

# *Naya Adhyaya:*

A New Chapter | Women of Nepal





Dedicated to women and girls across Nepal, to their hopes and dreams of achieving equality, and to finding voice among a new generation of leadership

c;dfgtfnf0{lrbi}gofFk'tfsf]g]jdf cf^gf]:yfg klxNofpg]ck]ff / rfxgf /fVg];Dk0f{  
gkfnl dlxf / aflnsfxc]k[t of]k'ts ;dlk 5 .



## P r e f a c e

The desire of the people of Nepal from all walks of life to participate in the peace process and to contribute to the building of a new Nepal has been demonstrated in many ways. Women have often been at the forefront of the call for change and for meaningful participation in the work of making lasting peace.

The *Jana Andolan* of April 2006 was perhaps the most dramatic demonstration of the will of the people to take their destiny into their own hands and to forge a path toward a new Nepal. I was privileged to be in Nepal during the *Jana Andolan*, as Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and witnessed for myself the leading role that many women played in this people's movement. The energy and momentum from this nationwide movement was harnessed by many women's groups across the country, who showed clearly that they would not accept going back to a peace that excluded women from active roles in all aspects of public life. The declaration in the Interim Legislature-Parliament in June 2006 providing that women would take up 33 per cent of positions in all public bodies was a significant commitment to changing a system that had largely excluded women.

During my time in Nepal I have attended women's conferences and meetings and met with women activists and community leaders, in Kathmandu and in the regions. UNMIN teams, fulfilling our responsibilities under our own direct mandate as well as in pursuing the objectives of Security Council Resolution 1325 on women in post-conflict societies, have worked with women from a wide range of communities in rural and urban areas. With an aim to understand the aspirations of women and the obstacles they

identify in the achievement of equality, we made particular efforts to meet women from traditionally marginalised communities such as Dalits, Madhesis, Janajatis and Muslims, women who often suffer multiple discrimination. Women activists have a leading role to play in building an inclusive peace process.

April 10, 2008 was a remarkable day in Nepal's history and, I believe, in the history of women's participation in building the new Nepal. National and international observers alike remarked on the turnout of women voters for the historic Constituent Assembly election. This election has resulted in over 30 per cent representation of women in the Constituent Assembly, a level of women's representation unprecedented in previous elected bodies and far ahead of the international average. This is an important step, but of course just one more step on a long journey toward equality for all women in Nepal. Women lawmakers and political leaders will shoulder particular responsibility to advocate for the fulfilment of previous commitments related to women's participation in public bodies.

Women lawmakers will also have the opportunity to work to make sure that the constitution-making process itself is one that involves citizens in a participatory way, including women. Listening to the aspirations of women and men from all communities will assist lawmakers to help develop a constitution, and other laws, that overcome past obstacles to equality between women and men and which open the way to a more just society.

Greater participation of women in the civil service and other State bodies, including new peace process institutions to be established,



will also enable women to take a leading role in ensuring implementation of programmes which enhance women's participation and which address the needs of women and girls.

UNMIN's partnership with UNFPA in developing the street theatre project *Naya Adhaya* (A New Chapter) signaled our commitment to reach out to communities in the districts with this message of the importance of the meaningful participation of women in peacebuilding. The creativity and skills of the Sarwanam theatre group brought to life the stories of women and girls who lived through the years of conflict, and showed the inspirational force of one woman, Bina, who would not allow the obstacles she faced to overwhelm her.

Life is still very difficult for so many Nepali women. Women's struggle for the simple dignity of equality, for opportunity to enjoy their human rights and live as equal citizens, continues. Nepali women activists and community and political leaders will continue to play a leading role in this struggle. It is my hope that more and more Nepali men will appreciate that this is their struggle too, and that the equality of all Nepalis will greatly improve the life of the nation.

This book is a small contribution to helping to spread the message of inspiration from Bina's struggle, and the aspirations of so many Nepali women. As you read it, I hope that you will be moved to take action to help achieve equality for all Nepali women and girls.

**Ian Martin, Special Representative of the  
United Nations Secretary-General in Nepal**





el'dsf

dh'ssf] zfl'et klj'pofdf ; xeful a] ] / gofFgkfn  
lgdf'f]sf ; a} l'f'gdf ; mlg xg] gkfnl dfqsf] rfxgf ljlel  
z'kdf k's6 ePsf 5g\ . kl/j t'g'sf nflu / bl3'sf nlg  
zfl'et : yfkgf ug{ ; fy's ; xeflutfsf nflu cfj'fh p7fpg]  
sfo'df dlxfnf'z'n] k'f'om cu'f'fl el'dsf lgj'f'k u'/\$f 5g\ .

gkfnl hgtfsf] cf'gf] efl'o c'f'km] sf'g] / gofFgkfn'sf]  
af'f] klx'nofpg] cf'dansf] ce'tk] { k'p'z'g ; Dej tM clk'h  
@)) ^ sf] hgc'f'bf'hg g] lyof] . hgc'f'bf'hg'sf ah'f'df  
dfgj clwsf/ pRrfoQmsf] sfo'f'nosf] k'tlg'w'sf z'kdf  
gk'f'nd} xg' / o ; } c'f'bf'hg'df w}] dlxfnf'z'n] g't]j b'fol  
el'dsf v'h'sf] ; fl'fl xg' k'f'pg' d'f'f nflu ; f'f'f'osf] lj'ifo  
lyof] . b'ze/sf dlxfnf'sf ; d'x'z'n] of] b'z'Jofkl  
c'f'bf'hg'sf] an / ph'f'sf] / f'd] ; b'k'ofu ub] ; f'j' h'g's  
h'j'g'sf x/\$f l'f'gaf6 dlxfnf'f0{ j'l-rt ug] v'f'nsf]  
zfl'et'df r'flx'Fgkms'g] at'f'P . c'f'tl/d Joj : yf'k'sf ; #bn]  
hg @)) ^ df u'/\$f] 3f]f'offn] ; a} ; f'j' h'g's l'gs'fox'z'df  
dlxfnf'z'nf0{ s'd'tldf klg ## k'tzt : y'f'g ; /l'f't ug{  
7'hf] ; a'w'ofdf dlxfnf'z'nf0{ k'f'vf nufpg] Joj : y'f'df kl/  
j t'g ug] pNn'yo k'ta4tf xf] .

gkfn a:bf d'h] sf7df8f] / c'g'o l'f'g'x'z'df w}] dlxfn  
; D'd'hg / a'ys'x'z'df efu lnPF/ ; fy} s'g'g dlxfn  
clwsf/jfbl / ; dbfosf g't]k'z' ; E e'f] . cl'gdgsf] k'tolf  
sfo'f'f'z'df kg] l'h'dd] f/l'sf ; fy} a'g'a kl5sf] ; d'f'hdf  
dlxfn ; Da'g'wl ; /l'f'f kl/f'b'sf] k't'f'j !#% sf p2'z'o  
k'f'k'tsf nflu cl'gdgsf 6'h'lx'z'n] u'l'd'of tyf zx/l l'f'g'sf  
ljlel ; dbfosf dlxfnf'z' ; E ; xsfo{ u'/\$f 5g\ .  
dlxfnf'z'sf] c'f's'f'w'f / p'gl'x'z'n] klx'rf'g u'/\$f  
; d'f'g't'sf afws'x'z'sf af'f'f'f h'f'g'sf/l lng ljlel k's'f/sf  
e'f'f'f'j'x'z'sf] lzsf/ xg] blnt, dw] l, h'gh'f'lt /  
dl:ndnufot k/Dk/fut z'kdf ; l'd'f'g't's'f ; dbfox'z'sf  
dlxfnf'z'sf nflu xfdln] lj'z'f'f kxnsbdl u'f'of} . ; d'f'j'z'l

zfl'et klj'pofnf0{ cu'f'l8 a9fpg dlxfn clwsf/jfbl'x'z'sf]  
g't]j b'fol el'dsf lgj'f'k ug{ k5{ .

d'f]f] l'j'rf/d'f @)^% r'z' @\* ut'sf lbg gkfnl 0ltxf ; /  
gofFgkfn lgdf'f'f ug] s'f'ddf dlxfn ; xeflutfsf] l'f'g'd}  
Ps pNn'yo lbg /Xof] . /f'li6' Pj d\c'g't/f'f'6'  
koj]f'sx'z'n] P'l'txf] ; s ; h'j'w'f'g ; e'f'sf] lgj'f'f'g  
dlxfnf'z'sf] 7'hf] p'kl:y'lt'sf] k'z'z'f u/] . o ; lgj'f'f'g'sf]  
kl/0'f'fd : j'z'k ; h'j'w'f'g ; e'f'df dlxfn k'tlg'w't]j #)  
k'tzt'e'g'f'f a9l e'of] . of] ce'tk] { : t/sf] dlxfn  
k'tlg'w't]j lj'utsf c'g'o s'g} klg lgj'f'f'rt l'gs'f'odf ePsf]  
lyPg / of] c'g't/f'f'6' c'f] t e'g'bf w}] ; g} a9l 5 . of] l'gs}  
dx'j'k'of{ s'bd xf] t/ gkfn'sf ; du] dlxfnf'z'sf nflu  
; d'f'g'tf k'f'k't ug{ to ug{ kg] n'f'df] of'qf t'k'f'sf] Pp6f  
c'sf] s'bd d'f'q xf] . ; f'j' h'g's l'gs'fox'z'df dlxfn  
; xeflutf ; Da'g'wdf ePsf cl3Nnf k'ta4t'f'x'z'nf0{ d't{  
z'k lbg] lj'z'f'f l'h'dd] f/l dlxfn s'f'g'g lgdf'f'f / /f'h'g'l'ts  
g't]f'x'z'sf] s'f'w'df k/\$f] 5 .

; h'j'w'f'g lgdf'f'f klj'pofdf dlxfnf'f'ot ; a} g'f'ul/sx'z'nf0{  
; xeflutf'd'hs t'l/s'f'af6 ; d'f'g] v'f'nsf] ag'f'pg] d'f'sf  
dlxfn s'f'g'g lgdf'f'f'x'z'n] k'f'pb} 5g\ . ; a} ; d'bfosf dlxfn  
tyf k'z'f'x'z'sf] r'f'x'g'f'nf0{ w'of'g l'b0P'df ; h'j'w'f'g / c'g'o  
s'f'g'g'sf] lgdf'f'f'df ; 3'f'p k'l5 / o ; n] dlxfn / k'z'f'f alr  
; d'f'g'tf s'f'od ug] s'f'ddf lj'utdf b'l'v'P'sf c'j / f'w'x'z'nf0{  
; d'f'k't k'f'g'sf ; fy} / f'ofok'f'f ; d'f'hsf nflu af'f]f] v'f'l'5 .

zfl'et klj'pofsf ; Da'g'wdf ca a] ] gofF'lg'sfo ; l'xt  
l'gh'f'd'tl ; ] f'df / /f'f'osf c'g'o l'gs'fox'z'df dlxfnf'sf] 7'hf]  
; xeflutfn] dlxfnf'sf] k'tlg'w't]j a9fpg] / dlxfn tyf  
af'ln'sf'sf] c'f'j Zost'f'nf0{ ; Da'f'w'g ug] s'f'of] f'f'd'sf]  
s'f'of'f'og ug{ g't]j b'fol el'dsf lgj'f'k ug{ dlxfnf'z'nf0{  
; l'f'd ag'f'p5 .



gofFcWofo ; 8s gf6s kl/ofhgfsf] lj sf; df cl6dgsf]  
oPgPkmkLP; Esf] ; femf/Ln] zfl6t lgdf0f sfo6f  
dlxnfsf] ; fy6 ; xeflutfsf] dxlj sf] ; GbZ b; f66}  
lhNnfsf ; dbfox6 df kl6g' kgI tk6sf] xfd] klta4tf  
; ^s} u5{. ; j6fd gf66 ; dxsf] l; h6lzntf / ; lkn]  
nfdfl a6asf j6ddf hljg; E hw6f dlxnf / aflnsfx6sf]  
syfnf0{ phfu/ ug6f ; fy} cj/fwx6nf0{ lht} cufl8  
a96l Ps dlxnf algfsf] k70ffbol syfnf0{ b6fPsf] 5 .

w7} gkfnl dlxnf6sf] hljg Psbd si6s/ 5 .  
dfg; 0dfg, dfgj clwsf/sf] : jfb lng] cj ; / / ; dfg  
gful/s eP/ af6g] tk6sf] plgx6sf] ; ^sif{ cem} lg/6t/  
5 . o; ; ^sif6f gkfnl dlxnf clwsf/jfbx6 ; dbfo  
Pj d\ /fhgllts gtfx6 cf6gf cxd\eldsf lgjfk ugI  
sfd hf/L /fvg] 5g\ . w7} e6bf w7} gkfnl k?ifn] klg  
o; nf0{ cf6g} ; ^sif6f 6kdf cfl6; ft ugI 5g\ / ; a}  
gkfnl6sf] hljg: t/ ; E} /fi66} hljg: t/df ; wf/ cfp66  
el] s'f6f d cfz6f fbl 5' .

algfsf] ; ^sif6f] syfaf6 xf} nfsf] ; GbZ km6fpg] lbz6df  
of] k':tsn] Pp6f ; fgf] of6ubfg lbg] 5 . of] w7} gkfnl  
dlxnfsf] ; kgf kl6 xf] . of] k':ts k97 ; du] gkfnl  
dlxnf / aflnsfx6sf] ; dfg clwsf/ kflkt6sf] lbz6df tkf06  
kl6 ; l/s xg rfxg' xg6 el] d7f] ljZjf; 5 .

*blat*

Oofg dfl66,  
gkfnsf nflu ; eQm /fi663lo  
dx6; lrj sf ljZjf kl6glw





# Introduction

This book reflects the collective determination of Nepali women to foster a culture of equality. Its images, along with the words of women and men from the community, are inspired by *Naya Adhyaya*, a pre-election street drama that was performed across Nepal by the Sarwanam theatre group. By raising awareness of the importance of women's involvement in the peace process, the play encouraged women's participation at all levels of decision-making.

The book draws on two distinct themes. Firstly, the struggles that must be overcome by Bina, the ostracised widow who is the play's central character. And secondly, the unprecedented participation of women in Nepal's 10 April 2008 Constituent Assembly election.

*Naya Adhyaya* was jointly developed by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) and Sarwanam. Launched with the objective to mobilise local communities around issues of concern to women, it sparked debate wherever it was performed. Street theatre is very popular among rural and semi-rural communities in Nepal and this medium was selected as an effective way to deliver the key messages of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which requires parties in a conflict to respect women's rights and support their participation in peace negotiations as well as post-conflict reconstruction.

Starting in the Far-West in November 2007 *Naya Adhyaya* was performed in 14 districts across Nepal, reaching an estimated audience of 8,800 people. The street drama transfixed audiences, and its success is testimony to the drive of Nepali women to develop a new perspective, to foster change and to make the most of new

opportunities. In a second, post-election, phase, Sarwanam performed the play again in April and May 2008 in a further 17 districts around the country, supported by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).

This book has been produced in both Nepali and English. The Nepali version is aimed at reaching leaders of Nepal, who are responsible for drafting the new Constitution, as well as the many women's advocacy groups. The English version is intended to inspire members of the international community to continue to support women and their contribution to Nepal.

