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ス製スでリ **JURWA** -"Changing Times"



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The story and the production of Jurwa as a radio series and a graphic novel has been made possible with support from DIPD.

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Democracy is not just about voting every five years. Democracy is our daily thoughts and actions. Democracy is dealing with change.

Democratic politics in Bhutan has come with conflict and division among families and communities. That is why Bhutan's experience with the process of democratisation is challenging. But these are the tensions of change that have to be understood and overcome in the process of political maturity. That is why it is exciting and, ultimately, fulfilling to be able to make a difference to Bhutan's system of governance at this time.

As 18 years is the voting age in Bhutan, every teenager should begin to discuss and think about what this responsibility called Democracy is all about.

Jurwa - Changing Times in Gakithang - is a graphic novel based on a radio soap series that BCMD created to reflect the stories of a cross section of people who were at the forefront of democratic change. BCMD worked with political candidates, government officials, youth, and citizens who shared their experiences, their concerns, and their aspirations for Bhutan's evolving system of governance.

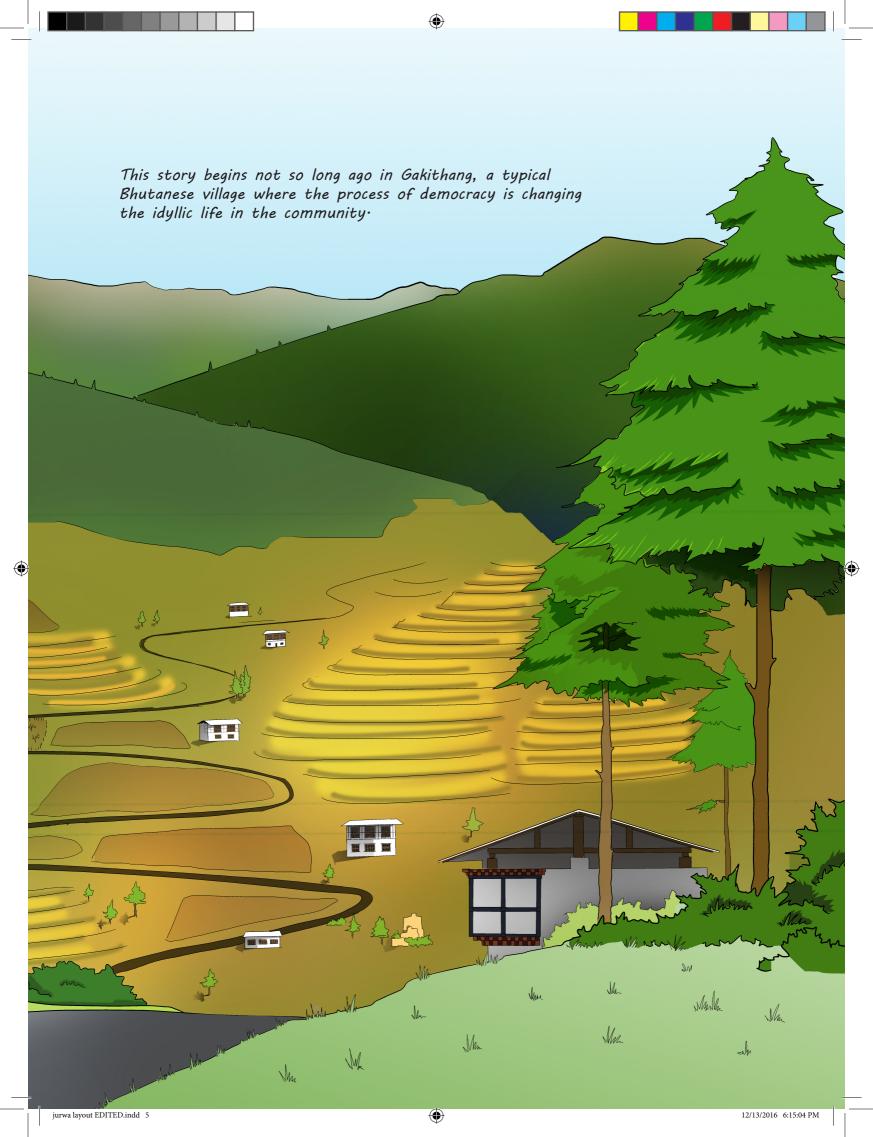
These are captured in the story of how democracy came to the village of Gakithang.

This is the story of Bhutan, in contemporary times. As responsible citizens, we want to ensure the success of this path that we have chosen, towards good governance. We urge you to continue discussing our democracy and welcome your feedback... mail us at bcmd@bcmd.bt.









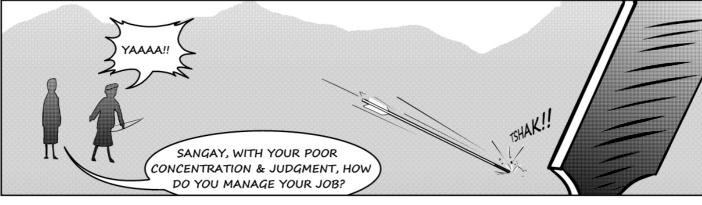




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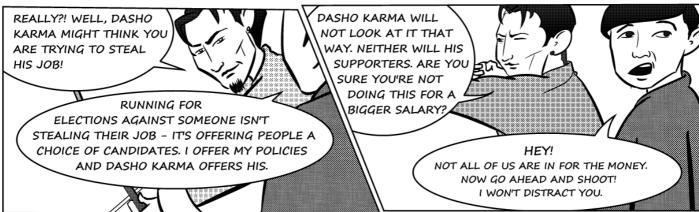


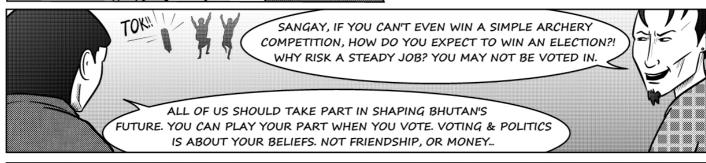


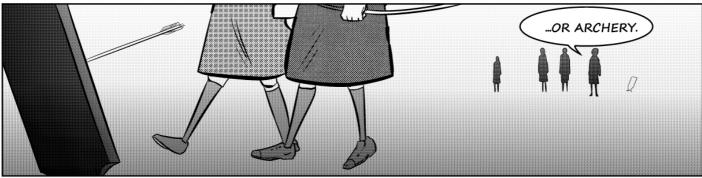




















I'M SORRY TO DISTURB YOUR
ZOMDUE. BUT AS A MP, CAN
YOU NOT JUST FIND THE FUNDS
FOR ME? AFTER ALL, I VOTED
FOR YOU.

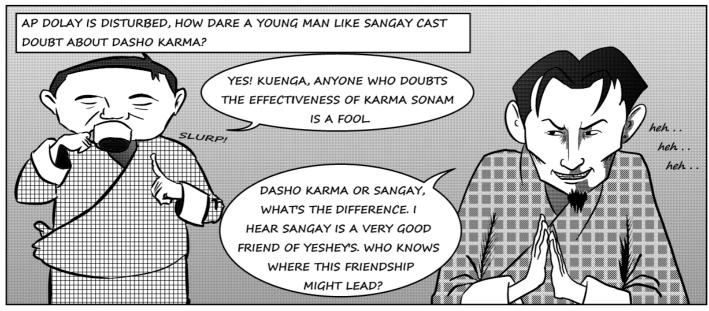
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
VOTE BUT I CAN'T FULFILL
PERSONAL REQUESTS.















