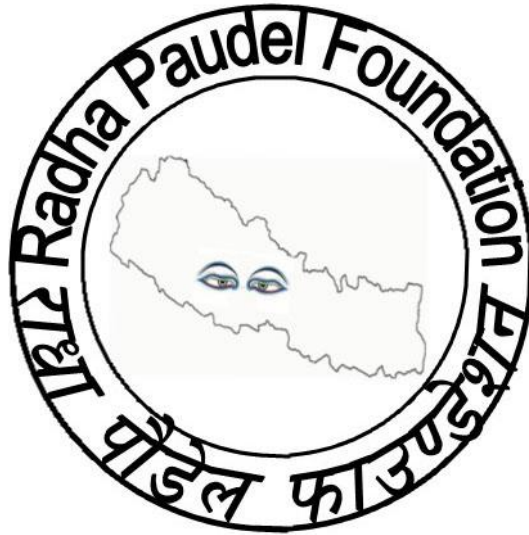


# Radha Paudel Foundation



# Annual Report

(2016-2017)

## Contact Person/Details

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**Dear Peace Maker/Lovers/Supporters/ Well Wishers around the World,**

**Namaste and Greetings!**

Here, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to each of you who supported me and cause through Action Works Nepal. Since 2016, I am not associated with Action Works Nepal due to incompatibility with agreed principles and philosophy. My sincere apology for delay in announcement.

I have made promise with each of you to continue the advocacy for the voiceless includes poor, marginalized and excluded people, groups and communities. I also like to reiterate my vision that I shared with you all that I simply like to Save a girl from the suffering what I have experienced in my life since childhood to date for cultivating peace and justice because the absence of war is not PEACE.

Despite all ups and downs, I am so passionate and committed to continue my dream and fulfil the promise what I made with you all, thus, I founded Radha Paudel Foundation (RPF), Nepal in 2016 (officially registered in 2017) under the Office of Company Registrar and Social Welfare Council of government of Nepal, the reference of registration are 167502/74 and 46619 respectively.

RPF is doing whatever the possible from our end such as training, research, advocacy around peace, human right, empowerment, development through mixed model (business and charity model) in Nepal and beyond.

Here, on behalf of RPF, would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to all individual donors, foundations, networks and all for your generous support. I hope that you will continue the support for novel cause on what I believe and doing. Together we would make difference!

Thank you very much for your understanding.

Shall you have any queries, feel free to drop the message as follows.

Your's Sincerely,

Radha Paudel



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## **Organization of Report:**

Despite the infancy hood of the foundation, RPF has been grounded in bottom where representing the voice of voiceless with various activities as well as it has presence at gloval level with unique features. Working with young groups, with limited resources and voluntarily basis, not easy though RPF has make difference as its vision and mission.

This report captured the major activities which were taken place from inception to December 2017. It explains simply its activities under Peace, Human Right and Empowerment, Education, Livelihood and Disaster response in relation with training, research and advocacy. Due to lack of documentation, many activities are missing though would help to understand the RPF as glance.

## **Introduction of the Radha Paudel Foundation:**

Radha Paudel Foundation (RPF) informally started to work since 2016 and officially registered in 2017 under the government (167502/74 and 46619 in Social Welfare Council). The vision of the RPF is emancipation for girls and women from poverty, injustices, discrimination. The mission of the foundation are: i) educate for deconstruct the social evils and practices, ii) engage men for gender justice, peace and human right, iii) empower girls and women politically, economically, socially, environmentally, iv) enhanced networks, coalition and alliances for policy enforcement and advocacy at all levels and v) enrich capacity of team, partners and concerned stakeholders. The objectives are; i) to organize and mobilize the likeminded organizations and individuals for peace and justice, ii) to initiate dialogue on dignified menstruation, gender-based violence, human right, iii) to cultivate culture of hope and inspire during nature and human made crisis, iv) to accomplish evidence-based policy advocacy and to build role models through execution of programs

The key strategies of RPF are Miteri Gau-Let's Live Together, Social Business, Movement Building, Accountability. It has five members in executives who are all female and four advisors. The audit report is not attached here though can be accessed upon request.

