

MADHESH / TERAI : QUICK FACTS

Location: South Asia – Southern part of Nepal bordering India

Terrain: Plain low-lying land, includes some valleys Climate: Hot and humid subtropical summer, mild winter

Area: About 23,068 sq. km Population: About 15 million

Language: Madhyadeshiya (Awadhi, Bhojpuri, Hindi, Maithili etc.)

Religion: Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism

Famous Places: Lumbini (Birthplace of Buddha, UNESCO World Heritage Site) Janakpur (Hindu Pilgrimage Site), Chitwan & Bardiya National Parks

History: Madhesh/Terai handed over to Nepal by British in 1816 and 1860; Madheshis struggling for rights and freedom for long: Aligned with the British in the Anglo-Gorkha War of 1814-16 to fight against the Gurkhali/Nepali invasion of Terai; Terai Congress formed in 1951; Madhesh Liberation Movement started in 1958; Sadbhavana Council in 1983, Sadhbhavana Party in 1990;

Madhesh Uprising in 2007–08 led to the agreements with the Government of Nepal for a fully autonomous Madhesh and proportional representation of the Madheshis, but the Nepali ruling class betrayed; Currently more than a dozen

political parties and several armed groups active.

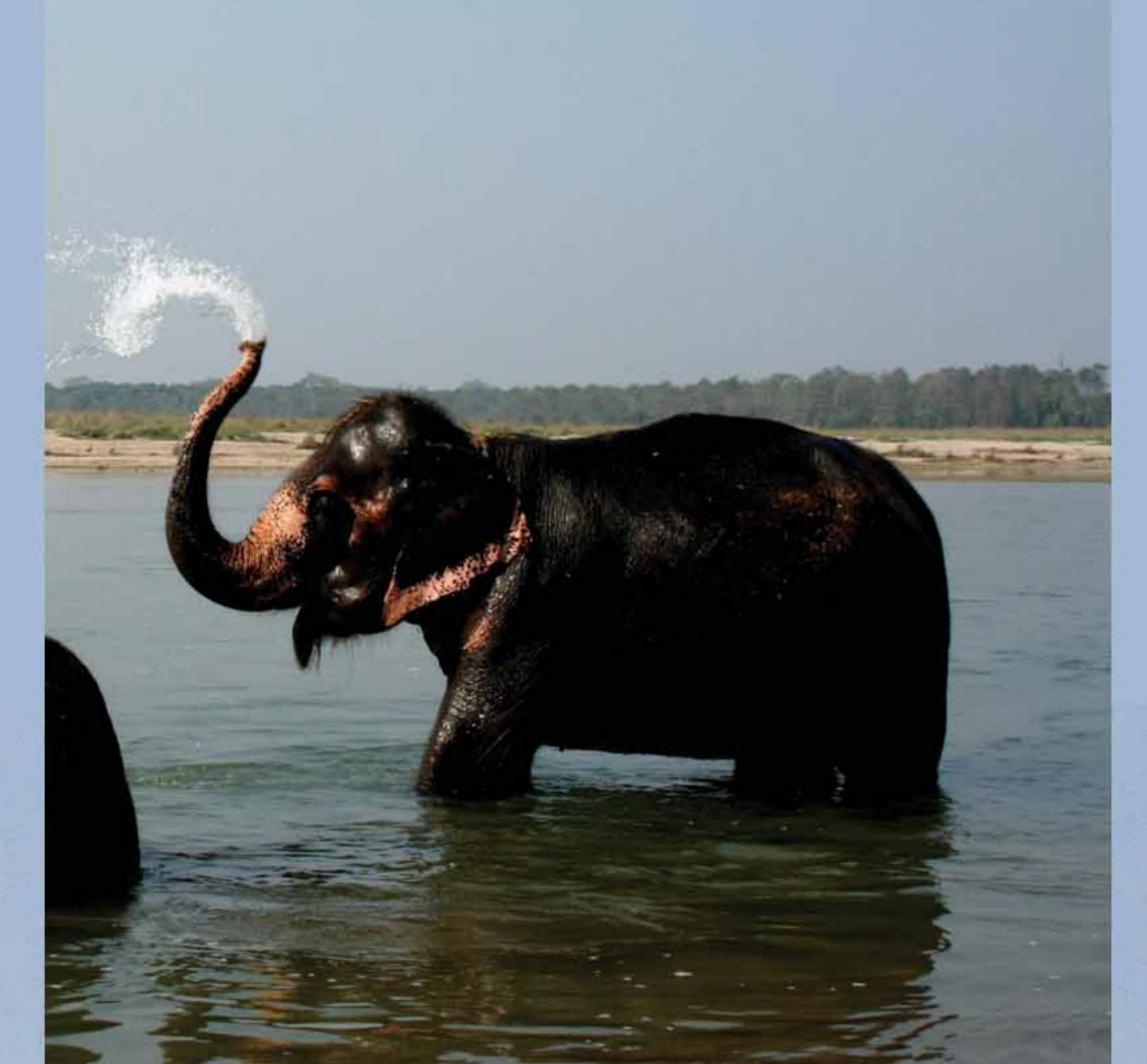




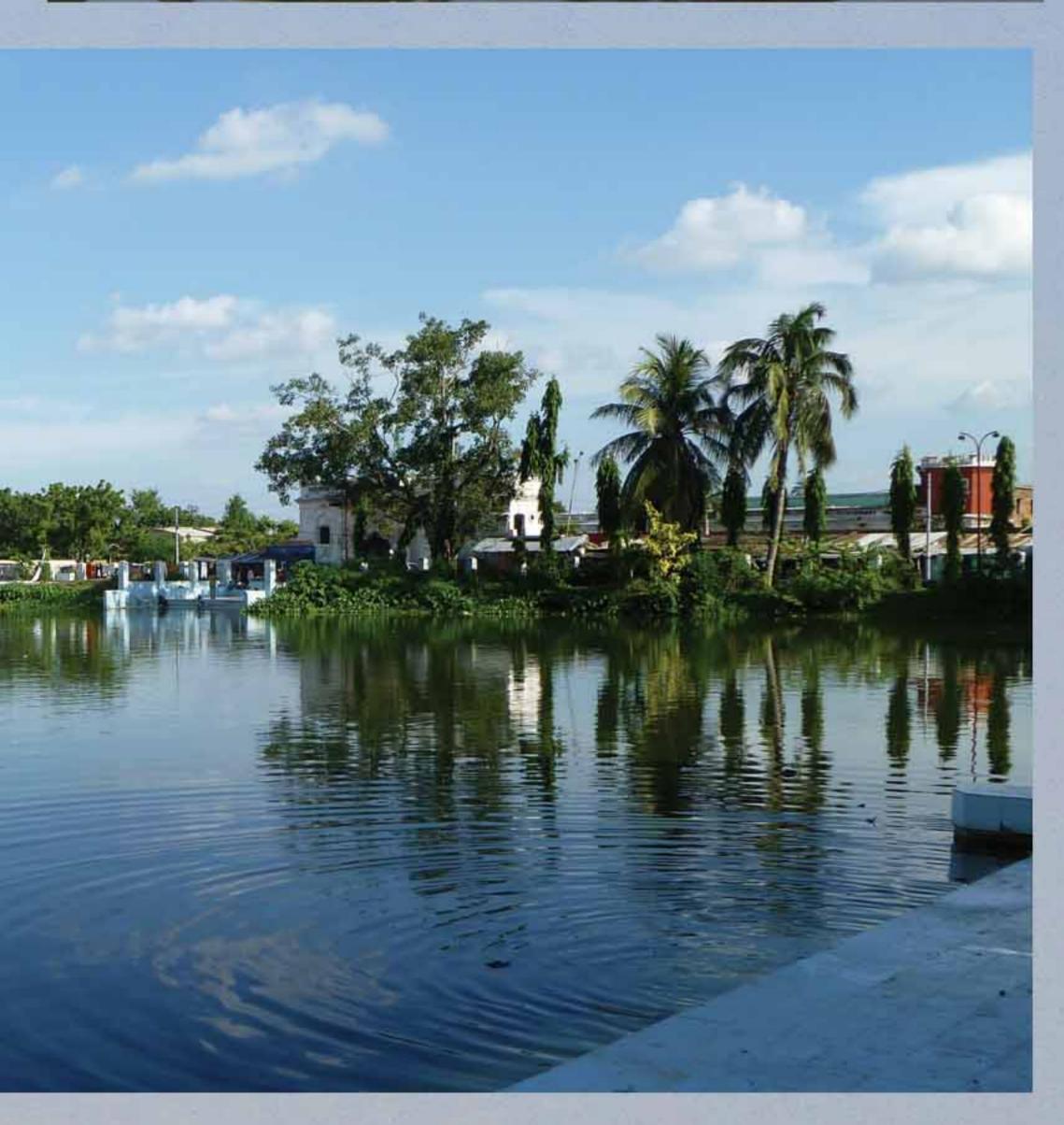


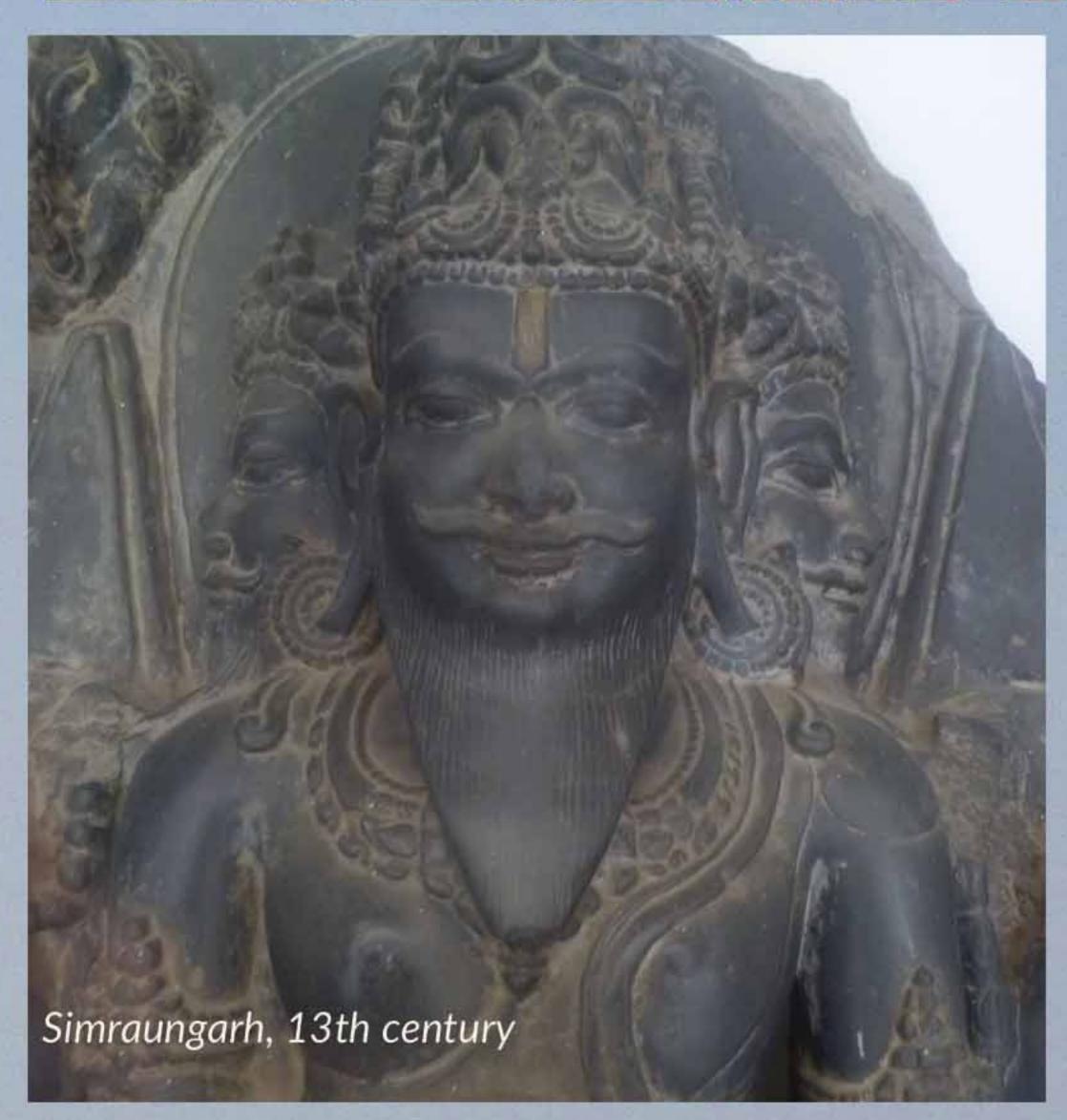


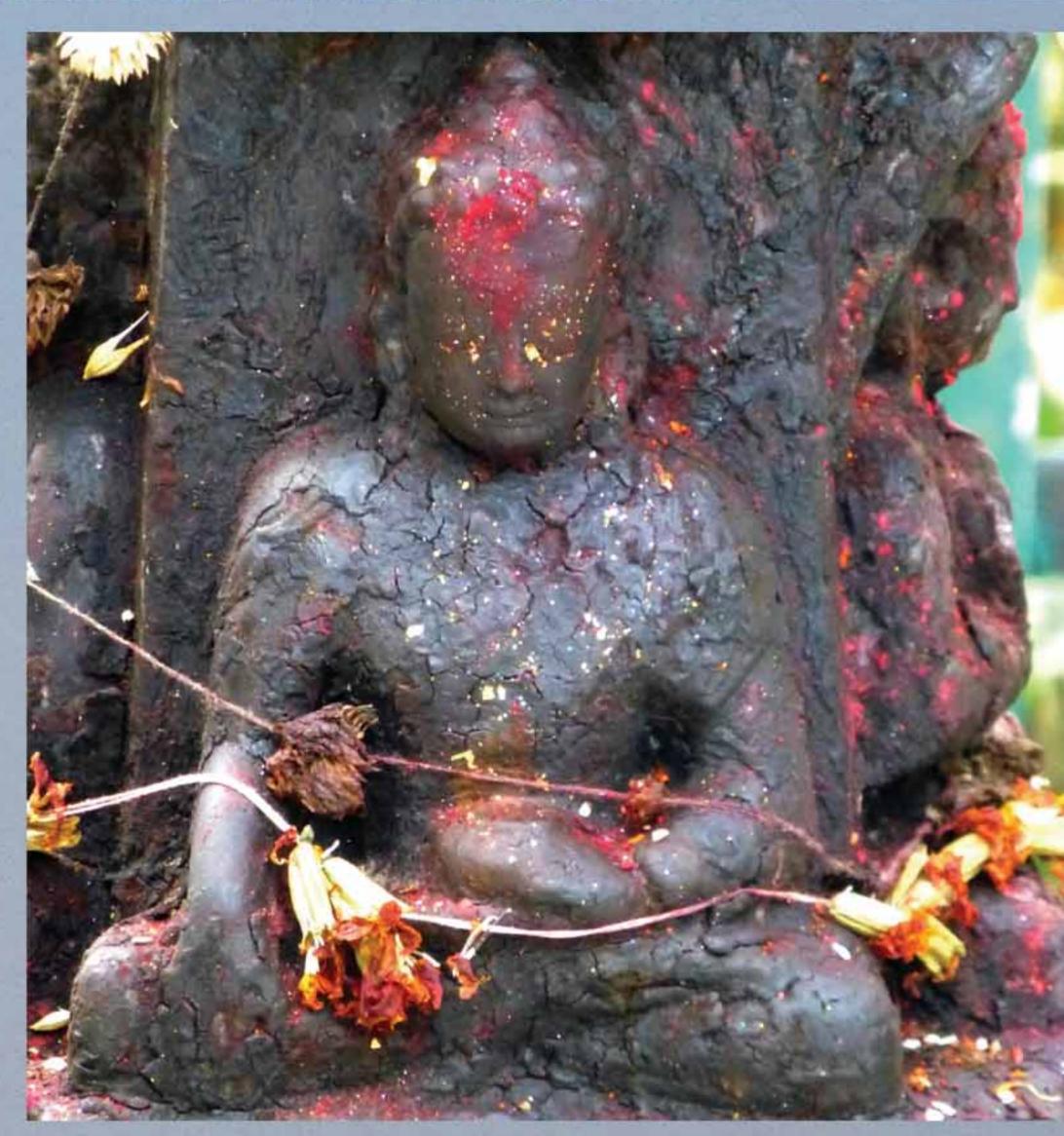














Alliance for Independent Madhesh (AIM)

AIM is an alliance of the Madheshi people, political parties and various organisations working for establishing an independent and sovereign Madhesh/Terai, by ending the current Nepali colonial rule, through peaceful means following the principles of Buddha and Gandhi. It stands for three main pillars (a) Independence of Madhesh/Terai, (b) Democratic System, and (c) Peaceful and Non-violent Means. It demands for a referendum to be held for Free Madhesh.

PLANS:

- •Develop human resources and infrastructures required for an independent Madhesh. (Establish sustainable administrative and physical infrastructures in every districts, villages and wards; Build national infrastructures such as a national planning commission, think tanks, media houses, national newspapers, radio and TV channels for Madhesh)
- Make Madhesh caucus in the parliaments of India, the USA, the UK, the EU and other countries, and gather international support for an independent Madhesh.
- •Form the Government of Madhesh; institutionalise Madhesh as a sovereign country and establish a democratic system and structure in the country.
- •Issue citizenship certificates and passports of Madhesh.
- •Establish diplomatic relations with other sovereign nations of the world; open diplomatic offices in their countries and request them to open their offices in Madhesh; establish multilateral relations with the world bodies like the World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc.
- •Expand the network of the Madheshi organisations globally, and raise awareness about Madhesh and the Madheshis in the world.