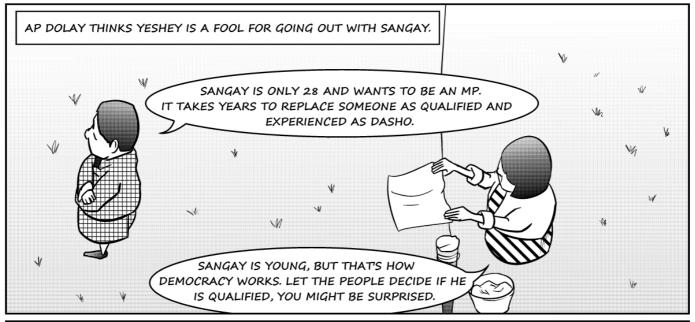


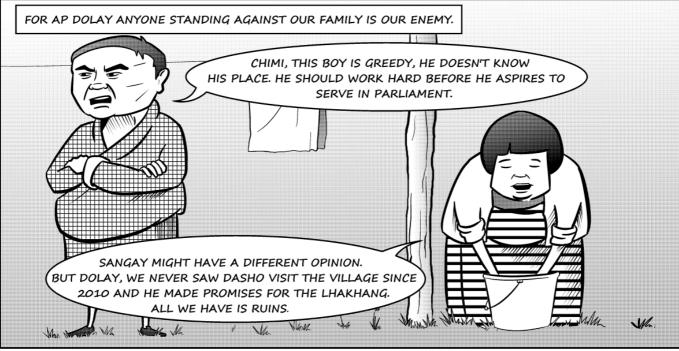


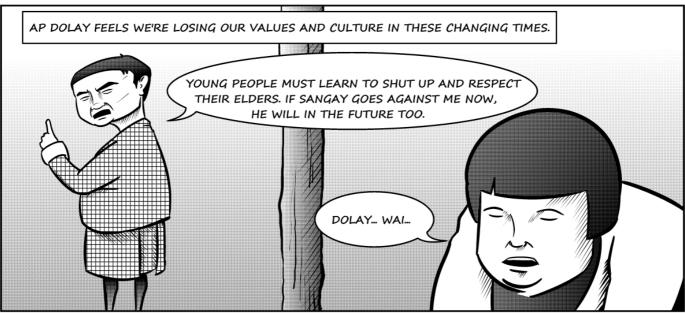






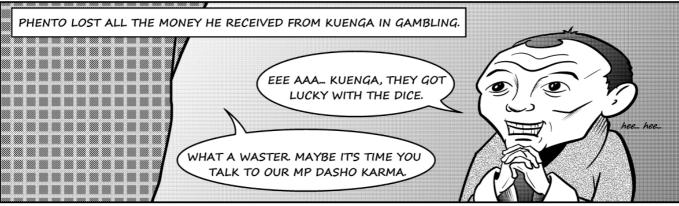








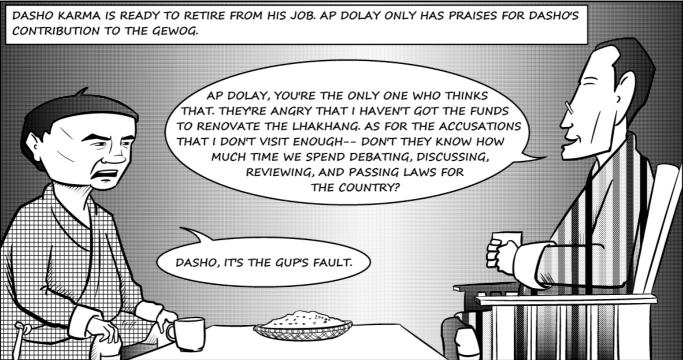


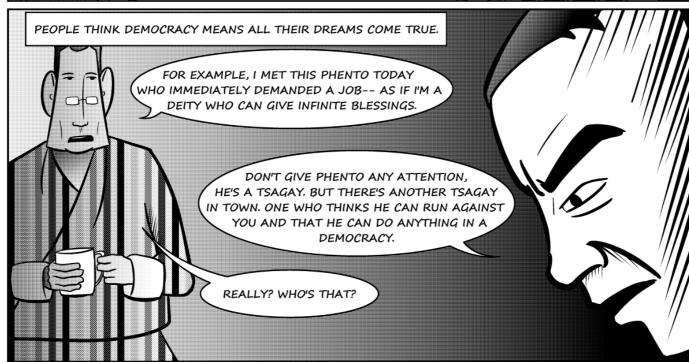


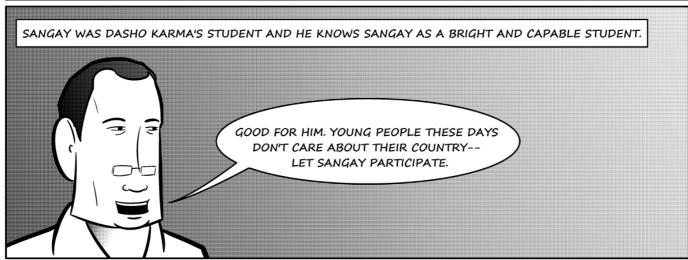
















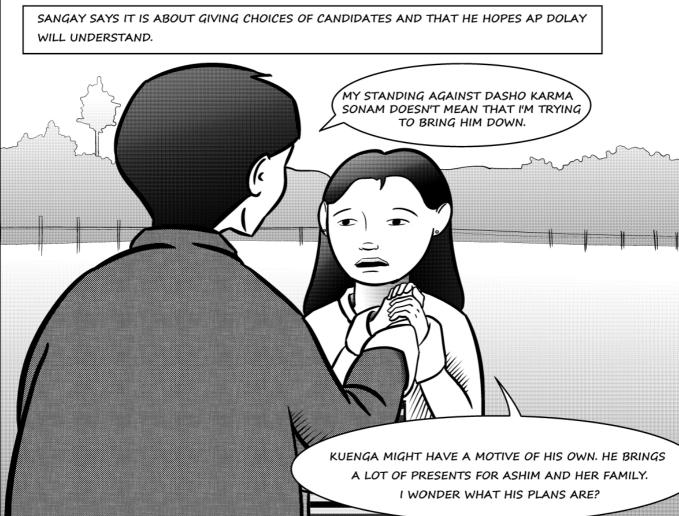




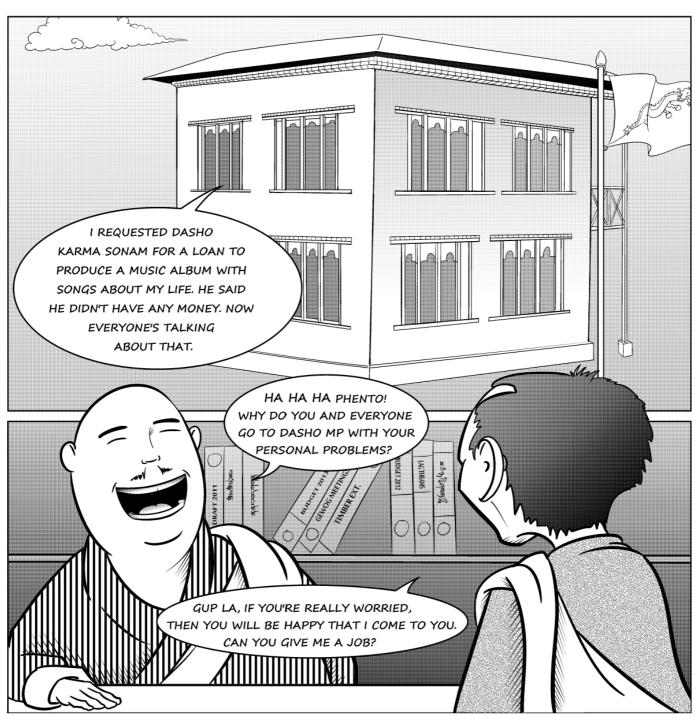


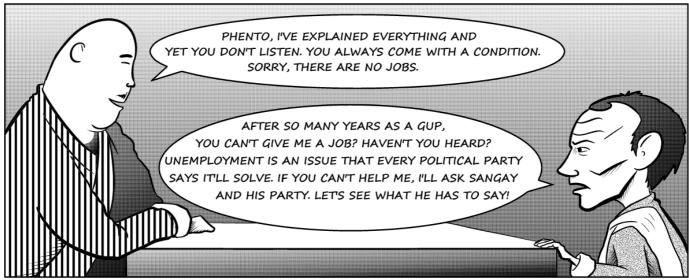






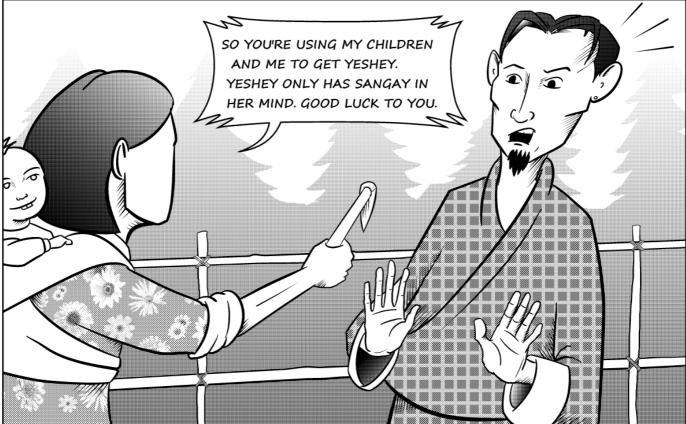






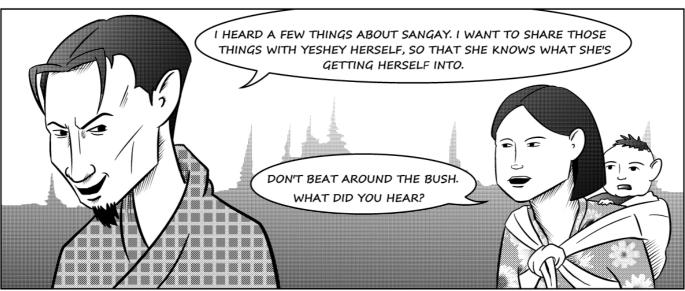


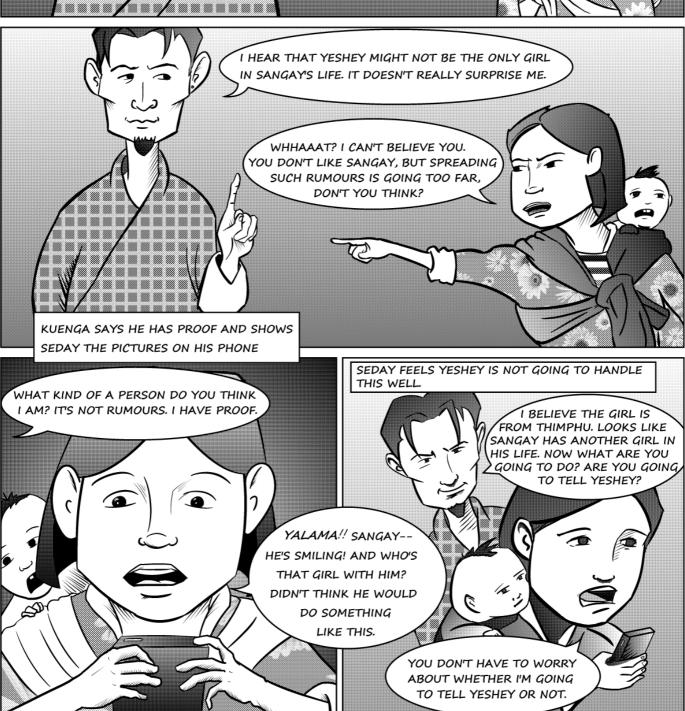




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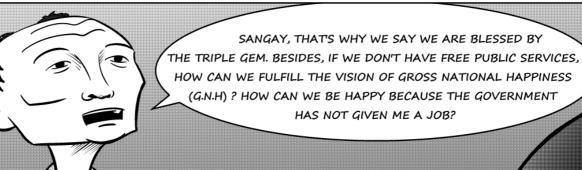






I'VE MANY IDEAS. ONE IS TO INVOLVE MORE YOUTH IN POLICY MAKING.

THE GOVERNMENT CAN CONSULT MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WHEN MAKING RULES AND POLICIES FOR BHUTAN. THE YOUNG GENERATION NEEDS TO BE INDEPENDENT AND CREATE JOBS FOR THEMSELVES. WE'RE TOO RELIANT ON THE STATE, EXPECTING THE GOVERNMENT TO GIVE US EVERYTHING- FREE EDUCATION, SCHOLARSHIP TO COLLEGE, FREE HEALTHCARE, JOBS AND THE REST.



BUT G.N.H IS NOT A PROMISE TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY.

WE'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR OWN HAPPINESS. THE GOVERNMENT'S

RESPONSIBILITY IS TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE PEOPLE CAN FIND

THEIR OWN CONTENTMENT. SO PROVIDING FREE PUBLIC SERVICES IS JUST ONE WAY

OF CREATING A MORE CONDUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CITIZENS. WE DON'T HAVE TO

WORRY WHEN WE GET SICK WHILE PEOPLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES PAY FOR EVERYTHING.

THIS IS WHERE YOU HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE AND FIND A JOB OR CONTRIBUTE

TO SOCIETY. IF WE HAVE BAD LEADERS, THEY COULD RUN THIS COUNTRY INTO

RUIN, AND THEN WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THESE PUBLIC

SERVICES IN THE FUTURE. YOU'LL FIND A JOB.





