



राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय, Central Office

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Press Release

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Child falls Prey of Murder in the Name of 'Sacrifice,' Stern Legal Action urged to prevent Repercussion of Spine-Chilling Act

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has been seriously concerned over the murder of 10-year-old Jeevan Kohara (also known as Sonu) of Kudiya-4, Marchahawa in Nawalparasi district. The boy was learnt to have been gruesomely hacked to death while a local shaman performed rituals including sacrifice to save the life of a local Kodai Harijan's ailing son Bijay at Marchahawa, 20 KM far from the district head quarter.

Killing of a boy in superstitions that his sacrifice will cure illness of another is punishable by law. The Commission, therefore, urges the government to take stern legal action against the culprits involved in the dreadful act and immediately make appropriate relief and compensation available to the family of the deceased.

Such an incident proves that the Nepalese society is still in the clutches extreme superstitions. The Articles 6, 8, and 27 of the Convention on the Rights of Child (CRC) have the provision on the right to life of children. This apart, the Government of Nepal (GoN) has expressed its commitment in the CRC including various other International Conventions and their Protocols, Declarations and Work Plans with regard to the protection and promotion of the right of child.

The GoN and organizations and agencies working in the field of rights of child need to launch campaigns to bring about awareness from village to village in order to stop the repercussion of such incidents in Nepali society engulfed with pervasive ignorance. Likewise, parents and guardians need to keep vigil on the whereabouts of their children and their actions at home, at society or at school and also inform the Police immediately in the case of the missing of their child.

Though the children are considered as the zone of peace, the corporal punishment including the discriminatory practice at schools could be the prime cause for the loss of the children's life.

The Commission draws the attention all the concerned authorities to promulgate strong laws by revamping the existing laws wherever necessary to control the inhuman and gruesome act. It may be noted that the Parliament has of late endorsed the Witchcraft- Crime and Punishment Act – 2071.

Mohna Ansari
Commissioner / Spokesperson