'New Country'

My vision for refugees is of a 'New Country' with states on lands allocated by countries hosting long-term refugee camps all around the world. For a peppercorn rental and with local support, each state would be leased to the United Nations. The UNHCR would offer UN Citizenship with identifying passport to refugees registering with UNHCR. The jurisdiction and legalities would be established by United Nations.

The ideal refugee camp would train its own citizens, especially the young, making them eligible for skilled visas to countries other than the state where they reside. Refugees with nowhere to go other than their present long-term refugee camp would become UN citizens, some of whom would be offered placements in



<https://ddeevans1.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/australia-21->

other countries while others would make their refugee camp liveable and train their young in skills needed around the world.

The key elements to realise this vision are as follows:

- A place for refugees is provided
- Basic essentials of food and housing are available
- Health and Security support are provided
- Food production is undertaken
- Education is fostered
- Social activities are encouraged
- Voluntary local administration is established
- The principle of being self supporting is achieved wherever possible

In the present reality the UNHCR seeks to provide basic needs whilst investigating repatriation and resettlement possibilities. Key aims and concerns are listed in the '2015 UNHCR subregional operations profile – South Asia' report as:

- The need for sustainable livelihoods, reliable community-support networks, and access to specialised services for people with special needs.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers may face discrimination from local communities with little understanding of refugee issues.
- The quality of public health and education in Nepal's camps has been adversely affected by the departure of skilled refugee workers, who were resettled.
- UNHCR fills the gaps in terms of protection, assistance and durable solutions. It focuses on the most vulnerable, including women, children, the elderly, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, and those with special needs.

UNHCR also advocates adopting national refugee frameworks and accession to international refugee instruments. Through stronger partnerships with the various Governments, UNHCR aims to enhance asylum space, including by: identifying opportunities for local integration; improving livelihoods for urban refugees; ensuring the smooth voluntary return of refugees ... identifying durable solutions for refugees ... supporting a sustainable return for those displaced,

- In 2015, UNHCR will continue to advocate for a favourable protection environment in South Asia, including freedom from arbitrary detention and refoulement.

What is missing from this report, however, is the concept of making life good wherever possible. The ideas behind the 'New Country' approach offer refugees a chance for self determination albeit confined to restricted travel within New Country, in ways that provide the UN and UNHCR with a way forward for refugee/asylum seekers.

Australia is part of South East Asia and needs to contribute support for refugees in the region. What we hear from the present Australian government is that new refugees will be exported in one way or another. However, there is no mention of us taking a responsible position in housing refugees (with nowhere to go) in long-term camps of the South East Asia Region. We need to work for UNHCR standards in these camps of the region, using more 'successful' camps as the yardstick. A study of these camps and working with UNHCR to create affordable positive living that does not insist on western standards may be necessary. Refugees confined to long-term refugee camps want to work and self provide. Let's make it happen. The starting point will be currently functional refugee camps, with the following add on elements:

• Self-government on embassy-type land in a host country leased to UNHCR. The leased land will remain the property of the hosting country and can be changed by mutual agreement.

- The host country will provide external security.

• The refugee community will establish internal security. This may need help from the lessor and lessee if acceptable administration cannot be established.

- Standards of care will be on a liveable needs basis rather than Australian (western) social security standards that are unaffordable in most parts of the world.

• The concept of 'refugees as global citizens' will complement the current UNHCR registration of refugees and travel by a 'global citizen' will still need visa permission.

Refugees say 'Give us opportunity and freedom to work. We will do it ourselves.' Could Australia lease the first state of New Country to the UN on some part of Christmas Island, Manus Island, Nauru or elsewhere, and be prepared to help UNHCR with security and allow NGOs to help socially as well?

In summary, refugee resettlement placements are few both globally and in South East Asia including Australia. The realistic expectation for refugees is a long period in a refugee camp without guarantee of a placement. However, there are examples of refugees living on the land of the hosting country who make life meaningful and progressive if not hampered by legal restrictions. New Country is a concept for the self-management and government of refugees within the confines of allocated land, which will substantially assist the UNHCR (in collaboration with supportive NGOs) in their mission to provide safety and support for refugees with nowhere to go.



# New Country

New Country is imagined as a functional country with an evolving citizenship and UNHCR/UN Governance.