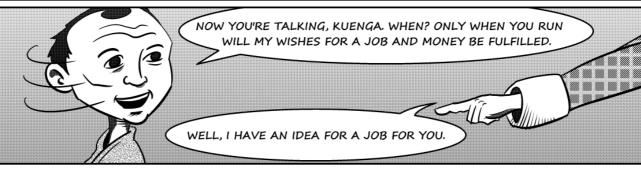


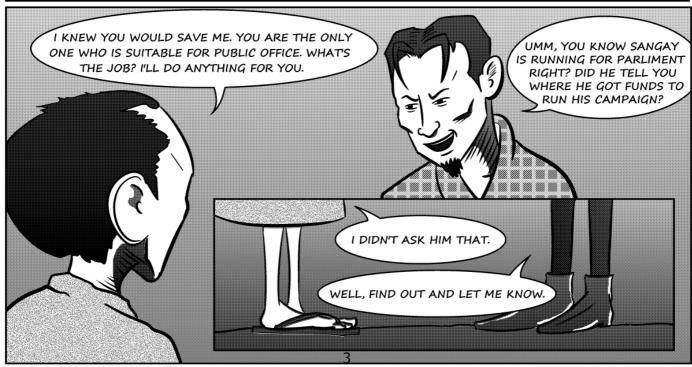










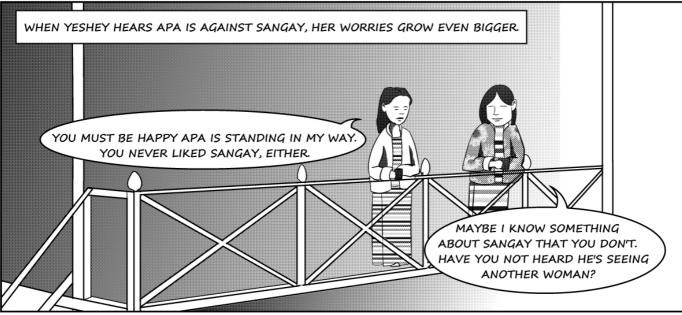


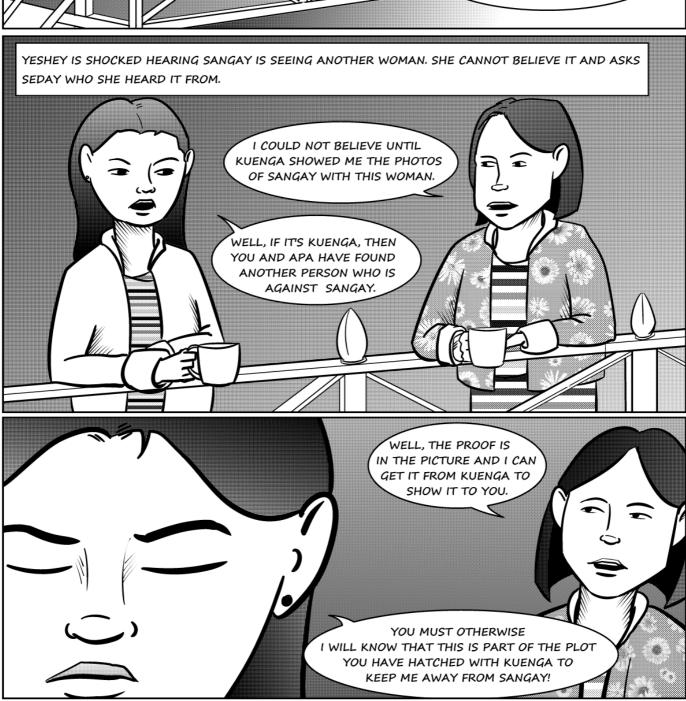










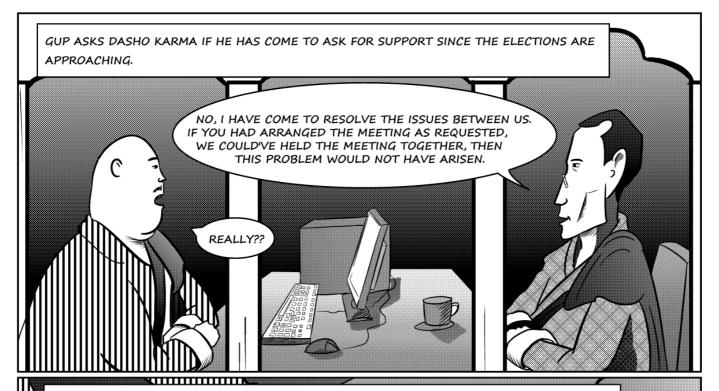


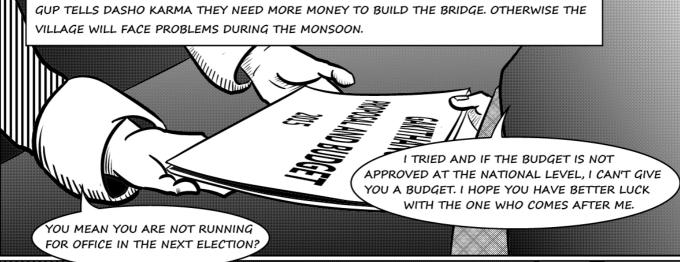












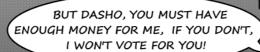






PHENTO CONTINUES HIS RAMBLING AND SAYS THAT WHEN SANGAY BECOMES AN MP, HE CAN TAKE ALL THE MONEY FROM THE MINISTRY AND GIVE IT TO EVERYONE.

FUNNY! I DON'T HAVE ALL THAT MONEY. DON'T YOU KNOW HOW ELECTIONS WORK HERE? AND HOW THE GOVERNMENT FUNDS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES?





ALL CANDIDATES ARE ON A TIGHT BUDGET FOR THEIR CAMPAIGNS. AND IF THERE IS ANY SORT OF CORRUPTION- THE ELECTION COMMISSION WILL PUT CANDIDATES BEHIND BARS.



IS THAT WHY YOU VOTE FOR PEOPLE? BECAUSE THEY DO YOU FAVOURS?

YES, DASHO. I GIVE MONEY, THEY GIVE VOTE. THAT'S DEMOCRACY.



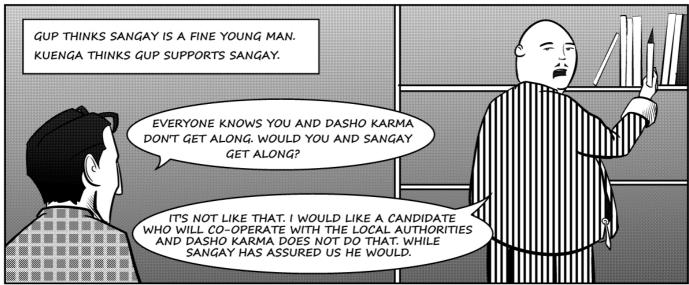
NO! THAT IS CALLED CORRUPTION. YOU ELECT THE PEOPLE WHO'LL SERVE THE NATION, NOT CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO DO YOU FAVOURS IN RETURN FOR MONEY. THAT WOULD BE VOTE-BUYING.



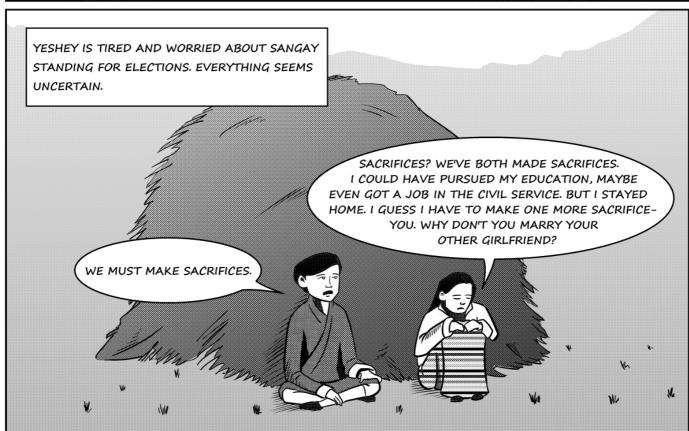
AHH, BUT AREN'T ALL YOU POLITICIANS THE SAME? PLAYING GAMES WITH WORDS, MAKING PROMISES LIKE FARTS- ALL HOT AIR IN THE BEGINNING AND THEN THERE'S A BAD SMELL IN THE END. WE SEE PLENTY OF

THAT ON GLOBAL TV.





