

## **Dalit NGO Federation**

### **Inclusion of Dalits in the process of rebuilding democracy in Nepal**

The Dalit community has contributed significantly in people's movement to bring back the full democracy in the country. Many of Dalits in the history of the peoples movement have sacrificed their lives in protesting against autocratic and oppressive regime.

The people's movement 2006 called by the seven party alliance, with the support of Nepal Communist party (Maoist) and 12 points understanding reached with them which started from April 6, 06, had reached its peak with the massive support of Nepali People from all over the country compelled the king to announce the reinstatement of the dissolved House of Representative accepting "*the seven party alliance's road map*" on April 24, 06. This step can be taken as a preliminary success of the movement. The contribution of various Dalit organizations, including whole Dalit community across the country in this movement is also remarkable. Thousands of them from all over the country took part in the democracy movement protesting authoritarian rule of the King. They not only participated in the larger movement of all people but took out separate demonstrations and staged agitations separately. The two persons from Dalit community namely **Setu Bishwokamra** in Nepalgung, Banke and **Deepak Bishwakamra** in Kalanki, Kathmandu were killed in the demonstrations and declared martyrs of the peoples' movement 2006. Still, many Dalits who were seriously injured during the agitation are struggling for their life in the hospitals, one of them is Chandra Bayalkoti who is in life support system at Medicare hospital for the last 2 weeks. Many Dalit leaders had also taken the leaderships of the agitation at various places in the country. Apart from this, more than hundred Dalits were arrested from different parts of the country. Like wise, Dalit organizations have supported the people injured by being volunteers and providing fund to the treatment fund initiated during the movement.

We also express our deep condolences to the martyrs of people's movement who sacrificed themselves to bring the complete democracy back in the country. We also wish for speedy recovery of those wounded during the movement.

We would like to appeal to the leaders of the seven party alliance and the revived parliament, with the force of people's movement, to bring lasting peace, good governance and sustainable development to the country. We also would like to urge the leaders of SPA and the parliament to include the Dalit community in the process of re-construction of the state addressing following Dalit related issues immediately:

1. Pay proper compensation to the families of the martyrs of the movement and those who were injured and became disabled and ensure free education and employment opportunities to their children and family members.
2. Form the interim government immediately, including Dalit, Women, Janjati (Indigenous), Madhesi (Terai Community) and Disabled through the parliament corroborating sovereign power rests with the people.
3. Declare the unconditional constituent assembly from the parliament ensuring the sovereign power lie on the people and guarantee the political settlement of the national problems, including violence.

4. Reciprocate ceasefire from the state soon removing Red Corner notices and terrorist tag of Maoists and call them for talks at the earliest for sustainable peace and development in the country.
5. Reconstruct the state to integrate Dalit, Janjati, Women, Madheshi and disabled, including others marginalized groups in the national mainstream.
6. Declare that Nepal be a secular state.
7. Ensure the Constitutional guarantee of Reservation for Dalits to bring them in national mainstream of development and empowerment.
8. Ensure the compulsory representation of Dalit community to materialize Inclusive Democracy in forthcoming cabinet of ministers, including others mechanism of the state.
9. Declare those people as national martyrs who have lost their lives in the people's movement.
10. Make sure the proportional representation from Dalit community in the process of the constituent assembly election.
11. Form a high-level commission to punish those people who tried to quell the people's movement inhumanely violating basic human rights principles.
12. Release immediately the prisoners of conscience from all over the country.

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