



E-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023–MARCH 2024

National Alliance for Human Rights and Social Justice - Nepal (Human Rights Alliance)

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Global Day of Action



The entire Central Committee team of the Human Rights Alliance, present in Kathmandu and all the districts of the valley, along with the Bagmati Province Committee in Jawlakhel, Lalitpur and committees in all the other seven provinces and 77 districts were appealed to protest on the Global Day of Action on December 18 at 11:30 am. Everyone was requested to participate in the civil demonstration, holding banners and placards with the message #CEASEFIRENOW #GAZA, and to coordinate accordingly in their respective districts and provinces. The demonstrations were led in Jawlakhel Lalitpur by National Alliance for Human Rights and Social Justice in Nepal.

Demonstrations in Butwal



Demonstrations were held in Butwal on December 18 demanding the end of war in Gaza. The demonstration led by Human Rights Alliance Lumbini Province and Rupandehi District Committee started from Horizon Chowk in Butwal and went around different parts of the city

and ended at the same place. The participants with many slogans on the banners demanding release of hostages including Bipin Joshi, end the war Israel, stop attacks on innocent women, children and elderly, protection of human rights was observed. Human Rights Alliance Lumbini Provincial Secretary Damodar Ghimire said that the world should stand together and press for the end of the Israel War, saying that the incident of civilian deaths due to the clash of powerful nations cannot be taken for granted.

75th Human Rights Day

The 75th International Human Rights Day was celebrated in Dhulikhel on December 10 with different programs. The special program was organized by National Alliance for Human Rights and Social Justice in Nepal in co-ordination with Human Rights Alliance, Kavre. The day was cele-



brated with the slogan of justice, freedom and equality for all. The event was held in the meeting hall of Dhulikhel municipality and was addressed by former prime minister KP Sharma Oli. The topics of discussions were current human rights situation in Nepal, challenges related to human rights and future strategies.

January 9, 2024 Banke Meeting

A meeting was organized on 9th of January 2024 by National Human Rights Alliance and Social Justice Forum Nepal, Banke under the chairmanship of Vice-President Mr. Ghanshayam Acharya. The meeting was attended by the 13 people and following proposals were discussed:



- Restructuring and changes to the working committee
- Representative selection for province assembly.

- Representative selection for Central Council
- Establishment of committees on municipal level
- Membership Renewal
- Organization's funding and funds management

January 10 2024, Kapilvastu Meeting



The 7th meeting of Human Rights Alliance, Kapilvastu was held on 10th of January in the hall of Center for Social Development. The meeting has decided to send three representatives for the upcoming Lumbini Provincial assembly, consisting of president Thaneshor Adhikari, vice-president Rita Thapa Bohara and member Hari Acharya. The assembly aims to establish municipal level committees in the 8 municipalities by the end of Chaitra and for that officials and members were assigned their roles.

The meeting has also decided to sent the representatives from the Kapilvastu district representing all municipalities for the upcoming Human Rights Defenders national assembly on 1st and 2nd of Falgun.

January 12, Bardiya Meeting



Human Rights Alliance Bardiya, has elected a new working committee under the presidency of Krishna Pathak. The assembly held under the chairmanship of Keshav GC has unanimously elected 11 members in the district new working committee. Likewise, Bindu GC, Keshav Joshi and

Meena Chaudhary were elected as vice-president, secretary and treasurer respectively. The committee have decided to send newly elected president and treasurer as well as ex-president to Province level assembly which is going to be held in Butwal on 6th of Magh.

January 11, Rupandehi Meeting

Human Rights Alliance Rupandehi, has unanimously elected Manav Prasad Sapkota as a new president. The district assembly has unanimously elected 11 members with Sapkota as president. Likewise, Sushil Pokhrel, Bihnu Ghimire and Rita Bhattarai has been elected as vice-President secretary and treasurer



respectively. The president of CPN UML Rupandehi told that the alliance should be the voice of the those who has been deprived of opportunities and those who have been served injustice.