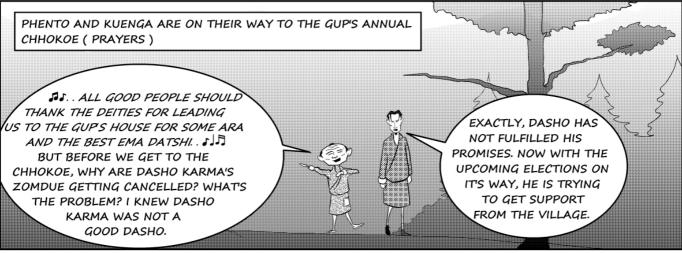




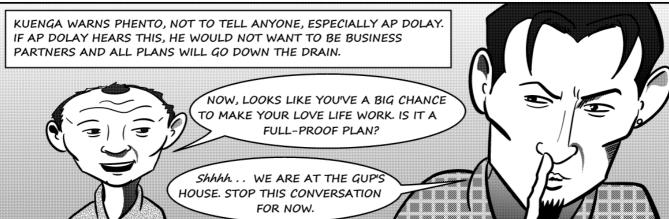


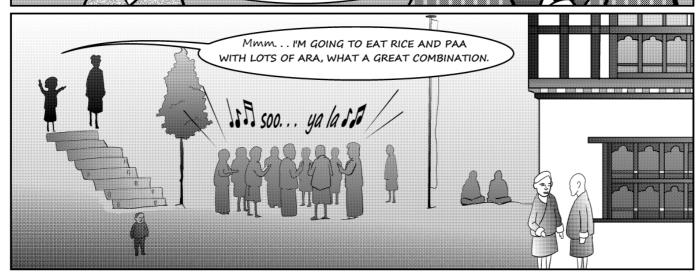














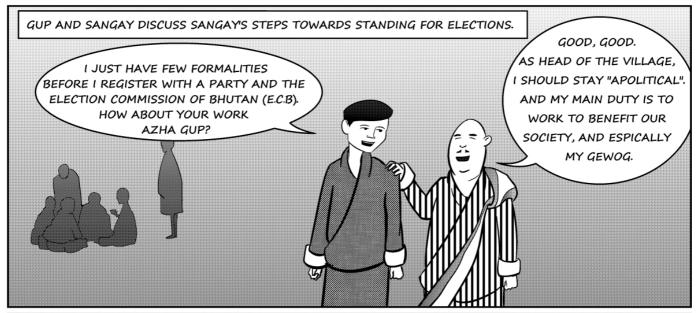
















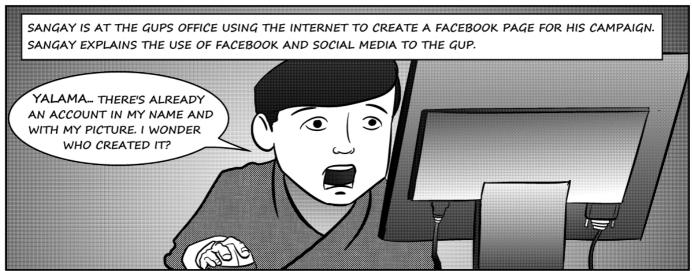








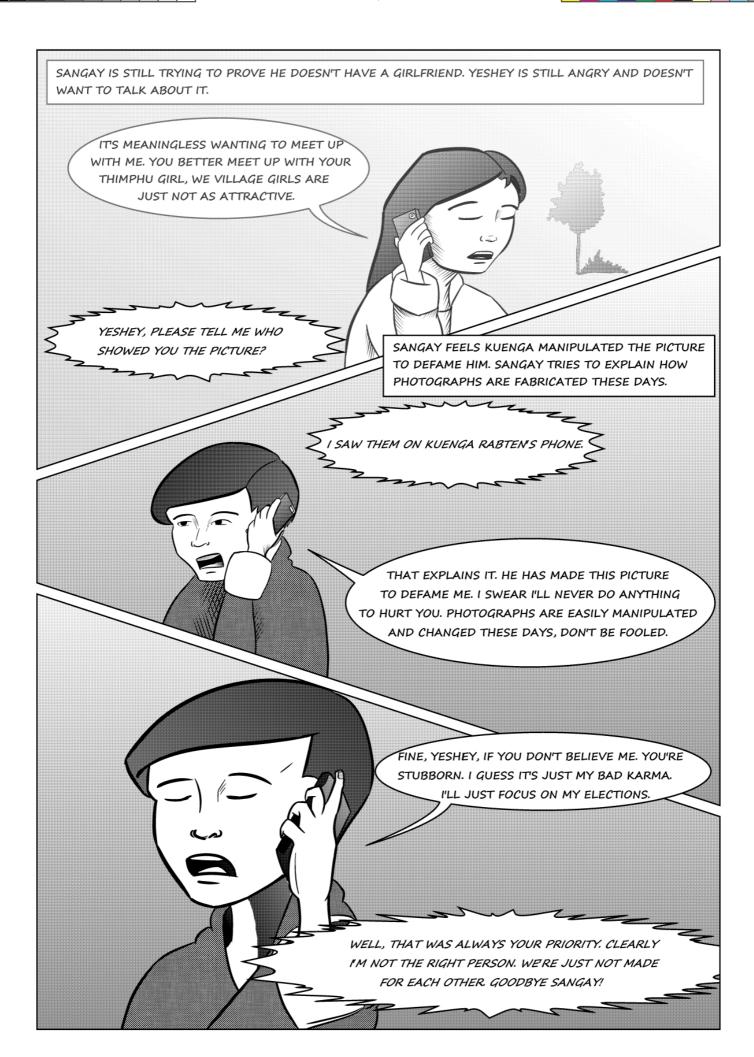










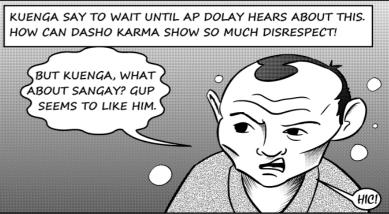










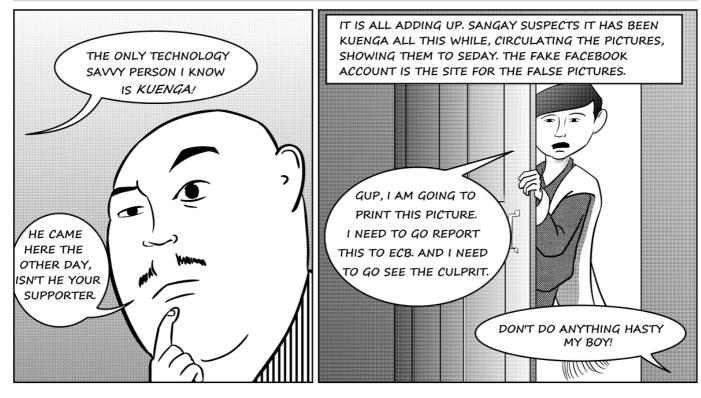




















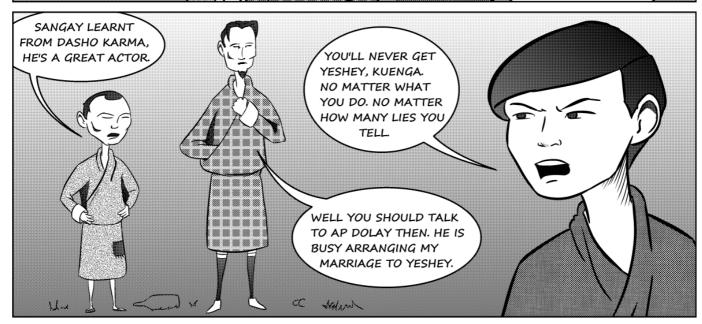




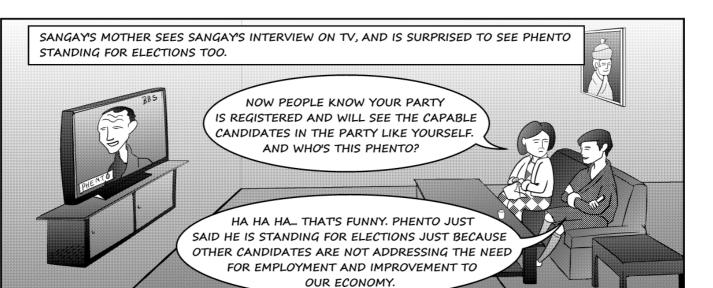








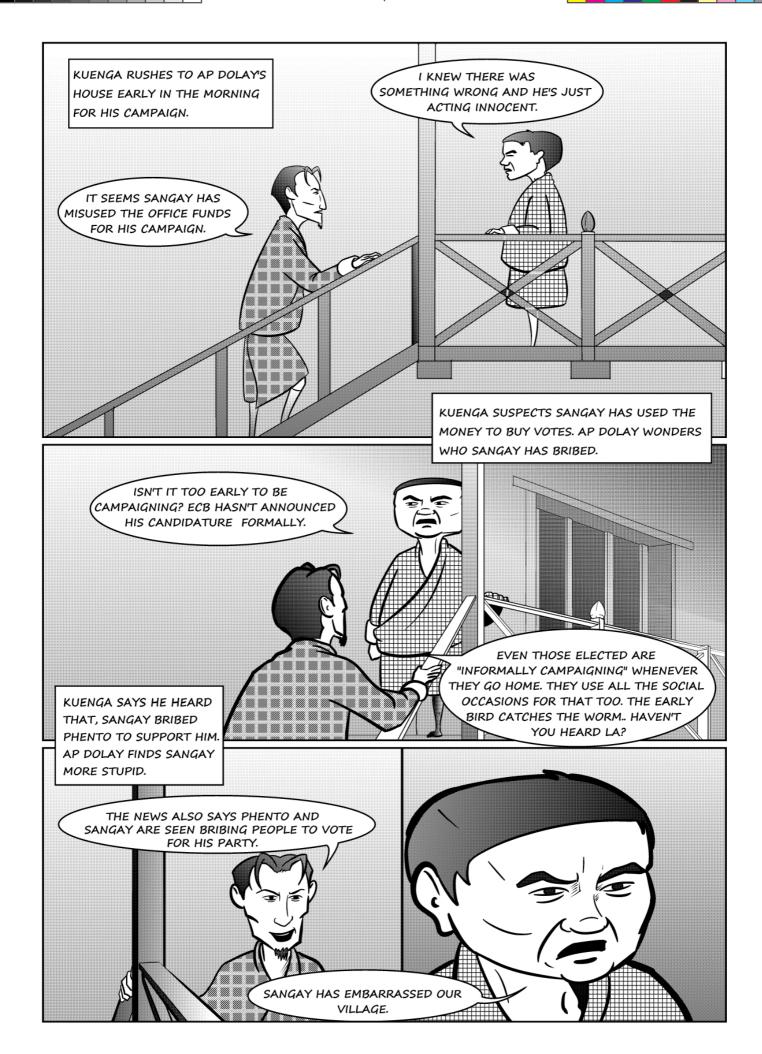














AUM PEMA IS WORRIED AFTER HEARING RUMOURS ABOUT SANGAY. SHE ASKS SANGAY IF HE HAS TO JOIN POLITICS.



SANGAY WASN'T YOUR

GOVERNMENT JOB BETTER? WASN'T

LIFE BEFORE DEMOCRACY MUCH BETTER?

YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON AND PEOPLE

HAVE ALWAYS PRAISED YOU. NOW

THEY'RE ALL SAYING BAD THINGS

ABOUT YOU. PEOPLE ARE SO

MALICIOUS.



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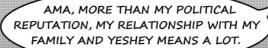


AMA, WE ARE A YOUNG DEMOCRACY
AND I KNOW I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. IN
THIS JOURNEY OF DEMOCRACY, WE SHOULD
HAVE YOUNG PEOPLE BE A PART OF THE
DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

SANGAY WANTS TO PROVE THAT NOT ALL PEOPLE JOINING POLITICS ARE AFTER PERSONAL GAIN.



I KNOW YOU'LL NOT DO ANYTHING
THAT WILL BRING SHAME TO THE FAMILY.
YOUR LATE FATHER WOULD BE
PROUD OF YOU.







REMEMBER AMA, OUR
FAMILY TIES ARE IMPORTANT.
HAVING A DIFFERENT POLITICAL VIEW
IS FINE AS LONG AS WE LISTEN TO
EACH OTHER. EVEN IF WE SUPPORT
DIFFERENT PARTIES, WE ARE ALL
CITIZENS OF BHUTAN, AND WE
WANT THE BEST FOR
OURSELVES RIGHT?

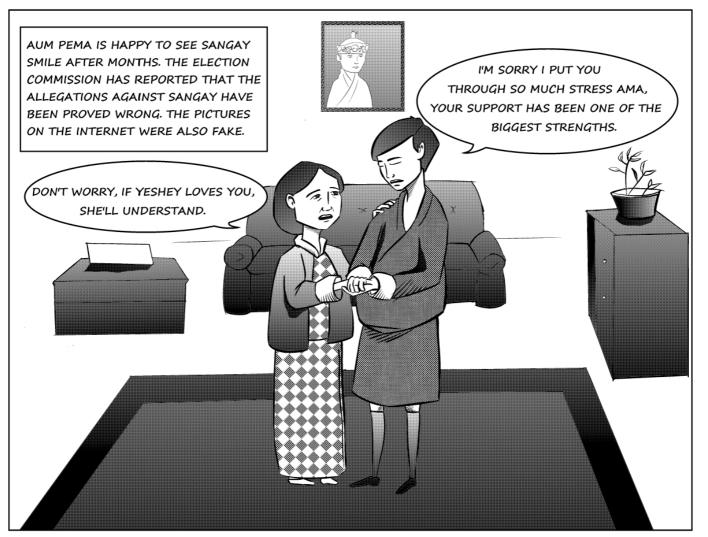
RIGHT SANGAY. I HOPE PEOPLE DON'T TURN AGAINST EACH OTHER BECAUSE OF THAT.