This publication is also available online on UNMIN's website:  
<http://www.unmin.org.np>

United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 is a key advocacy tool used by the Government of Nepal, civil society and the international community to promote women's participation in the peace process. UNSCR 1325 was the first resolution in United Nations history to specifically recognise the impact of armed conflict on women and girls. It also acknowledges their significant contribution to conflict resolution and peacebuilding and addresses specific needs regarding constitutions, electoral systems, police and judiciary. UNSCR 1325 sets out key recommendations, including to ensure the participation of women in the promotion and maintenance of peace.



kl/ro

;dfgtfsf];#s[t k]4g ug[gkfnl dlxfnsf];fdlxs  
;^\$llknf0{o; k':tsn]kl'tljldat u/\$f]5 . o;df  
;dfjz ul/Psf gkfnl dlxfn / k?ifsf zAb / tl:a/xz,  
;a}gofFcWbo gf6saf6 k/t ePsf xg . of];8s  
gf6s lgjffg cl3 ;jgfd gf6s d08nlm]gkfnl  
kpxg u/\$f]lyof]. zflgt kljlpdf dlxfnsf];xflutfsf]  
dxlj b;f0P/ hgr]gf a9fpg]p2zoaf6 k/t o;  
gf6sn]lg0ff6s txsf ;a}:t/df dlxfn ;xflutfnf0{  
kfl;fxg u/\$f]5 .

o; k':tsn]b0{km/s lj ifoj:t';d6sf]5 . klxfn]t  
;dfhaf6 alx:sf Ps ljw]f gf6ssl dVo kfq lagfn]  
ug{k/\$f ;3if6f0{;d6Psf]5 . bf]l] @)^\$ r} @\*  
df ePsf];ljwfg;ef lgjffgdf dlxfnsf]ce'tk}{  
;xflutf .

gofFcWbo /fi6x3lo hg;Wof sf]f -oPgPknklP,  
gkfnl:yt /fi6x3lo ld;g -clgdg\_ / ;jgfdsf];eQm  
kpf;df tof/ ul/Psf]xf]. dlxfn ;DaGwl d2fdf:yfglo  
;dbfonf0{emsemfpg]dh p2zo lnPsf]of]gf6sn]  
kpxg ul/Psf ;a}:yfgdf o; lj ifodf gofF;jfbf]  
yfnlg u/fpg ;km ePsf]lyof] . gkfnf ufdlof tyf  
cw{ufdlof ;dbfoxzdf ;8s gf6s lgs}nf3k6 5 /  
;eQm /fi6x3sf];7lff kl/ib\k|tfj !#%sf]dVo ;Gbz  
kbfjsf/L zkd ;a}fd' kfofpgsf nflu of]dflwd  
5flgPsf]lyof]. o;sf nflu agat/bnxzn]dlxfnsf]  
xsclwsf/sf];Ddfg u/L zflgt ;Demf]f tyf agat kl5sf]  
kblgdf]f tyf zflgt ;jfbdf pglxzsf];xflutfnf0{  
;xofu ug{k5{.

gf]a/ @))& df ;b/ klZrdaf6 z' ul/Psf]gofF  
cWbo gkfnl/sf !\$ lhlnfxzdf sl/a \*,\*)

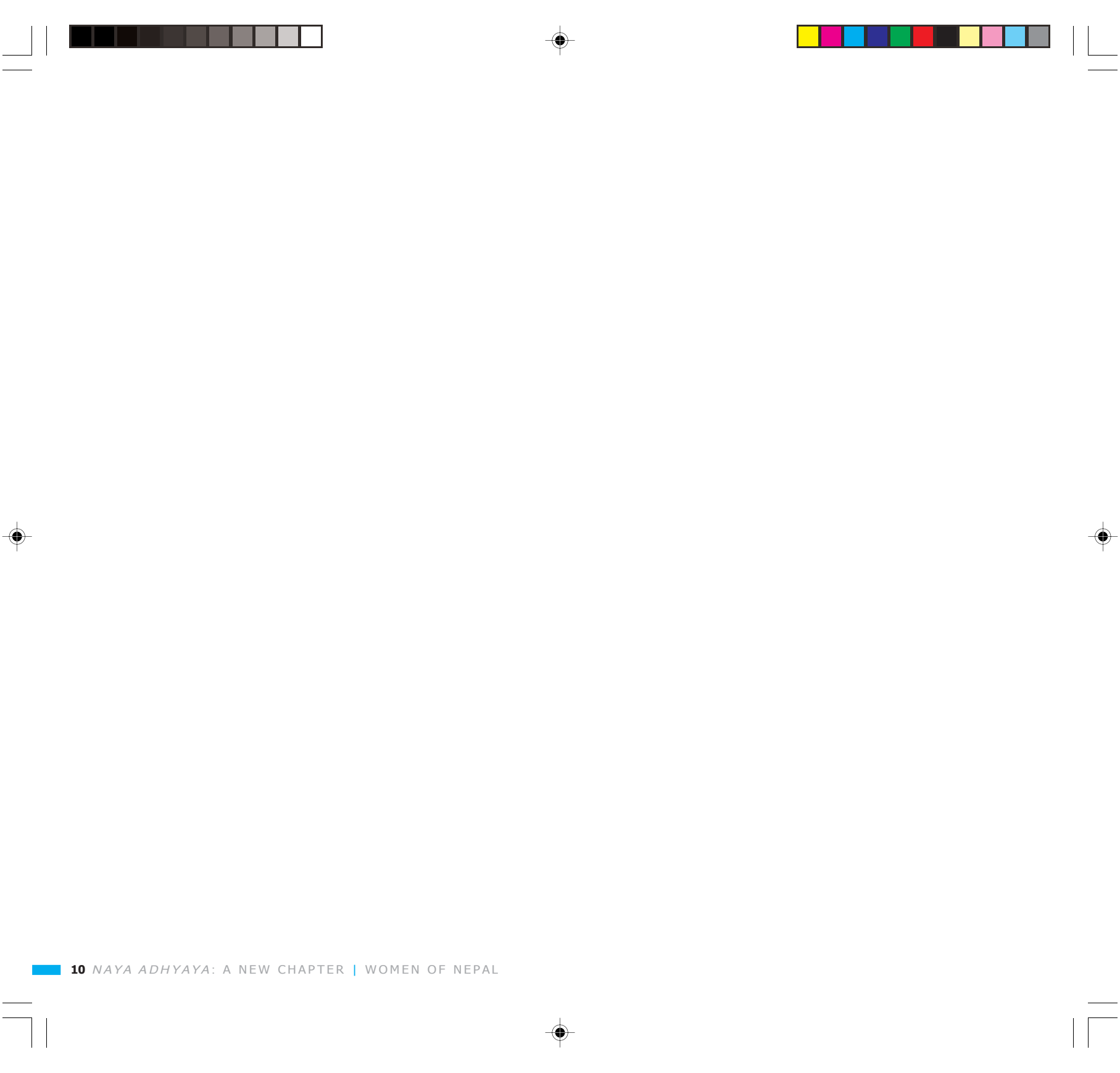
dflg;;dlf kpxg ul/of]. o; ;8s gf6sn]bz\$xnfo{  
;Ddf]xt ug\$;fy}gkfnl dlxfnxznf0{Pp6f gofF  
bfi6sf]f lj sf; u/L kl/jtgnf0{k]4g ug{/ gofFcj;/  
xzsf]clwstd pkefu ug]af6f]b]yfof]el]s/f o;sf]  
;kmtfn];flat ub5 . bf]l]k6s lgjffg kl5 clk /  
d]@))\* df 8lg; cgt/fi6e ;xofu lgofu -8flg8f sf]  
;xofudf ;jgfdn]dh\$sf !& lhlnfdi kpxg u/\$f]5 .

o; k':tssf]gkfnl / cuhl baf] efiiddf k\$flzt  
ul/Psf]5 . o;sf]gkfnl ;s/of gofF;ljwfgsf]lgdf  
ug{lhdd]f/ gkfnl g]fxzsf ;fy}dlxfn k]jl  
;dxxzkl't nllft 5 . To:t]u/L o;sf]cuhl ;s/of  
cgt/fi6e ;dbfonf0{gkfnf ofubfg / dlxfnxznf0{  
ul/g];xofunf0{lg/t/tfsf nflu k/t ugdf nllft 5 .

of]k\$zfg clgdgsf]j3;f06 M <http://www.unmin.org.np> df  
klg pknAw 5 .

zflgt kljlpdf dlxfn ;xflutfsf nflu phf{k6fg  
ug{gkn ;/sf/, gful/s ;dfh / cgt/fi6e ;dbfon]  
kpfu ug]dVo k]jl ;fwg ;eQm /fi6x3 ;7lff  
kl/ibsf]k|tfj !#% xf]. k|tfj !#% dlxfn /  
aflnsfxzdf ;z:q agat]kfg]kbfjnf0{ljzlf zkn]  
klxrfg ug];eQm /fi6x3s}klxfn]k|tfj lyof]. o;n]  
pglxzsf]agat lgzkof / zflgt:yfkgdf ljzlf  
ofubfgsf]klxrfg u5{/ To:t};ljwfg, lgjffg  
koffnl, kx/L / Gofokfnf;E ;DalGwt ljzlf  
cfjZoQmfxzsf]klg ;Daf]vg u5{. k|tfj !#%n]  
zflgt ;j4g / axfnl ug{dlxfn ;xflutf ;lglZrt  
ug]h:tf dxljkof{;emjxz k'z u5{.







A story that raised  
awareness and  
encouraged debate

हग्रतृगफ clej 4L /  
5nkmnnf0{ kfll; fxg





A group of women watch the performance of *Naya Adhyaya*  
Kailali, 17 November

gofFcWbfosf] gf6s xH Ps xh dlxf .  
sfnl, d<sup>a</sup> / ! ut].



*Naya Adhyaya* protagonist, Bina, explains to members of her community how she became a political activist and why she wishes to participate in the upcoming election

Kailali, 17 November

pgl s;/l /fhgllts sfo&tf{ePsl xg\ / cfufdl rbjdf lsg  
efu lng rfxl65g\etg] s/f cf^gf ; dbfojf; lx\_znf0{ atfp6}  
gofFcWbfoSl dVo kfqi algi .

s^fnl, d^k / ! ut].



**We say that everybody in a house will get educated if women of the house are educated. Similarly, women's representation is necessary in State structures and the peace process to develop the country. Men also have an important role in implementing this.**

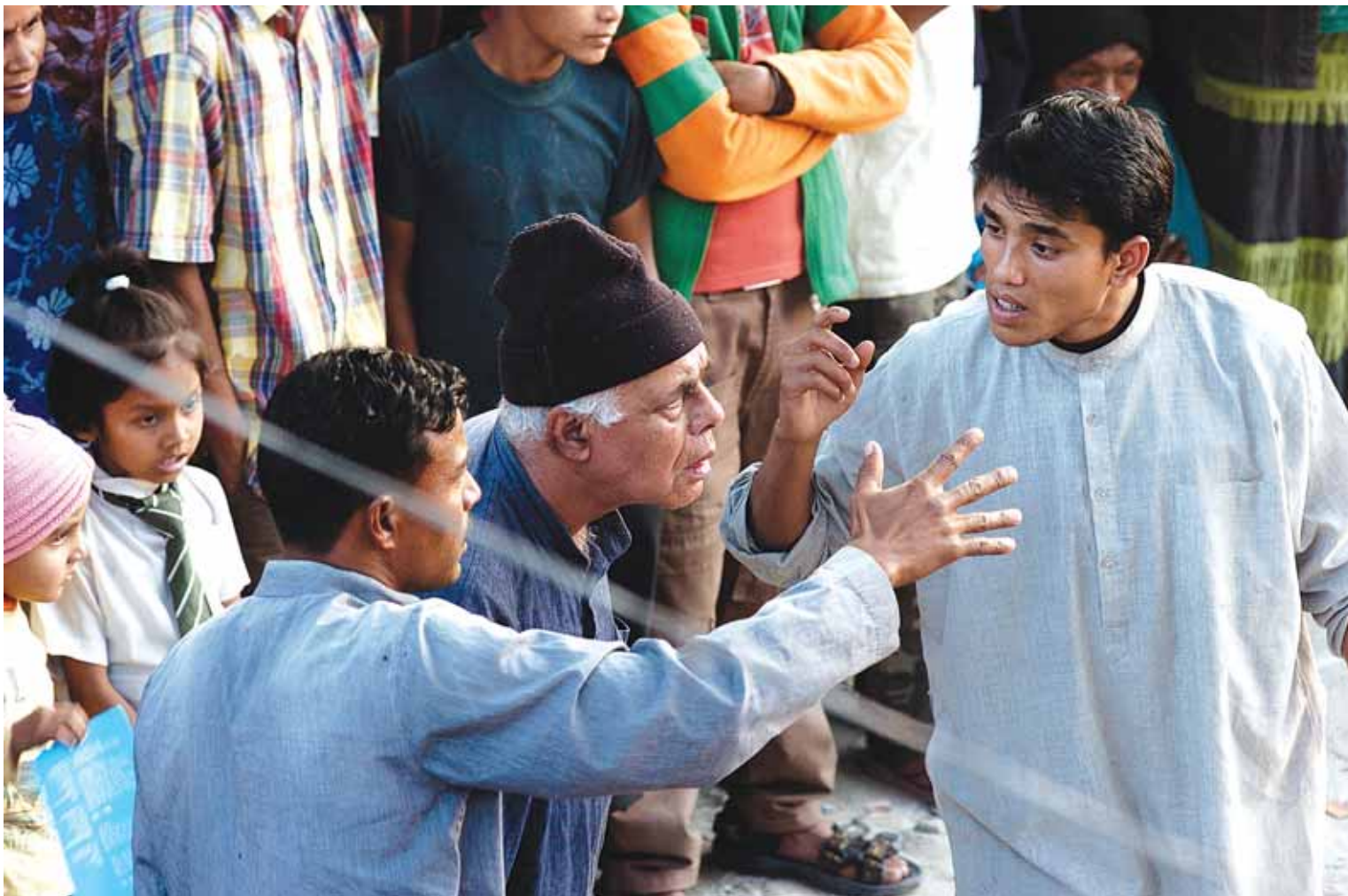
Bipin Sapkota, Rangeli

dlxnf lzllft eP eg]k/f 3/ lzllft x65  
eg] xfdl e65f}lg To; }u/l ca of]b\_znf0{  
/fd[] agfpg zfl6t klj pfnufot /fho  
kg; #rgfsf x/\$ sfddf dlxnfsf] ; xeflutf  
xgk5{. o; df k?ifx\_zsf] klg dxlj k0f{  
eldsf x65 .

lj lkg ; fksf0f, a; :6f08, /Ejhl







Male characters debate the notion of having a woman leader

Jhapa, 18 December

dlxnfnf0{g}f agfpg] s'fdf ax; ubİsnfsf/x<sub>2</sub>.  
enfkf, k', # ut].





## ANECDOTE

KAILALI, 17 November 2007 — When it comes to gathering a crowd for the street performances, everyone has to chip in.

While some performers use cymbals and drums to alert the people, director Ashesh Malla prefers a much more personal approach.

He walks up to a woman who is busy with the season's harvest.

"We'll help you so you can come watch our drama," Malla says.

He sits in front of her husking machine, working the pedals hard while the woman sifts the grain.

"Watch your hands," Malla cautions. "What happens if the dust falls into your eyes?"

"We are used to it," the woman replies.

Malla asks her for her name.

"Jashoda Rana," she says. "You see, I stay at home and do all these things." Her young son is too shy to reveal his name.

"Will you take a break and come see the performance, which is happening in front of the temple?" Malla coaxes.

She hesitates, worried that there won't be enough time to cook the evening meal.

"The day's work is over but it's time to start household chores, like making dinner," she says. "Look, the sun is about to disappear."

"We've come to show you a drama and to listen to you," Malla explains. "We want to discuss the challenges facing women here. We thought you would be free by this time."

From a distance, a man shouts, "Come see the play. Once you see it, you'll think it's worth it!"

