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To,

The Australian High Commission

Australian Compound

No. 1/50G Shantipath, Chanakyapuri

Po Box 5210

New Delhi 110-021, India

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is a grateful honor for me to have this opportunity to express about my past, present and future concerning academic achievements, experiences and aspirations. This *Statement of Purpose* (SoP) includes my educational background, reasons for choosing a specific university in Australia, future educational plans, its relevancy to my career goals along with financial details.

Introduction

My name is **Unik Shrestha**, a permanent resident of Suryabinayak- 10, Bhaktapur, Nepal belonging to a middle-class family, consisting of four members which include my father, mother, me and a younger brother who recently turned 4. I have been getting full support from my family in each step of my life since my birth. I was born on 11th of January, 2001 A.D. and currently hold a Nepali **passport number 10578723** and a **citizenship number 29-21-73-05063**. Furthermore, I am a young, energetic and motivated person having good behavior. Thus, my goal is to acquire good knowledge of accounting as well as business from a reputed university and gain enough experiences and skills to contribute the businesses of Nepal for the development of the economy in my country.

Academic Background

As a student, I completed my SLC (School Leaving Certificate) from Naulo Jyoti English School located at Madhyapur Thimi-13, Bhaktapur, Nepal in 2016 A.D. securing a 2.95 GPA. After completion of my SLC, I joined Ace A level program located at Sinamangal, Kathmandu, Nepal. The subjects I studied are Business, Accounting, Economics and General paper and secured 'C', 'E', 'E', 'c' respectively in my CIE which was held in June 2018. As a matter of fact, that every student is not satisfied with their academic achievement, I decided to pursue my education studying Bachelors of Commerce (Accounting) to develop my management skills and knowledge.

As I was very interested in business and management, my progress made me strong and added enthusiasm to learn more on business and accounting which is the reason why I want to pursue Bachelors of Commerce (Accounting) in Australia. As I was determined to continue my further study in Australia, the first step was to take an English proficiency test. I spent an hour of a day taking IELTS preparation classes for a month. Therefore, after a month of preparation I appeared IELTS examination on September 08, 2018 and achieved overall band of 7 (L:8, R:7, S:6, W:6) on September 21, 2018.

Motivation and purpose

Reasons to study in Australia

I have done quite good research in the world's best education destination countries like UK, USA, Australia, and Canada. And I got pretty sure that the best destination would be Australia. To talk about the USA, it is one of the best places to study in but there are some external factors like high crime rate, low pay for the students in comparison to Australia and racism still exists in some places of the USA. And to talk about the UK and Canada, the weather is very cold and the temperature drops to -5 or less. And there are no services like **TPS (Tuition Protection Service)** under ESOS act, **OSHC (Overseas Student Health Cover)** and **PSW (Post Study Work)**.

On the other hand, for a country with relatively small number universities, Australia offers truly world-class education and regularly features in global rankings. Eight Australian universities placed in top 100 in the latest QS World University Rankings, commended on areas such as academic reputation, employer reputation and International students' ratio. Several universities are also featured in the Times Higher Education Rankings and the Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Ranking of World Universities. The important aspects that made me choose Australia are its world-class education, multicultural society, and globally recognized degree programs. Living and studying in Australia can be very rewarding and puts me at the great social, cultural and educational opportunities. Research from different website like www.studyinaustralia.gov.au, I came to know that the education system of Australia is very different from other countries due to the **Australian Qualification Framework (AQF)**. As AQF is the national policy for regulated qualifications in Australian education and training, it incorporates the qualifications from each education and training sector into a single comprehensive national qualifications framework. Furthermore, its Tuition Protection Service (TPS) under the ESOS Act will help students like me to safeguard against any risks. The Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000, or ESOS Act, establishes legislative requirements and standards for the quality assurance of education and training institutions offering courses to international students who are in Australia on a student visa. The Tuition Protection Service (TPS) is an initiative of the Australian Government to assist international students whose education providers are unable to fully deliver their course of study. The TPS ensures that international students are able to complete their studies in another course or with another education provider or receive a refund of their unspent tuition fees. The health insurance service (OSHC) in Australia also ensures our safety against any health issues.