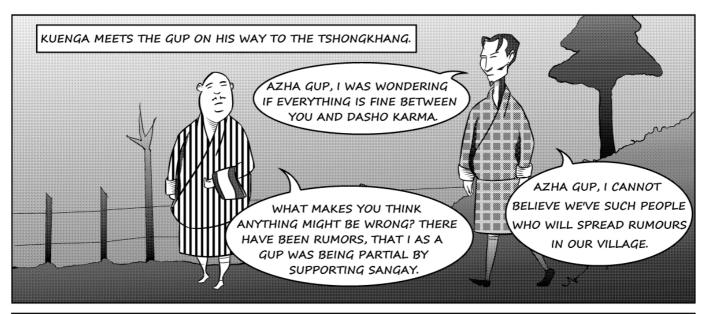


















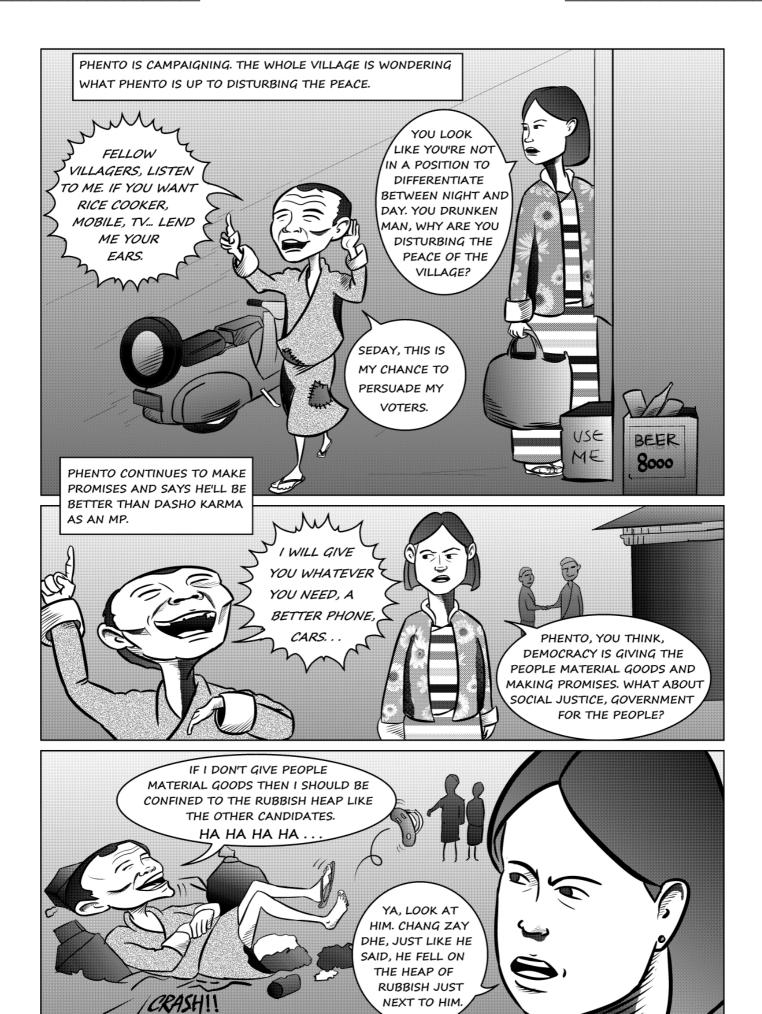












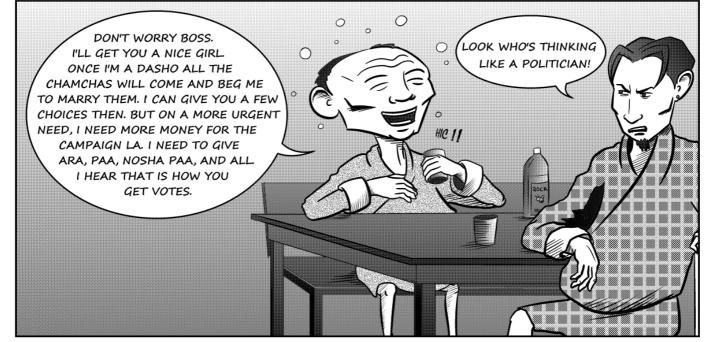
NEXT TO HIM.



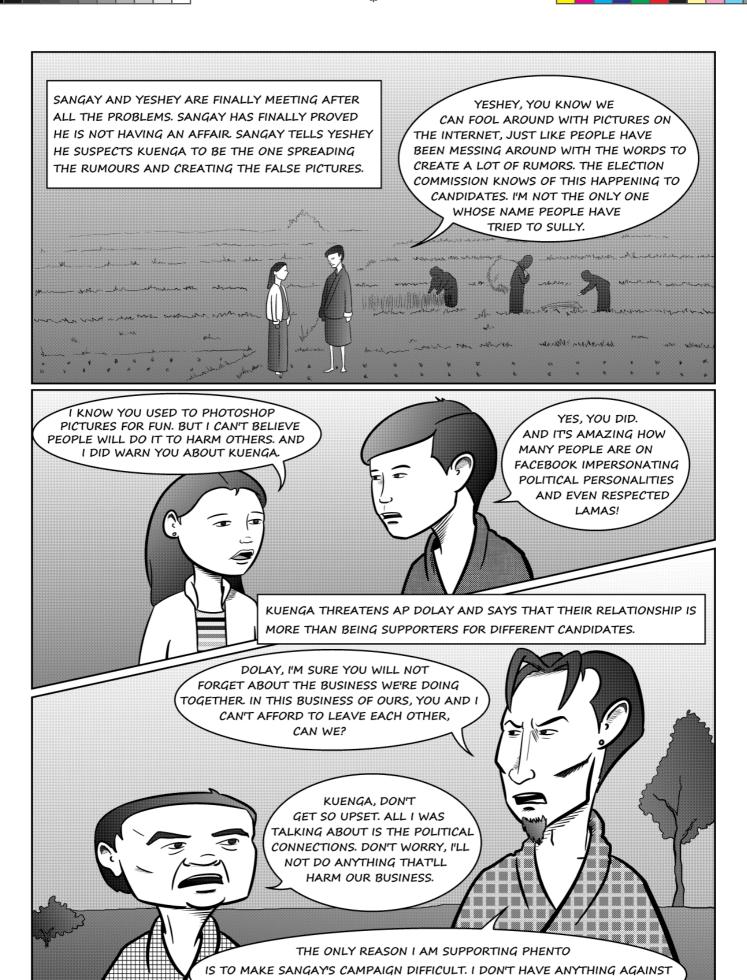












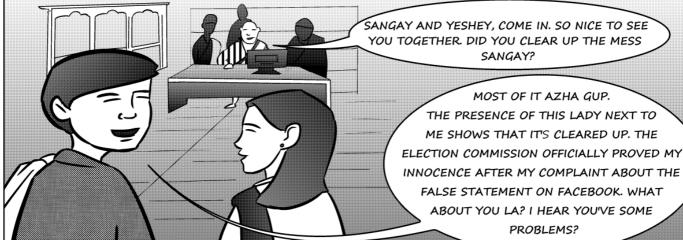
DASHO KARMA AND I WOULD NOT DARE TO STAND AGAINST

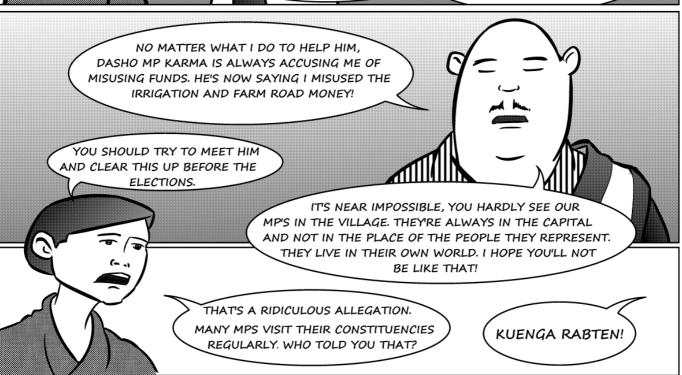
DASHO MP.

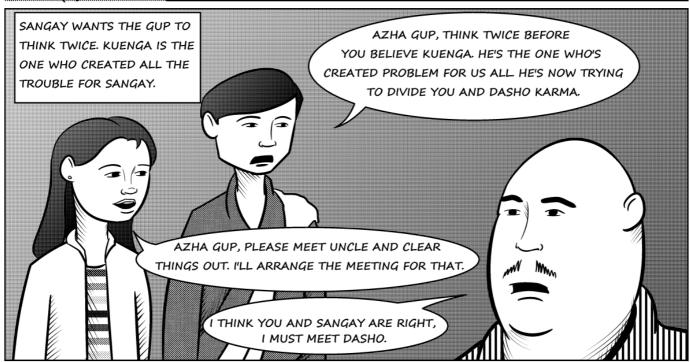
















AUM PEMA WONDERS WHY SANGAY LEFT HIS NICE GOVERNMENT JOB TO JOIN POLITICS. SANGAY KNOWS HIS JOB IS DIFFICULT, BUT....



THERE'S SO MUCH GOSSIP

AND RUMOURS THESE DAYS. SANGAY,
WHY DID YOU JOIN POLITICS? YOU HAD SUCH A
NICE JOB WITH THE MINISTRY. YOU'LL NEVER BE
FREE FROM GOSSIP AGAIN.

AMA, YOU'RE RIGHT. BUT IT'S A JOB
THAT SOMEONE HAS TO DO. OUR DEMOCRACY
IS YOUNG AND NEED YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE THE
LEADERSHIP ROLES. WE TALK ABOUT EQUITY AND JUSTICE,
ARE THE PEOPLE BEING SERVED? I WANT TO
DO MY PART.

IT WON'T BE EASY, SANGAY. BUT MY SUPPORT IS WITH YOU.





AP DOLAY FEELS KUENGA IS BETRAYING HIM BY NOT SUPPORTING DASHO KARMA SONAM.



GLAD TO FIND YOU ALONG WITHOUT THAT JOKER PHENTO FOR A CHANGE.

PHENTO IS JUST A STOOGE. HE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU AP DOLAY? YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL

I'M NOT WELL BECAUSE I'M NOT SURE IF YOU'RE ON MY SIDE.



AP DOLAY, I AM ALL ON DASHO KARMA'S SIDE.

WELL, I ALSO HEAR YOU ARE FUNDING PHENTO'S CAMPAIGN.

DON'T BELIEVE WHAT YOU HEAR. AP DOLAY, BOTH OF US KNOW WHO OUR OPPONENT IS. PHENTO IS JUST A COVER FOR WHO WE'RE REALLY GOING AGAINST. BY THE TIME WE'RE DONE, SANGAY WILL WATCH DASHO SONAM RECEIVE HIS KABNEY FOR THE SECOND TIME.

HA HA KUENGA, THAT BIG HEAD OF YOURS IS NOT EMPTY AFTER ALL

> WELL, I WONDER, IF MY AIM OF GETTING MARRIED WILL COME TRUE.



TOGETHER FOR A LONG TIME. I'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU AS MY RELATIVE, EVEN AS MY SON-IN-LAW.