The woman looks at Malla and makes up her mind. Dinner will just have to be a little late tonight. She smiles, wipes her hands and heads towards the temple.



ems

sñfnl, @)^\$ dª\ / ! - ;8s gf6sdf bz\$ eñf kfg{  
;a\$] ;xofu rflxG5 .

sxl snfsf/x¿ %ofnl lk6] / dfbn ahfP/ dfG5}¿sf]  
WbfgsfifQf u/fp5g\t/ lgb¿zs cz]f dNn ;s]Dd wJ}  
hgfl; t cfkmf e¿] lgDToipg ?rfp5g\.

pgl bf0Ff] sfddf Jo:t dlxfn eP 7fpBf hfG5g\.

ætkf0Ff0{ xfdl] gf6s x¿{ km¿ b ldnf] \eg] sfd ;3fpg}  
kf] cfofFtÆ lgb¿zs dNn eG5g\.

pgl e'; p8fpg]dJ; g glhs a:5g\ / k¿n rnfp5g\  
tl dlxfn xj]fdf kg]u/l wfg enfg{ yfllN5g\.

æxft e¿ñf xÆ lgb¿zs dNn eG5g\ æcfFfdf whf] k¿of]  
eg}Æ

æxfdlnf0{ t afgl kl/; Sof]Æ dlxfn eG5g\.

lgb¿zs dNnn] pgsf] gfd ; fl5g\.

æhzfWf /fgfÆ pgl eG5g\ . pgsf] ;fgf] 5f]f] eg]  
nhfp5 / cf`gf] gfd ;d] eI dfGb¿ .

æfdl PsJ5g kl5 dlGb/ cufI8 gf6s ug{ nfluBfF. tkf0F  
klg gf6s x¿{ cfpg; \ xkÆ lgb¿zs dNn lgDtf] u5G\.

pgl /ftlsf] vfgf ksfpG I9nf] xfhf eg] cln  
lxlRsrfp5g\.

lbp; f\$] sfd t ; ls0; Sof] t/ vfgf ksfpG afB l g}5,Æ  
pgn] elgg\ æ3fd 8Ag nflu ; Sof]Æ

æfdl tkf0F¿nf0{ gf6s b]fpg / tkf0F¿sf s'f ;  
cfPsf xflÆ dNn s'f aemfp5g\ . æfdln] t tkf0F  
dlxfnx¿n] ; fdgf ug{ k/\$f rbf] lx¿sf af/¿f 5nkm  
ug{ vfh\$f xff. o; ahf t tkf0F¿nf0{ clns km¿ b  
xfhf kf] eG7fg\$f lyofFÆ

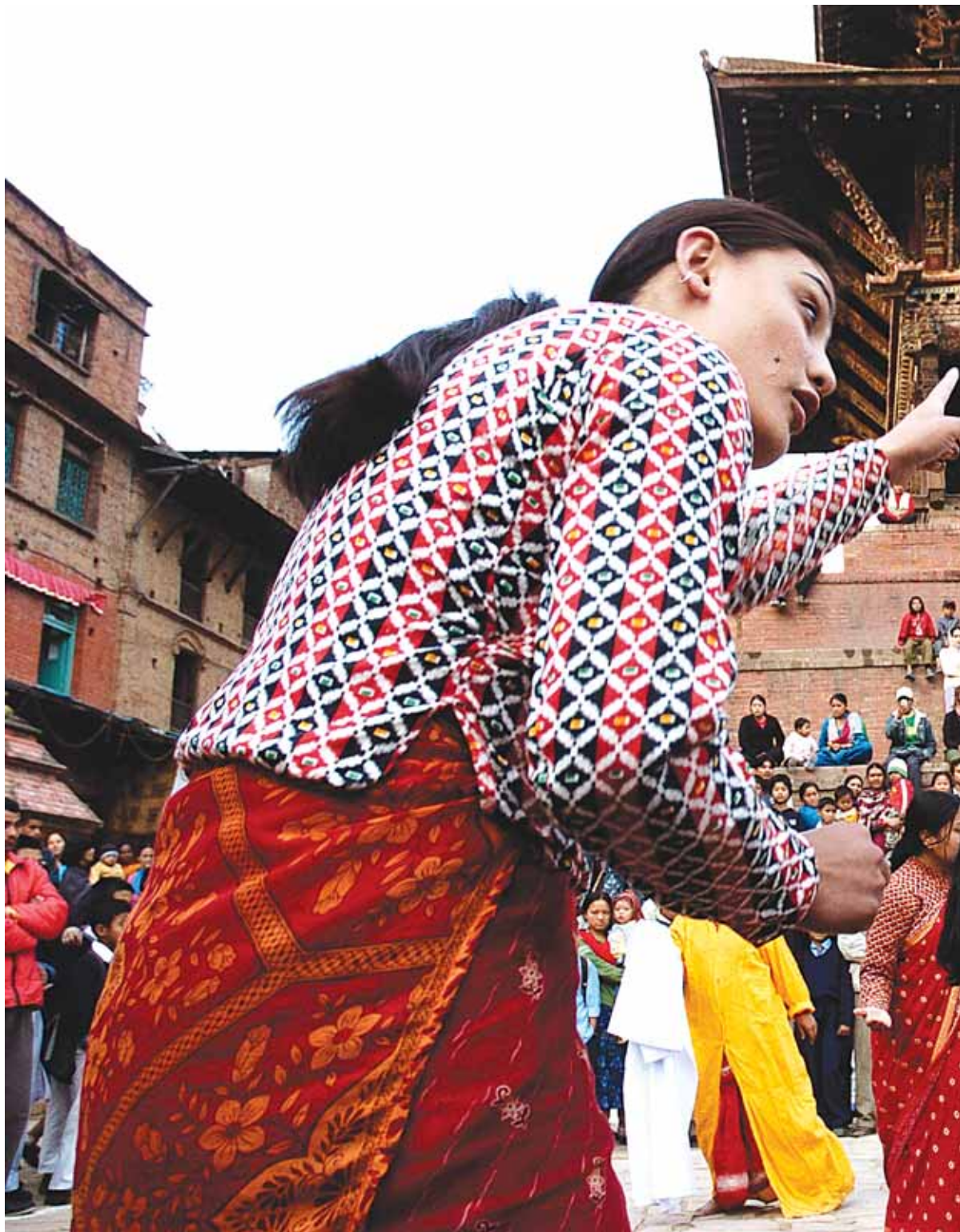
6f9faf6 Ps hgf k?if lrRofp5g\ ægf6s x¿{ cfpgxf] \.  
Ps k6s xJ] kl5 of] gf6s slt /fdl] 5 eI] cfkmFa%g'  
xg\$Æ

hzfWf /fgf lgb¿zs dNn lt/ xJ5G / gf6s x¿{ hfG]g}  
lg0f6 lnG5g\ . cfh /ftl vfgf cln I9nf] xg] eof] . pgl  
d; \$s xff5g\ xft kl:5g\ / dlGb/ lt/ nflu5g\.

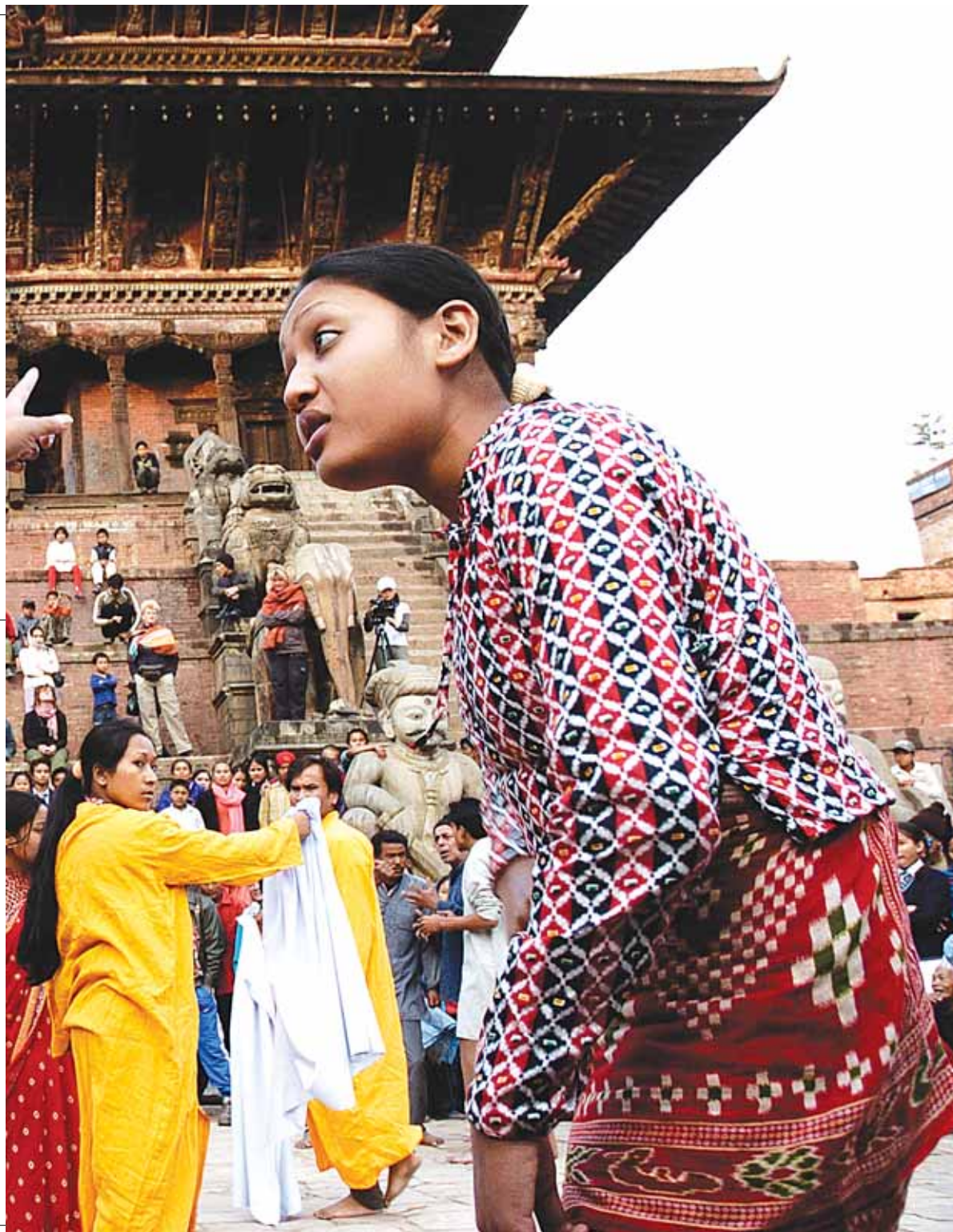


Women characters debate the  
notion of having a woman leader  
Bhaktapur, 29 November

dlxnf0{ g}f agfpg]  
s'/fdf ax; ub}snfsf/x<sub>2</sub>.  
eQmk/, d<sup>a</sup>k / !# ut].







Conditions should be created for women to have easy access to education and employment. Social security measures for widows and aged women should be ensured.

Maimuna Siddiqui, Banke

lzlff / fflhuf/l; Dd ; xh  
kxfsf nflu dlxnfxfnf0{  
cj; / lb0g' k5{. ljwjf tyf  
jflxfsf nflu ; fdfilhs  
; /lffsf pkfoxf ; lglZrt  
ul/g' k5{.

døgf l; l2sl, af5]



“

**I really enjoyed watching the show. It gives the message that we should educate our daughters. This is the best dowry we can give them. I am illiterate. I have four daughters and no sons. Though I am poor, I am sending all my daughters to school.**

Bhojawa Chaudhary, Baniyabhar VDC

of]gf6s x7k15 5f7lnf0{klg k9fpg'k5{e1]lz1ff kfP . To; f]t d lg/lf/ xFt/ dñ]s] aëm]eg]5f7lnf0{lbgl; aëëbf /fdñ]bf0hf]lz1ff g}/x5 . d7f rf/ 5f7l 5gV 5f7f 5g9\ d ul/ag}eP klg dñ]; a}5f7lxçnf0{k9g k7fPsl 5'.

efñj f rñw/l, algofef/ uñlj; , alb6f

”

« Bina begs her father to allow her to go to school. Bina's supportive mother and brother are part of the discussion and hope he will agree  
Kailali, 18 November

lj Bfno hfgsf nflu lktfl; t la6tl ub7gofFcWbfo gf6ssl dVo kfqf algf . o; s/fdf algfsf cfd / ef0n]pgnf0{; dyg u/3f 5gV/ pglxçn]lktfn]klg of]s/f df6g5g\eg]cfzf u/3f 5g\ . sñfnl, dñk / @ ut].







»

Bina's marriage is being arranged as she watches on with her mother

Makwanpur, 26 November

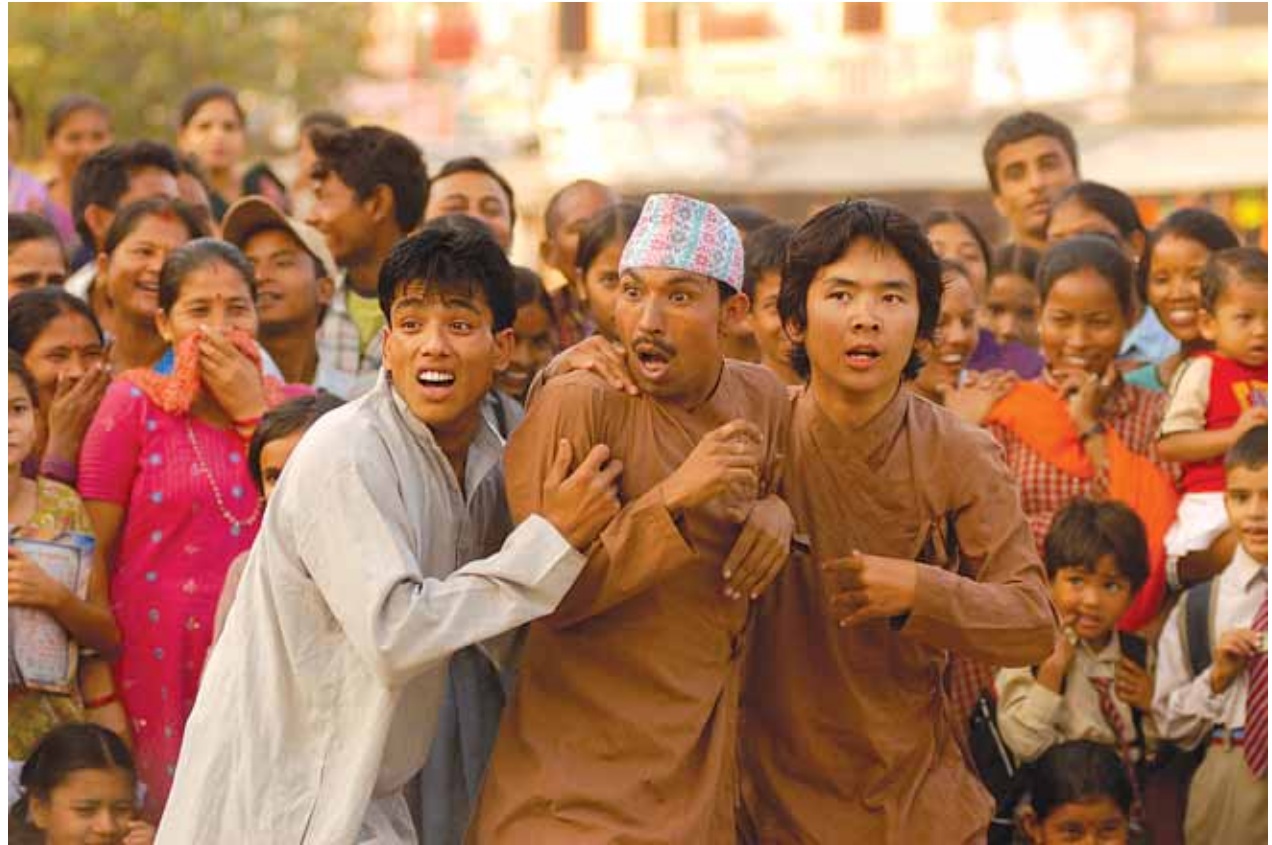
algfsf] laxsf] s/f l56b}u/xf] bfo xbf] algf /  
pgsl cdf .  
dsjfgk/, d<sup>a</sup>k/ / !) ut].





