

Effective Participation in Economic, Social and Cultural Life

Ranju Bishwakarma

Vice-President of Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO),

P.O.Box 4366, Kathmandu, Nepal

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Dear Madam & All participants

Warm Greetings from myself and minority groups of Nepal

I am Ranju from Feminist Dalit Organization of Nepal. I would like to give thanks for inviting and giving this opportunity. I am belonging to the dalit community.

In the context of Nepal there are different group of minority like Dalit, Janajati and Muslim. Among them Dalit women's economics and social situation is worse than other. They are facing triple forms of discrimination that is cast, gender and class. They are considered untouchable everywhere. Dalit community is poorest community, 45.5 percent dalits are under poverty line. They are facing hand to mouth problem in daily life. About 76 % of nepali people depend upon agriculture but 23 % of Dalits in hilly region and 44 % in tarai are landless. Dalit community is rich in art, skill and handicraft. But, they are using in very low remuneration. They get their remuneration annually in goods like; rice, maize.

In far western hilly region of nepal, most of dalit go to the India for search a Job. Due to lack of education, they may return back home with HIV/AIDS after some year. Many dalit women have no enough food to eat. They have to do labor work daily more than 12 hours. Many dalit women have prolapsed problem.

The life expectancy of Nepalese Dalit women is 50 years, statistically one of the lowest rates in the world. (one of Dalit group Musahar women only 42 years).

Due to poverty, caste & gender discrimination, Dalit women are suffering from trafficking, sexual harassment and domestic violence. Young women from a small group of Dalits, called *Badi*, are still forced to do traditional commercial sex work for livelihood.

Dear Madam, I would like to mention some recommendation for upliftment of Dalit women economic, social and cultural life.

- Free education with scholarship up to higher education & ensure job after education.
- Ensure right to land.
- Allocate the budget and program for dalit women.
- Allocate resource for capacity development of dalit women and ensure the job guarantee.
- Make ensure of equal wages for equal work.
- Make traditional skill of dalit modernize, commercialize and industrialize.
- Provide soft loan for small business, industry & link up with the market.
- Recognize and take seriously any kind of racial/caste discrimination is violation of human rights.
- Conduct sensitize and awareness program.
- Make positive discrimination policy in recruitment and promotion in Government, private sector and national /International organization.

At the end,

Thank you for your attention.