**Nepal**
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From independence in 1920 through 1945 Nepal is coded as non-democratic. Geddes codes Nepal as a monarchy from 1846 through 1951. Archigos codes the PMs rather than the king; Maharadja, as effective leaders. Thus, we code Nepal from 1920 to 1944 as being under the control of Rana Dynasty instead of Shah Dynasty because the PMs held power rather than King (from Shah Dynasty). Because the same dynasty is in charge throughout the observation period, we code no SOLS change.

Nepal is coded as a monarchy from 1945 until 1991. However, a conflict in 1846 (the Kot Massacre) between the monarchy and the military had ended with the triumph of the "Rana regime" (US Dept of State) until 1951. The Ranas were a family that took over control of the country. During this period, Nepal's aristocracy was downgraded to a titular role only and the prime minister was established as a dictatorial, hereditary post, inherited by certain members of the Rana family (US Library of Congress). In 1945, Juddha Rama resigned and Padma Shamsher Jang Bahadur Rana became PM. This is not a SOLS change. Facing challenges by newly developing political parties, Padma Shamsher resigned in 1948 and Mohan Shamsher Jang Bahadur Rana became PM. This is not a SOLS change.

A revolution against the Rana regime began in late 1950, with the aim of restoring the king. The pro-monarchy forces were successful, and in 1951 Tribhuvan Bir Bikram Sha Deva of the Shah Dynasty became king. This is a SOLS change. In 1955 Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, Tribhuvan's son and also of the Shah Dynasty, became king. This is not a SOLS change. In 1972 Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, son of Mahendra and thus Shah Dynasty, became king. This is not a SOLS change.

Over time support for the monarchy waned. In 1990 the prodemocracy movement was successful in overturning the old system and introducing a multiparty democratic system (US Library of Congress). "The 1990 constitution ended almost thirty years of absolute monarchy" (US Library of Congress) and Krishna Prasad Bhatterai, NCP, became interim PM (US Dept of State) until elections could be held the following year. Because GWF only code the monarchy ending after the elections, we consider Prasad Bhattarai part of the monarchy and code neither a SOLS change nor interim leader. In 1991 the country's first elections in 30 years, which was considered free and fair by observers (U.S. Department of State) returned an overwhelming victory for the social-democratic Nepali Congress Party (NCP). Girija Prasad Koirala, NCP, became PM. This is a SOLS change because Koirala's SOLS is different from the last regular leader who was the monarch.

While we code Nepal as non-democratic even after 1990, Geddes does not code an autocratic regime type and Cheibub et al. code a parliamentary system between 1990 and 2001. According to the US Dept of State, Nepal was a "parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarch." Given our rules, we need to code based on whether new leaders are pre-designated successors of old leaders but, to the extent that new leaders had different party affiliations and competed for power, information on parties is useful.

"The 1994 elections resulted in a Nepali Congress Party defeat and a hung Parliament, with a minority government led by the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist

