



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



**Press Release – 8 December 2009**

---

OHCHR launches non-discrimination campaign

8 December, 2009 Kathmandu

OHCHR-Nepal today began an anti-discrimination campaign in the Far West Region. A theatre troupe will visit four districts - Dadelhdhura, Baitadi, Doti, and Kailali over the next 20 days. They will perform a play entitled “Kali Woman” and the performances will be interspersed with workshops for local artists to learn about equality, discrimination and theatre skills. The local artists will be expected to replicate the performances at the village level.

This programme is undertaken in the context of the theme of Human Rights Day in 2009: *Embrace Diversity, End Discrimination*.

The concept of non-discrimination lies at the heart of human rights. Studies, including investigations by OHCHR-Nepal, have noted a correlation between poverty and discrimination against groups marginalised by caste, ethnicity and gender, including the particularly deep entrenchment of discrimination in geographic pockets where poverty is most chronic. For some time, the programme of OHCHR-Nepal in the FW region has focussed on access to economic, social and cultural rights through the lens of non-discrimination. Since July, the office based in Dhangadhi has been fully dedicated to implanting projects in this field.

“This play highlights issues of discrimination, including caste-based discrimination and violence against women and is intended to stimulate awareness and discussion among communities in the FW region so that, in conjunction with the government and other stakeholders, diversity is embraced, together with accountability, thus bringing dignity and equality of opportunity to many minority groups” said Richard Bennett, Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal.

For further information contact Chun Gurung, tel: 4280164, ext 320;  
98510 16937 (mobile), [cgurung@ohchr.org](mailto:cgurung@ohchr.org)  
**Website: <http://nepal.ohchr.org>**