

Universal Periodic Review Cycle IV Pre-session
(Dalit Issues and Caste-Based Discrimination)
25-28 Nov, 2025, Geneva Switzerland

Excellences, Honorable and Respected Delegates,
Dalit Welfare Association would like to kindly present the issue of **Dalit issues and caste discrimination** for a global ideological discourse on Dalit emancipation. It is my pleasure to request your attention and cooperation in recommending the State for protecting and ensuring Dalit human rights, including the elimination of caste-based discrimination and disgraceful untouchability from Nepali society.

In presenting these recommendations, we address you, the permanent missions representing your countries, to take concrete steps in supporting Nepal in eliminating caste-based discrimination. These recommendations are intended to guide your engagement with the Government of Nepal, and encourage international cooperation through your States' policies, programs, and advocacy, so that Dalits' rights are effectively protected and promoted.

The Government of Nepal accepted the recommendations made during the UPR third cycle, which demanded equality and non-discrimination programs and public awareness campaigns to eliminate discrimination based on racial or caste-based hierarchies and to ensure constitutional Dalit fundamental rights. The Nepal State committed to implementing different country-level Dalit themes, focusing on Dalit sovereignty. The State was ready to conduct constitutional implementation of Dalit fundamental rights by making laws to investigate effectively and prosecute caste-based discrimination and address the Nepali untouchability system.

However, unequal state social regimes and power mechanisms have not worked for Dalit rights by making laws or rules. Dalit people continue to face discrimination and exploitation through caste atrocities and domination regimes. This unequal social system has blocked Dalits from accessing social power structures controlled by feudal elite ruling caste and class. Legally, Dalits are now free from caste discrimination according to the Nepali Constitution of 17 September 2015. But in social behavior, Dalits are still discriminated against and tortured through untouchability, caste persecution, rape, and murder in inter-caste marriage events.

For example, in Rukum West, Soti, Nowaraj BK and five of his friends were killed by a large number of non-Dalits due to an inter-caste love event. UN OHCHR condemned this terrible injustice. Similarly, on 21 March 2025, in Siraha District, Aurahi Rural Municipality, Chairperson Mr. Shivaji Yadav destroyed a Dalit home with a municipality dozer because the family organized a religious celebration on their land. Hindu priests ordered municipal authorities to prohibit and remove the Dalit settlement. The chair conducted criminal acts violating Dalit rights, and the priest desecrated the Dalit house land. Many rural areas still experience such dominance, and Manusmriti-based Hindu caste hierarchy plays a role in Nepali society through ruling caste and class (non-Dalits).

We demand the implementation of Dalit fundamental rights under Articles 24 and 40 (Sub-articles 1-6) through proper legislation to establish equality in Nepal. I would like to highlight the main characteristics of Dalit emancipation to abolish the untouchability and caste-based slavery system from Nepali society. Finally, I request UN Excellencies, Honorable, and Respected Delegates to support the international Dalit agenda and help liberate Dalits from inhuman social injustice.

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Here are my recommendations:

1. Ensure 14% Dalit representation in Parliament through the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) electoral system.
2. Ensure 14% Dalit representation in Parliament through the full proportional system.
3. Implement constitutional provisions for Dalit fundamental rights (Articles 24 and 40, Sub-articles 1-6) through proper legislation.
4. Promote public discussion and education on how traditional Hindu caste practices (“Brahminism”) discriminate against Dalits, and raise awareness about Dalit rights, dignity, and empowerment.
5. Dismantle discriminatory Hindu ideology and myths that label Dalits as “impure” or “untouchable.”

Sincerely yours.

Presented by speaker:
Moti Lal Nepali, Nepal