Australia is also home to some of the best student cities, as revealed in the QS Best Student Cities ranking. Cosmopolitan Melbourne placed second, ahead of cities such as London, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Seoul, and Singapore. Sydney came in at a fourth place, with Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth not too far down the list. International students can work up to 40 hours per fortnight in Australia, which will help me pay for things like nights out with friends or short trips over holiday breaks. I will also have the opportunity to stay in Australia to work once I have graduated, taking advantage of the post-study work visa to gain some experience.

Why Sydney?

Sydney regularly gains a favorable position in the league tables as being one of the most desirable cities to live as a student, thanks to its exotic climate, friendly people, lively culture, and world-class opportunities. Sydney harbor is a very multicultural mix of students as one of the country's largest cities, with close ties to many Asian universities, making it super accommodating to a whole host of different people. Many institutions celebrate diversity, enabling students to learn about and study different cultures from their peers and most have different campuses around the city for students to choose the suburb of the city that best suits their personalities and interests. Unfortunately, there's no doubt that Sydney is an expensive place to live and study. But that is due to the incredible opportunities, lifestyle, and culture that the city offers. The country does, however, offer students the chance to work up to twenty hours per week, which is more than most countries, which can enable people to support themselves and gain valuable experience also.

Regarding my accommodation, after getting my visa confirmation, I will either book the accommodation through various websites like www.atira.com, www.semesteraustralia.com, www.unilodger.com and so on or share an apartment with my friend living in Sydney. There are various accommodation websites that provide living arrangements for international students. However, shared accommodation is the best for international students who are studying in Sydney. The shared accommodation ranges from AUD 200 to AUD 300 in the suburbs in a weekly basis (<https://www.sydneymovingguide.com/the-cost-of-living-in-sydney/>). Furthermore, my preference is to find a place near the University.

Why not Nepal?

We all know that Nepal is a developing country and the quality of education lacks in comparison to Australia. As a matter of fact, that quality education is essential for a better future; I intended to pursue my further education in Australia rather than in Nepal. I have done a lot of research about the institutes but most of them run the BBA program. From my research, I found that there were limited institutions which run Bachelors in Business focusing on accounting which is not that reputed and has poor infrastructural/educational facilities and services. Sadly, from the study, I must reveal that the education system in my country lacks and stays limited in theories while we can expand our knowledge by doing case studies, conducting surveys and many more practical works. As I mentioned earlier about Australian Qualification Framework (AQF), it ensures that there is a uniform and recognized progression for study which is a plus point for me to get a proper job in a good company of my home country. And most of the multinational companies of Nepal prioritized the graduates with an international degree. Moreover, courses offered by institutions in Australia are highly flexible and equipped with an international perspective.

I did extensive research in Nepal and visited the Universities (Pokhara, Purbanchal, and Tribhuvan) here for a Bachelors course first. But from my study, I found that the syllabus was old and teaching methodology was more on the theoretical way of handling. I then checked out different colleges in Nepal under Tribhuvan University like Acme College, Kathmandu college, etc. But here too I found a dearth in the way the subjects were taught. Sadly, in fact, the syllabus of the Bachelor offered by them was outdated. None of the advances in the field nor the use of technology was seen. This prompted me to look overseas for my higher qualification

Why Bachelors of Commerce (Accounting)?

I have always been interested in business and management since my father runs a business. Moreover, I also have dreamed of starting my own business. Seeing the day to day operation of my father's business, I realized that financial management was poor in the operated business which was the major cause for the business to be much successful and earn a drastic profit. This should be one of the reasons to study Bachelors in Commerce (Accounting) rather than BBA as Accounting is much more specific course and is extremely specialized in different fields like Auditing, Taxation and Financial Risk Management. During the duration of my study, I found

that Accounting is the backbone of every business, without which the efficient business organization is impossible to form. And I want to become that backbone to support financial condition of a business and minimize every financial risk that comes up in the business. Moreover, I reckon that Accounting is not just about numbers. It can employ a wide range of other skills such as communications, teamwork, strategy, leadership and problem-solving. Choosing a global organization could also make me benefitted from some incredible travel opportunities. As one of the most flexible professions, Accounting can help me achieve the perfect work-life balance. Part-time roles and career breaks are possible, and the global demand for accountancy professionals also creates many self-employment opportunities. Studying Bachelors of Commerce (Accounting) also gives knowledge about business ideas and leadership so that we can start up our own business to build our career strong. The total fee for this 3-year program is \$75300.

In Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) degree, I will be studying accounting, law, economics, and finance. A range of elective subjects is available to specialize skills in accounting like taxation law, auditing, and financial planning. After graduation, I aspire to gain professional accounting accreditation. Studying this subject leads to a wealth of opportunities in business. I could put my skills to use championing early-stage start-ups. Perhaps I will have a knack for patterns and numbers that will see me moving into accounting or market research.

IIBIT Fed as my education provider

As I decided to pursue the Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) course in Australia, I started to explore and research for different institutes and universities that facilitates this program and within my financial capabilities. I found different universities like Australian Catholic University (https://handbook.acu.edu.au/handbooks/handbook_2019/general_information/fees)

Wollongong University (<https://www.uow.edu.au/future/international/fees/index.html>), Victoria University and some other which are very good universities and compared those. I researched these educational providers in terms of their tuition fees for the course of business, and accounting. In doing so, I found that the tuition fees per year to be as following in the institutions such as The University of Newcastle (\$AU 27,875 for a year) for the course of Bachelor of Business https://www.newcastle.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/489782/2019-International-Undergraduate-Indicative-Annual-Program-Fees.pdf. Another instance, the total fee for

accounting in La Trobe is \$AU 24,800 per year (<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/handbook/2018/international/tuition-fees.html>). Then I got to know about IIBIT College affiliated to Federation University through a friend of mine. I was quite amazed to see that this college offers bachelors degree in Accounting or a university with comparatively low fees (<https://federation.edu.au/current-students/essential-info/fees-and-charges>) than other universities with common facilities and services. IIBIT Fed continues to be committed to delivering quality education and going above and beyond to establish an excellent student experience through investment in facilities, student support services, and teaching resources. Also, the class size is larger in these institutes which make it difficult for an individual student to get a professor's attention. Considering these facts, I found IIBIT Federation University the best for me to pursue higher education.

Luckily, the university is also not that far from my the place where I am going to live. I went in detail about the institute and found that IIBIT has provided quality educational and training services to students from all parts of the world for the past 18 years from its webpage (<https://federation.edu.au/international/education-partnerships/current-partners/partner-information/iibit-sydney>). And the institute offers excellent teaching and learning facilities, highly qualified faculty members who bring to the classroom a wealth of knowledge, dedication and enthusiasm, small class sizes, efficient student welfare and support services and comprehensive career development opportunities. I also found that Federation University which IIBIT is affiliated with has consistently received a five-star rating for teaching quality from the Australian Good Universities Guide. The University also ranks extremely well for graduate satisfaction, getting a fulltime job, starting salaries, access by equity group and cultural diversity. Also, IIBIT and Federation University are working together with the goal of providing a high-quality educational experience and recognized educational qualifications at an undergraduate and postgraduate levels in the fields of Information Technology, Information Systems, Business Management, Commerce and Accounting. IIBIT Sydney provides an excellent and supportive learning environment. The academic staff as well qualified and offer high-quality teaching.