Anthem

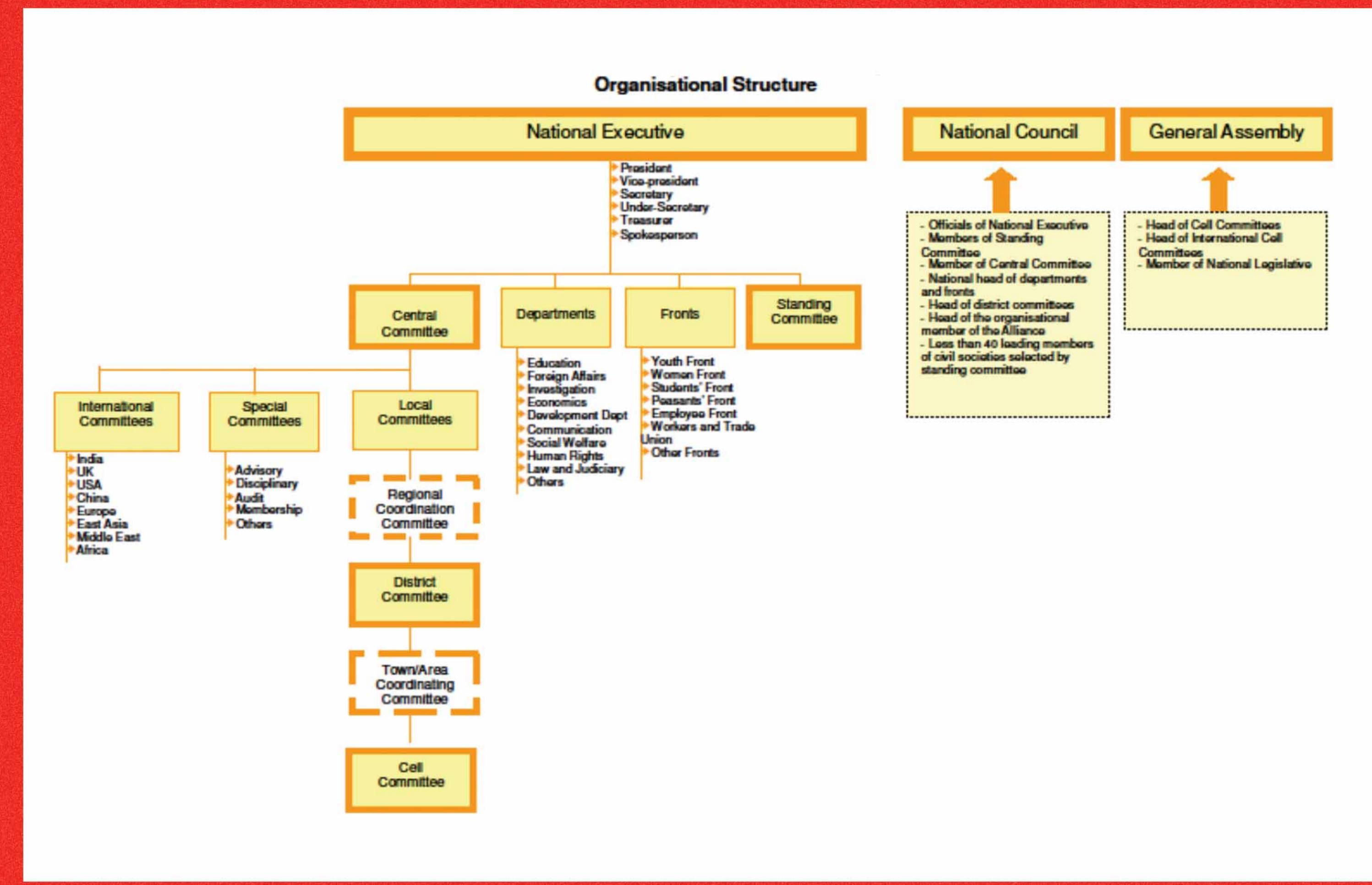
कोशी कमला गण्डक काली जनक सीता बुद्ध धारी अनन्त उर्वर मधेश जय जय जय जय जय मधेश जय

सहस्र तलाव सरस मृणाली सुलभ समृद्ध सतत हरियाली मनोरम महान मधेश जय जय जय जय जय मधेश जय

परित्राता परिपालक परमभवशाली अजित अधिप आभा भारी मेधावी महारथी मधेश जय जय जय जय जय मधेश जय

Meaning of Flag: Protected by our sacrifices (red) from all sides, in our evergreen and fertile Madhesh (green), always flourish peace (white disk) and prosperity (lotus).



