Nepali Open CD

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Abstract

This document is a report on the Nepali OpenCD developed by Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya. The report highlights on the essence of the development of the Nepali OpenCD. Besides, a brief description of the software included in the CD is also provided.

1. Introduction

The Nepali OpenCD is a compilation of free and open source software localized into Nepali and runnable in the Windows operating system and developed by Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya. The translation and localization of the software has been supported by the International Development and Research Centre, Canada under the PAN Localization Project. After the release of two different versions of NepaLinux, a localized Linux Distribution in Nepali, the development of the Nepali OpenCD is yet another attempt of Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya for promoting the usage of localized Free and Open Source Software in the region. With the existing old legacies of the Windows operating system deeply rooted in the masses, the localized OpenCD is believed to be a motivating factor for migrating to the Free and Open Source Software.

2. Contents of the Nepali OpenCD

The localized Nepali OpenCD consists of the following software:

1. OpenOffice.org Suite;
2. SeaMonkey Browser and Mail client;
3. Gimp;
4. FileZilla - 3;
5. VLC;
6. Nepali Unicode Keyboard driver.

3. Pre-requisites for running the software included in the OpenCD after installation

In order to run the software included in the OpenCD after installation, the Nepali Unicode Keyboard driver, also included in the OpenCD has to be installed first in the computer.

4. Description of the software in the OpenCD

4.1. OpenOffice.org Suite

OpenOffice.org Suite 2.1 is an open-source, multiplatform and a multilingual office suite. It is free to download, use and distribute. Besides, it is also compatible with other major office suites.

The suite consists of the following [1] :

i. Word Processor (Writer);
ii. Spreadsheet (Calc);
iii. Presentation software (Impress);
iv. Drawing Tool (Draw);
v. Database Access Program (Dbase);
vi. Portable Document Format (PDF) Publication;
vii. Presentations in the Flash (SWF) format.

4.1.1. Writer

Using OpenOffice.org Writer, one can develop text documents that may include graphics, tables, charts etc. These documents may then later be saved in a number of different formats, including Microsoft, HTML, PDF etc. The Spell-Checking and Thesaurus facility is also available for Nepali , while using the OpenOffice.org Writer.

4.1.2. Calc

Calc, which is a spreadsheet program within the OpenOffice.org has all the functions necessary for carrying out financial and statistical calculations.

4.1.3. Impress

With Impress, we can develop presentation slides. Several effects like animation, slide transitions etc. may be achieved through Impress.

Note: For running Nepali language spell checker and Nepali Thesaurus on OpenOffice.org writer , you must install Nepali language locale which can be found as an update for Windows XP Service Pack 2. which can be downloaded from http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=3fa7cdd1-506b-4ca0-bd47-b338e337a527&displaylang=en
(or it can be downloaded directly from)
http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=3fa7cdd1-506b-4ca0-bd47-b338e337a527&displaylang=en

Switching OpenOffice.org user interface to English language:

By default, OpenOffice.org user interface is in Nepali language, Switching user interface to English can be done as follows:

    i.   In the main menu within OpenOffice.org, go to "Tools";
    ii.   Then clicking on "Tools", go to "Options".
    iii.   Then go to Language "Settings".
    iv.   Then finally go to "Languages".

Here, you would need to change the "User interface" option to English (USA) , click "OK" and then restart OpenOffice.org.

4.2. SeaMonkey

SeaMonkey is a all-in-one internet application suite. It consists of a web browser, a mail client, an HTML editor, web development tools and the IRC chat client within a single software package [2]. SeaMonkey used to be formerly known as the "Mozilla Application Suite".

You would need to do the following for switching the SeaMonkey user Interface to the Nepali Language:

In the main menu of the SeaMonkey Browser:

   a.   Go to the "File" menu.

   b.   Browse the xpi file, SeaMonkey-1.02.ne_NP.langpack.xpi, which is available in the OpenCD itself.
   c.   A dialog box appears, where you would need to Click on install.
   d.   Once the installation is complete, Go to "Edit", where you would need to click "Preferences" . Further, you would need to go to "Appearance". Then, finally going to "Language/Content", you would need to choose "Nepali".

   e.   After having chosen "Nepali", you would then need to go to "Edit", where you would have to click "Preferences". There after clicking "Navigator", you will have to click on add button and select Nepali and then place the Nepali(ne) at the first by clicking "arrow up" key).

4.3. VLC Media Player

VLC media player is a multimedia player which has the capability to play several audio and video formats like MPEG-1, MPEG-2, MPEG-4, DivX, mp3, ogg etc. In addition to this, it also can play CDs, DVDs and has support for several streaming protocols[3].

Switching VLC Meedia Player user Interface to Nepali:

Click Setting --->Preferences -----> Interface ----> Language -----> Nepali
then click Save.

4.4. Gimp

GIMP is the abbreviation of GNU Image Manipulation Program. It has multiplatform support. With this tool, one can do a niumber of useful things like photo retouching and image manipulation.

GIMP serves multiple purposes. It could be used as simple as a paint program to an expert quality photo retouching program. You would need to first install GTK+ before installing GIMP [4,5].

Note:

When you start gimp for the first time from the shortcut menu in the desktop or start menu it points an error message like this.

"the applicaion has failed to start because libgimp-2.0.0.dll was not found.Re-installing the application may fix this problems. "

This error is due to the improper PATH setting in your computer, to set the path correctly.

Right click my computer---->properties------> Advanced ---> Environmental Variables

Click new.

Give varaible name as PATH

Variable name:PATH

and Variable value , the path where you gimp binary files are located. For eg,

Varable value : C:\Program Files\GIMP-2.0\bin

Click ok.

Switching GIMP user interface to Nepali Language

For Gimp to run in Nepali you have to switch GTK+ to Nepali language.
Programs -----> GTK+ Runtime Environment ----> Select Language ---->choose Nepali

4.5. Filezilla 3

FileZilla3 is a FTP-client software that can be run on different versions of the WindowsOperating Systems like NT4, 2000 and XP. By the simple "drag and drop" mechanism, you may upload or download files easily[6].

Running FileZilla 3 user interface in Nepali language
Click Edit ----> Setting ----> Language -----> Nepali

Note: For running Filezilla 3 in Nepali language, you must install Nepali language locale which can be found as an update for Windows XP Service Pack 2. which can be downloaded at:
http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=3fa7cdd1-506b-4ca0-bd47-b338e337a527&displaylang=en
(or it can be downloaded directly from)
http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=3fa7cdd1-506b-4ca0-bd47-b338e337a527&displaylang=en

5. Conclusion

The release of the Nepali OpenCD is believed to serve as an impetus for Nepali end-users to get to know the Free and Open Source software runnable in the Windows platform and later on as they attain familiarity and interest, switch towards Free and Open Source operating systems like NepaLinux. This document in general has attempted to throw light on the different aspects of the localized software included in the Nepali OpenCD.

6. References

[1] "Documentation"
http://documentation.openoffice.org/
[2] "The Seamonkey™ Project" http://www.mozilla.org/projects/seamonkey/
[3] "VLC Media Player" http://www.videolan.org/vlc/
[4] "GIMP-The Image Manipulation Program" http://www.gimp.org/
[5] http://www.gimp-win.sourceforge.net/
[6] "Filezilla Documentation" http://filezilla.sourceforge.net/documentation/