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SAMATA foundation



SAMATA TURNS 10

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
CONCLUDED

DALIT EMPOWERMENT BILL
PASSED IN PROVINCE 2



WHAT DOES SAMATA FOUNDATION DO?

Samata Foundation is a leading independent think-tank with specialization in the area of caste-based discrimination and marginalized issues of Nepal and South Asia. Established in 2009, Samata Foundation has expertise in research and evidence-based informed policy advocacy, publication and outreach, human rights and justice, and leadership development; which it considers as its four pillars. It engages in empirical research, policy reviews, and evidence-based informed advocacy to ensure the rights of marginalized people, especially the Dalit social groups to strengthen social justice and democracy.

Highlights 2019

1. Campaign against CBDU



Six months campaign against caste based discrimination and untouchability highlighted the gravity of issues related to caste based discrimination and seek answers to the question 'why'? The main slogan of this campaign was "Quest for Dignity", which is guided by the principle of three 'R' : Reframe, Reinforce and Reclaim.

2. Research

3 researches on Chamar community, Gandharva Community and Dalits in elections have been conducted, and will be published as books in 2020.

3. Publications

Samata Foundation published two books, research reports, monographs, bulletins and articles on Dalit and other marginalized communities. Policy papers on representation of Dalits in local, provincial and federal level was also produced.



Book Launch: Access of Dalit Community to land and Dalit Inclusion: An Analysis from Intersectionality Perspective by Dr. Prna Nepali and आन्तरिक विभेदको वृत्तान्त दलित र गैर दलितभित्रका विभेद र छुवाछूत by Meghraj Rasaili during Samata Utsav

4. Samata Utsav 2076



Samata Foundation organized Samata Utsav 2076 for celebrating 10 years of intellectual endeavors for social justice since its establishment in 2066 B.S to initiate a culture of dialogue for the quest of marginalized community's dignity and create a social pressure through dialogue for the mainstreaming of Dalit community.

5. WHY CASTE MATTERS?

A talk program entitled “Why Caste Matters?” was organized with Dr. Suraj Yengde, an inaugural postdoctoral fellow at the Initiative for Institutional Anti-Racism and Accountability, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, recognizing the importance of raising the voice for the voiceless and generating consciousness.



6. Capacitating CSO's in Sudurpaschim



Training on Capacity Development of Dalit Civil Society from each 9 districts of the Sudurpaschim Province was conducted as a part of reinforcing Justice Delivery to Dalits in the province.

7. Discourse series



Monthly discourse series were conducted for continuation of conversations and knowledge production in Dalit issues.

8. Dalit Empowerment Bill



Historic milestone has been achieved by province 2 in the quest of empowering Dalit community through the Dalit Empowerment Act. Samata Foundation is striving to achieve similar policy intervention in other provinces.

Photo: Province 2 Chief, Hon. Mr. Tilak Pariyar officially signing Dalit Empowerment Bill passed from Province 2.

9. National Conference



A national conference on promoting the role of elected representatives in achieving Dalit rights through synergies and national policy development was held in September where 104 Dalit representatives from local, provincial and federal level had participated.

10. Globalising Dalit issues

Samata Foundation was one of the conference collaborators in the Fifth International Conference on the Legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar hosted by The New School. The conference explored critical issues faced by the Dalit community, with a focus on the intersecting nature of gender, religion, and caste-based discrimination.



11. Women voices in Janakpur



An Interaction program on Madhesi Dalit women against sexual violence was organized in Janakpur, where the victims shared their personal encounters with sexual violence due to their status as Madhesi Dalit Women.

12. Contributing to Agenda 2030



A discourse titled “Nepal Peoples Forum on Sustainable Development 2019” was held by Nepal Peoples forum in consultation with nepalese organization, activists and lawmakers, with an aim to promote Sustainable Development Goals and to amplify its relevance in Nepal. Upon being given particular area to present on the forum, Samata Foundation organized a consultation meeting with concernded Dalit stakeholders and scholars to further shed light on the agendas from dalit lenses.

Team-2019



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