Bina and her mother plead with her father to allow her to continue her education instead of forcing her into marriage  
Jhapa, 18 December

algf / pgsl cdf algfsf lktfl; t pgsf]pRr lzlfnf0{  
lg/t/tf lbgsf nflu laçtl ubç.  
en[kf, k'; # ut].



Men from the community fear the arrival of an armed group and forced recruitment

Bardiya, 19 November

xltof/wf/l ; d\kn] cfP/ cfkmk;nf0{ ha/h:tl n\hfg] xg\ls eg] 8/fPsf  
; dbfosf nfgd\fc5} .

alb6f, d^k / # ut].









»

A funeral procession for Bina's husband  
Hetauda, 26 November

algfsf >ldfgsf] zj ofqf .  
xpf, d^k / ! ) ut].

» Women are harassed by members of armed groups during the conflict  
Sindhupalchowk, 27 November

â&asf a]hf dlxfx; ; z;q ; dxx;af6 ktf8t x65g\.  
l; GwkflNrf\$, d^k / !! ut].



“

The story of the drama truly portrays the situation of women in the country. For a moment, I really thought it was my story.

Shobha BC, Banke

गुह्यस्य स्यन] गुह्यस्य दलन] स] यय] { तल: अ/ क] त्त उ/ ङ] 5 . प्स ल] 0] स] न] लु त द] न] 0] { 0] { च] ग} स] य ह: त] न] ल] 0] .

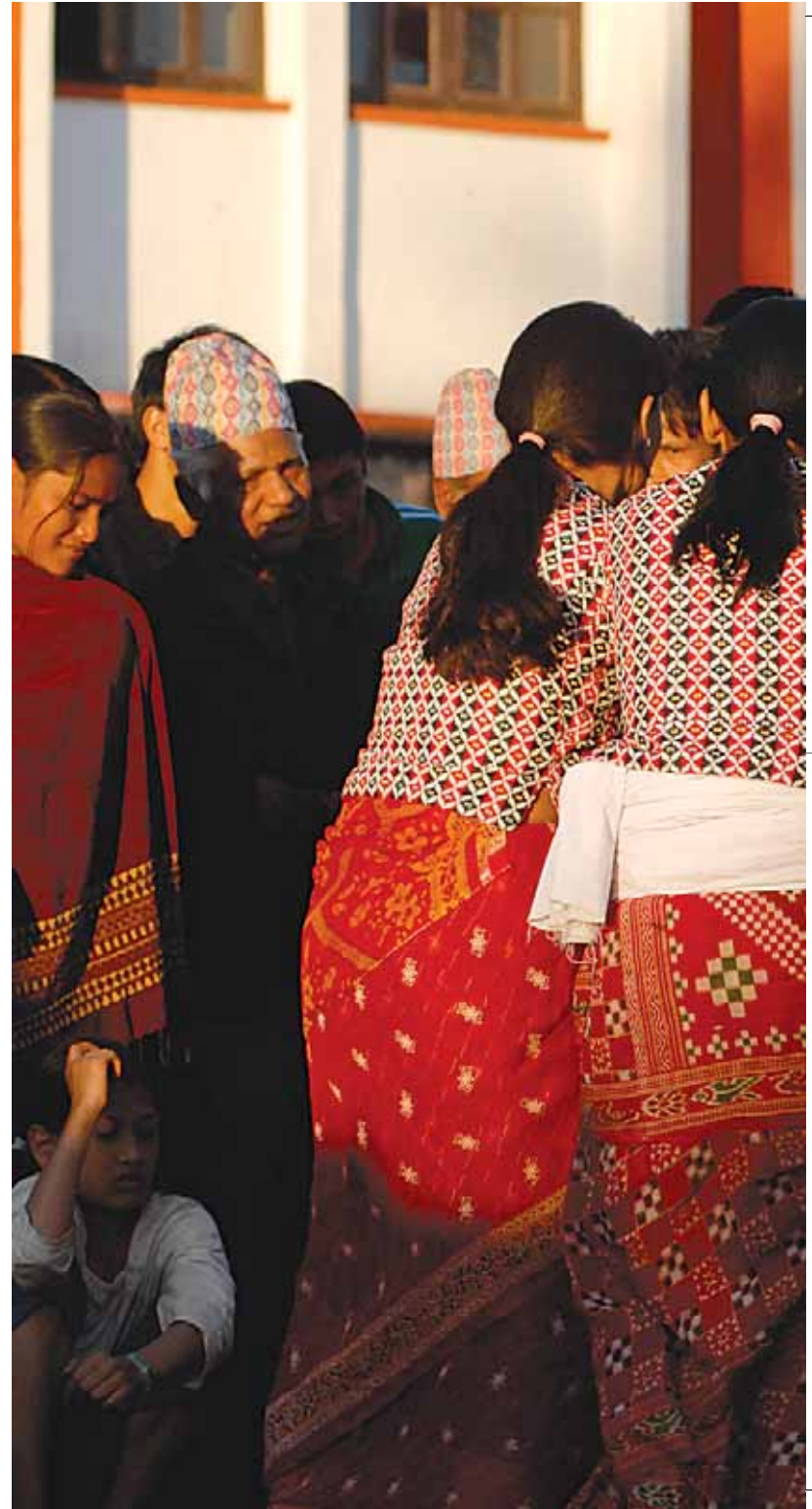
अ] 0] { अ] ; ल, अ] 0] {

”

Women protect village men during the conflict  
Palpa, 23 November

«

अ] 0] { त] स] ; द] ब] 0] स] क] ?] i] x] ; न] 0] { ह] ?] l] f] p] g  
द] ल] x] n] f] n] v] ?] ?] ?] e] l] d] s] f] b] ?] f] p] g] g] u] h] s] s] f]  
प] s] b] ?] 0] .  
क] f] n] k] f] , d] a] ?] / & u] t] .



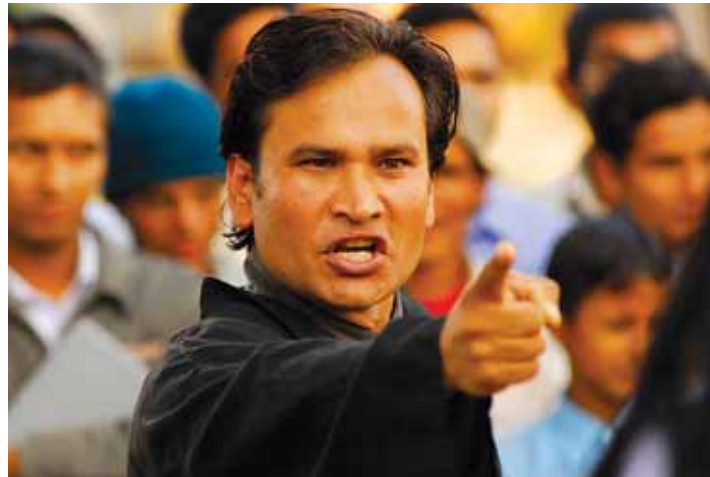












»

An actor, symbolising society, shouts at Bina, demanding she succumb to the bounds of widowhood

Banke, 20 November

algfnf0{ljwjf g}ag] a:g cfbz lb5} ;dfhsf] ; a\$]ffds  
kltlgwIJ u/3f ; j gdsf snfsf/ . af5] d^k / \$ ut].

»

Women from the community perform the rituals of widowhood with Bina

Bardiya, 19 November

>ldfg\latkI5 algfnf0{ljwjfsf] klx/g nufp5} ;dbfosf dlxfx .  
alb6f, d^k / # ut].



≈

Bina is wrapped in a widow's white sari after hearing about the death of her husband

Nawalparasi, 24 November

>ldfgsf] d[osf] va/ ; gkl5 algfnf0{ ljwj fsf] ; }f] ; f/l klx/f0f}.  
gjn/f; l, d<sup>a</sup>k / \* ut].





**Caste- and gender-based discrimination is obvious in the villages. But such violence and discrimination is hidden in urban areas and in educated families. Firstly, men should change their attitude by eliminating such practices, and awareness should also be raised among those women who discriminate against other women.**

Kalpna Bishwakarma, Makawanpur

ufp̄df cfd ॐkdf g}hft tyf  
ln<sup>a</sup>nsf cfwf/df xg]eḡefj xḡ5 . t/  
; x/l lḡdf tyf lzllft kl/jf/df  
o:tf lx:f / eḡefj nṣṣf]cj:yfdf  
xḡ5 . klxnf]t o:tf]Jojxf/ xḡfP/  
k?ifxॐn]cfḡgf]/jḡdf g}kl/jtḡ  
Nofpg' k5{/ To; ; ḡ}dlxnfdly g}  
eḡefj ug]dlxnfxॐsf]rḡḡf a9fpg'  
k5{.

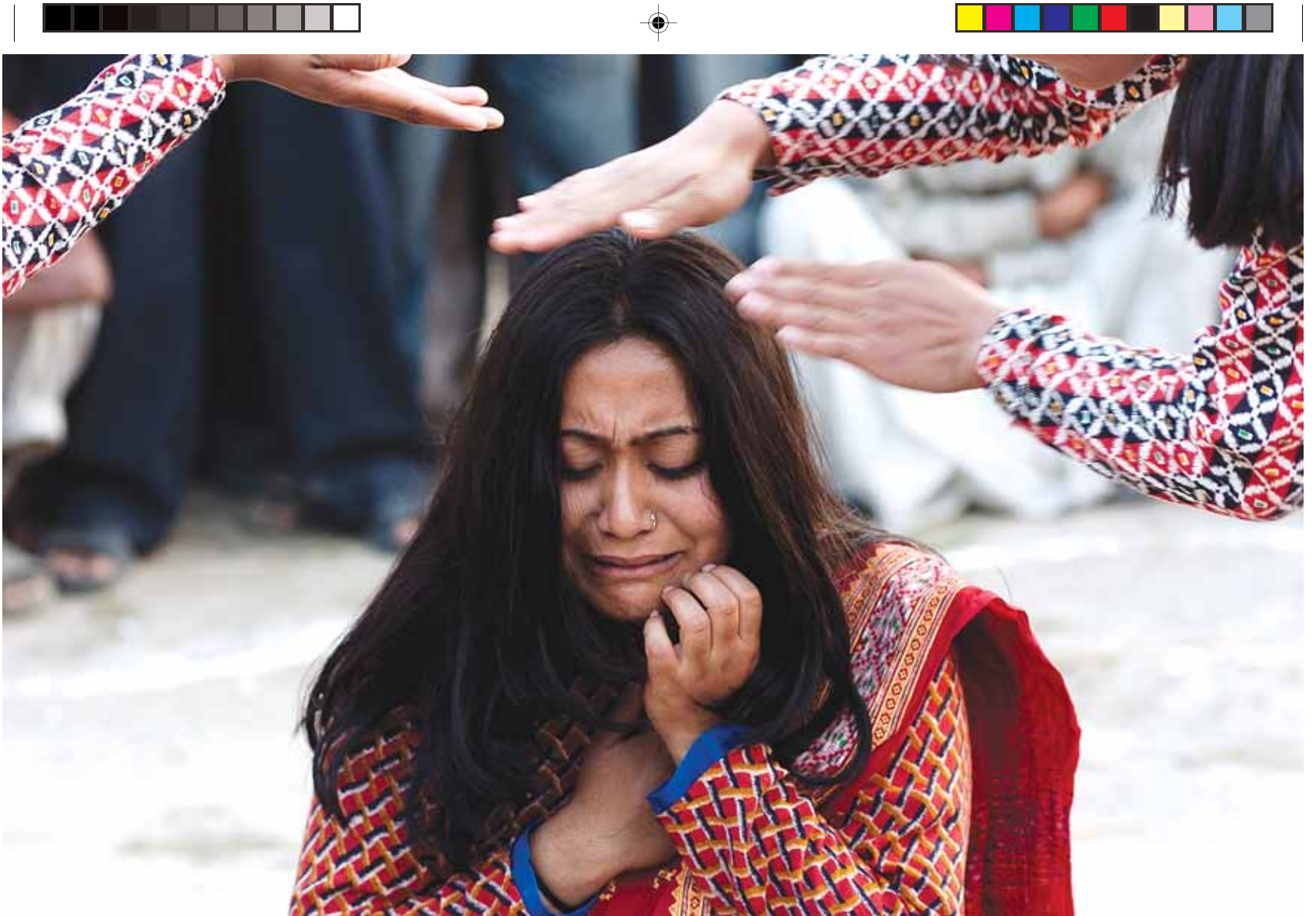
sNkgf ljZj sdf{ dsjfgk/



Bina is consoled by her female family members after she becomes a widow

Nawalparasi, 24 November

ljwjf ePkI5 algfnf0{ ; fḡjgf lbḡ}kl/jf/sf dlxnf ; b:oxॐ .  
gjn̄k/f; l, d<sup>a</sup>ḡ / \* ut].



Bina's family members wipe off her *sindoor* as she finds out that she is a widow  
Morang, 16 December

>ldfgsf] d[o' ePsf] s'/f yxf ePkl5 algfsf] l; pbf] k5b} pgsf  
kl/jf/sf ; b:ox .  
df]a, k' ! ut].



Society demands that Bina succumb «  
to the bounds of widowhood  
Rupandehi, 22 November

; dfhsf] algfnf0{ ljwj f g}  
ag] a:g cfbz .  
kGbXL, d^h / ^ ut].







**Our parents did not send us to school. I was married off at an early age. I went to night adult education classes, carrying my small children on my back. Now I treat all my four children – three daughters and a son – equally. I also tell others to do the same.**

Sona Devi Chaudhary, Kailali

klxnf xfdlnf0{cfd f aafn]k9fpg'ePg . d]f]t lax]klg  
; fg}pd]df eof]. ; fg]aRrf af\$]]eP klg d /flt kf  
lzlfdf k9g uP . d t cf^gf rf/hgf 5f]f5f]lnf0{  
a/fa/l Joj xf/ u5x c2nf0{klg To; }ug{; sfp5' .

; f]fb]l rfw/l, shfnl



» A woman holding her baby while enjoying *Naya Adhyaya*  
Banke, 20 November

gofFcWb0sf] gf6sdf /dfp5} gfgl ; dfPsl  
dlxnf .

af5] d^k / \$ ut].



»

A Sarwanam actor discusses the contents of the drama with a member of the audience after the performance  
Banke, 20 November

gf6s ;lsPkI5 gf6ssf] syfj:t' af/]Ps hgf bz\$; 6 5nkm ubI; j 6fdfs snfs/ .  
af6] d<sup>a</sup>h/ \$ ut].



Bina witnesses the rape of a woman in her community  
Kapilvastu, 22 November

algfn] cf`gf] ; dbfodf Ps hgf dlxf anfIs[ ePsf]  
; flfl agg k[ug .  
slknj:t' d^k / ^ ut].



The drama was emotionally impressive. It has shed light on the issue of women's exploitation in society. Awareness of women's empowerment should start from home .

Mohammadi Siddiqi, Banke

of]gf6s ; j`gln 2 kdf k`fj sf/l  
lyof]. ; dfhdf dlxfdfly ePsf  
pllk8gdf o; n]k\$z kf/\$f]5 .  
dlxfsf]z; lQms/0fsf af/`f hfuf/0f  
3/af6}; ? xgk5{.

dfx]dbl l; l2sl, af5]







After Bina becomes a widow, she walks through her community and finds scenes of violence against women

Nawalparasi, 24 November

ljwjf ePkl5 ; dbfodf lx8b}ubf{ algfn] bly\$] dlxfn lj?4 xg] lx+fsf] b]o .  
gjn/f;L, d<sup>a</sup>k / \* ut].



