

## **Haa Summer Festival:** *show casing the rich alpine flowers, folklore and culture*

### **Components**

1. Exhibition
  - (a) Alpine flower/lakes and mountains
    - Botanical illustrations / photographs
    - Paintings
    - Stamps
    - Illustrating the impact of the flowers on local culture and activities
    - Songs linked to botanical theme (if any)
  - (b) Nomadic lifestyle and livestock products.
    - Special market of local produce (such as cheese and butter)
    - Yak (Bos Grunniens) hair products from the alpine pastures
  - (c) 13 Arts and Crafts.
    - Displaying the 13 arts and crafts of Bhutan
  - (d) Nublang exhibition<sup>1</sup>
2. Showcase
  - (a) Making of Haap's cuisine
  - (b) Ara distillation and other tshog chang
  - (c) Milk and products
  - (d) Yak wool processing
3. Dances and Mask dances
  - (a) Yak Cham and some mask dances
  - (b) Ap Chundu Gong shey, Chundu Ausa, soelkha and Zhungdra
  - (c) Dance from local schools if any
  - (d) Dance from local communities
4. Competition
  - (a) Rice and Butter traditional weighing scale guess
  - (b) Alpine flower photo competition
  - (b) Archery match
  - (c) Khuru and Soksum match
5. Sports
  - (a) Soksum
  - (b) Khuru
  - (c) Archery game
  - (d) Yak riding
  - (e) Horse riding
6. Sale Counters
  - (a) Yak products
  - (b) Handicraft products of 13 arts and crafts
  - (c) Personalized alpine flower stamps with our own picture

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<sup>1</sup> Existence of *Nublang*, the native local breed of Bhutan, traces back as far as 1,000 years (Dorji, 2005). The *Nublang* origin is linked with the legendary lake – *Nub Tshonapata*, located on the western mountain ranges of Haa, above Nakha village in Sangbaykha gewog. The legend, holding good over many generations, is that the first breeding bull was given to a cow herder as a return gift for his generosity in providing a night shelter and food to a troubled *Tshomen* of *Nub Tshonapata*. The cow herder was thanked by the *Tshomen* who promised that he would be rewarded for his generosity with a bull. As promised, after few days of the departure of *Tshomen*, the cow herder saw a weak bull heading towards his herd. The herder took good care of the bull, which produced many offspring. Soon the *Nublang* breed became popular and widespread in the region. Thus, Sangbaykha gewog came to be known for the best *Nublang* breed in the Kingdom.

7. Food stalls
  - (a) Traditional Bhutanese cuisines and specialty of Haa Dzongkhag
  - (b) Local home-made beverages
  
8. Farm House stay
  - (a) Farm house owners will welcome guest depending on the sizes of the guests and room availability.
    - Coordinate with the farm house owners so that they could welcome their individual guest in a traditional manner
    - Offer additional services such as hot stone bath, local daily activities etc to enhance their village life experiences.