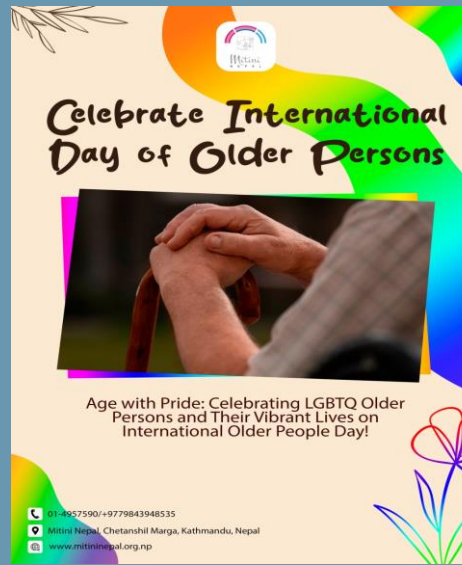


Highlights

1. International Day of Older Persons 2023,
2. Preparation meeting with elders for Asia Regional Forum, 2023
3. Workshop with member of parliament on LGBTI issues, laws and policies
4. Urgent Relief Efforts for Disaster-Affected LGBTI Community
5. Digital Flyer Production to mark the Genderfluid Visibility Week

Digital Flyer Production to mark the Genderfluid Visibility Week

Gender-Fluid Visibility Week, observed annually from October 17th to 24th, celebrates the fluid nature of gender expression and identity. This initiative, established in 2021 by @LGBTQcontent on Twitter, is a significant online event that promotes understanding and acceptance of gender fluidity. During this week, gender-fluid individuals worldwide share their personal stories, selfies, and artistic expressions on social media, fostering awareness and support. Mitini Nepal creates and share digital flyers to raise awareness and build a more inclusive society. Gender-Fluid Visibility Week serves as a platform for celebrating the wonderful diversity of gender expressions and identities.



International Day of Older Persons

Mitini Nepal celebrated the International Day of Older Persons by creating captivating digital flyers that were widely circulated across various social media platforms to raise awareness and recognition for the LGBTI elderly population. Additionally, Mitini Nepal shared recent research findings through digital flyers <https://mitininepal.org.np/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/English LGBTI-people-in-Nepal Mitini-Nepal.pdf> on the "Impact of Age Discrimination on Older LGBTI Persons in Nepal." Through these efforts, we aimed to spotlight the unique challenges faced by older LGBTI individuals in our country, reaffirming our unwavering commitment to promoting inclusivity and providing vital support to marginalized communities.



Preparation meeting with elders for Asia Regional Forum, 2023

Mitini Nepal conducted preparation meeting with elders for Asia Regional Forum on October 6, 2023 via Jitsimeet. The meeting was focused to share about the "Asia Regional Forum of the Asia LGBTIQ Network on SOGIE & Gender Based Violence (GBV). The meeting was commenced by Program Officer of Mitini Nepal Bimala Gurung sharing about the role of elders who are going to participate in the forum via online. She shared that the forum will take place on October 14 to October 16 at Philippines Manila. The theme for the year 2023 three-day Regional Forum is "Intersectionality, Ageing and Wellness." The aim of the 2023 Regional Forum was to build cross-generational understanding about how LGBTIQ older persons are left behind, learn about new projects to advance LGBTI elder rights in Asia, share the contributions of LGBTI older activists, and identify a collaborative pilot project on the power, privilege and vulnerabilities of ageing in Asia.

During the meeting, Sarita KC, the Executive Director of Mitini Nepal, provided insight into the forum's schedule, encompassing presentations, group discussions, elders' forums for Q&A sessions, and logistical details for the selected participants. She underscored the forum's importance as a platform for sharing the situation of LGBTIQ elders in Nepal, particularly the far-reaching impacts of family dynamics, cultural norms, and prevailing laws and policies on sexual and gender minority communities. Among the participants were Rohit Tharu from Lumbini Province Nepalgunj and Shila Chaudhary from Sudurpaschim Province Tikapur, whose contributions were instrumental in advancing the dialogue on these crucial issues. The meeting was attended by seven in total.