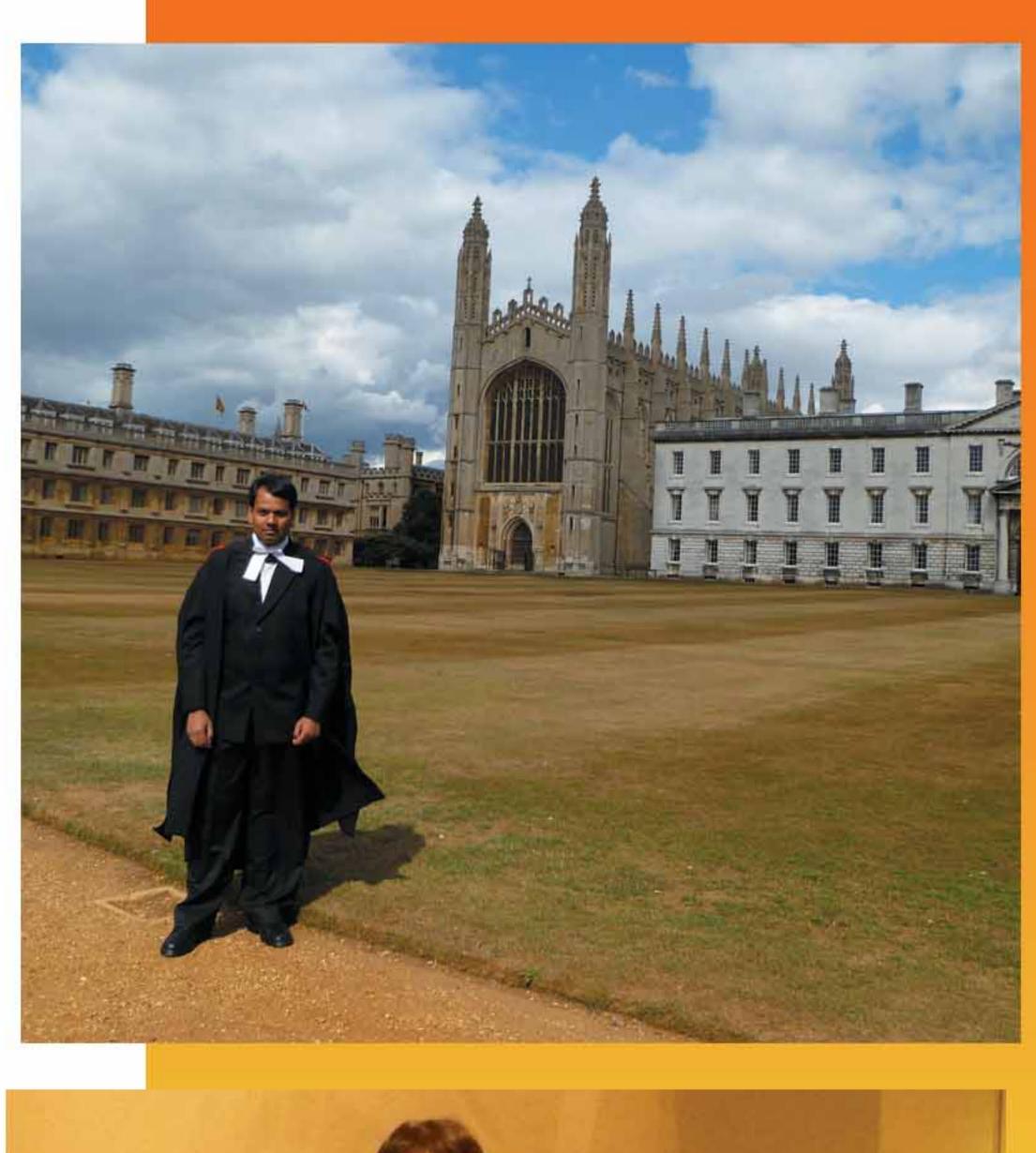




LEADERSHIP Dr. C. K. Raut

Born in a poor family of a remote village of Saptari district of Madhesh, Dr. C. K. Raut holds a PhD from Cambridge University, the UK. He worked as a scientist in the USA prior to returning to Nepal in 2011 to work for the upliftment of his society. He is the founder of the Injot Movement, an initiative for social transformation targeted at Nepal, Bangladesh and Ethiopia. He has been a recipient of a number of awards including Mahendra Vidyabhusan (honoured by the King of Nepal), Kulratna Gold Medal, Young Engineer Award and Trofimenkoff Academic Achievement Award. He has also authored 'A History of Madhesh', 'Madhesh Swaraj (Self-rule)' and 'Denial to Defence (autobiography)'. He has given talks about the issues of the Madheshis, the people of the plains of Nepal, throughout the world, including at Harvard University.

On 13th September 2014, the Government of Nepal, arrested him and charged with a sedition demanding life-imprisonment for him for giving a speech to indigenous people. Despite getting a clean chit from the court and coming out of the jail, his talks, meetings and assemblies have been brutally suppressed by police, with more than a thousand arrested, a hundred injured and a hundred fake cases filed against his supporters over a span of a year. He started a 'rose movement' against the police brutality and provocations, and appealed to all his supporters to strictly stick to non-violence. He has been arrested more than a dozen times and is also frequently put under house-arrests. He is facing more than half a dozen sedition cases in various districts. Last time, he was arrested on 2nd February 2017 and tortured in custody for 86 days for holding a mass-assembly on 18th January 2017. The Government of Nepal even ordered freezing of all of his properties, bank-accounts and passports.











2000 December

Idea for Independent Madhesh gestated among an informal group of engineering students following the Hrithik Roshan Scandal and the subsequent Madheshi-Nepali riots in Kathmandu; its boundary, flag and viability discussed. Information including news clippings collected from Terai districts and its group leader, C. K. Raut, then the university-topper, assigned a responsibility to author a book on Madhesh.

2002 September ▶

Dr. Raut protests imposition of daura, suruwal and topi as a mandatory "Nepali" national dress for receiving an honour from the King Gyanendra for his academic excellence. His request to receive the honour in his native dress declined.

2004 September

Idea of Independent Madhesh and its flag floated in public domain for discussion; a website madhesh.com, an online forum and blogs also started for the movement.



2006 December

Immediately following the Madheshi-Nepali riots in Nepalgunj, under the protection of the local administration and the direct involvement of Nepal Police, the Alliance for Rights and Independence of Madhesh (ARIM), headed by C. K. Raut aka 'Azad', announced. Madhesh anthem composed. Pamphlets 'State Restructuring or Independent Madhesh?' distributed. Several articles supporting independent Madhesh also published, both in national and international media. ARIM advocated for independence of Madhesh/Terai through peaceful means.

2007 January – 2008 February

ARIM participates in the Madhesh Movement and emphasizes for forming a separate 'Madhesh Sarkar' demanding all state apparatus of the Government of Nepal to be withdrawn from Madhesh. Issues a number of press-statements opposing compromises in the movement's demands and agreements between the Madheshi leaders and the Government of Nepal.

Partnership Against Poverty Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries 9-13 May, 2011 · Istanbul, Turkey

2010 September

Non-Resident Madheshis Association (NRMA), a global umbrella organisation of the Madheshis living abroad, officially registered on 8th September 2010 in the USA, under the founding president Dr. C. K. Raut. It had representatives in America, Australia, Africa and the Middle East, East and Central Asia, Europe, India and Nepal.

■2010 November

Dr. C. K. Raut gives a lecture on the Madhesh Against Bullets: A Saga of the Madhesh Movement in Nepal".

■ 2011 February

'Black Buddhas' documentary released, and screened at several places including Cambridge,

Dr. C. K. Raut representing Madheshis at the Headquarter on 1st April 2011.

2011 July

A memorandum submitted to Queen Elizabeth II, advocating for #FreeMadhesh on the basis of the British-Nepal treaties of 1816 and 1860. → HM's response.

2011 November 5

movement fulltime.

Movement at Harvard University, titled "Brooms

Boston and Las Vegas.

▲ 2011 April

United Nations Meeting on LDC, at New York

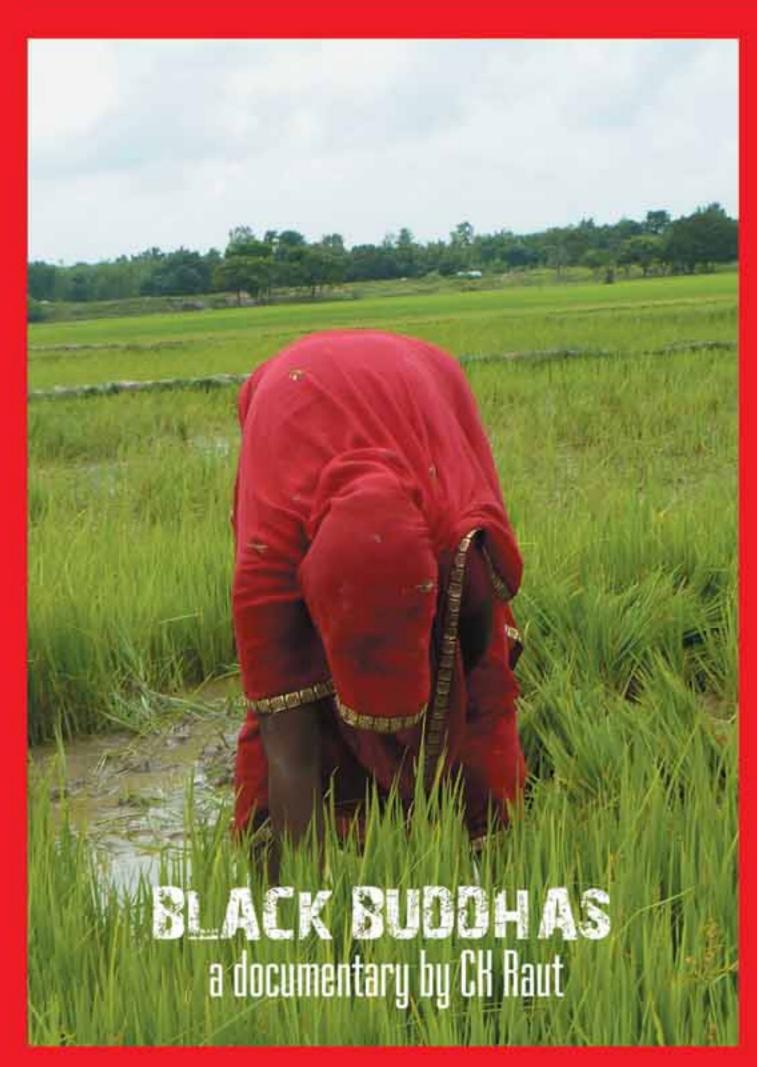
Dr. C. K. Raut resigns from his job as a scientist in the USA and returns to his home to take over the

