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Another contract. A little more savings. One more school year. Returning to Nepal can remain a serious intention for years without becoming an actual plan.

Imagine a Nepali living abroad finishing another working day. A call home brings ordinary updates: a parent's appointment, a family celebration, repairs needed before the rains.

Nothing dramatic has happened. Yet after the call, a familiar question returns: how much longer?

The answer seems practical. Stay until the loan is cleared. Stay until there is enough to start something. Stay until the children

finish this stage of school.

Each reason may be sensible. Together, they can keep moving the return date further away.

Across the Nepali diaspora, homecoming can mean different things. For someone on a temporary employment contract, it may mean ending a period of separation. For a settled family, it may involve changing careers, schools and a way of life built over decades. For someone raised overseas, moving to Nepal may be less a return than a first experience of living there.

The question is therefore larger than whether people miss home. It is whether the life they hope to build in Nepal can accommodate their responsibilities, relationships and expectations.

How do you prepare responsibly for that change without allowing preparation to become an indefinite postponement?

When “one more year” needs an explanation

There is nothing inherently wrong with staying abroad longer. Another year may make a meaningful difference to a household. It may fund education, complete a qualification or provide breathing room after a difficult period.

But an extension becomes easier to assess when it has a specific purpose.

What should be different at the end of that year? What would make returning more feasible? Which uncertainty can be reduced while still abroad?

Without answers, “one more year” describes a delay rather than a decision.

A useful distinction is between a goal that can be reached and a feeling that may never arrive. Completing a course is observable. Receiving a confirmed job offer is observable. Feeling completely secure about the future is a much harder condition to satisfy.

If complete certainty becomes the requirement for returning, the date may remain permanently out of reach.

That does not mean uncertainty should be ignored. It means identifying which uncertainties require an answer and which are an unavoidable part of changing one’s life.

The life abroad deserves an honest account

Discussions of homecoming can become unfair to the people who stay.

A life abroad may contain far more than a salary. There may be meaningful work, trusted colleagues, close friendships and routines built through years of effort. Children may feel at home where they attend school. A partner may have a career they do not want to abandon.

Those attachments deserve recognition.

Returning should not require someone to dismiss everything they have built overseas as empty or temporary. Nor should remaining abroad be treated as evidence of weak attachment to Nepal.

For some families, more than one country holds a sense of belonging. Nepal may be the place of childhood and extended family, while another country holds the everyday experiences of adulthood.

The more useful question is whether the current arrangement still serves the household's priorities.

That answer can change. A choice that made sense ten years ago may need reconsideration now. Equally, a return that sounds emotionally attractive today may require more preparation than the family can presently manage.

An honest decision makes room for both possibilities.

What would an ordinary Tuesday look like?

Homecoming is easy to imagine through special occasions: a family meal, a festival, the first evening back.

Permanent life also contains Tuesdays.

Where would you wake up? What work would occupy the day? How would the children reach school? Who would handle appointments, household tasks and care? What would happen when the initial excitement settled?

These questions bring a distant aspiration into focus.

Someone who wants to live in Pokhara may discover that their strongest employment contacts are in Kathmandu. A person imagining a quiet village life may also want services that require regular travel. A returning parent may expect more time with family but plan work that keeps them away for long hours.

None of these tensions automatically rules out returning. They show where the plan needs attention.

The Nepal remembered from childhood, the Nepal experienced during holidays and the Nepal of an ordinary working week may feel different. Making space for that difference can help expectations become more realistic.

It is easier to investigate practical arrangements before making commitments than after everyone has reorganised their lives around an idealised picture.

Family closeness requires a shared plan

Living near family may be an important reason to return. But proximity does not settle how a household will function.

During years apart, everyone has developed routines. Relatives in Nepal have continued making decisions and managing responsibilities. Parents may welcome company while also valuing their own habits and space.

The returning person is joining a life that continued in their absence.

Within the household moving to Nepal, expectations may also differ. One partner may imagine a welcome return; the other may anticipate losing professional independence. A child may enjoy visiting grandparents while feeling anxious about leaving friends.

That makes early conversations important. Where does each person want to live? What are they worried about? Which responsibilities would change? What does each person expect the move to improve?

