

# Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev

Narayanhiy royal palace, Kathmandu

Born : 7 July 1947, Kathmandu

**NEPAL**

King, army commander



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## Training/education

**1969:** Degree from Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu.

**1966:** St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling (India).

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## Professional experience

**April 2006:** Orders 120 journalists arrested. At least 28 injured by police during anti-government protests. Hands power back to parliament after massive demonstrations.

**1 February 2005:** Seizes all powers, orders arrest of hundreds of opposition figures and journalists, cuts off phone and Internet links, bans radio news broadcasts.

**2004:** Has 400 journalists arrested by police and army.

**2003:** Orders nearly 100 journalists arrested, some held in secret for several months. Nepal becomes country in world with most journalists in prison.

**4 October 2002:** Dissolves parliament and orders army to crush "terrorist" Maoist rebels.

**May 2002:** Covers up death by torture of well-known pro-Maoist journalist Krishna Sen in a Kathmandu police station.

**November 2001:** Declares state of emergency until August 2002. 36 journalists imprisoned, most of them tortured.

**June 2001:** Mysteriously escapes massacre of royal family members, along with wife and son. Becomes king in place of murdered brother Birendra. Orders arrest of newspaper editor who printed statement by a Maoist rebel leader.

**1990s:** Covers up criminal activities of his son, Prince Paras Bir Bikram Shah Dev, accused of murder and drug-trafficking.

**1980s:** Runs a nature conservation fund.

**1950:** Proclaimed king for two months, after which his grandfather returns to throne.

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## Hobbies/interests

Relaxing at his residence in Pokhara, writing poetry, protecting nature, collecting decorations from foreign governments.

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