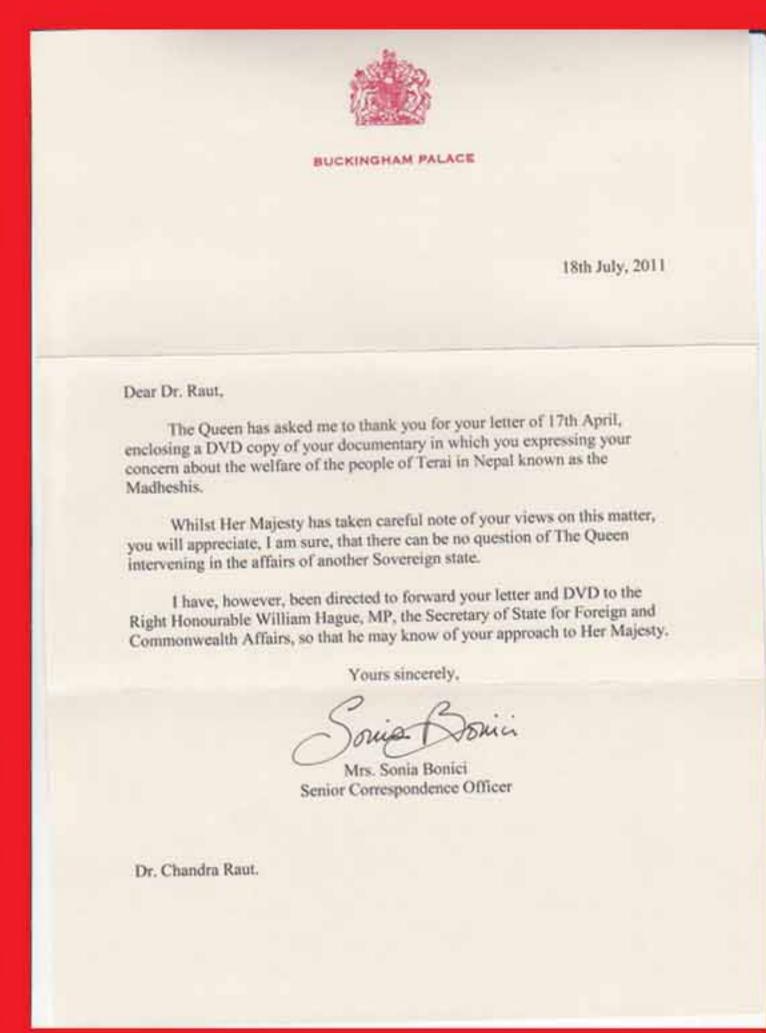


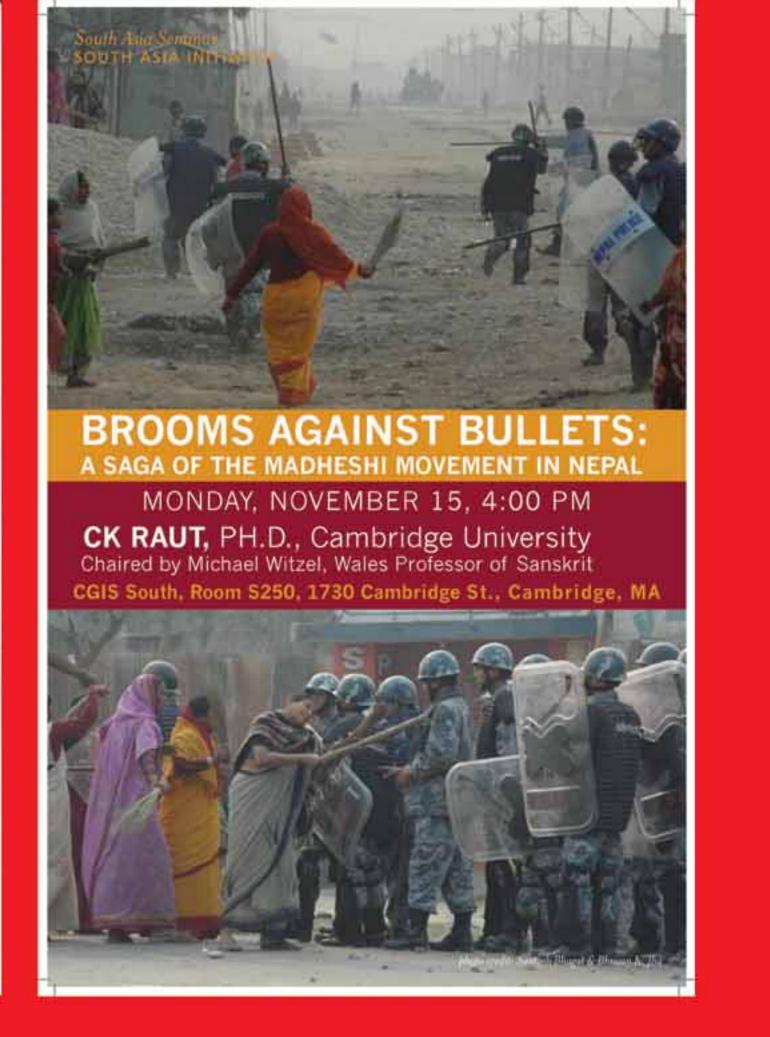
2010 July - August

Dr. C. K. Raut and the Non-Resident Madheshis Association coordinators embark on 'Mechi-Mahakali Yatra.