Workshop with Member of Parliament on LGBTI issues, laws and policies

On October 10, 2023, an impactful interaction program took place in Kathmandu, Bagmati Province, involving lawmakers from various committees of the National Assembly and the House of Representatives. This event was a collaborative effort between MITINI Nepal and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with the primary focus being the implementation of legal rights for gender and sexual minority communities. The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Nilam Dhungana, Program Officer at Mitini Nepal. At the heart of the event was the pursuit of a noble cause, with UNDP PSP team leader Yam Bahadur Kisan shedding light on its purpose and significance. This gathering symbolized a crucial step towards promoting inclusivity and ensuring the legal rights of gender and sexual minorities in Nepal.



Ms. Sarita KC, Executive Director of Mitini Nepal delivered an impactful presentation, utilizing the platform of Power-Talk, to shed light on the prevailing conditions experienced by the gender and sexual minority communities. Ms. KC eloquently outlined the current scenario, including the challenges and pressing needs faced by these communities. Furthermore, Laxmi Ghalan, the founder president of Mitini Nepal, offered a poignant account of her personal experiences to illustrate the profound impact of lacking marital equality within the community. Ghalan brought attention to the fact that despite a Supreme Court ruling mandating the registration of marriages in a manner that recognizes same-sex couples in temporary records, it has yet to fully realize the community's fundamental right to marital equality.

During the event, Sabin Shrestha, the Executive Director of Forum for Women, Law, and Development delivered an additional presentation. This presentation delved into the research paper, which extensively covered the implementation of constitutional rights for gender and sexual minorities, with a specific focus on the provisions outlined in the Constitution of Nepal 2015. Mr. Shrestha's presentation offered a comprehensive analysis of these constitutional provisions and examined various aspects such as recognition, participation, protection, restrictions, and recommendations for improvement. Additionally, representatives from the National Assembly, including members from the Sustainable Development and Good Governance Committee, Legislation Management Committee, and National Concern and Coordination Committee, also contributed their insights to the discourse. This comprehensive engagement of lawmakers from different committees demonstrated the cross-cutting significance and relevance of the issues discussed and showcased a commitment to advancing the rights and well-being of gender and sexual minority communities in Nepal.



Urgent Relief Efforts for Disaster-Affected LGBTI



Case Study 1: Projan Thakuri

Projan Thakuri, a 25-year-old resident of Sudurpaschim Province in Naag Durga rural municipality, ward number 4, has embarked on a journey to identify as a transgender man, discovering his true self at the age of 20. Projan, along with his partner, sister, and mother, has been building a life in his rural community. He sustains his livelihood by working on local farms and providing tuition to the village's young children. Tragedy struck on October 3 and 4, 2023, when a significant earthquake measuring 5 on the rechter scale followed by a 4.3 magnitude aftershock severely damaged Projan's home. Currently, he and his family are finding refuge in the generosity of their neighbors. This calamity not only left them homeless but also cost Projan his source of income. In their time of dire need, Mitini Nepal stepped in to offer essential support.

