



Social Families

In the Empowerment of Marginalized Communities



SAMAGRA

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DCC Representatives' Monitoring visit to Social Families(SFs)

DDC officials have been undertaking monitoring field visits to the NGOs that are in operation in the district. In this connection, some DDC officials of Dhading district led by the Programme Officer Mr. Binod Aryal visited several SFs to observe their activities on 20th and 21st Poush.

They monitored the field activities of two SFs - Jaladevi SF of Rairang at ward no. 7 in Thakre VDC; and Sramajivi SF of



Pokharichaur at ward no 9 in Tasarpu VDC. During the interaction with the SFs, they were briefed on how the communities have been transformed with the intervention of SFs bringing out positive changes in socio-political and economic fields. Winding up the observation mission, the Programme Officer Mr. Aryal observed that with the help of SFs, the communities have experienced great impacts on their lives and that the ongoing empowerment programme has made significant progress.

Construction of a Community House at the initiative of SF

The Phujel Bhairabi Social Family of Gorkha district completed the construction of a community building with two rooms at the cost of about Rs.100,000. They raised fund – 1) Rs 10,000 contributed by VDC; 2) reward of Rs. 25,000 for organizing the traditional musical team (*Deushi Vailo*) and singing around for donations. Besides the above fund, the local 29 household representatives contributed voluntary labour services for 19 days to the construction. The land for the building was donated by Deu Bahadur Gurung. Currently, one room is being utilized for running adult education classes, and other room as store for keeping utensils owned by the SFs as reported by SF chairperson Ms. Indra Kumari Gurung.

Interaction with Social Families

As part of its regular monitoring field visits of SAMAGRA staff, one visit was organized in Gorkha district in the month of Poush. During the visit, several SFs were covered, e.g., Shallaghari SF and Janajagaran SF of Prithvinarayan municipality; Bhairabi, Chandihatia and Janachetana SFs of Phujel; Janhit, Magar Di and Mahila Abhiyan SFs of Durbung VDC, Devasthan SF of Pheditar Namjung, Phulbari SF of Borlang ; and Janjati SF of Dhawa.



The discussions with the SFs covered all important aspects of their ongoing activities e.g. their achievements, challenges obstacles/failures that they faced, including an analytical review of the local situation. The visiting team included the officials from the central office, regional, district and field level staff. The visiting team had also met and interacted with local civil society leaders, representatives of political parties, teachers and other stakeholders.

Overview of the regular activities undertaken in the month of Poush

Activities		Place of activities	Participants		
			Female		
1.3	Awareness campaigns against human rights violation	Fujel, Gorkha	59	16	75
1.3	Awareness campaigns against human rights violation	Goithi, Saptrari	41	55	96
1.3	Awareness campaigns against human rights violation	Borlang, Gorkha	38	7	45
3.3	Post-conflict re-conciliation events	Dhawa, Gorkha	41	13	54

Leadership Development amongst Dalit Youths through Social Family



Krishna Bahadur Pariyar, a youth of 33, born in Kharpu VDC ward no 4 in Gorkha district, lost his father when he was just a child. He and his younger brother Harke was brought up by their mother enduring all kinds of hardships. When he was 13 or 14 years young, he worked as a helping hand to his mother and thus became music instrument player in the wedding ceremony and public fairs. Somehow, he passed S.L.C exam after having joined the local Annapurna Higher School. Despite his great desire to pursue higher education, he could not fulfill his ambition due to extreme poverty that his family is facing. With an intention to earn money, he migrated to Malaysia and spent three years in Kwala Lumpur. But he was not happy because his sweet memory of his rural life at home obsessed him very often. He felt himself more attracted to his own home town. Thus he returned home with the intention of getting engaged in social services there forsaking the desire to earn money.

Soon he came to know about the formation of the Social Family in his village at the initiative of SAMAGRA. He took this as a great opportunity. In cooperation with his friends, he organized Mirmire Youth Social Family and became its chairperson. He developed his career as an advocate of human rights based on his skills and knowledge that he acquired from the trainings organized by SAMAGRA in the fields of human rights and cooperative society. Through the medium of the Social Family, he fought against caste-based discrimination and social injustice and rural poverty. He got full support from his colleagues. Currently, at his initiative, a drinking water project is under construction at a cost of about Rs 30 million. Similarly, a motorable road and electric services have now been availed to the village. Currently, he is studying 10+2 (higher secondary education) in the higher secondary school running in his village. Being a very active forward-looking youth, he is liked by all villagers. He has thus become an exemplary youth not only in his home town but also amongst the young generation of today. **Congratulations and best wishes to Krishna Bahadur Pariyar from SAMAGRA.**

One of the means adopted by SFs to promote advocacy and awareness campaigns - song

Give up Smoking

*Please listen to what I am saying,
Please do not indulge in smoking and use of tobaccos
Let us avoid smoking and stay away from death.....*

*Who will listen to what I am saying ?
Beware of cancer and bronchitis that it invites let us not indulge in smoking!*

*While smoking itself is a vice, it has the risk of being picked up by youngsters at home.
If you don't listen to this, you will have to repent later!*

*You will lose your life as result of the habit of smoking and tobacco chewing!
The vice will make a young guy grow older faster; what a bad addiction!*

*Your shawl that you are wearing might catch fire!
It is said that it could damage lung and kidney!*

*Eventually the death calls on you shortly!
You will also lose money for nothing.
Hence let us discard smoking habit from today! Let's not die untimely death!*

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