## **Key Activities and Outcomes:**

### **1. Peace, Human Right, Empowerment**

The status of women in peace, human right and empowerment is still so far behind due to having two different perspective of women's right movement in Nepal. The impunity, culture of silence, political influence, poor enforcement of policies are pushing women's in further behind or women are not in priority. The other side of coin is fully occupied by the elite lead activism, economically dependent, capability of women leaders, lack of collective agency among women leaders. In such situation, the rural women simply lost and nowhere due to lack of safety, security, and dignity.

#### **1.1. Women's Participation in decision making process**

**Training:** Radha Paudel Foundation has been organizing the series of interacting meetings and trainings on women's participation in decision making positions in Jumla through FRL partnership, Nyasam Nepal Chitwan, X-Pose Nepal in Lalitpur throughout the reporting period. Trainings included the gender, UNSCR 1325, 1820, Constitution, gender-based violence. RPF encouraged men and boys to create the space for women in local entities for gender equality, empowerment and peace.

**Research:** During this reporting period, RPF conducted a research under the women's participation in political process that entitled 'A Glance of Madhesh Women Empowerment, Parsa in Nepal.' It is a landmark of understanding the status of women in Terai community. It included the education, political participation, gender-based violence and menstrual restrictions in Terai.

Likewise, RPF has conducted a rapid assessment on women's status during boarder blockade in Terai by Madheshi political parties. On behalf of RPF Radha spent a month in Terai.

**Advocacy:** On behalf of RPF, Radha not only explored the status of women but also initiated the campaign for meaningful dialogue for ending blockade in Terai through lobbying with Human Right Commission, NGOs, CSOs, media. This campaign started from Sarlahi and extended to Siraha, Dhanusha, Parsa, Chitwan, Jumla, Kavre and Kathmandu. In Kathmandu, Nagarik Aawaj and Tewa joined the hands where Rita Thapa took lead role for making it happen with appreciation of RPF's efforts. In addition, had made workshop in third Asia Pacific Feminist Forum, Thailand in September 2017.

### **1.2. Protection of women and women human right defenders**

**Training:** RPF has been working around protection in many ways; organizing trainings, workshops and meetings for enforcing the policies, laws as guarantee by Nepal government. RPF significantly engaged in dialogue for creating safe space for girls and women at family, school and workplace including during menstruation.

**Research:** The understanding around laws related to women's right were discussed and incorporated in to the research while doing the above-mentioned researches.

**Advocacy:** RPF significantly engaged in protection of women and women's right through petition, onsite visit e.g. physical assault to Women Human Right Defender (WHRD) in accusation as witchcraft in Parsa, interactions with policy makers regarding equality in citizenship rights, submission of memorandum as executive member of ESCR (Network for Economic, Social Cultural Rights) and contribution in drafting the CEDAW shadow report.

RPF also financially supported to WHRD for her immediate treatment in hospital (\$100).

### **1.3. Prevention of women from any forms of Gender Based violence through Dignified Menstruation**

**Training:** RPF had conducted series of trainings on gender, gender-based violence, dignified menstruation in July and August in 2017 for journalists, newly elected politicians, leaders from Women Cooperatives, NGO leaders, faith healers, schools.

**Research:** RPF conducted a research in Dignified Menstruation along with government of Nepal, District Coordination Committee.

**Advocacy:** RPF partnered with Safer Hands and produced to documentaries on dignified menstruation, provide technical advisory to develop flyers, file the case in court against death of 19 years old girl in Chhaupadi. RPF significantly engaged with boys and men, media, trainings, workshops, conference, panel discussion at local, national and global level for preventing all forms of gender-based violence specially with menstrual restriction, rape, child marriage.

RPF also worked with government of Nepal, ministry of water supply and sanitation in policy drafting as core member of drafting committee and provided technical advise to MHM-PA alliance for educating and aligning the stakeholders towards dignity and human right rather than sole infrastructure and sanitary pads. Along with partners, RPF played a vital role in celebrating May 28, International Menstrual Health day 2017, law for criminalized Chhaupadi, 16 Days Activism, International Women's day and others relevant local events.

