



**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL**



Press Release - 15 February 2010

OHCHR condemns threats to editors and publishers

15 February, Kathmandu.

The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal (OHCHR-Nepal) is seriously concerned about threats to editors and publishers over news reporting on the murder of media entrepreneur Jamim Shah who was shot dead in Kathmandu recently. Freedom of expression including freedom of the media to publish news fairly and honestly is fundamental in a society that respects human rights and thrives alongside the rule of law and good public security.

"These threats send a chill through the entire community and are condemned" said Richard Bennett, the Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal. "Unfortunately violence against the media is not rare in Nepal and has been witnessed especially against journalists working in the Terai. I urge state authorities to ensure a secure environment that facilitates full enjoyment of rights of freedom of expression as guaranteed by national and international human rights laws."