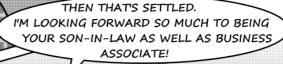
HANG ON A MINUTE KUENGA,

HER FEELINGS.

IT'S NOT AS EASY AS ALL THAT. THE PROBLEM AS YOU KNOW IS YESHEY HERSELF. I'M SURE YOU'VE HAD A CHANCE TO DISCOVER

> I'M SORRY, IT WOULD BE SUCH A PITY IF THINGS DON'T WORK OUT BETWEEN US. SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE AP DOLAY. YOU KNOW THAT THE LONGER I REMAIN YOUR BUSINESS PARTNER AND NOT YOUR RELATIVE, THE MORE LIKELY THE NATURE OF OUR BUSINESS TOGETHER IS LIKELY TO GET

> > **OUT MENA?**





THAT WILL NOT HAPPEN.

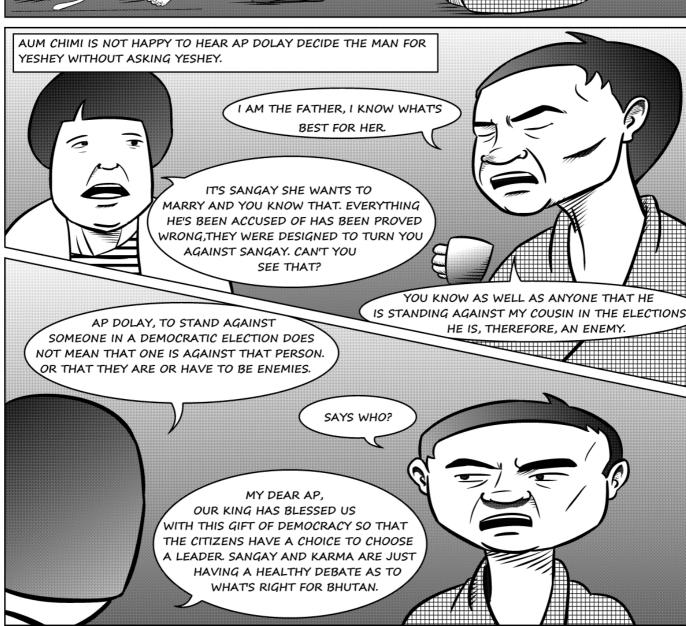




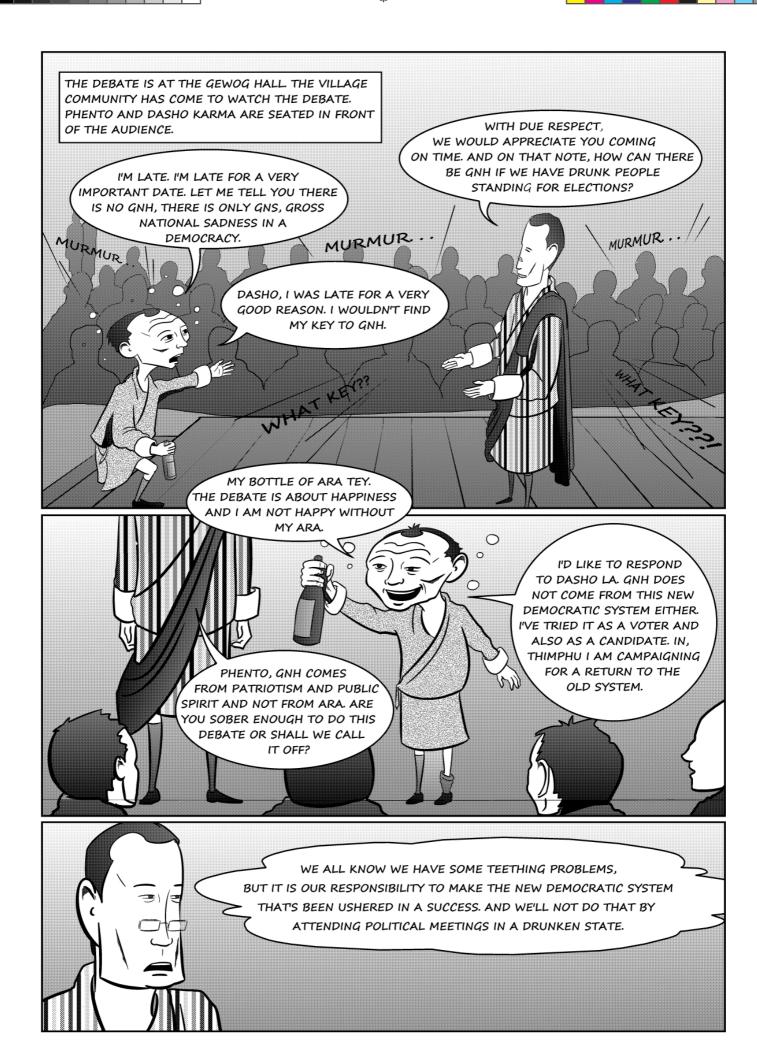










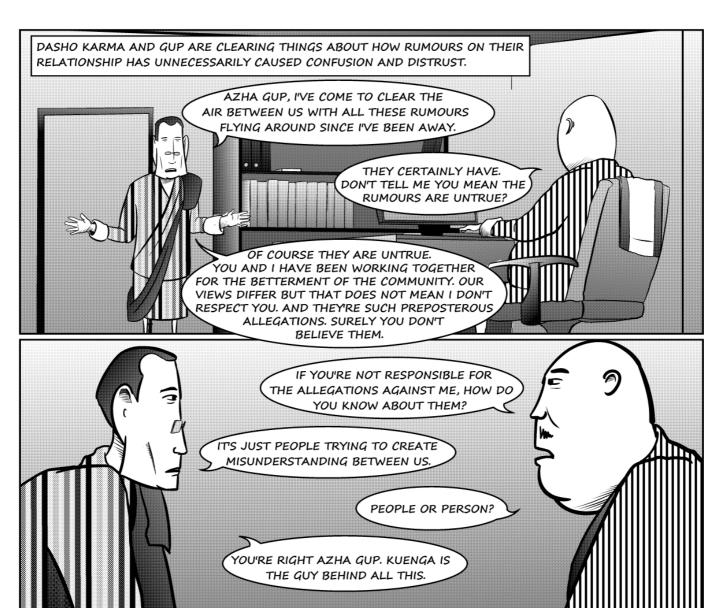


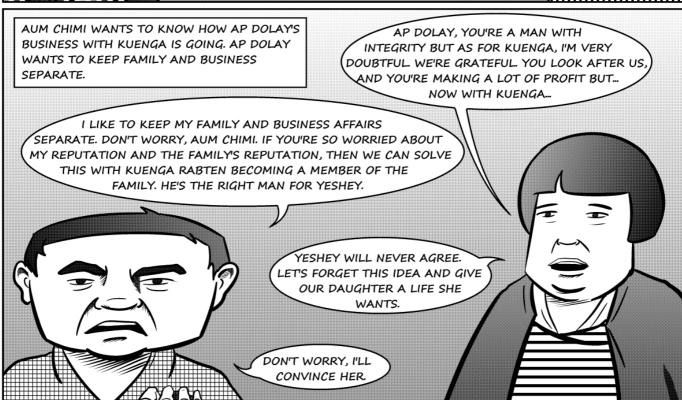




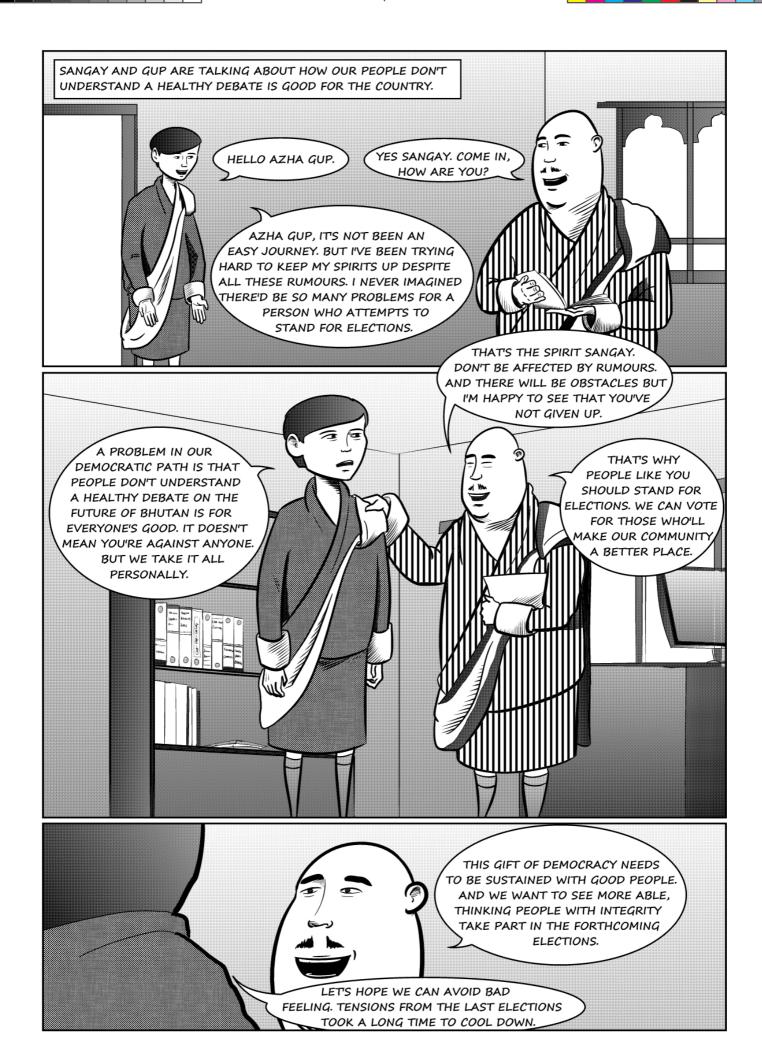
YOU'RE DOING TOGETHER.