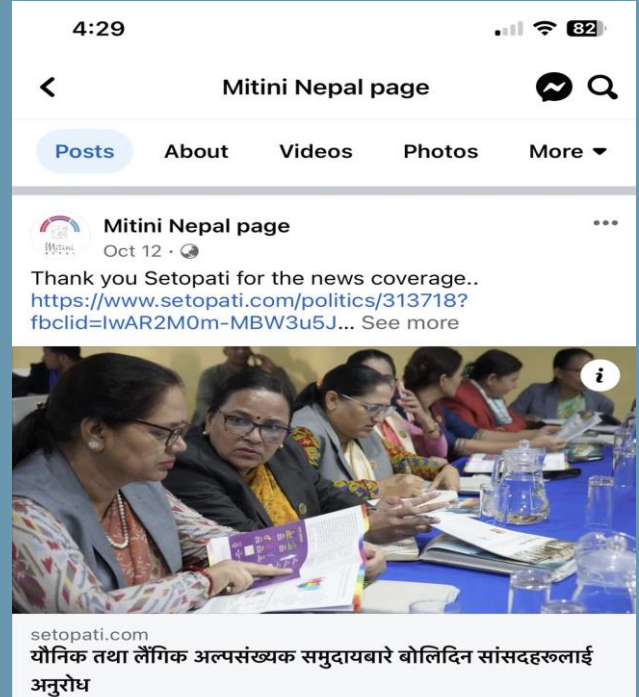
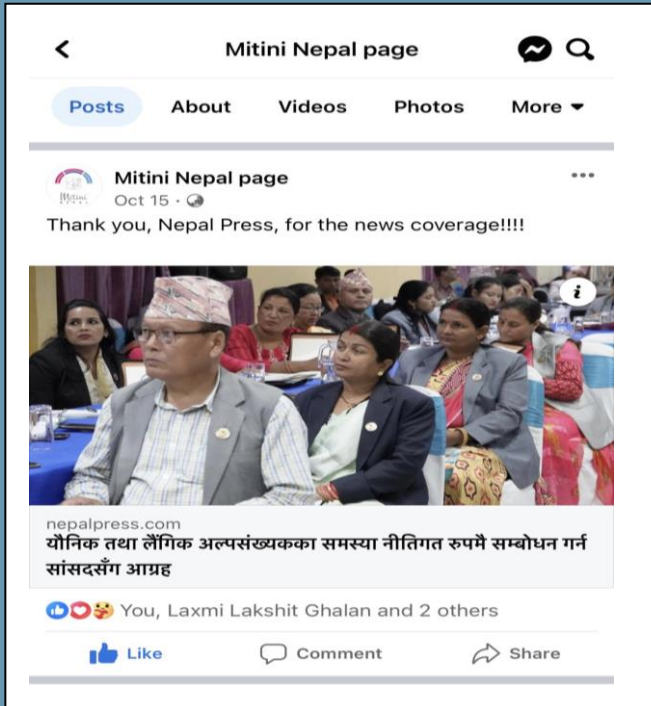
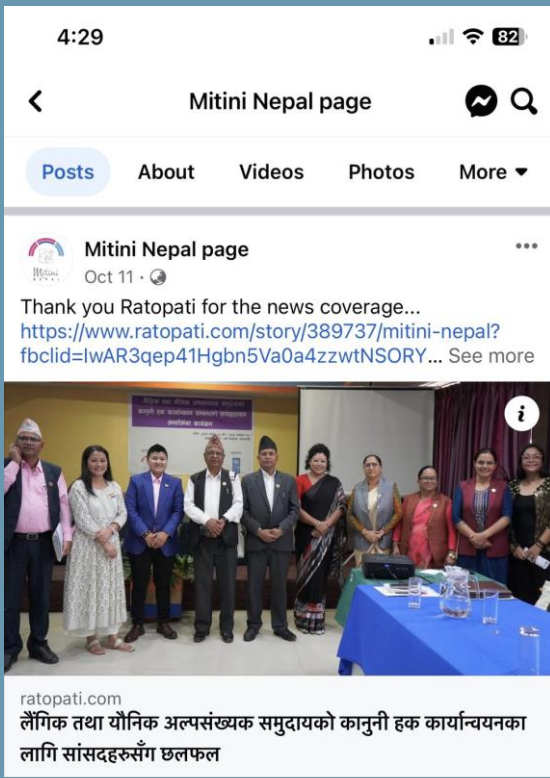


Case Study 2: Ram Kumari Chaudhary

Ram Kumari Chaudhary, a 54-year-old resident of Sudurpaschim Province in Bhajani Municipality, ward number 5, Kuti, stands as one of the elder figures within the LGBTI community. Embracing the journey of self-identification as a transman, Chaudhary leads a solitary life as a squatter. His dwelling was recently ravaged by floods, leaving his home in ruins. Despite the damage, he persists in living in the affected house. In his time of dire need, Ram Kumari Chaudhary reached out to Mitini Nepal for assistance.

News Features

- https://www.ratopati.com/story/389737/mitini-nepal?fbclid=IwAR2L-xjzzO6dU-jwzMuBzvgTK6HI_CxWALiCiF_vpjoE4ScT_HhFEwxTxzO4
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