

Highlights

- Certificate Distribution Program
- Celebration of Pride Social Event
- Celebration of June Pride Month at Koshi Province
- Voices of the LGBTI Community
- Orientation program on Sex, gender and sexuality
- International Federation on Ageing Conference



Certificate Distribution of 15 days Bakery and Barista Training

The certificate distribution program for the 15-day bakery and barista training, supported by the Kathmandu Metropolitan City, concluded successfully in Kathmandu, Bagmati Province. On June 2, 2023, at the Lainchaur Ward Office of Ward No. 26, Kathmandu Metropolitan City, certificates were presented by Laxmi Ghalan, president of Mitini Nepal, Kedar Rimal, Ward Secretary, and Prakash Basnet, the training instructor. Ward Secretary Rimal expressed gratitude and encouraged participants to apply the training's lessons. Laxmi Ghalan thanked all attendees, emphasizing the training's contribution to capacity development and extending special gratitude to the Kathmandu Metropolitan City and the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens. The event was attended by twenty individuals, including the event organizer, ward secretary, training director, facilitators, and community members.



Link for video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9ccK1Cj8KU>



Celebration of **PRIDE SOCIAL EVENT** on the occasion of June Pride Month

June is widely recognized as Pride Month, a time dedicated to celebrating and honoring the LGBTQ+ community. This annual observance serves as a platform to raise awareness about the struggles, accomplishments, and ongoing fight for equality faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer individuals. Pride Month traces its roots back to the Stonewall Uprising in June 1969, a pivotal moment in LGBTQ+ history that ignited the modern-day LGBTQ+ rights movement. Mitini Nepal has organized the "Pride Social Event" 2023 at Bagmati Province, Kathmandu, Maharajgunj on June 24, 2023. June is celebrated every year as Pride Month by the people of sexual and gender minority communities throughout the month of June. Pride Month is celebrated all over the world as a celebration for the identity, equality, freedom, dignity and justice of people belonging to sexual and gender minority communities, and Mitini Nepal has also been celebrating 'Pride Social Event' in a different way for many years. Mitini Nepal has hosted a spectacular pride social event, filled with grand celebrations and a unique infotainment concept. This year's festivities promise to be even more exciting, combining informative content with entertaining elements. The event featured a variety of activities including community blessings, captivating dance and singing performances, a drag show, stand-up comedy, drama, a human library, and inspirational speeches, among others. The main purpose of celebrating the month of pride is also for the visibility of the community and also an opportunity to openly embrace their sexuality and gender identity.





Drag shows, dance and music performances, human library, drama and stand-up comedy were the main attractions of the event. Sandhya Lama, Samyog KC and Samjhana Bishwakarma shared their stories in a lively way under the Human Library. In the program, there were 312 participants, including representatives from the United Nations agency, government officials, healthcare workers, non-governmental organization representatives, teachers, communication personnel, representatives from local government bodies, as well as individuals and representatives supporting sexual and gender minority communities.




Three live books who were sharing their stories during the event.

Link for video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQShJY9yAqo>

Celebration of June Pride Month at Koshi Province

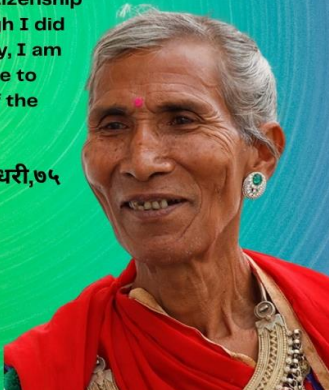
On June 19, 2023, the sexual and gender minorities came together to celebrate Pride Month at Hotel Triyuga in Koshi Province, Itahari. This event was organized by Sahara Samaj under the Awareness and Inclusion Project, with financial support from Mitini Nepal, through the Mitini Nepal Fund for Local Initiatives. The program aimed to promote, acceptance and inclusivity. The program was graced by the presence of Honorable Sapna Pariyar, a Member of the Provincial Assembly Secretariat and Member of Parliament, who served as the chief guest. Additionally, a female member of Ward No. 4 of Itahari sub-metropolitan city held the role of special guest, along with heads of various other associations. The program's primary objective was to amplify the voice against injustice, prejudice, violence, and abuse faced by members of the sexual and gender minority populations. It also aimed to consistently promote identity. A total of 50 individuals, including leaders, representatives of various associations, media professionals, and members of communities identifying as sexual and gender minorities, attended the presentation. The chief guest, the honorable Sapna Pariyar, further committed to advocating for this community within the party, the state assembly, and the committees overseeing budget and policy.