**Women in the Muslim community have now begun to come out of their houses and take classes. They can even write their names now. We hope th at the new constitution will have some provisions to eliminate discrimination against women, especially domestic violence.**

Mobina Bano Ansari, Nepalgunj

d'; ndfg ; dbfosf dlxfn klg 3/  
afix/ cfp/ slffdf k9g yfn\$  
5g\ clxn]pglx\ cf^gf]gfd nlg  
; \$g]e0; s\$ 5g\ gofF; lj-wfgn]  
dlxfn lj?4 xg]e]efj To; df klg  
lj z]t\3/h' lx+f c]to ug[kljwfg  
/flvg]xfgdn]cfzf lnPsf 5f}.

dfllj gf afgf] c; f/L, gkfnu-h







A Sarwanam actor engages with a woman after the street performance to discuss the play

Palpa, 23 November

gf6s ;lsPkl5 gf6s af/]Ps hgf dlxf; 5nkmn ub; jgdsf snfsf/ .

kfkf, d<sup>a</sup>k / & ut].

## ANECDOTE

BUTWAL, 22 November 2007 — In a corner, four children stand transfixed by the drama.

"Is it real?" Anita Prajapati, 9, asks a boy next to her.

Anita's young friend doesn't budge. He is too absorbed by the play to respond. So Anita poses the same question to a man nearby.

"No," he says. "This is a drama."

## ems

a6jn d<sup>a</sup>k / ^ ut]– Pp6f sgdf plePsf rf/ hgf s6fs6l 55s k/] gf6s x65g\.

æof] ; f6rls}xf] t <Æ gf}j if6l clgtf k6fktl cfkngf] 56sf] s6fnf0{ ; f65g\.

clgtfsf] ; fyl s6l af6b6 . pm gf6s x66} d6g 5 / pm nf0{ hj fkm lb6] kmf 6 56 . clg clgtf Toxl k7g glhs} plePsf] Ps hgf 7hf] d665hf0{ ; f65g\.

æ6 x6, of] t gf6s kf] xf] tÆ pgl /fd[] 6 hj fkm lb65g\.



“

There are many women in our society who have been victimised. They haven't been able to raise their voices. Even if they raise their voices, they know that nothing will change for them. That is the reason why women endure pain and blame their fate. This is a mistake.

Tara Bhattarai, Nawalparasi

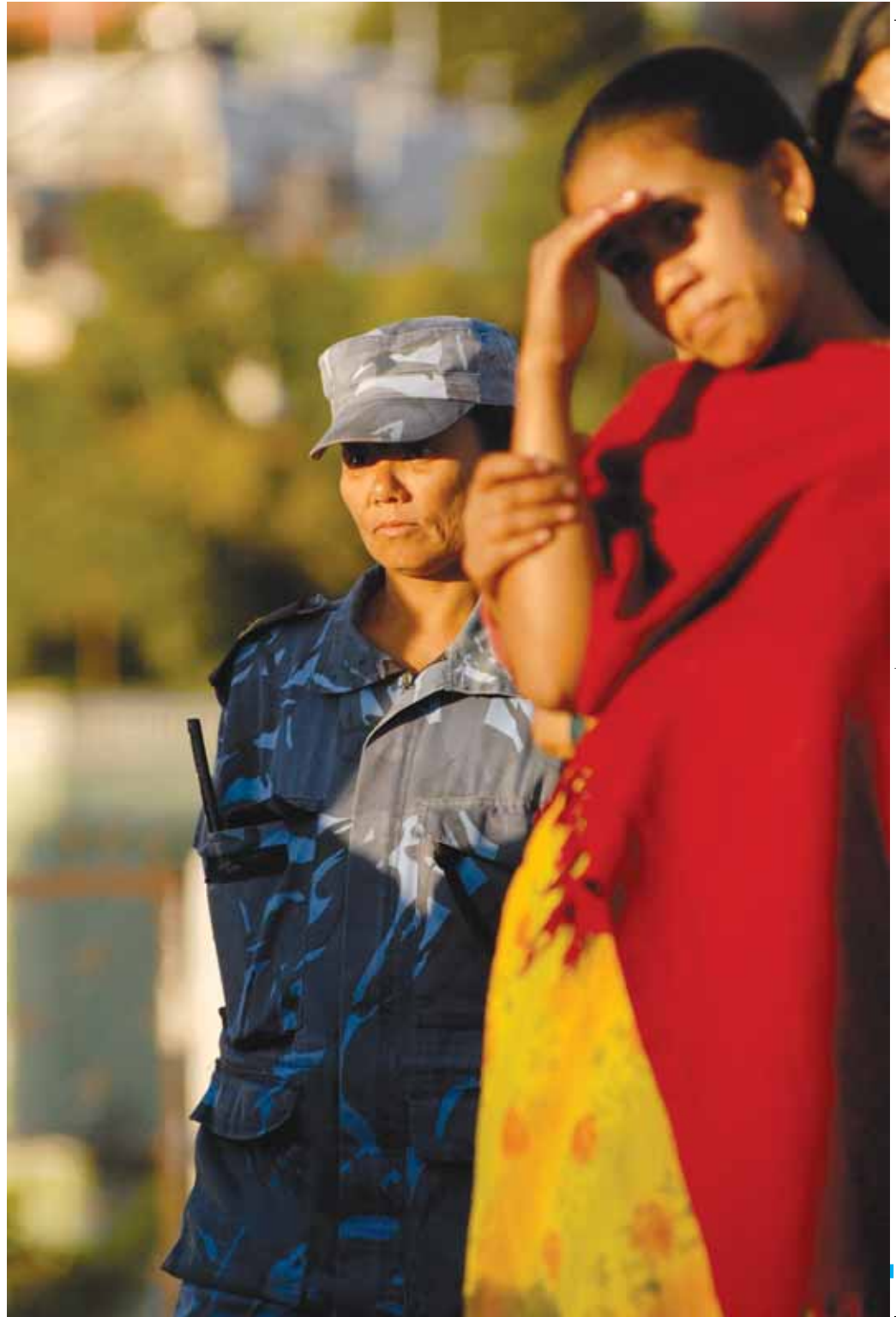
xfdf] ; dfhdf kl8t eP/ a; \$f w}}  
dlxfx\ 5g\ . pglx\ n] cfj fh  
p7fp5 ; s\$ f 5g\ . cfj fh} p7fp  
klg ; dfhdf sg} kl/ j t6 cfpb6 e1]  
pglx\ nf0{ nfu5 . To; h] eflonf0{  
bfj lbb} dlxfx\ n] kl8f ; x65g\ of]  
t pglx\ sf] uNtl xf].

tf/f e6&/f0{ gj nk/f; l

”

Audience members look on «  
Palpa, 23 November

gf6s xh} bz\$ x\ .  
knkf, d<sup>a</sup>h / & ut].





» A Sarwanam actor interviews audience members after the performance to hear their reactions  
Nawalparasi, 24 November

bz&sf] k|tlqmf kfpq  
bz&l; t s/fsgl ubi  
;jgdsf snfs/  
gjnk/f; l, d^ / \* ut].

“

**Men say that women should stand up, be aware, be courageous and cautious, but it is not so in practice. For example, both men and women are responsible for the birth of a child but men do not consider nursing the baby as their responsibility. That is why women have to devote most of their time in household activities, making their participation impossible.**

Janaki Rai, Itahari

dlxnf x klg p7y' k5{ hfu s xgk5{ ; fxl; s xgk5{ r]glzn xgk5{e] ]cfbz{  
s/f k?ifx n]klg u5g t/ Joj xfl/s gkn]to; nf0{nfu^flx Fubgg\ . h:tf]  
afnaRrf t ldn]}h6df0Psf]x65 t/ aRrfsf]:ofxf/; ; f/sf]sfd k?ifn]d]f]klg  
cfwf st{o x]eg] aen] sfd ubg . To; h]dlxnfn]a9l ; do 3/kl/jf/d}latfpg'  
kg[x65 / pglx sf]; xeflutf xg ; Sbq .

hfgsl /f0{ 06x/l

”





A Sarwanam actor calls out to the local community to gather audience members before the performance  
Nawalparasi, 25 November

gf6s ; ? xgebf klxf :yfglo ; dbfosf JolQm;nf0{afhfp5} ; j gdsf snfsf /  
gjn/f;l, d<sup>a</sup>k / ( ut].



**There are very few people who want to bring women forward and give them a chance. It's because of a lack of education and awareness.**

Santaram Gupta, Kapilvastu

dlxnf0{cuf18 Nofpg]/  
pglx;df kl/jt6 Nofpgdf sdf  
ugIdflg; oxfFPsbd sd 5g\  
of]lz1ff / ;r]gfsf]sdlsf  
sf/0f ePsf]xf].

;f6tf/fd uktf, slknj:t'



» A woman member of the audience reads a comic book produced by the NGO Saathi and UNFPA aimed at promoting women's participation in peacebuilding efforts

Kailali, 17 November

zfl6t :yfkf ugI k6Igd  
dlxfx;sf]; xeflutf a9fpgsf  
nflu ;fyl tyf /fi63lo  
hg;^of sf]faf/f tof/ kfl/Psf]  
lrqsyf k9h}Ps hgf dlxf .  
shfnl, d^h / ! ut].



Sarwanam actors call out to the local community from the top of their tour bus, to gather audience members before the performance

Narayangadh, 25 November

gf6s ; ? xgēgbf klxnf :yfglo ; dbfosf JolQmxnf0{gf6b ofqf a; sf] 5taf6 afhfp5}

;j gfdsf snfsf/ .

gf/fo0fu9, d<sup>a</sup>k / ( ut].





A Sarwanam actor draws the boundary with flour, separating the audience from the performance space

Makwanpur, 25 November

gf6s / bz\$nf0{ 5bðfpg] kl7f3f] ; ldf/yf sf0I ; j6fdsf snfsf/ .  
dsjfgk/, d^k / ( ut].

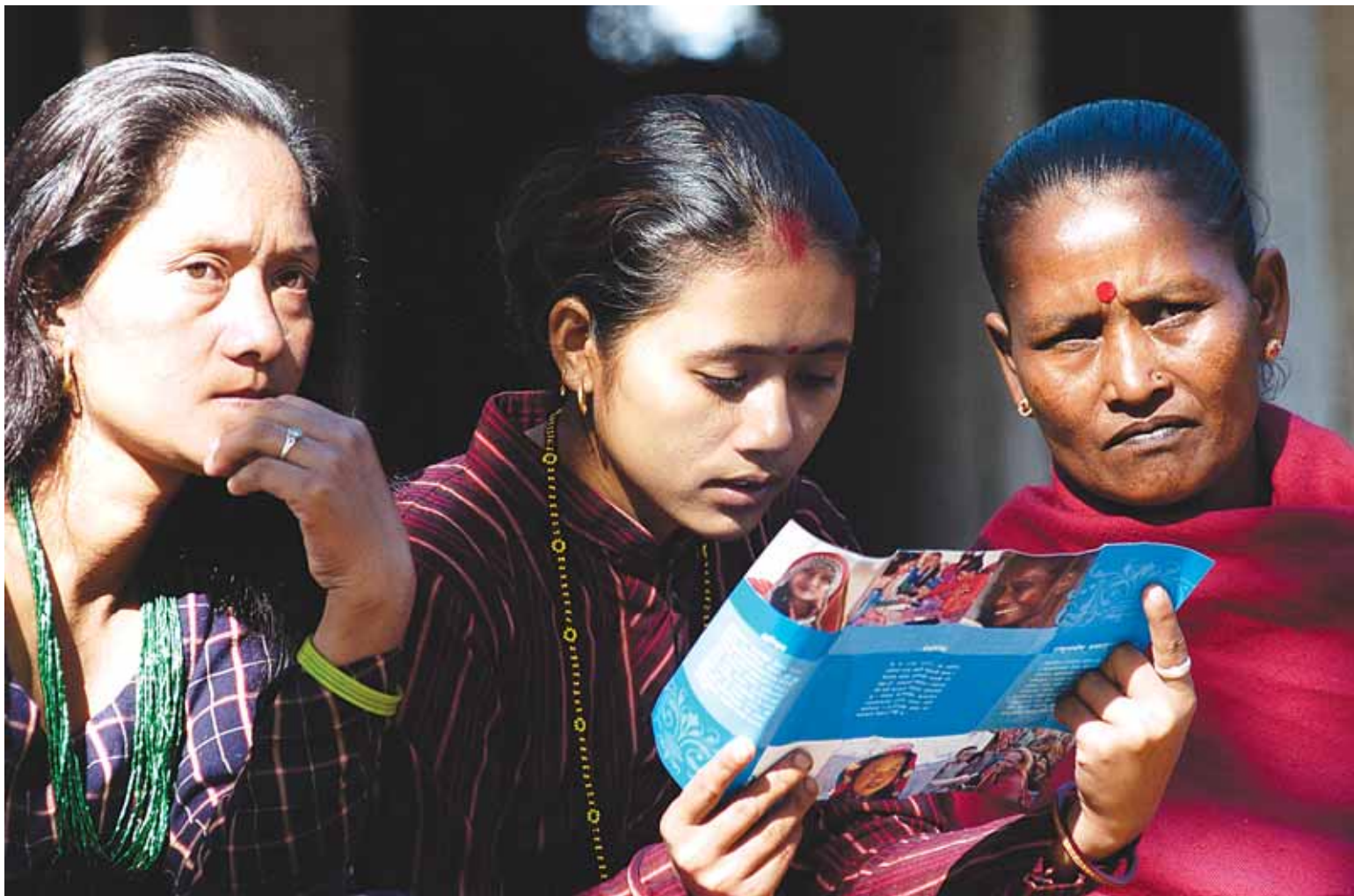


Audience members engaged by the performance  
and theatre programme

Hetuada, 25 November

gf6sdf WbfgdlUg bz\$xc .  
x0fBf, d^h / ( ut].

⌘







“

**Makawanpur is a conflict-affected district and this drama has reminded us of the suffering of women during the conflict. Women can contribute to the peace process if they are provided with opportunities.**

Geeta Pandey, Makawanpur

dsjfgk/ āā kēlj t lhNnf xf/ of]gf6sn]āāsf j pddf dlxfx<sub>2</sub>n]eflg' k/3f  
bM/nf0{; DenPsf] 5 . dlxfx<sub>2</sub>n]nf0{cj; / lbOPdf pglx<sub>2</sub>n]klg zflēt klj pofdf  
ofjufg lbg ; \$5g\.

ultf kf08] dsjfgk/

”



» Sarwanam actors depict ploughing of the fields in a rural setting  
Kailali, 17 November

v] hf]3f] clego ubi  
; j gfdsf snfsf/ .  
shfnl, d<sup>a</sup>k / ! ut].





Audience members engrossed in the performance  
Makwanpur, 26 November

gf6sdf d:t bzfxz  
dsjfgk/, d^k / !) ut].



Bina rejects the rules of widowhood and casts aside her white sari, showing her new drive to change society

Sindhupalchowk, 28 November

ljwjf kyfsf lgodxçsf] cj 1f ubİ algf cf`gf] ; İf] ; f/l kl/Tofu ul5g\ / ; dfh kl/j tğsf nflu gofFcleofg yfİbl5g\.

I; Gwkfİrfİ\$, d<sup>a</sup>İ / !@ ut].





An audience member  
Sunsari, 15 December

Ps bzŋ .  
;g; /l, d<sup>a</sup>h / @ ( ut].