A decision announced as a gift to the family can become a source of strain if the family had little voice in making it.

Children deserve explanations and opportunities to speak. Their worries about language, school and friendships should be heard alongside adults' hopes about belonging.

Homecoming works better as a shared undertaking than as one person's finished plan.

Experience needs a destination

Years abroad can produce valuable skills, qualifications and professional relationships. The next question is where those strengths fit.

A job title may not explain much to a prospective employer. A clearer account describes responsibilities: coordinating a team, maintaining equipment, handling customer complaints, conducting research or managing a daily workflow.

That description gives conversations a practical starting point.

Before returning, a person can explore which employers need that experience, what additional knowledge they expect and whether available roles match the work the returnee actually wants.

Professional expectations deserve attention too. Someone accustomed to a particular level of responsibility may need to consider how much flexibility they have about role, location and working arrangements.

The same principle applies to self-employment. Being good at a profession or trade does not automatically make owning a business the preferred next step.

Some people want to run an enterprise. Others want dependable employment and fewer responsibilities outside working hours. Both ambitions deserve respect.

Returning to Nepal should not come with an obligation to become an entrepreneur merely to make the homecoming appear successful.

A visit can become an investigation

For someone able to travel before relocating, a visit can serve a purpose beyond celebration.

Arrange conversations with potential employers. Look closely at possible neighbourhoods. Ask schools practical questions. Explore transport arrangements. Spend time understanding what a normal week would require.

A holiday naturally contains hospitality and exceptions. Relatives adjust their schedules. Difficult errands can wait. Everyday frustrations may remain outside the visitor's view.

A more deliberate visit makes room for those ordinary details.

It will not reproduce permanent life perfectly. But it can replace some assumptions with observations.

Where possible, give each family member something to explore. A partner can investigate professional opportunities. Children can ask questions about a prospective school. Older relatives can explain what support would actually help them.

The important outcome is not a verdict that Nepal is either wonderful or impossible. It is a clearer understanding of which arrangements would work for this particular household—and which still need solving.

Turn the return date into a review date

Choosing a departure date can feel overwhelming when several pieces remain uncertain.

A review date may be a more useful first commitment.

At that point, examine what has changed. Have employment conversations progressed? Has the family reached agreement about location? Are school arrangements clearer? Which unanswered questions still matter?

The review should permit more than one outcome.

Returning may now be realistic. Staying longer may have a specific justification. A proposed business may need

reconsideration. The family may discover that a different location offers a better fit.

Changing a plan after learning something important is not the same as avoiding a decision.

The distinction is whether the process produces new information and concrete choices—or simply repeats the same promise.

A meaningful review can also reveal that permanent relocation is not currently the household's shared goal. Recognising that honestly allows a different conversation about maintaining family connections and participating in life in Nepal.

Homecoming does not need to become a performance

Public stories favour visible achievements: a new company, a house, a growing enterprise.

An individual may want something quieter.

They may want work that uses their skills, regular meals with family or the chance to participate in their child's everyday life. They may want to contribute locally without becoming a public example of successful return.

Those goals are harder to photograph, but they are still legitimate.

Equally, a later decision to move abroad again should not erase everything learned during a period in Nepal. Circumstances change. People reassess what is possible.

A return becomes unnecessarily heavy when it must prove, forever, that leaving was worthwhile and coming back was correct.

It can instead be treated as a serious decision made with the best information available, followed by continued adjustment.

People do not owe an audience a perfect migration story.

Give “later” a meaning

The purpose of examining homecoming is not to persuade every Nepali abroad to pack immediately.

It is to make an important intention specific enough to act on.

If staying another year is the right choice, identify what that year is for. If returning is becoming realistic, begin the conversations that turn an individual wish into a workable household plan.

And if the answer remains uncertain, name the uncertainty. A question about employment can be investigated. A disagreement about location can be discussed. A vague hope that everything will somehow become easier is harder to work with.

The life being postponed may ultimately be in Nepal. It may also involve building a more satisfying life where the family already lives, while maintaining meaningful ties across borders.

Either way, the decision deserves more than a promise renewed after every difficult phone call.

“One more year” becomes useful when it carries an answer to the next question: what will we do differently during it?

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