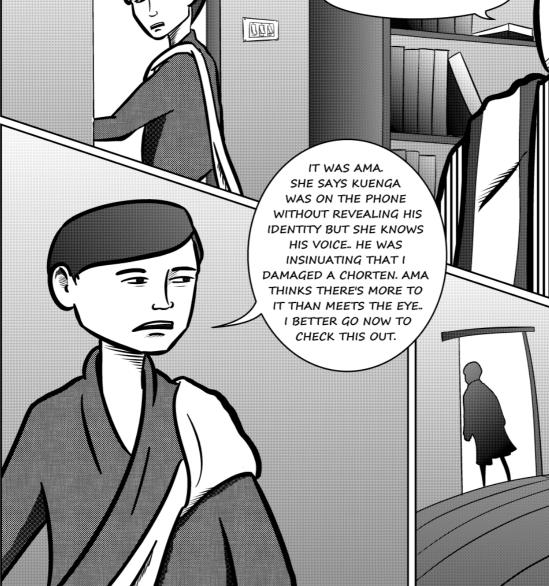






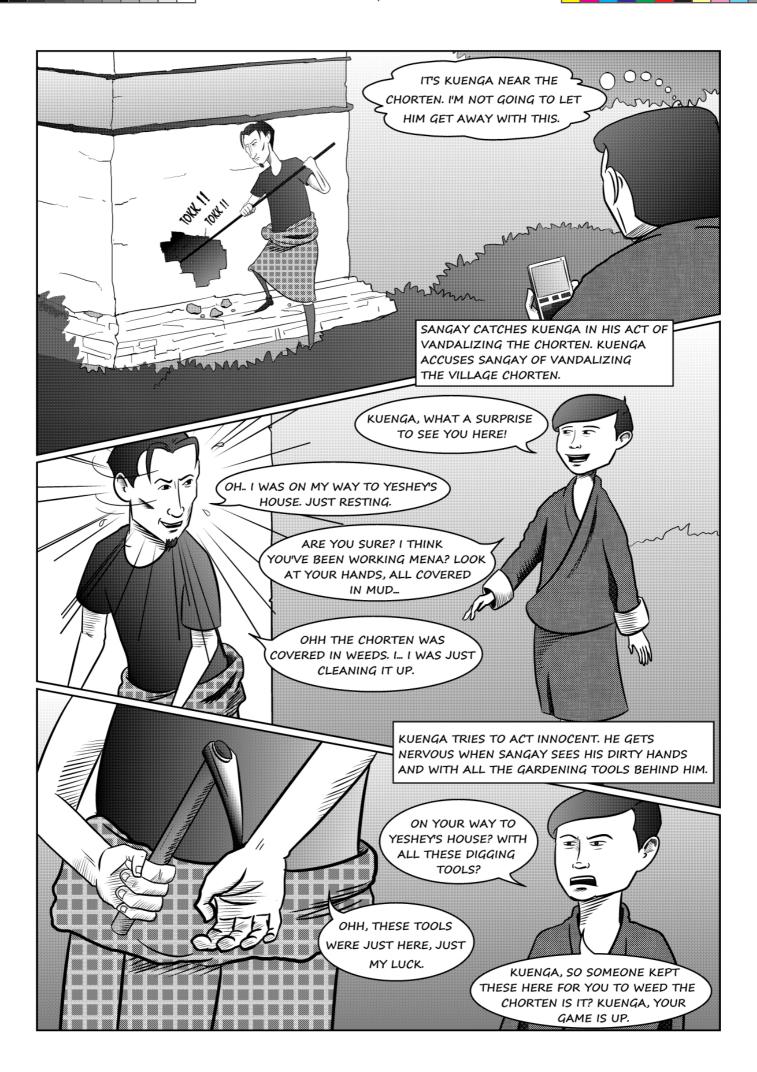




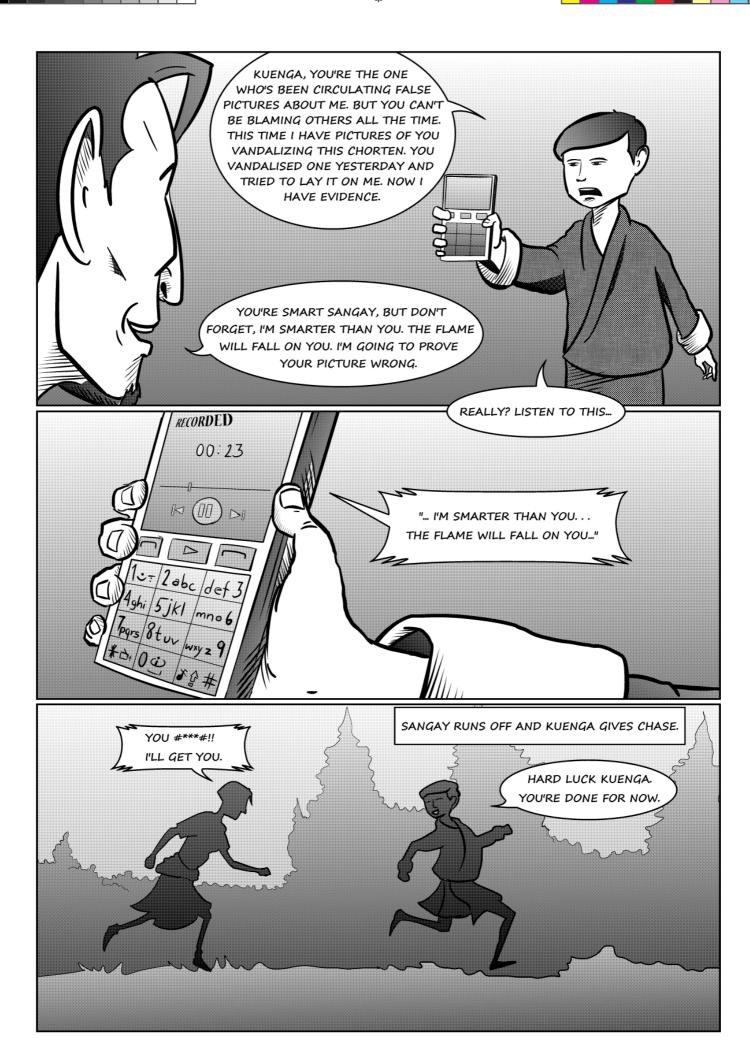






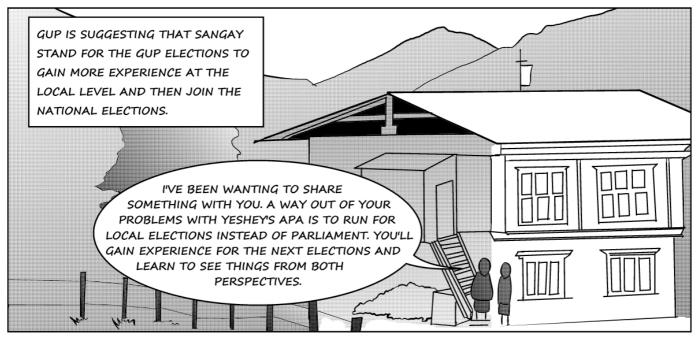














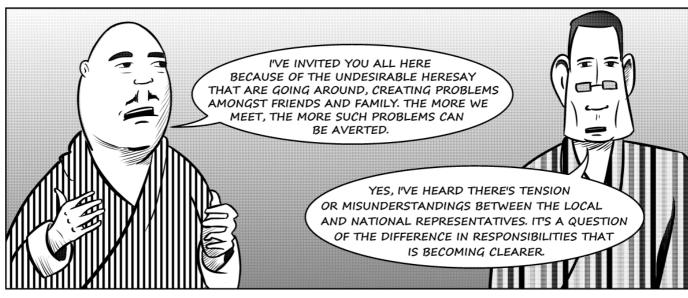


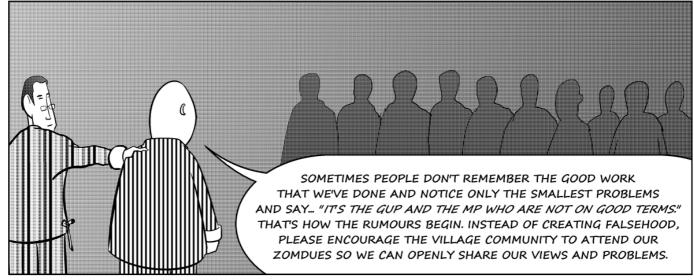


GUP AND DASHO ADDRESS THE RUMOR BETWEEN THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES. GUP SAYS THE GOOD WORK IS NOT ACKNOWLEDGED BUT LITTLE ISSUES ARE NOTICED AND RUMOURS ARE CREATED.

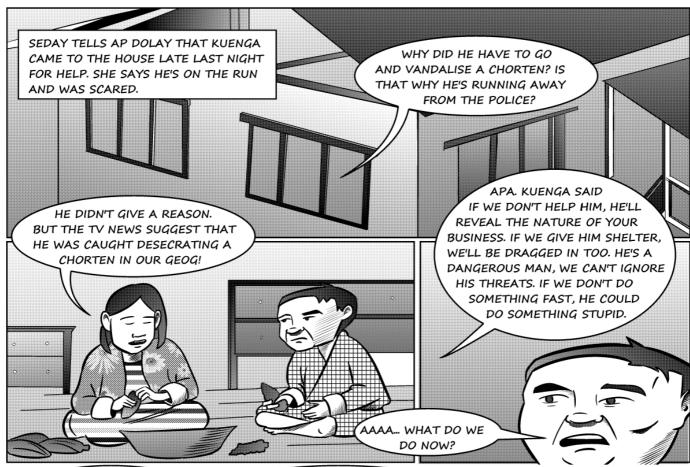


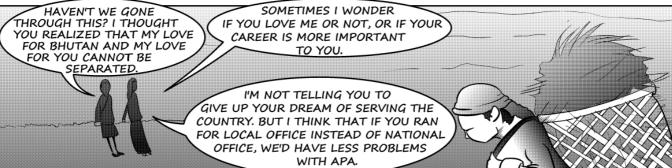












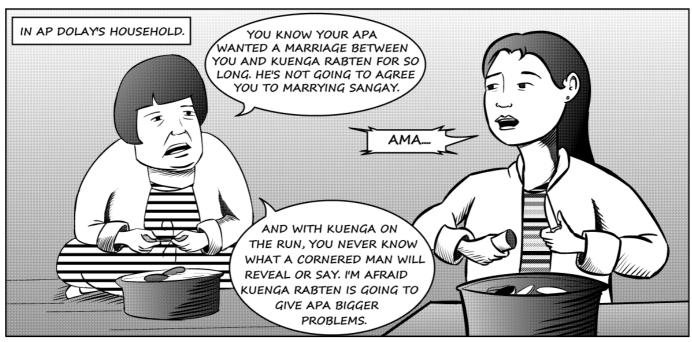








































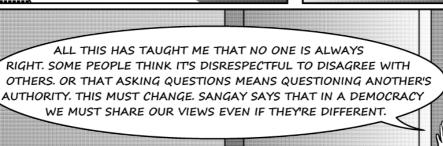
DON'T BLAME YOURSELF ACHO.

