



# राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय Central Office

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## Press Release

3 June, 2020

**Context: 14 Years of announcement of untouchability free nation**

### **Requests to eradicate 'Caste-based discrimination and untouchability to the concerned all**

The government of Nepal declared Nepal as a 'Caste based Discrimination and Untouchability Free Nation' on June 4, 2006 and today is the 14th anniversary of the historic declaration. On this occasion, the Commission expresses good wishes to all.

The Constitution of Nepal guarantees every individual's right to live with dignity, right relating to justice, right of Dalit, right to social justice, right to equality, right against untouchability and discrimination including other rights. These rights are also guaranteed by the Caste-Based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, 2011, the Criminal Code, 2017, International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965 in which Nepal is a state party.

The Commission expresses its dismay over increasing inhuman acts of violence resulting from caste-based discrimination such as murder, rape, violence and untouchability due not to bring the culprits to book identifying them because of non implementation of law despite the aforesaid legal arrangements and even 14 years after the country was declared untouchability free. From this disruption in social harmony may occur. The Commission draws attention of the government of Nepal to embrace zero-tolerance against recent acts of caste-based discriminations in Rukum (West), Jajarkot, Rupandehi, Udayapur, and Dhankuta including other districts and to bring the culprits to book.

NHRC urges all the civil society, political party, sister organizations, people's representatives, media personnel and human rights activists to eliminate the Caste based discrimination and untouchability incidents occurring day by day in the society. Similarly, NHRC requests all the sections of the society to raise voice against inhuman acts like caste-based discrimination and violence in a decent and restrained manner.

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Bed Bhattarai

Secretary/Spokesperson

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