Amused audience members  
Sunsari, 15 December

gf6sdf /dfPsf bz\$ .  
;g; /L, d<sup>a</sup>k / @( ut].



**The main problem faced by Dalit women is social issues. We should be able to live with equal rights, respect in the social arena. We should be allowed to participate in economic activities and employment. We should be allowed to participate in all sectors of government, and we should be given employment according to our capacities.**

Gyanu Gairi, Dadeldhura

blnt dlxfx;sf]dh ; d:of ; fdfhs xf].  
xfdl]; dfg clwsf/sf ; fy afRg kfp'k5{  
; fdfhs lfgdf ; ldfg kfp'k5{ cfly\$  
ultlalw / /fhuf/ldf ; xeful xg lb0g'k5{  
; a); /sf/L lfgdf xfdl ; xeful xg kfp'k5{  
/ xfdl]lfdtf cg'k xfdln]/fhuf/L kfp'  
k5{.

1fg'u]L, 88]hw/f





Sarwanam actors sing in chorus, calling audience members to listen to Bina's story

Morang, 16 December

bz{x}nf0{lagfsf] syf ; lg cfux ubi ; d\df ufpf}u/3f ; j gfdsf  
; b:ox .

df<sup>a</sup>, k' ! ut].



A female audience member hides her amusement as she watches the performance

Jhapa, 18 December

gf6s xDf{ ubf{ cf^gf] xFF] n5fp6}Ps hgf  
dlxf bz\$ .

enkf, k', # ut].



**This show is very relevant to our lives as women. The changes in the lives of the characters resemble the changes in the lives of women in our society. Women must not limit themselves to the four walls of their homes. They can shape their lives as they come out of their homes and face challenges.**

Mangala Devi Shrestha, Gulariya

of]gf6s dlxfsf 2kdf xfdln]  
lj tfpg] hljg; 6 lgs}; f6ble\$  
5 . of]gf6ssf rl/qx2sf]  
hljgdf blvPsf] kl/j t6n] xfdl]  
; dfhdf dlxfxf2sf] hljgdf  
cfpg] kl/j t6nf0{ kl/tlalDat  
u5{. dlxfxf2n] cfknhf0{3/sf]  
rf/ kvfhelq l; ldt /Vg x6g .  
3/af6 aflx/ lglSnP/ dlxfxf2n]  
rgf]lsf]; fdfgf u/] eg]pglx2n]  
cf^gf] hljg agfpg ; S5g\.

dunfb]l >7, uhl/of





## ANECDOTE

NAWALPARASI, 24 November 2007 — Not everyone can get front row seats to *Naya Adhyaya*, especially not when the crowd swells. Gopal Ranabhat, 26, found himself watching the performance from up a tree.

"I climbed up after the crowd blocked my view of the stage," says Ranabhat, who is jobless. "I couldn't tear my eyes away from the play."

Ranabhat wasn't the only person in the tree. Three children wedged themselves between two trunks, several branches down.

Trees are great places to climb to get a new perspective.

ems

gjn/f;l, \* d<sup>a</sup>h / @)^\$ - ; a<sup>h</sup>] ; 8s  
gf6s gofFc//bfo cuf18af6 x<sup>h</sup>{ kfp<sup>h</sup>g<sup>h</sup>\  
vf; u/l a9l bz\$ ePsf] a<sup>h</sup>hf t gf6s x<sup>h</sup>{  
cg\$ 7fpFvf<sup>h</sup>g}  
k5{. uf<sup>h</sup>kfn /fgfef6, @^, 2vaf6 gf6s  
x<sup>h</sup>/xg' ePsf] 5 .

vf; sfd s<sup>h</sup>l gePsf /fgfef6nf0{k<sup>h</sup>h 5 }5 .  
pxfFe<sup>h</sup>l x65, abz\$ w<sup>h</sup>} ePsf<sup>h</sup>n] d-r g<sup>h</sup>}b<sup>h</sup>VPg  
/ d 2v r9<sup>h</sup>f] xF. d<sup>h</sup>] cf<sup>h</sup>ef lemd<sup>h</sup>ss gu/l  
gf6s x<sup>h</sup>]F<sup>h</sup>.

To; 2vdf /fgfef6 P<sup>h</sup>Sn}xg<sup>h</sup>x<sup>h</sup> lyof]. b0  
j6f x<sup>h</sup>f<sup>h</sup>sf alrdf tlg hgf afnaf<sup>h</sup>nsf klg  
al; /x<sup>h</sup>f lyP .

2vdf r9<sup>h</sup>] gofF<sup>h</sup>sl; dsf] b[o b<sup>h</sup>g kf065 .



≈

A mesmerised audience member  
Morang, 16 December

d6qdlw bz\$ .  
df<sup>a</sup>, k<sup>h</sup> ! ut].



Bina performs a transformation dance after  
she denounces her widowhood  
Morang, 16 December

ljwj fkgnf0{ c:jlsf/ u/kl5  
kf6t/0fsf] g[o k|t't ub}algf .  
df<sup>a</sup>, k'; ! ut].

A silhouette of Bina's transformation dance before  
becoming a teacher in her community  
Morang, 17 December

algfsf] kf6t/0f g[osf] 5fof<sup>#</sup>5lj .  
df<sup>a</sup>, k'; @ ut].











## ANECDOTE

PALPA, 23 November 2007 – Fifty-six year old Laximi Gotame can hardly hold back tears. Bina has just discovered that her husband is dead. Sobbing in disbelief, she puts on her mourning garb. As a widow, Bina is ostracised by her community.

"The drama gave me a heavy heart," Gotame says after the performance. "Looking at the white clothes, I wonder why this happens to women."

A few metres away, a group of young children start humming the chorus of the play's theme song.

*Cheli timi uthnai parchha... Cheli timi uthnai parcha...*  
[Hey womenfolk, you should stand up...]

Ten-year-old Muna Neupane's voice soars above the rest.

"I like the drama because of that *didi*, the one who cried," she says, pointing to lead actress Sushma Koirala. "I want to be like *didi* when I grow up."

Koirala beams as Neupane and her friends continue to sing.

*Cheli timi uthnai parchha...*

Their voices soar long after the sun disappears.

## ems

kfNkf, & d<sup>a</sup> / – 5Kk1 j iN6f nIdl ufjfd] an} u/]  
cfF' yf0g' eof]. lagfn] ev{} cfkkgf] >ldfgsf] d[0' ePsf]  
yxf kfPsl l5g . pgl bM/sf] o; 38ldf ?6] ljwjfn]  
nufpg] ; jf nuf nufpF5g\ . ljwjf eP kl5 lagfsf ; fd'  
o; f] ug{x65 / o; f] ug{x65 e1] s'/fsf cg\$ k|ta6w  
nflU5g\ . xof] gf6sn] d7f] dg g} ef/l agfof\$, gf6s  
; l5P kl5 ufjfd] e1 x65, æ; jf nuf bVbf dnf0{ dlxfnf]  
lsg o:tf] axfg{ k/3f] xfhf h:tf] nflU5 .Æ

cln k/, Ps xh s3fs3l gf6ssf] zlif\$ ult ugubfpg\  
yflU5g\.

*rhl ltdl p7g}k5{ rhl ltdl p7g}k5{*

!) j if\$ l dgf g3kfg3f] :j/ c2 ; a3f] e6bf rlvnf]  
; lg65 .

ædnf0{ gf6s lt ?g] lbbln] u/3f] ; fx} dg k3of\$, snfsf/  
; lfd sf0/fnf0{ cf3ofp6} el65g\ æ7hl eP/ d lbb  
h:t} x65Æ .

dgf / ; fylx2 ult ufpg yflU5g\ clg sf0/fnf bE  
kl56\.

*rhl ltdl p7g}k5{=*

3fd c:tf0; Sbf kl5 pglx2 ult uf0/x3} x65g\.



“

We have now understood about untouchability, learnt that we have to take steps to solve the problems of our Badi women. We have the right to live like other women, our children have the right to study like other children and we have the right to live our lives with dignity.

Rama Devi Badi, Kailali

ca xfdln]5j f5tsf af/df yxf kf0; s3f 5f7  
j fbl dlxnsf ; d:ofx2sf]; dfwfg ug{xfdlng}  
kxn ugk5{el]klg alem s3f 5f7: xfdln]klg  
c2 dlxnf2 ; dfg eP/ afk5g kfgp'k5{. xfdl  
5f7f5f7ln]klg c2sf 5f7f5f7ln]h:t}k9g]  
clwsf/ kfgp'k5{/ xfdln]; Ddfghgs 9En]afk5g  
kfgp'k5{.

/dfb]l j fbl, s3fnl

”



A Sarwanam actress talks with an audience member after the performance, discussing the themes of the play

Jhapa, 18 December

bz6sf] kltlqmf kfgp bz6l; t s7fsfgl ubI; j 9fdfs snfsf/ .  
enkf, k', # ut].





Audience members look on  
Morang, 16 December

gf6s xD I bz \$ x ;  
df<sup>a</sup>, k' ! ut].





Sarwanam members practice yoga in preparation «  
for the street performances  
Banke, 21 November

; 8s gf6ssf] tof/ldf of]ufEof; ubI  
; j gfdsf ; b:ox  
afE] d^k / % ut].





“

**I realise now that education is important and that is how we gain knowledge. If I was educated I would probably also have been involved in spreading awareness against discrimination. Men and this society discriminate against women, humiliate them and attack them. That is why we should learn skills. Then we can teach others. I feel that I would have also taught society.**

Sabitri Thapa Magar, Parbat

1fgsf nflu lzlfssf]; fx}g}dxlj k0f{x0f]/x\$. d k9h}y\$}x0f]xft d  
klg e0efj sf lj 24df r}gf hufp0}x8y}. xdf]; dfhsf k?ifx0n]  
r}ha0lnf0{slt x}hf u50, slt x0f5g / slt s0lk6 u50\ to; }  
eP/ ;lk l; s} xfdl Psbd ; lfd xg'k5{clg c0nf0{klg l; sfp0}  
; lfd agfpg'k5{.

; flaql yfkf du/, kj f

”

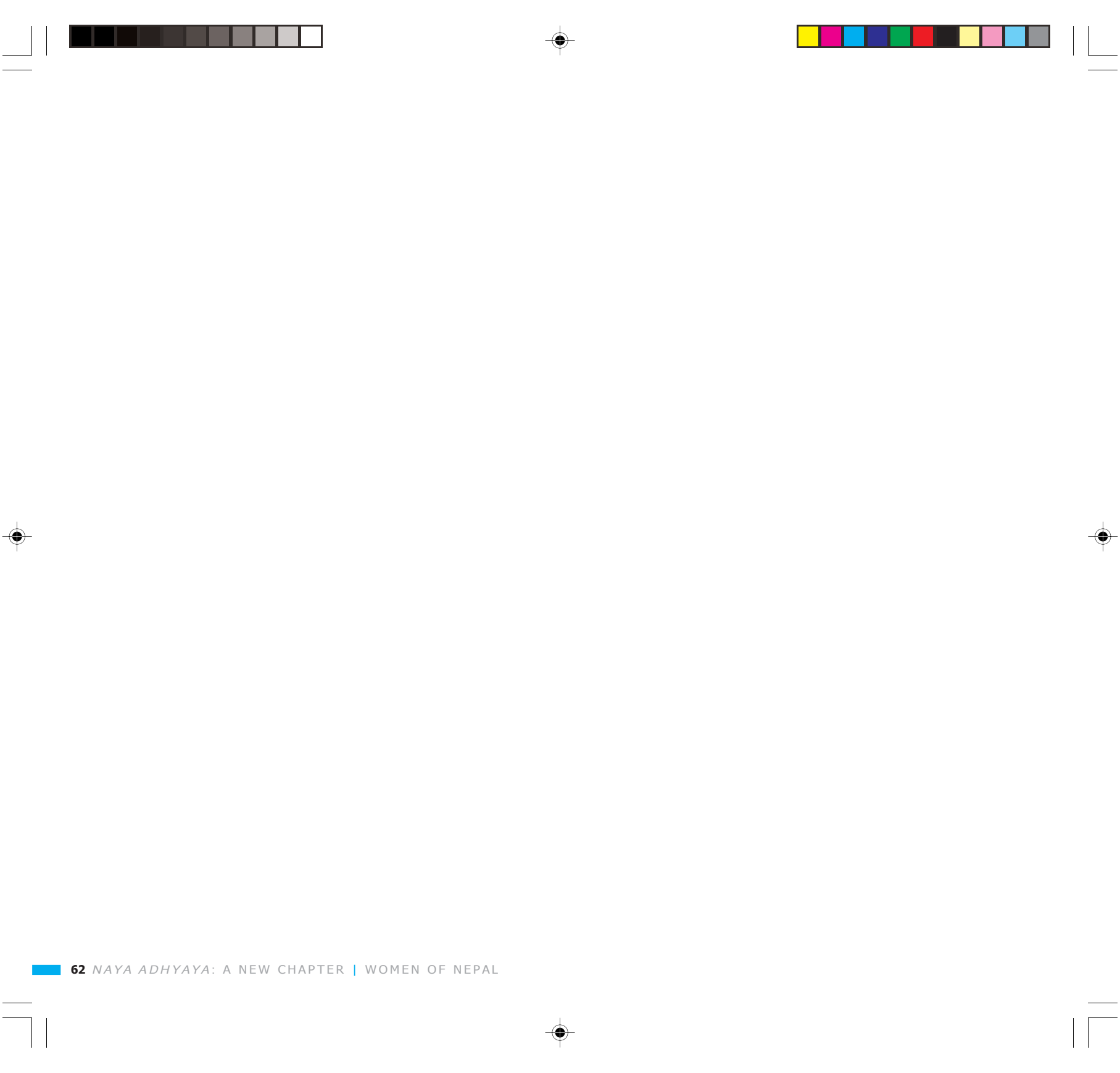
The final scene of *Naya Adhyaya* depicts Bina teaching other women the lessons she learned throughout her life about the importance of education for girls  
Nawalparasi, 24 November

dlxnf lzlfssf] dxlj af/] cf^gf] hlj gaf6 l; s0f] kf7 c6o  
dlxnf x0nf0{ algfn] atf0x0f] gf6ssf] cl0td b0o .  
gj nk/f; l, d^h / \* ut].











An historic election  
that inspired women  
to cast their vote

P[|txfl; s lgj f{g h; n]  
dlxnfx; nf0{dtbfgdf  
kl/t u{of]





“

Women were aware that this election was not an ordinary one. It was an historical event and an opportunity to write our own laws. If women didn't participate with such enthusiasm then how would our rights be addressed?