HOW MANY OF US QUESTION? MOST

OF US KEEP OUR VIEWS TO OURSELVES

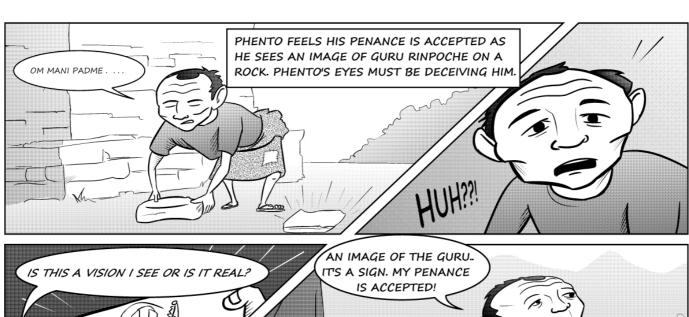
AND ACCEPT SITUATIONS WITHOUT

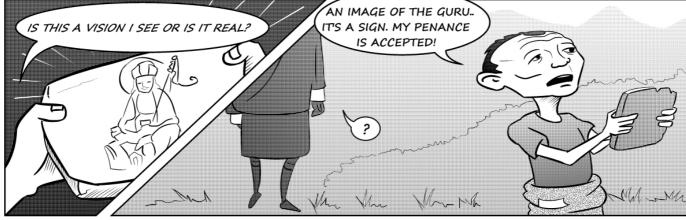


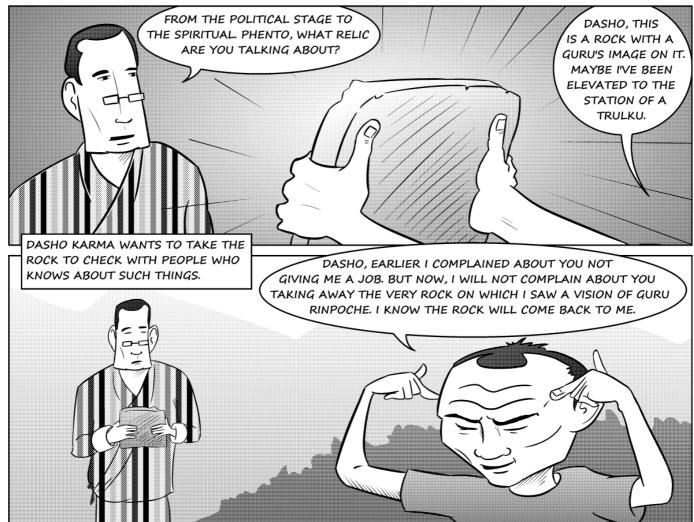


YES, BUT IN OUR HOUSEHOLD,
IT SEEMS TO BE NOT A QUESTION OF
TOO LITTLE DIFFERENCE IN OPINION,
BUT TOO MUCH!



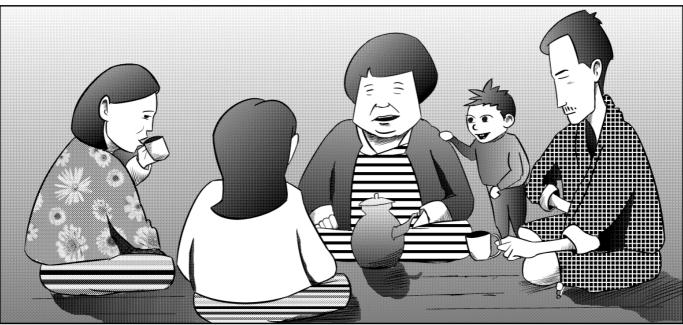


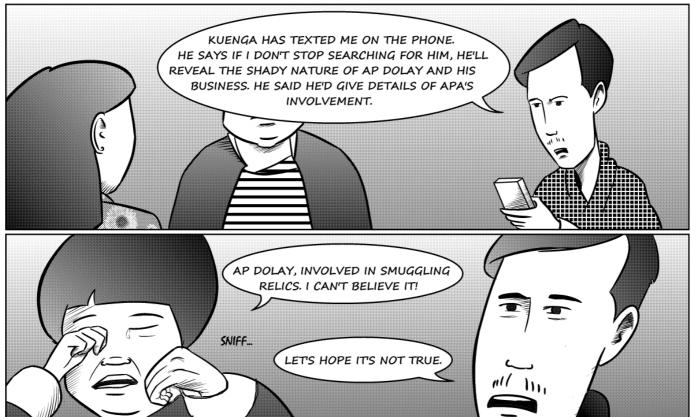


























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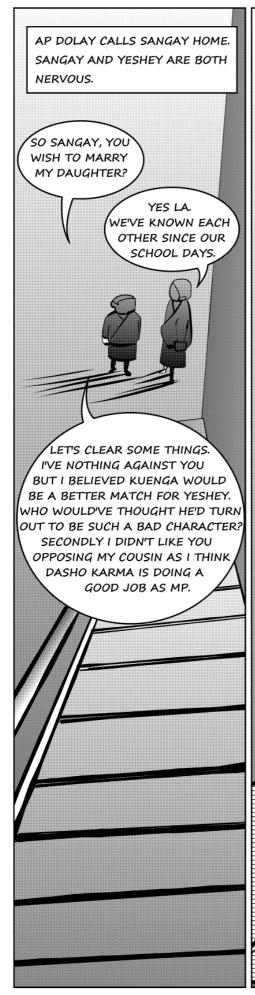








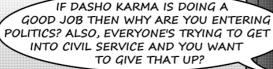




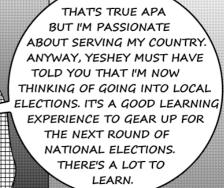
I'VE ASPIRATIONS TO SERVE MY CONSTITUENCY. OUR COUNTRY IS GOING THROUGH INTERESTING TIMES, THE INITIAL YEARS OF DEMOCRACY. WE'RE SHAPING HISTORY. TILL NOW, WE'VE BEEN SUBJECTS OF OUR BENEVOLENT KINGS AND NOW, I FEEL THE TIME HAS COME FOR CITIZENS TO PLAY THEIR PART, BE IT IN VOTING FOR THE RIGHT CANDIDATE OR OFFERING ONESELF AS A CHOICE FOR A CANDIDATE. BUT IF YOU WERE ELECTED, IT WOULD MEAN HE'LL NOT BE AN MP ANYMORE. THAT'S OPPOSING HIM ISN'T IT?











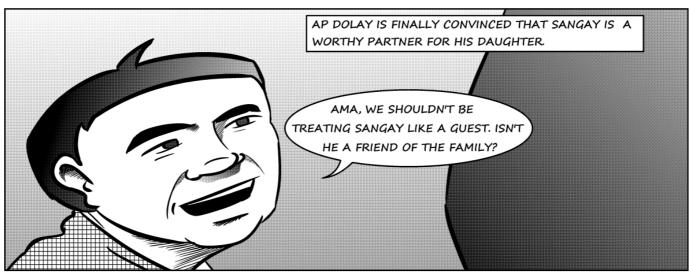
LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL
THEN BE STANDING AGAINST AF
GUP. WOULDN'T HE BE ANGRY?
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STANDING
AGAINST ONE PERSON
OR ANOTHER.



AP GUP SAID IF A KING CAN STEP DOWN FOR HIS SON AT AN EARLY AGE, HE CERTAINLY CAN STEP DOWN FOR A YOUNG,WELL-MEANING GUY LIKE MYSELF.









DASHO KARMA FINALLY FINDS
PHENTO AND TELLS PHENTO
THE ROCK HAS AN IMAGE OF
GURU. PHENTO SAYS HE ONLY
CONSULTED KUENGA TO TRY
TO CHANGE AND IMPROVE
THE COUNTRY.





MAYBE IT'S TIME TO PASS
THE BATON OF DEMOCRACY TO
THE YOUNGER GENERATION.

DASHO SAYS THE PATH IS FOR

PHENTO, BUT DASHO WANTS

TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR

FLEDGING DEMOCRACY.



TALKING ABOUT SELFLESSNESS,
MAY I HAVE MY SPECIAL ROCK OF GURU
RIMPOCHE? I CAN TURN IT INTO A STATUE
AND KEEP IT WITH ME AS A PERMANENT
SOUVENIR OF MY PASSAGE TO
ENLIGHTENMENT.



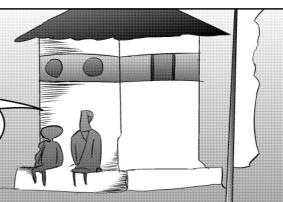


THIS SHOWS YOU'RE
FOLLOWING THE SPIRITUAL PATH,

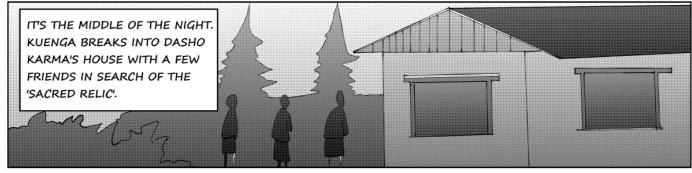
ADOPTING SELFLESSNESS. YOU

MAY STAY WITH ME.

RIGHT PHENTO,
BUT I HAVE TO OBEY THE LAW AND HAND SUCH
RELICS TO THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES. IT'S UP TO
THEM. IF THEY WISH, THEY MAY RETURN IT TO YOU.
I'LL GIVE THEM THE BACKGROUND AND POINT
OUT YOUR ROLE IN FINDING THE RELIC.













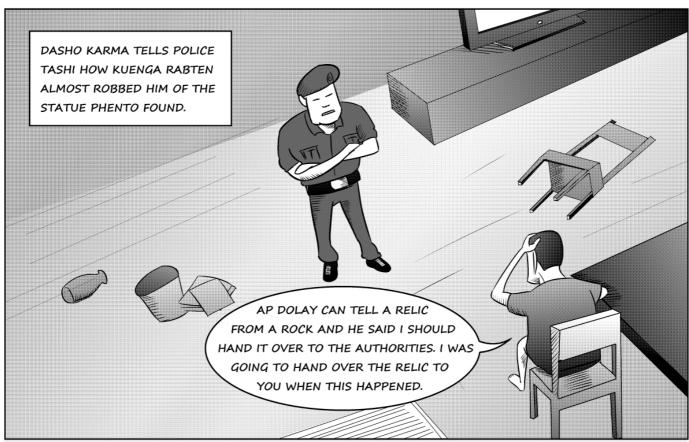


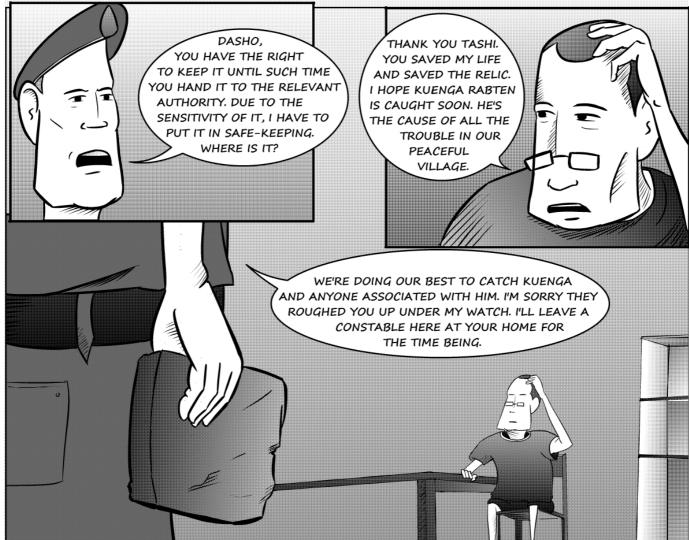
















TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT SEASON. . .