2011 November 14-15

◆Dr. C. K. Raut organises and chairs the conference on "The Role of NGOs/INGOs in Developing Madhesh"; With the Honourable Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare Dan Bahadur Chaudhary; Mr. Rajib Upadhya, Sr. External Affairs Specialist from World Bank; H. E. Robert Piper, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nepal; H. E. John Tucknott, the UK Ambassador to Nepal; H. E. Dr. Alexander Spachis, the Ambassador to the EU Delegation to Nepal; Shri Jaideep Mazumdar, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India.

2012 March 31

Dr. Raut addresses a historic mass-assembly of the Madheshis in Kathmandu and appeals for a stronger coalition to take the movement to the global level. ▼







2012 May 21

Alliance for Independent Madhesh (AIM) officially announced in a press-conference at Madhesh Media House in Kathmandu.

2012 October 14

▼All India Non-Resident Madheshis Conference organised at India International Centre in Delhi, India on 14th October 2012.

2013 January

Ad-hoc committees formation completed in 21 districts.

2014 July 21

▼ Protest in Delhi at Jantar Mantar and handover of a 13-page memorandum to the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, advocating for the rights of the Madheshis in India as per the 1950 Indo-Nepal Peace and Friendship Treaty.









2014 August

▼ District Council formation begins.

2014 August 21

■ Dr. Raut officially invited to the Constitutional Assembly of Nepal, by the Constitutional and Political Dialogue and Consensus Committee (CPDCC). Dr. Raut suggested for the constitutional rights to secession for the indigenous people in the upcoming constitution.





2014 September 13

Arbitrary arrest of Dr. Raut by the armed police force (APF) around 7:30 pm, after addressing an annual cultural fair, Chhata Mela, of the indigenous Santhal community nearby Rangeli (Amtola) of Morang district, as a chief guest.

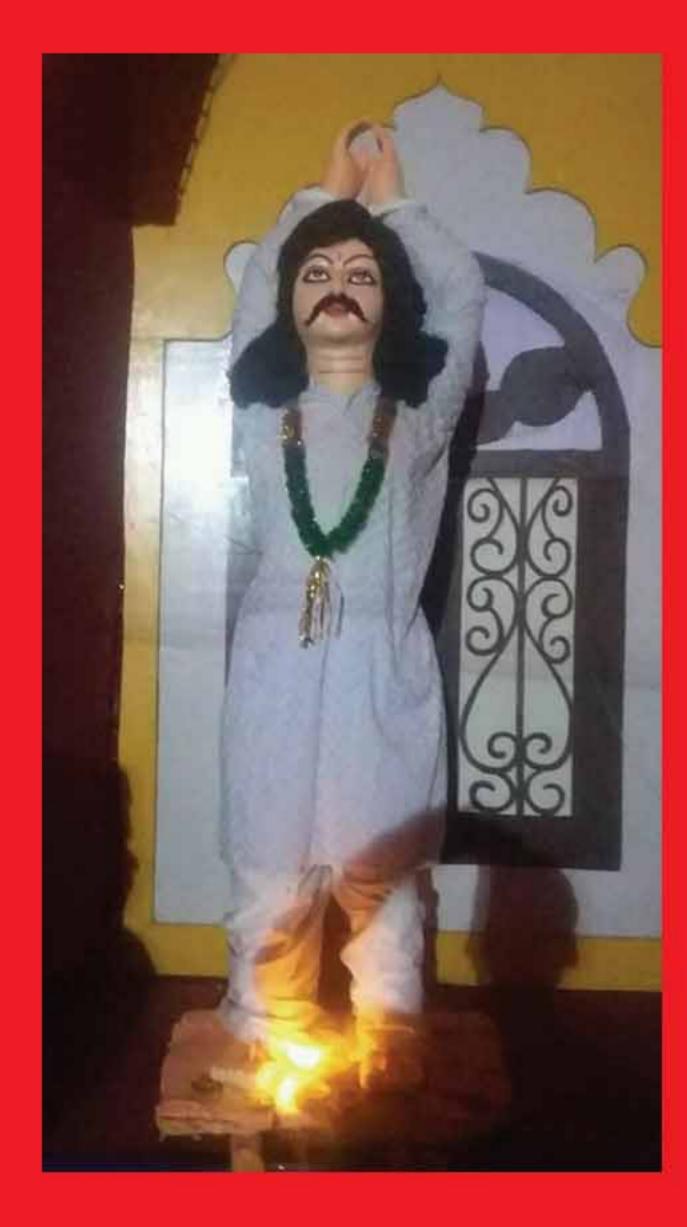
2014 September 21

▼ Dr. Raut starts fast-unto-death inside the custody against the physical and mental torture given by police and violation of freedom of speech.

2014 September 24

Annulment of the habeas corpus writ filed in the Supreme Court / Dr. Raut gives an statement before the supreme court judges: "people are supreme; the sovereignty rests with the people, and thus the people must have the right to decide; a referendum should be held concerning the matters of Madhesh."





2014 October 1

On the 10th day of the fast, talks held with the Government of Nepal in the T.U. Teaching Hospital, Maharajgunj, where Dr. Raut was admitted due to health complications. The government gave a written commitment, signed by the Spokesperson of the Government and Minister for Information and Communication Dr. Minendra Rijal and the Minister of Agricultural Development Hari Prasad Parajuli, to guarantee freedom of expression, and also assured of Dr. Raut's release within the next 48 hours; Dr. Raut ends his fast. ▼

2014 October 8

Sedition case filed against Dr. Raut in the Special Court demanding life-imprisonment.

2014 October 14

The Special Court gave verdict to release Dr. Raut on a bail for Rs. 50000; Dr. Raut refuses to pay the bail amount and sent to Kathmandu's Dillibazar prison.



Raut refuses to walk out on bail



CK Raut, who was arrested by the authorities in Morang on September 14, was brought to Kathmandu following the order of Supreme Court. Morang District Administration had filed a treason charge against Raut. POST FILE PHOTO: NIMESH JANG RAI

ment was found different Morang

from what the local adminis-

tration of Morang had men-

POST REPORT KATHMANDU, OCT 14

Treason accused Madhesi tioned in its charge sheet. rights activist, CK Raut, was "He [CK Raut] mentioned sent to judicial custody after that he was never for sepahe refused to post the bail rating Madhes from Nepal Tuesday.