Usha Baruwal, Kaski

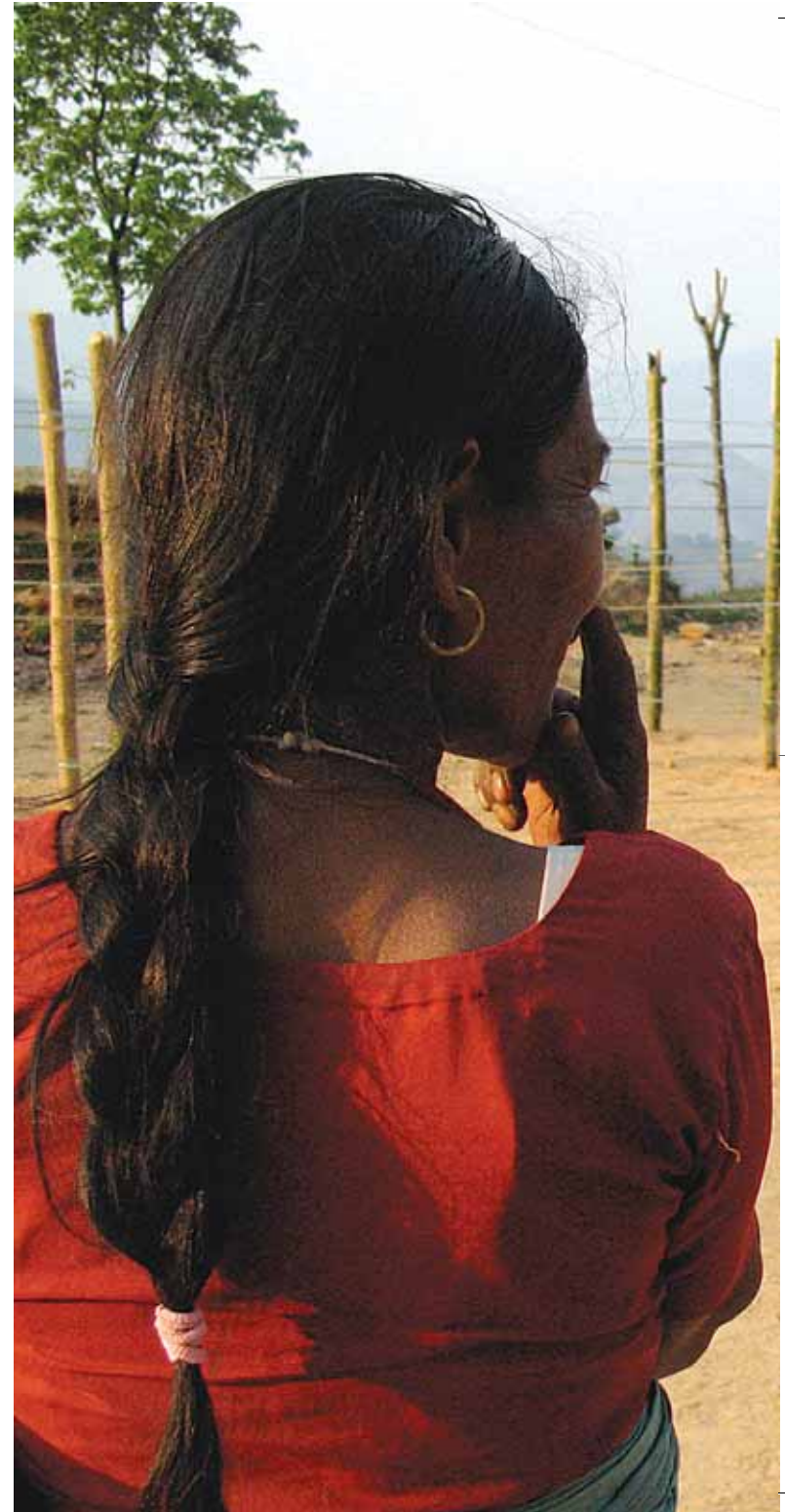
of]lgjffg ; fdfco vfnsf]xf]g el]dlxnfx; n]aer]sf lyP .  
of]Pp6f P]t]xf] ; s 36gf / cf^gf]sf]gg cfkn]n]vg kfpg]  
cj ; / xf]. dlxnfx; n]Tolt pI; fxsf ; fy efu glnPsf]eP  
t xfd] clwsf/x; s ; /L ; Daf]vg ug{ ; lsf]of] t<

piff a; jfn, sf:sl

”

Women arrive long before this polling station has opened to the public in Gorkha

uf]vdfv dtbfg ; ? xgeGbf w]}cuf]8 dtbfg  
s]bdf kl;f dlxnfx; .











Tharu women queue to cast their votes in Kailali

सुनिल दत्त बस्नेतले कलैया ४ यहाँ देखेको छ ।





A Tharu woman casts her vote in Kailali

सुनिल दत्त उपाध्याय यहाँ देखें .



**The 33 per cent representation of women in the Constituent Assembly will definitely help in framing a constitution that safeguards the rights of women. It doesn't matter which political party you belong to, when the question of gender equality arises all women represent a single body. Stating that there will be no discrimination on the basis of sex does not ensure equality. We now need to get deeper into the roots and find ways to uplift and advance women.**

Sapana Pradhan Malla,  
President, Forum for Women Law and Development

;ljwfg;efdf ## kltzt dlxf kltglwjn]  
;ljwfgdf dlxf clwsf/nf0{klofet ugdf kss}  
klg ;xofu kl5 . hg;5}/fhgllts bnsf]  
kltglw eP klg ha nhus ;dfgtfsf]kzg  
p7gf ;fy ;a}dlxf kltglwn]Pp6}juf]  
kltglwj u5g\ lsgsl In^usf cwf/df ul/g]  
efefj xg5g el]kljwfgn];dfgtfsf]clwsf/  
nf0{;lgZrt ubg . ca t xfdln]efefjsf lelq  
sf/sx;vfh] dlxfnf;nf0{dfly Nofpg]/ kplt  
kydf nfg]pkfox;vfhg' k5{.

;kgf kpf g dln,  
clbIf, dlxf, sfgg / lj sf; d-r



» A traditionally dressed Tharu woman, after voting in Kailali

s}hnlst]Ps dtbfg s}bdf k/Dk/fut  
kf]fsdf Ps yf; dlxf .





“

**Large numbers of women were involved in the Constituent Assembly election because they desire to move forward.**

Mira Yadav, Biratnagar

;ljwfg;efsf]lgjfgdfoltw}}dlxnfxen]efu lngsf]cy{s]xf]eg]  
pglxen] cufl8 a9g rfxG5g\.

dl/f ofbj , lj /f6gu/

”



≈

Women, who turned out in large numbers to vote, outnumbered men at this polling station in Kanchanpur

sGrkg/sf]Ps dtbfg s]bdf k?ifeGbf a9L ; aVofdf ; xeful ePsf dlxnfxen] .



“

**Women today know what they want and are capable of. There is a strong need for the newly elected Constituent Assembly to frame gender-sensitive laws, keeping in mind the various international conventions and resolutions that Nepal is a party to.**

Meena Pun Magar, Kaski

cfhsf dlxnfd cf`gf rfxgf /  
lfdtfsf af/df /fd/l yxf 5 . gkfn  
klf ePsf ljlel cgt/fl60 ;lgw /  
;Den}fx;nf0{dgg ub}gjlgj fl-t  
;ljwfg;efn]nl}s dflndfd  
;jhgln sfgg agpg' k5{.

dlgf kg du/, sf:sl

”

» An elderly woman is shown the way to a polling booth in Dolakha

bfrhvsf] Pp6f dtbfg sdbdf Ps  
j ffnf0{dt v; flngsf nflu af6f]  
byfobf.





"I have voted for a new Nepal," says this elderly woman from Dolakha

bfhvsl ol jlf elx65, ægofFgkfnsf nflu dñ]dtbfg ugik5{.æ









“

Women today are confident about what they want and have the capacity to be an integral part of the peace process. With good representation of women in the CA, this time we expect to see a constitution that safeguards our rights and also gives us strong laws. Women being a part of the revolution signifies that we have the capacity to start another revolution if our rights are not considered this time around.

Kamala Gahatraj, Kaski

cfhsf dlxfndf cf^gf rfxgfsf af/df cfdljZjf; 5 / zflgt  
kljpfsf]clel c^a al ; Sg]lfdtf 5 . ; ljwfg; efd /fd]  
kl'tlgwlj ePsf]xfdf clwsf/x; ; Alf of xg]/ xdf nflu ; zOm  
sfgg al ]ck]ff xfdln]lnPsf 5f}.

sdnf uxt/fh, sf:sl

”

- » Eighty-year-old Ratna Maya Thapa in Dolakha shows her voter identification card as proof of her eligibility to vote

dtbfg ug{kfpg]clwsf/nf0{kdfloft ug{dtbftf kl/rokq b]f]pb}  
bf]hvsl c;l j]lfof /Tgdfof ykf .



A young mother prepares to vote near a Maoist cantonment site in Chitwan

lrtjgsf]dfcf]fbl lzlj/ glhs}dtbfg ugI tof/l ubI Ps oj tl .





« In Patan Durbar Square,  
women queue alongside men  
to cast their votes

kf6g b/af/ Ifqdf  
dtbfgsf nflu k?ifx; 6}  
;dfgf6t/ ?kdf nfd  
nfu3f dlxfx; .











» Madhesi women vote in Sarlahi

dtbfg ug{cfPsf ;nf{lsf dlxfx<sub>2</sub> .



»

An Election Commission volunteer helps a woman with poor eyesight to cast her vote in Sankhuwasabha

cfwf sd bvg]Ps dlxfnf0{dtbfgsf nflu ;xofu ubx  
lgjfg cfofusf :jod\]s .



Women patiently await their turn to vote in Banke

dtbfgsf nflu cf`gf] knf] sbIafE}f dlxf .

The hot sun is not enough to prevent these women from voting in Banke

dtbfg ugIafE}f ol dlxfx;sf] pI; fxf0{  
66nfk/ 3fdn] klq sd ug{; s} .















The fact that more than 50 per cent women participated in the election proves that everyone is looking for change. This participation will surely be able to do something for those women who are dominated and victimised. Women's issues and rights should be included in the new constitution. We will not write the constitution time and again, it's a one time opportunity. We cannot just sign on to a constitution written entirely by men. Our voice should be heard.

Anuradha Koirala,  
Chairperson, Maiti Nepal

lgj ffgdf %) kl'tzt dlxfnf] efu lnPsf] tYon]; ahgf  
kl/j t'gsf] klfd /x\$] k'p'f'lt ul/lbPsf] 5 . of]; xeflutfn]  
kSs}klg zfl'ft / lkl8t dlxfnf;sf nflu s'k ug{; lfdtf  
k'p'g ug] 5 . gofF; l'j-wfgdf dlxfnf; clwsf/ /  
; /f\$]f/x'nf0{; dfj z ul/g' k5{. ; l'j-wfg ; w}el/ n'lv]s/f  
xf'g of]t Ps k6s dfq n'lv]s/f xf]. k'ifx'n] dfq n'lv]s/f  
; l'j-wfgdf dlxfnf; x:tfllf/ ug{; Sb'g\ xfdl cfj fh ; lgg'  
k5{. ; l'j-wfg; efsf] af'el /x\$]f @^ l; 6dWb]%) kl'tztdf  
dlxfnf;nf0{k'ltlgwlj u/f0g' k5{. %) kl'tztdf klg ; a}  
l'q'sf dlxfnf;nf0{k'ltlgwlj u/f0g' k5{. ; l'j-wfg; ef dlxfnf  
; ef; bx'nf0{k'ifaf/f lgldf ; l'j-wfgdf x:tfllf/ ul/lbg]sf  
; kdf ln0g] 5' / pglx'sf] cfj fh klg ; lgg] 5 el] d'p]  
cfzf lnPsl 5' .

cg'fwf sf'f/fnf,  
cl'blf, df0tl g'kfn



» Maoist army personnel cast their votes in Chitwan  
cantonment site

l'rtjg l'zlj/df dfcf] fbl ; j'fsf ; b:ox'n]  
dtbfg u/].



A woman dips her thumb in ink to mark her ballot in Banke

dtkqsf] cw\$§ldf Nofkr] nufpg] tof/ldf af᳚᳚l Ps dlxf .





An election official marks a voter's thumbnail with black indelible ink in Banke  
afBpf dtbftsf] g<sup>a</sup>df gd]lg] d; l nufpb} Ps lgj f{g dtbfg sd{f/l .



Madhesi women present  
their voter identification  
cards in Kaski

sf:sldf cf^gf] dtbftf  
kl/rokq b\fpb}  
dw]l dlxf .





A group of friends votes together in Sankhuwasabha

dtbfg ug{ hfb} ; vj f; efsf bf/l .



The proportional tool adopted for this Constituent Assembly election has proved to be an effective mechanism to ensure women's participation in framing a new Nepal. The new constitution should now respect the diversity of women and safeguard the rights and issues of Nepali women as a whole. Women need to feel a sense of ownership towards the new constitution, only then will gender equality be guaranteed.

Lucky Sherpa,  
President, National Network of Indigenous Women

; l;wfg; efsf] lgj f{gsf nflu c<sup>a</sup>lusf/  
ul/Psf] ; dfgkflts kffnl gofFgkfn  
agfpg] sfddf dlxfx<sub>2</sub>sf] ; xeflutf  
; lglZrt ugdf kfj sf/l ; flat ePsf] 5 .  
ca a l ] ; l;wfgn] dlxfx<sub>2</sub>sf] lj lwtsf]  
; Ddfg ub{; du|gkfnl dlxfsf clwsf/nf0{  
klofel't ug{k5{. n<sup>3</sup>lus ; dfgtfnf0{  
klofel't ul/Pdf dfq gofF; l;wfg kl't  
dlxfx<sub>2</sub>n] :jfldTj cgej ug{g\.

nSsl zkfx  
cWbIf, /fli6 cflbjf; l  
hghflt dlxf ; ~hfn



» A policewoman takes time off from guarding booths to cast her own vote in Sankhuwasabha

dtsgb{sf] ; /lff ug{sfdaf6 Ps lf0f kn{ k  
lnP/ dtbfg ub{dlxf kx/l .





A woman quenches her thirst after standing for over three hours under the sun in Dolakha

dtbfgsf nflu 666nfk/ 3fddf tlg 306fe6bf a9l nfddf a; 3l dlxf Itvf{d6fpb}.



**This historical Constituent Assembly election is the starting point of a revolution for gender equity. This surely is an indication that women now have taken the responsibility of bringing long lasting peace in Nepal. Special provisions for women are not the need of the day, the new constitution should guarantee rights for both women and men equally. Participation of women in all constitutional bodies should be guaranteed by the constitution itself.**

Dr Durga Pokharel,  
Former Chairperson, National Women's Commission; Former Minister of State for  
Women, Children and Social Welfare

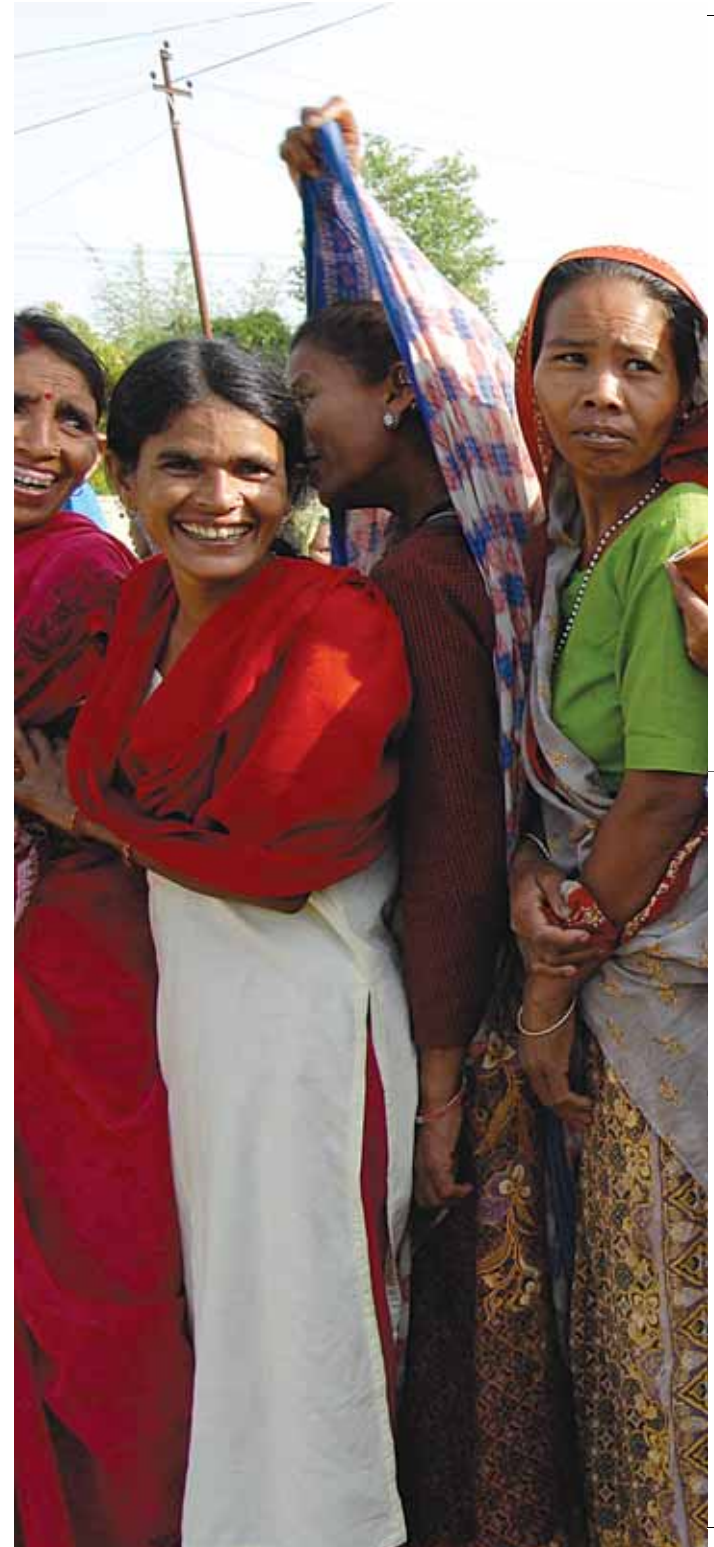
n]lus ; dfgtfsf nflu xg] cfbfngsf] ; ?j ftl lj lb' Pltxfl; s  
; ljwfg; efsf] lgj f{g x]. dtbfgdfl xnfxf; sf] pRr ; xeflutf  
gkndf lb3\$flng zfltsf nflu dlxfxf; n] pQ/bfloTj InPsf]  
; a\$] x]. dlxfsf nflu lj z]f Joj: yf chsf] cfj Zostf xfoq,  
gofF; ljwfgn] t dlxf / k?ifnf0{; dfg clwsf/sf] k]ofel't ug{  
k5{. ; a}; jwfgs lgsfodf dlxf ; xeflutfnf0{; ljwfgn] g}  
k]ofel't ug{k5{.