“मेरो जन्म सुदुरपश्चिम प्रदेशको भजनीमा भएको हो । म एक मुक्त कमेया पनि हुँ । मैले हालै मात्र पुरुषको नामबाट नागरिकता प्राप्त गर्न सफल भए । पहिचान अनुसारको नागरिकता नपाए पनि म धेरै खुशी छु, नागरिकता बनाउन पहल गरिदिनु हुने सम्पूर्णप्रति आभारी छु । म चाहन्छु, समुदायको ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरूले पनि माया र सम्मान पाउन् ।”

“I was born in Bhajani, Sudurpaschim province. I am also a freelancer. I only recently managed to get citizenship in the sex of male. I am very happy even though I did not get the citizenship according to my identity, I am grateful to all those who are taking the initiative to create citizenship. I want the senior citizens of the community to also get love and respect.”

—छोटकनु चौधरी, ७५



“मलाई आफ्नो पहिचानप्रति कुनै प्रकारको पश्चाताप छैन । मलाई लाग्छ, हामीले आफ्नो पहिचानलाई गर्वका साथ स्वीकार गरेमा प्रशस्त अवसरहरू प्रयोग गर्न पाउँछौ । प्राईड मन्थको सवैमा शुभकामना ।”

“I have no regrets about my identity. I think if we accept our identity with pride, we can use many opportunities. Happy Pride Month everyone.”

—निर्वाण श्रेष्ठ, २८



Voices of the LGBTI Community

Mitini Nepal documents the voice with the Quotes of the LGBTI Community. This initiative involved collecting quotes from diverse LGBTI community members and creating digital flyers that featured their pictures alongside their powerful and inspiring words. By sharing these visually appealing flyers on social media, Mitini Nepal aimed to raise awareness, promote acceptance, and spark conversations about the experiences and aspirations of the LGBTI community.

Orientation on Sex, Gender and Sexuality

On June 30, 2023, a sex, gender, and sexuality orientation event were successfully conducted in Buddha, Bagmati province, as part of the Mitini Nepal project in collaboration with Drokpo Nepal. The staff members of Drokpo Nepal were the primary audience for this informative session. Laxmi Ghalan, the president of Mitini Nepal, delivered a PowerPoint presentation during the program, introducing Mitini Nepal, its objectives, activities, accomplishments, and shedding light on the challenges faced by the community. The event commenced with an introduction of the attendees, followed by the screening of a public awareness video that addressed topics such as marital equality, appropriate menstruation, and community adoption of children. The orientation program was attended by a group of 20 individuals.



International Federation on Ageing Conference (IFA)

Mitini Nepal joined in the 16th International Federation on Ageing Conference (IFA) in Bangkok, Thailand from June 27th to June 30th, 2023. This global conference served as a significant platform for exchanging knowledge and ideas, in line with the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing and international agendas. During the conference, on June 28, 2023, elders and LGBTI Elders Advisory Committee member Sudhan Chaudhary's personal testimony was shared in the breakout room under the title "Transgender, lesbian, bisexual and queer womanhood in older age". Similarly, executive director Sarita KC as a speaker shared the situation of LGBTI elders along with the major findings of the factsheet "Impacts of age discrimination on Older LGBTI persons in Nepal" produced by Mitini Nepal with assistance from Outright International and SAGE USA for the LGBTI Elders Advancing Project under the title "Aging under the rainbow: The LGBTI elders advancing initiative." It has been shared that Mitini Nepal has undertaken a groundbreaking initiative to champion the rights of LGBTI elders through elder project, establishing themselves as a vital resource center specifically catering to the needs of this marginalized group. Mitini Nepal thank to Outright and SAGE for this opportunity to share the experiences and ground reality of the LGBTI elders in Nepal.



News Features



- <https://www.ratopati.com/story/370476/pride-social-event?fbclid=IwAR0wIAa4-uO8euSgAgKJpoDygVjkOMuhKsMVobK0XJtxwTM8nzB0-YRxDJA>
- <https://naarinepal.com/archives/2979?fbclid=IwAR3CTIo76vkEAcVP964gaY4MAjvFr-8v0N6E2TXk5cWqwuGKiccaJpVNQjs>
- <https://nepalrekha.com/news/2023/06/20/1076.html?fbclid=IwAR03IswoicsBiZtetqktzBLzXdLwSjg0bqGGCKphhJuq4KD4kP8EgR5xUfg>

For more information:

Website: www.mitininepal.org.np

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MitiniNepal>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Mitininepal

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mitini.nepalofficial/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gfa4X5TXCf0&t=399s>