The relevance of my course with my future career plans

Because of my interest and passion, I started studying A-levels in management which included Accounting, Business, Economics, and General paper. Further giving continuity to my education,

I am willing to study Bachelors in Commerce (Accounting) which provides many career opportunities such as public accounting, banking, teaching, government organizations, stock broking, business consulting, and many more. It is known that Australia offers Post Study Work opportunity for an international student which is a first-class opportunity to have international working experience. In order to sharpen my skills, I would be doing PSW aftermath the completion of Bachelors degree. I reckon that, with PSW I will be able to implement the gained knowledge from the subject and achieve some experiences in the field. With the degree and PSW, I will definitely return to Nepal to build my future and look after my family being an elder son. Firstly, I will support my father business managing all the financial works and gain some experience needed to become a financial manager. Thereafter, I will look for a job as a financial manager in some small companies rather than a multinational company because I want to support the small business of Nepal and contribute to their growth. Being a financial manager, I will be able to decide what sort of capital is required to obtain in order to fund a company's assets as well as maximizing the value of the firm for all the stakeholders based on the research which should be done for making decisions. I should be able to manage the money (funds) efficiently and effectively in such a manner as to accomplish the objectives of the organization. I will also have to look after all the financial transactions that take place in a firm. Instead of looking for different jobs in banks, savings and credit cooperatives, NGOs and INGOs I will be promoting and upgrading my father's business. What I believe is that I will not be confined with the salary range of NPR 80,000 to NPR 100,000 which these institutions provide on a monthly basis. I am determined to be a renowned entrepreneur and take the business of my father to the next level with the learned concepts and skills. I will merely enjoy myself as a salaryman working for some firm or organization. Thus, undoubtedly in the long run, I have a mindset to start a business in Nepal after gaining some experience and ideas from other firms.

Moreover, being the son of the family, I will come back to bear the proper responsibilities of my family. Similarly, I cannot live without my sweet family for a long period. Additionally, with my dream, aim, and passion, for me, the happiness of my parents is very important, as they had done a great contribution for me right from birth. They have always supported and encouraged me and make sure that there are no stones left unturned for my career. This is an unremarkable contribution for me. I can not pay for it but I can care and love in their old ages being on their

side. Today I place where I am is due to my parents. After all with this motto on me, with completion of my degree and some experience, I will firmly return to my country.

Financial Details

As I mentioned in the earlier paragraph, I have a very supportive family and they always inspire me to learn more. They have always fulfilled my needs and requirements no matter what the cost is. My father is a lawyer and owns a registered law firm named '**Motherland Legal Forum Private Limited**' having pan number of 302550494 and my mother works in a cooperative as a marketing officer. My mother is also the owner of land and building and receives rent from the tenant every month. As per the audit report of my father's business, my mother's salary certificate and house rent agreement, the total income of my family are **Rs 2,425,079.71** which is equivalent to **AUD 29,563.32** according to the recent exchange rate. My father also has around **Rs. 4, 1032,147.35 which is equivalent to AUD 50,159.59** in his bank account at **Nabil Bank** to support me during my study in Australia. Moreover, my family holds the property equivalent to **NRs. 27,865,970.84** so that I will not have any problem during my study.

Visa Conditions

I am absolutely well aware of the entire visa conditions for international students in which, I will be continuing my bachelor's degree program that has been approved by the Australian Government. I should maintain 80% or more attendance in my course and course progress for each study period as required by the institute. I must continue to satisfy the requirements for the grant of my student visa. This means, for example, that I continue to have sufficient financial capacity to support my study and stay in Australia. And I must maintain adequate arrangements for health insurance during my stay in Australia. I am now allowed to work for more than 40 hours per fortnight. I must inform my education provider about the address where I live within 7 days of my arrival or after changing my address. I must maintain enrollment in the registered

course that is the same level as, or higher level than, the registered course for which I was granted the visa.

Conclusion

As I have decided to pursue my higher education in Australia and I will follow the rules and regulation of Australia as well as respect Australian values, cultures and religious, political and social beliefs of the natives of Australia during my stay. I have a required level of academic qualification, English proficiency and a good financial condition to complete my bachelor program in the estimated time period. I have good knowledge about the student visa condition and will not violate it. And with no doubt, I will firmly return to my country after the completion of my study. Thus, I am very grateful to have this opportunity to express myself.

Declaration

I declare that this SoP is my research outcome on the abroad study plan and have not had any assistance from others in writing this. I declare that I am a genuine student and a genuine temporary entrant to Australia. I also state that I have sufficient funds to cover my tuition fees and living expenses throughout my study duration in Australia.

Yours faithfully,

Unik Shrestha