## 2. Education

RPF strongly believes that the quality education is a tool for creating avenues for peace, human right and empowerment for and by the women. However, the status of education for girls in remote areas is in great challenge due to many ways; poverty, no value of education, child marriage etc.

**Training:** RPF organized a 10 days training on Filming and photography in Jumla where 35 participants were participated from Kalikot, Mugu and Jumla. There were two shifts for training. By the end of training, 80% participants produced 3 minutes film and are continue their efforts through Miteri Photography and Filming training. The training was facilitated by film maker, Dmaris Baker and assisted by Soraj Shahi. The participants of the training from Jumla are taking lead role and keep teaching the photography and filming in various schools in Jumla. RPF has provided camera, tripod and microphone to group of Kalikot and Mugu for practice in school.

RPF also supported a teacher to Dhimkot, Kudari for avoiding kids to play with dusts and mud while their parents away from home since beginning of the foundation.

RPF has been supporting Shikchha Nepal by joining their campaign called Reading mela and financial support to construct community library (\$200) in Dolpa.

Filming and Photography

**Research:** Along with SWISS Redcross, Nepalgunj office, RPF worked in assessing the compatibility of school curriculum regarding dignified menstruation in 2017.

**Advocacy:** Quality education is also a concern for advocacy for RPF which is being done through the ESCR network.

## 3. Livelihood

For sustaining the political empowerment, the economic empowerment is crucial. But it has so much restricted due to not having partners for financing or partnering for social business. However, RPF is trying to do few activities by targeting the women and marginalized people from the extreme rural areas of the country.

**Training:** In order to empower the women and poor people, RPF is supporting in few activities related to livelihood/Vocational trainings. RPF bought a share from Women's Dream Pvt. Ltd for empowering women and caring of environment.

RPF also conducting the trainings on sewing and hair cutting for beneficiaries from Bhi village Mugu in Jumla which is 3 days walking and 2 days bus ride for Jumla. The food, transport, accommodation, machines and raw materials are taken care by the RPF where participants paid only \$100 for taking ownership.

**Research:** Under this category, RPF doesn't do any specific research during this reporting period.

**Advocacy:** Through ESCR network and other advocacy activities, RPF is bringing the issues of livelihood of its target groups constantly.

#### **4. Disaster Response**

RPF considered the disaster as cross cutting issue of all activities of foundation.

**Training:** RPF has been incorporating the issue of disaster in its activities, lessons from earthquake 2015 and Flood 2016/2017. RPF reached out more than 750 and 700 households to provide immediate support of flood victims in 2016 and 2017 in Saptari and Siraha, eastern part of the country respectively in coordination with local government and disaster management committee. RPF focused on girls and women including lactating, pregnant mothers, elders, widows, people with disability, family with loss and injured, family below five years. In addition to, seven houses constructed in Madi who were affected by flood.

**Research:** There is no specific research done yet under this title.

**Advocacy:** RPF keeps providing the feedback at national level policy makers as well as at Global level. RPF contributed in disaster policy as well as presented papers on role of local leaders in response during emergencies e.g. Give2Asia.

#### **5. Internship:**

RPF has variety of interns where few are working in field, few in office and few from the country. RPF is believes in building leadership so it is very ongoing process.

#### **Challenges:**

There are two types of challenges are facing by the RPF like chicken first or egg. Externally, RPF is struggling due to not having connections and networks for growing it technically and financially. RPF is really dreaming to move more social business and less charity work. Donors usually do not understand or do not like to understand the social business. Without having funds, it is very difficult to hiring the competent human resources. Currently, the activities are carrying out on the basis of volunteer works of all team members.

#### **Plan for 2018**

- Training: Organize series of trainings at local, national and global level.
- Research: expand the scope of research around women, peace, human right and dignified menstruation.
- Advocacy: making more publications, media mobilizations at local, national and global levels.

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