Human Rights Defenders' Assembly

The World Social Forum (WSF) is an international space for discussions related to human and environmental crises. With the pledge that 'Another world is possible,' the World Social Forum emerges as a beacon of hope, more essential than ever before. The event was successfully conducted from 15-19 February in Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu. During the five-day event, over 50,000 participants from more than 1400 organizations spanning 98 countries marked their attendance virtually and in person at various concurrent events. National Alliance for Human Rights and Social Justice (Human Rights Alliance) facilitated a session titled "World Human Rights Defenders' Assembly " on 16th of February.



Highlights of the Event:

- The speakers addressed the issues concerning Palestinian prisoners in Israeli cells, noting that there are approximately 400 children, 200 women, and 40 journalists among them who face inhumane torture.
- The speaker discussed the education issues prevalent in the Philippines, noting that many youth in the country lack adequate opportunities for accessible education due to its highly privatized nature.
- The speakers expressed concerns regarding the escalating religious fundamentalism in India, highlighting India's historical stance as a secular state that granted equal rights to its people as fundamental rights.
- The speaker questioned the presence and efficacy of international humanitarian laws amidst the various restrictions and blockades imposed by different nations in Africa. He expressed deep concern about the overall situation, particularly highlighting the impediments faced by defenders, journalists, and bloggers in expressing their viewpoints.
- The speaker addressed the escalating cases of human rights defenders' rights violations across various countries, citing specific numbers of cases in Vietnam(161), India(153), Indonesia(147), China(144), and Thailand(134).

4th National Human Rights Defenders' Conference

The Human Rights Alliance (HRA) is the largest human rights network with more than 1500 member organizations across seven provinces and seventy-seven districts in Nepal. The conference was organized on 13-14 of February in City Hall, Kathmandu, where 700 participants across all seven provinces, which include human rights defenders, government representatives' political leaders and parliamentarians, academics and researchers, legal professionals, representatives of development partners, media representatives, community leaders, youth activists, corporate social responsibility representatives, representatives of educational institutions and other relevant stakeholders. It is the largest Human Rights Defenders' conference organized in Nepal.

Mr. Min Bahadur Shahi, Chairperson of the Human Rights Alliance chaired the session while Hon. Former Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli graced the session as a chief guest. Other special guests invited to the dais were:

- Hon. Dr. Shekhar Koirala, Senior Leader of Nepali Congress



- Hon. Top Bahadur Magar, Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission
- H. E. Veronique Lorenzo, Ambassador, European Union Delegation to Nepal
- Mr. Ram Prasad Subedi, President of the NGO Federation of Nepal

Major Achievements of the Event:

Platform for Discussing Mechanisms, Laws, Policies, and Practices:

- Consensus reached on advocating with the government for legal recognition of human rights defenders, fulfilling the objective of discussing laws and policies.
- Intense discussions were held on existing human rights mechanisms, laws, policies, and practices in Nepal, providing a comprehensive forum for addressing these critical issues.
- Over 700 participants from a variety of sectors engaged in the discussions, contributing to a rich exchange of ideas and diverse perspectives.

Capacity Strengthening of Human Rights Defenders:

- Through workshops and training sessions, the event successfully enhanced the capacity of human rights defenders, aligning with its initial objective.

- Focused training was provided on localizing human rights issues enshrined in the Constitution, empowering defenders to effectively address issues at the grassroots level.
- Sharing best practices and experiences facilitated knowledge exchange and improved the effectiveness of participants in defending human rights.
- The participation of over 700 attendees ensured a broad and inclusive approach to capacity strengthening, drawing on diverse perspectives and experiences.

Collective Voices for Human Rights Protection and Promotion:

- A declaration paper outlining collective commitments and action plans was issued, demonstrating a unified front for human rights protection and promotion.
- The agreement to advocate for the rights of all groups, regardless of creed, caste, or religion, reflected the event's objective of raising collective voices for all encompassing human rights.
- The event fostered collaboration among human rights defenders, amplifying their collective voice and fostering a sense of unity and solidarity. The extensive participation further strengthened the impact of these collective voices, showcasing a broader commitment to human rights advocacy.



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