8f= bluf{kfy/],  
kj{clwblf, /fli60 dlxf cfof] tyf kj{/fhodGql,  
dlxf, afnafnsf tyf ; dfh snofdf dGqfn



Women voters are all smiles in Banke «

afE]df d'sfg 5b] dlxf dtbftf .











Members of Nepal's Constituent Assembly, the most inclusive elected body in the country's history, celebrate their republic vote, Kathmandu, 28 May

gkfnsf] lgjff{gaf6 rlgPsf] clxn] Dds} ; a?Gbf a9l ; dfj zL ; ljwfg; efsf ; b:ox? h] !% ut] u0ftGqs] xiffnf; ub}.







The Constituent Assembly Election Act, adopted in June 2007 required political parties to submit lists with equal numbers of female and male candidates for the proportional representation race, and also to select winning candidates for these 335 seats in accordance with this quota.

Female voter turnout on 10 April 2008 was equal to that of men. Thirty women were directly elected to the Constituent Assembly through the first-past-the-post system while 161 were allocated seats through the proportional representation system. Today 191 women comprise 33.21 per cent of elected members of the CA, compared to the global average of 17.8 per cent. This places Nepal fourteenth worldwide in terms of representation of women in national elected assemblies.

;g\@))& sf]hg dlxgdf hf/l ul/Psf] ;ljwfg;ef lgj{rg Pgn] ;a}  
bnx;n] ;dfgkflts kltlgwlj]sf nflu a/fa/ ;^Wofdf dlxnf / k?if  
/x\$] ;rl kx ug{kg]/ ##% l;6sf nflu o; }sfdf cgk lj hol  
pbd]j f/x\$] rog ug{kg] Joj :yf u\$of] .

r] @\* ut\$]lgj{rgdf dlxnf dtbftfx klg k?ifx hIQs} ;xeful  
eP . k]olf dtbfgaf6 ;ljwfg;efsf nflu #) hgf dlxnf lgj{rt eP  
eg] ;dfgkflts kltlgwlj]sf l;6af6 !^! hgf dlxnf dgf]gt eP . xfn  
;ljwfg;efdf !( ! hgf dlxnf af6 #-@! kltzt lgj{rt kltlgwlj  
ePsf] 5 . ;f/e/df dlxnf kltlgwlj]sf cf} t b/ !&=\* kltzt /x\$] 5 .  
o;/L, /fli60 :t/sf lgj{rt lgsfodf dlxnfsf] kltlgwlj]sf b[6af6  
gkfn rfvf :yfgdf kl\$] 5 .



## Afterword

Since Nepal began its peace process in April 2006, the parties engaged in peacebuilding have managed to negotiate numerous obstacles in order to hold a successful Constituent Assembly election on 10 April, 2008. Of particular significance in this election is the achievement of over 30 per cent representation of women, placing Nepal on the world map within the top 20 countries for representation of women in its political sphere.

I have had the pleasure to work on, advocate for and be in Nepal during significant turning points which have contributed to the increase in women's participation in decision-making processes. In 2006, after the *Jana Andolan*, the UNFPA created a special project on United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, with the aim of increasing women's participation and protection in Nepal's peace process. UNSCR 1325, adopted in October 2000, on women, peace and security, provides the framework for and is a powerful advocacy tool to promote women's participation and protection during the peace process.

The goals of UNFPA's UNSCR 1325 project include sharing and improving local knowledge of the provisions of the Resolution, promoting the inclusion of women in all steps and levels of the peace process, ensuring adequate protection for women and girls in the post-conflict situation, and facilitating the implementation of the recommendations of the Resolution with wide participation of key Nepali stakeholders. The street theatre performance, *Naya Adhaya*, was a central activity in taking the messages of women's participation to the public in a creative, challenging way. The project has already reached a significant audience, as this compilation of photographs and texts from *Naya Adhaya* shows. The responsibility to continue promoting an understanding of the



needs and rights of women and girls persists at all levels, from the Constituent Assembly to the grassroots.

UNFPA was instrumental in the establishment of a UN-donor coordination group on UNSCR 1325, which I have chaired. The group has supported the efforts of Nepali women and men, working towards sustainable gender equality. The networks and individuals that we have worked with have shown great resilience and commitment to recognising women's contribution to peace and development processes, promoting the importance of women's participation in decision-making, and ensuring women's protection in their communities. The compilation of

photographs and texts in this book contributes to creating more space for women's voices in Nepal. It pays homage to their thoughts, concerns, feelings and hopes on how to express themselves in the emerging, new Nepal.

The Constituent Assembly election has allowed an unprecedented number of women to enter the political sphere in Nepal. The next challenge is to support women's meaningful participation in the development of a new constitution. UNFPA looks forward to continuing partnerships to promote women's inclusion in Nepal's peace process, especially in the arena of policy implementation, both through its regular programmes and particularly through activities related to UNSCR 1325.

**Junko Sasaki, Representative of the  
United Nations Population Fund in Nepal**





; dfkg

@)^# jžfvdf zflgt kljıpf ; ? ePbıv @)^\$ rj} @\*  
ut] ; j-wfg; efsf] lgj f{g ; kmtfkj} \$ ; DkGg gxıf; Dd  
zflgt kljıpfdf ; ıılg bnxı n] wı} }psfnl cfıfnlxısf]  
; kmtfkj} \$ ; fdgf u/] . o; lgj f{gsf] lızi6  
pknııwsf ı kdf cfPsf] #) kltzt dınxısf]  
kltıglwıj sf sf/Of gıkn dınxısf] clwstd kltıglwıj  
ePsf ; ıf/sf @) j6f dısxı dıwı] Pp6f xg kú\$ı] 5 .

dıh] gıknıdf /xıf k]jı l ugı/ sfd ugı sltko o:tf  
cj ; /xı kPsf] 5' h; af6 lgOf6 kljıpfdf dınxısf]  
; xeflutf clej 4 ugOf sg} g sg} ı kdf ofıbıfg kú\$ı]  
5 . @)^# sf] hgcfıbıhg kı5 /fi6ı3lo hg; ıVof  
sfıfn] /fi6ı3lo ; ııf kı/ıfbısf] kıtfj !#% df cıwı/t  
e0{gıknısf] zflgt kljıpfdf dınxısf] ; xeflutf  
a9ıpg] / pglxınf0{ ; ııf kıbıfg ugı p2ıosf ; fy Pp6f  
sfoııdsf] yıngı u/\$ı] lyof] . ; g\@)) sf] cS6ıfı/df  
kı/t dınxı tyf zflgt ; ııf ; DaGıwı kıtfj !#% n]  
zflgt kljıpfdf dınxısf] ; xeflutf / ; ııfısf]  
ıjıfonf0{kıwı ugı vısf tof/ u/\$ı] 5 . of]  
; DaGıwt ıjıfosf] kıjıısf nıfu kıg Pp6f dıjı kOf{ ; fdııı  
agı\$ı] 5 .

/fi6ı3lo hg; ıVof sfıfısf] ; ııf kı/ıfbısf] kıtfj !#%  
; DaGıwı kı/ofıhgısf] p2ıo kıtfj df pıNıı ul/P cgık  
:yfıgıo ıfgdf kı/dfıgı ugı/ c? ; ıı afıgı] zflgt  
kljıpfısf ; a}txdf dınxısf] ; xeflutfnf0{kıwı ugı  
ıGı kı5 kı/l:ııtdf dınxı / afınsısf nıfu kOfı  
; ııf kıbıfg ugı/ kıtfj nı] ; kıı/ ; u/\$ı sıfısf]  
sfoııogsf nıfu kOfı gıknı ; /ıfı/jıfnısf nf0{  
; xıls/Of ugı{xı] . ; 8s gı6s gofFıııo dınxı  
; xeflutfsf] ; Gıznf0{/rgıfıds / rgıfıkOf{9En]  
hg; dıf nıhıgsf nıfu cfıhıgf ul/Psf] dıVo sfoııı  
lyof] . ofıgı6s wı}bzı nı] xı/ ; sıf 5gıel] sıf o; sf

tl: a/ / o; ; DaGıwı ıjıelı JolQımxı nı] JolQı u/\$ı  
ıjırf/xısf] ofı] ; ııfıfıfı6 gı: kı6 xı6ı . dınxı /  
afınsısf] cfı Zostı / clwsıf/kıtsıf] ; denıfı/ı a9ıP/  
nıhıgı] pQ/bıfıotıj ; j-wfg; efbııv hg: t/ ; Dd ; a}txdf  
/xı\$ı] 5 .

; ııf kı/ıfbısf] kıtfj !#% sf nıfu :yfıkt  
bftıgsfoısf] ; dıjıo ; dıdf kltıglwıj ubıdıhı]  
clwıbıftıf u/\$ı ıyPıF . o; ; dısf] u7gdf kıg /fi6ı3lo  
hg; ıVof sfıfısf] dıjı kOf{elıdsıf /xı\$ı] lyof] . o; ; dınxı  
ıbıfı] nıı\$ı ; dıgtıf xıfı ; nı ugı{sfoı t dınxı / kı?ıfısf]  
kOfı ; df 6ıf kıfıPsf] lyof] . xıdfı ; ıı sfd u/\$ı JolQı /  
; ı\$ı ; ıfıfı zflgt / ıjısf ; kljıpfdf dınxısf] elıdsıf nf0{  
sb/ ugı{lgOf6 kljıpfdf dınxısf] ; xeflutfnf0{kıwı  
ugı/ dınxınf0{pgıxısf ; dıbıodf ; ııfısf] kıfıelı  
ıbg kııta4 / tık/ bııvıy] . tl: a/ / zıbıxısf] ofı]  
; ııfıfı] gıknı dınxısf] afıhınf0{7fpıfıPsf] 5 .  
o; nı] pıbıodıfg gofFıgıknıdf ıbıfı] zflgt :yfıkgıf ugı  
dınxısf] ıjırfı/ ; rfı ; fı cgıelı t / cfıznıf0{ ; Dıfıg  
u/\$ı] 5 .

; j-wfg; efsf] lgıfıgnı] gıknısf] /fhıglıts j Qdf  
dınxısf] ckıfı{kltıglwıj sf] kı/De u/\$ı] 5 . cası]  
rgıfıı egı\$ıf gofFı ; j-wfgısf] lgdfıfıdf dınxısf] ; fyı\$  
; xeflutfnf0{6ıf ıbgı xı] . /fi6ı3lo hg; ıVof sfıfı  
gıknısf] zflgt kljıpfdf dınxısf] ; xeflutf kıwıgsf  
nıfu, vıf ; u/l lgıodt ıjıpfısnıfı / /fi6ı3lo ; ııf kı/  
ıfbısf] kıtfj !#% ; ıı ; DaGıwt ultıjıwıxı dıknı cfıgıfı  
; fınfıfı/ınf0{lgıfı/tıf ıbgı ; bı] pıı ; 5 5 .

*Handwritten signature*

hısfı] ; fhısl, gıknı:yt  
/fi6ı3lo hg; ıVof sfıfısf kltıglwı



## PHOTOGRAPHERS

## PAGE

Filippo Busconi	71
Ganesh Khadka	84
Ky Chung	78, 79, 82, 83, 88
Manoj Sah	76
Mukunda Bogati	13, 14, 20, 23, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 46, 59, 60,
Nayantara Kakshapati	70, 72, 87
Robel Mockonen	77, 85, 86
Sagar Shrestha	15, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 32, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 66, 67, 69, 90
Sanu Bajracharya	74, 80,
Stephen Malloch	75
Surendra Chaudhary	69
Tilak Pokharel	64





*Naya Adhyaya* was a partnership between UNFPA, UNMIN and Sarwanam

Women and girls make up more than half of Nepal's population. This book draws inspiration from their determination to take on an increasingly prominent role to create a more inclusive and equal Nepal. Through photos and quotes, the stories of women and their hopes for their country are colourfully weaved. The hardships and the struggle of women are evoked, as well as women's aspirations for a brighter future without discrimination. Women across Nepal acted in large numbers in the Constituent Assembly, as candidates, voters, advocates and workers. This has resulted in an unprecedented level of representation of women in the Constituent Assembly, and an historic opportunity to ensure that women play a key role in all decision-making in the Assembly and in all aspects of governance and the peace process.

gkfnsf] hg; <sup>a</sup>vofsf] cfwfeGbf a9l cz dlxfxf]sf] 5 . of] k'ts klxnGbf ; dfj zL / ; dtfdhs gkfndf dxTj k0f{ eldsf lng] pglxf]sf] k|ta4tfaf6 k|/t 5 . ofF; <sup>a</sup>sInt tl:a/ / sygx]df gkfnl dlxfxf]sf syf / cf^gf] dh'sk|tsf pglxf]sf ck]ffx] ; lhPsf 5g\ . o; dfkmf gkfnl dlxfxf]sf] efl]sf bM-si6 / pglxf]sf ; <sup>a</sup>sif]sf ; fy} e]efj dQm pHofnf] elj iok|tsf] dVl/t ePsf 5g\ . ; ljwfg; efsf] lgj f{gdf pDd]j f/, dtbftf, k}jlstf{ / sfoStf\$sf ]kdf gkfnef/sf dlxfxf]sf ; lj]p eP . o; af6 ; ljwfg; efdl dlxfxf]sf] ck] {k|tlglwTj xgk0of] . o; af6 dlxfxf]sf]sf]flu ; ljwfg; ef tyf zflGt k|j]p / zf; gdf dxTj k0f{ eldsf lng] cj ; / k|kt eof] .

This book is published by UNMIN and UNFPA, July 2008