(CPN-UML); this made Nepal the world's first communist monarchy, with Man Mohan Adhikary as Prime Minister" (US Dept of State). This is a SOLS change. Adhikary's government did not last very long and Nepal entered a period of political instability. In 1995 Sher Bahadur Deuba, NCP, became PM. [His coalition included the Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (RPP), and the Nepali Sadbhavana Party (NSP) (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3044). However, this is not relevant here since the regime was not democratic.] This is a SOLS change. In March 1997 Lokendra Bahadur Chand of the conservative RPP became PM. [His coalition included the UML, NSP, and the Nepal Workers' and Peasants' Party (NWPP) (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3045). Khanal (1998, 150) states that the coalition was only made up of RPP and UML. Not relevant since Nepal is not democratic.] This is a SOLS change. On 7 October 1997 Surya Bahadur Thapa, RPP, became PM. [His coalition included the NSP (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3045)]. This is not a SOLS change. [Since this is considered a non-democratic period by us, we do not code minor SOLS changes but if this was coded as a parliamentary democracy we would code a minor SOLS change on 7 Oct 1997. We also would code a minor SOLS change in December 1997 when the NCP joined the coalition (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3045; Khanal 1998, 153; http://ifdsnepal.com/Cabinet&Parl%20Members/cabinet/suryabd-cabinet1997-october.htm)] Thapa had assumed power in October having agreed to transfer leadership to the NCP "within an agreed time frame" (Europea World Year Book 2004, 3045). Parajulee (2000, 281) explains that Thapa became PM with NC support and that "the alliance was formed with the mutual understanding between the NDP and NC that each party would lead the government by rotation until the general elections in 1999." The NDP then suffered from internal disagreement and split into two parties. As a result, the NC asked the Thapa to resign earlier than planned. Thapa survived a no confidence motion in January but then resigned in April. In April 1998 Girija Prasad Koirala, NCP, became PM. Despite the pre-existing agreement we code a SOLS change here since in calling for Thapa to resign the NC did not uphold the agreement and thus governed on its own. [On August 26, 1998 Koirala invited the Communist Party of Nepal, Marxist-Leninist (ML) "a new splinter party out of the UML" (Hachhethu 2000) to join in coalition (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3045). This would be a minor SOLS change if this was a democracy (26 Aug 1998) (Rose 1999, 156). On 10 December 1998 ML left the coalition (Rose 1999, 156). This would be a minor SOLS change (10 Dec 1998). On December 25 UML and NSP joined the coalition (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3045). This would be a minor SOLS change (25 Dec 1998).] In May 1999 Krishna Prasad Bhatterai, NCP, once again became PM out of coalition (Europa World Year Book 2004, 3045). This is a minor SOLS change (May 31 1999) since from 1999 until 2002 the country is considered a parliamentary democracy. In 2000 Girija Prasad Koirala, NCP, became PM. This is not a SOLS change. In 2001 Sher Bahdur Deuba, NCP, became PM. This is not a SOLS change.

According to Krämer (2003, 213) "On October 4, 2002 the king "assumed executive powers and dismissed the Deuba government, calling the prime minister incompetent to conduct general elections. One week later [October 11th], the king, disregarding the suggestions of the political parties, nominated a nine-member 'clean' cabinet with Lokendra Bahadur Chand [RPP], a well-known monarchist, as prime minister." While, according to Krämer (2004, 43) this was an interim government, Geddes codes a return of the monarchy here that lasts until 2006. Thus we code a SOLS change. In 2003, King Gyanendra asked parliament to name a candidate for PM.

As in 2002, Gyanendra ignored their decision and nominated his own PM, a conservative, Surya Bahadur Thapa, RPP (Krämer 2004, 45). This is not a SOLS change. According to Krämer (2005, 85) Thapa resigned May 7, 2004 and on June 2, 2004 Gyanendra reinstated Sher Bahdur Deuba, NC-D (Nepali Congress Democratic)[1] as PM. This is not a SOLS change because the country is considered a monarchy at this time. [According to Krämer (2005, 85) Deuba appointed a cabinet that included UML, RPP, and NSP, although the term "coalition" was not mentioned. Since Deuba ruled by mandate of the king, not because he was forced to form a coalition, we do not list the coalition parties.] In 2005 King Gyanendra "placed all of Nepal's leading politicians under house arrest" and took power in a royal coup (Hutt 2006, 120). We do not code a SOLS change here since Gayanendra already had de facto power before the coup.

After massive pro-democracy demonstrations, the king was forced to give up power. According to the US Dept of State: "On April 24, 2006, King Gyanendra reinstated the 1999 Parliament. Former Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala of the Nepali Congress Party was selected by the Seven-Party Alliance (SPA) of political parties to again lead the government." Koirala's was an interim government ("Nepal premier quits in favor of ex-Maoists"; SystemicPeace.org 2008, http://www.systemicpeace.org/polity/Nepal2010.pdf), but since he was in power more than 18 months we consider him a regular leader and code this a SOLS change. From 2006 through 2008 the country is once again considered a parliamentary democracy. In August 2008 Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" of the Communist Party of Nepal- Maoist (CPN-M) became PM. This is a SOLS change.