- Personal individual identity. The place to start is UNHCR registration leading to a visa-less UN passport confirming identity with the regional UNHCR office and the United Nations.
- Location. Wherever people are. This may well be in a UNHCR refugee camp. The possibility of land being leased to UNHCR (to enable a UN jurisdiction) for a peppercorn rental exists.
- Survival. Support to come from working together, the local country, and the international community.
- Community development relying primarily on leadership from within the new community, but with help from outside.
- Education and skill development.
- Internal creativity and leadership getting on with life whatever.
- Application for work visas around the world.
- Participation in international sports/cultural events using visitor visas
- Internet availability

The little-known visa project bringing highly skilled refugees to Australia

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-little-known-visa-project-bringing-highly-skilled-refugees-to-australia>



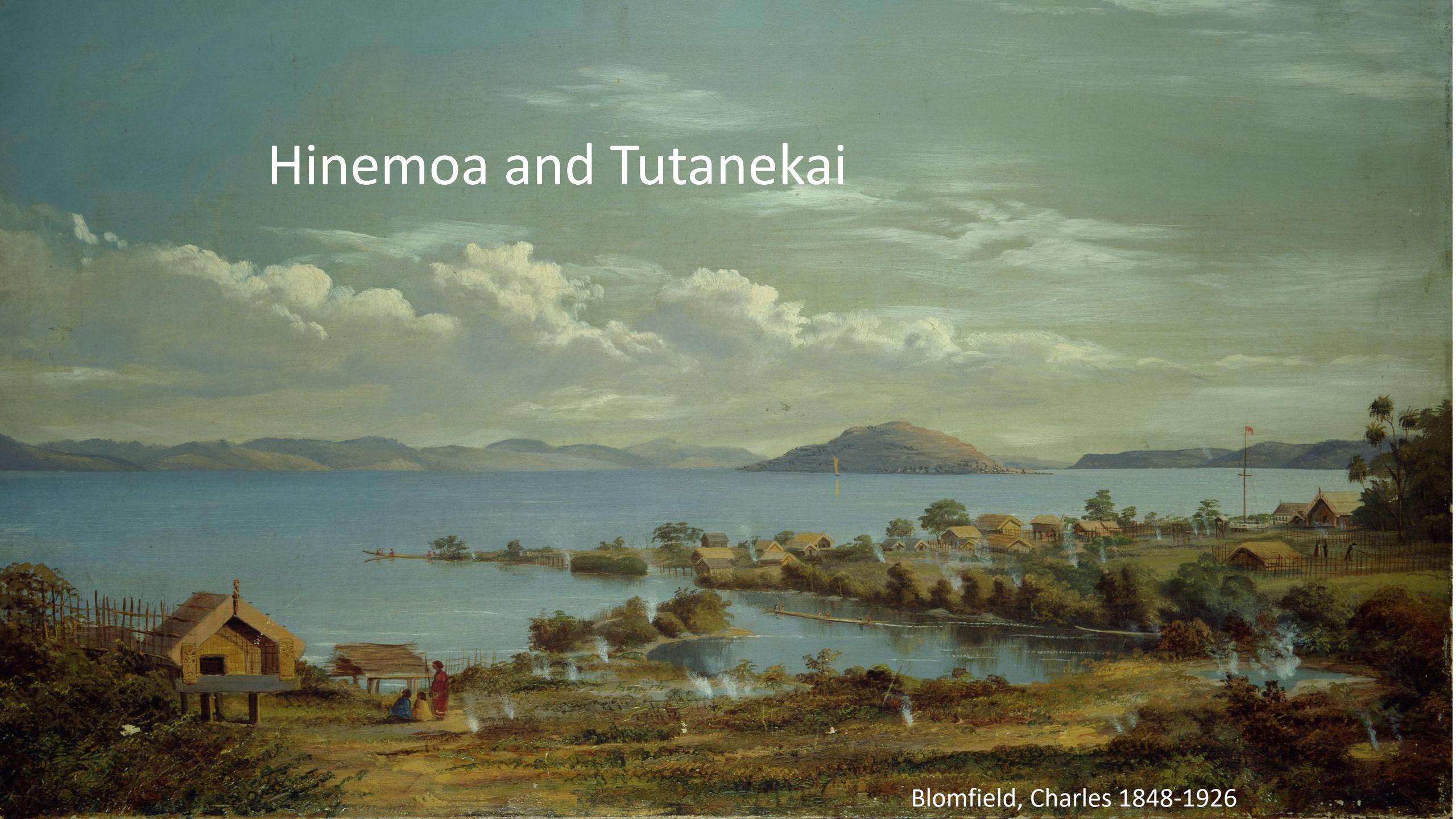


[India killing: 'My father ordered my husband's murder' - BBC ...](#)

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-45570981>

Sep 20, 2018 - On 14 September, **Pranay Perumalla** was murdered in front of his wife, **Amrutha**, in an alleged honour killing.

# Hinemoa and Tutanekai



Blomfield, Charles 1848-1926