In May 2009, Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" resigned after political struggle with president over the firing of an army chief (Rahman & Bowcott 2009). Madhav Kumar Nepal was elected PM (Shrestha 2009). Nepal is coded as a democracy, so we political affiliation to determine SOLS changes. The transition from "Prachanda" to Kumar Nepal is coded as a SOLS change as "Prachanda" is from the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPM-M) while Kumar Nepal is from the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist-Leninist (CPN-UML).

In June 2010, Kumar Nepal resigned in the face of political pressure, primarily from the CPM-M (Shrestha 2010). He remained as prime minister in a caretaker capacity for 7 months until Jhalanath Nath Khanal was elected prime minister in February 2011 (BBC News 2011a). The transition from Kumar Nepal to Khanal is not coded as a SOLS change because both were from the same political party, the CPN-UML.

Unable to form a consensus concerning the constitution drafting and peace process, Khanal resigned in August 2011 (BBC News 2011b). Baburam Bhattarai of the CPM-M was elected prime minister (BBC News 2011c). Because of their different political affiliations, the transition is coded as a SOLS change.

In 2013, Bhattari resigned as part of political deal to overcome deadlock in creating a constitution, and Khil Raj Regmi, chief justice of the Supreme Court, took over as acting PM to lead country to elections (Magnier 2013; Sharma 2013). In February 2014, Sushil Koirala of the

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[1] In 2002 Koirala expelled Deuba from the NCP. The Supreme Court named Koirala the rightful leader of the NCP; consequently, Deuba formed a breakaway party called the Nepali Congress (Democratic) (Krämer 2003, 213; Bharadwaj et al. 2004, 67).

Nepali Congress Party (NCP) was elected PM (BBC News 2014). The transition from Bhattari to Regmi is not coded as a SOLS change because Regmi is considered an interim leader. The transition from Regmi to Koirala is coded as a SOLS change because Koirala is from a different political party than Bhattari, the leader prior to the interim Regmi.

A constitution was adopted in 2015. In accordance with the constitution, Koirala stepped down as PM, and Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli was elected PM (Associated Press 2015). The transition from Koirala and Oli is coded as a SOLS change because Koirala is from the NCP and Oli is associated with the CPN-UML.

In July 2016, Oli resigned before a no confidence vote could take place (Sharma 2016a). In August 2016, Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" (CPN-M) was elected PM (Sharma 2016b). The transition from Oli to Prachanda is coded as a SOLS change because of their different political affiliations.

After nine months, Prachanda resigned as PM. His resignation was not unexpected as he had created a power sharing deal with the Nepali Congress Party (Sharma 2017a). Sher Bahadur Deuba of the Nepali Congress Party was elected prime minister for the fourth time but resigns after poor showing in parliamentary elections (Sharma 2017b; Economic Times 2018). The transition from Prachanda to Deuba is coded as a SOLS change because of their different political affiliations.

In 2018, Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli (CPN-UML) was appointed PM (Al Jazeera 2018). The transition from Deuba to Oli is coded as a SOLS change because of their different political affiliations. Shortly after his appointment, the CNP-M and CNP-UML merged to re-form the Nepal Communist party (Dev Bhattarai 2018). While Oli's affiliation changes, this is not a minor SOLS change since the two parties in coalition supporting him merged into one party. The Nepal Communist Party is often abbreviated NCP in sources, but I advise using CNP as to not get it confused with the Nepalese Congress Party (NCP).

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Pre-1945 coded by Eelco van der Maat (Vanderbilt)
Post-1945 coded by Anna Carella (Vanderbilt) on 12/2010
Pre-1945 revised by Michaela Mattes 02/10/2012
Pre-1945 updated by Naoko Matsumura 06/17/2012
Post-1945 checked by Michaela Mattes (Vanderbilt) on 06/15/2011
Post-1945 revised by Michaela Mattes (Vanderbilt) on 12/17/2011
Combined by Matt DiLorenzo (Vanderbilt) on 06/13/2013
Revised by Ashley Leeds (Rice) on 2/20/14 to fix broken web link.
Edited by Andrew Wood (Rice) on 5/24/2014
Revised by Michaela Mattes 11/11/2015
Edited by Kristin Bryant to include information about 2009-2018 period coded by Alex Pugh on 08/08/2020