A full bench led by Special ince," said Lamichhane. Court Justice Manohar Bhattarai had ordered police return Raut to Morang to release Raut on bail, but District Administration as requested the government to "Freedom of expression is a the defendant declined to pay demanded in the charge the bail amount of Rs 50,000, sheet. Raut was arrested on ply with international and racy. But the government is said Natibabu Lamichhane, September 14 from Morang domestic standards to pro- going after an activist

the court registrar.

autonomous Madhes prov-

and brought to Kathmandu The court ordered for following the Supreme Raut's release after his state- Court's order. Later, the that the police claim that from the Tarai."

Administration had filed a books advocating Madhes case of treason against Raut secession does not prove that on charge of instigating a he encouraged the use of viocampaign for a separate lence, or that his actions led Madhes.

Meanwhile, Human Rights amount for his release on and that his campaign is for Watch has appealed for a recently struggled to break withdrawal of the sedition out of feudal structures and charge against Raut and ensure democratic rights,' The court also refused to release him unconditionally. amend its practices to comtect freedom of expression.

District Raut has written articles and

to violence.

said Brad Adam, Asia direc-The organisation has also tor of Human Rights Watch. cornerstone of a good democexpressing concerns about The organisation also said marginalised communities

"Many Nepalis have









































2014 November 13First National Council meeting held in Birgunj; Dr. Raut still in Dillibazar Jail.

2014 November 24
Dr. Raut came out of jail by depositing the "people's bail" amount and
honoring people's desire.





2014 November 26

Dr. Raut along with more than 400 Madheshis arrested from Kathmandu, on the basis of the colour of skin, while attempting to hold a pre-slated mass assembly during the SAARC summit, demanding Madhesh to be recognised as its 9th member state.





2014 December

Huge mass-assemblies in Janakpur, Rajbiraj,

Parasi, Simraungarh ▼, Padariya, Taulihawa etc.

in support of #FreeMadhesh.







2015 January

#FreeMadhesh mass-assemblies banned and brutally suppressed at several places, including Jaleshwar, Biratnagar, Birgunj, and Lahan.



Dr. Raut fatally beaten by police in Biratnagar (Jan. 3) and Rajgarh (April 4). ▼ ▶ Police also broke his leg in Biratnagar (Jan. 3) ▲





▼ Despite his broken leg, Dr. Raut managed to reach secretly to the program venue in Birgunj to address a preannounced mass-assembly on 8th January 2015, but he was again arrested and tortured.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

Index: ASA 31/007/2014 17 October 2014



NEPAL: AUTHORITIES MUST UNCONDITIONALLY RELEASE CK RAUT WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT

Amnesty International calls for the immediate and unconditional release of Dr CK Raut who was charged with sedition on 8 October 2014 under Nepal's Crime against State and Punishment Act 1989. He faces the possibility of life imprisonment.

CK Raut was first arrested and detained without charge on 14 September 2014 following his participation in a public rally in Morang. In his speech, he called for the right to secession to be enshrined in Nepal's new constitution. He was arrested without a police warrant on his way home from the rally and subsequently charged under the Public Offence Act for his alleged involvement in "antinational activities" and a campaign for an "independent Madhes." He undertook an 11-day hunger strike in protest.

Following the arrest, there were reports of clashes between police and demonstrators supporting CK Raut. Media reports at the time indicated that at least six people were injured in Bharadaha, Saptari, and four protestors were arrested in Siraha.

Amnesty International sent a formal letter to Nepal's Minister of Home Affairs on 18 September 2014 calling for CK Raut's release and expressing concern about the police's alleged excessive use of force against protestors. A month later no response has been received from the Government of Nepal.

The arbitrary arrest and detention of CK Raut on the basis of his peaceful expression of his political views is a breach of his right to freedom of speech as enshrined in Article 7.7.1 of the Interim Constitution of Nepal; it is also a violation of Nepal's international obligation to guarantee freedom of expression.

The sedition charges later brought against CK Raut by Nepal's Special Court are of particularly grave concern, not only because they violate his right to freedom of expression, but because they carry such a heavy sentence which appears designed to deter others from exercising their right to freedom of expression.

The Government of Nepal has an obligation not only to protect the right to freedom of expression, but also the right of others to receive information and ideas. The apparent attempt to silence CK Raut

undermines the prospect of an open debate among all communities in Nepal about the country's proposed federal structure.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

October 14, 2014 12:47AM EDT

Nepal: Drop Sedition Charges against Madhesi Activist

Arrest of CK Raut Violates Free Speech Rights

(New York) - The Nepal authorities should immediately withdraw sedition charges and unconditionally release rights campaigner Chandra Kant Raut, who was arrested for his expression of peaceful political opinions. Nepal should amend its practices to comply with international and domestic standards to protect freedom of expression.

Raut was arrested on September 14, 2014, for allegedly advocating that the southern plains of Nepal, known as the Terai, be allowed to secede from the rest of the country as part of a long-standing debate on state restructuring. On October 8 he was charged with sedition, presumably under the Crime against State and Punishment Act 1989, which forbids any "attempts to cause any disorder with an intention to jeopardise sovereignty, integrity or national unity of Nepal." It carries a penalty of life imprisonment. Police also said that Raut has written articles and books advanceina conceina ber Madhasia sha Tausi namentaise

Monthly Report - September 2014 UN Resident Coordinator's Office, Nepal

Transition Support Strategy UNRC Office, Nepal

Morang (ER 13 September) - The NP arrested Madhesi scholar and activist, Dr. CK Raut on 13 September while he was on his way back from a cultural program of Santhyal community in Rangeli municipality. He was arrested on the charge of expressing views against the territorial integrity of Nepal and for demanding an independent Madhes. The CDO reportedly said that initial investigations indicate Dr. Raut's involvement in activities that pose a threat to national integrity. He was found with documents related to a separate Madhes including maps, books and pamphlets. He was detained for six days under the Public Offenses Act. Following the arrest, Madhesi political parties along with right activists and Intellectuals demonstrated in various Tarai districts, such as Morang, Saptari, Siraha and Dhanusha. An Independent network of Madhesi students also organized protest programs in Saptari. Youth networks also warned of starting another Madhes movement if Dr. Raut is not released at the earliest. In Parsa CR on 21 September demonstrations for the release of Dr. C K Raut continued. The Madhesi Journalist Association and members of Madhesi civil society organized rallies and corner meetings in Birganj and other major Tarai towns demanding the release of Dr. C K Raut.

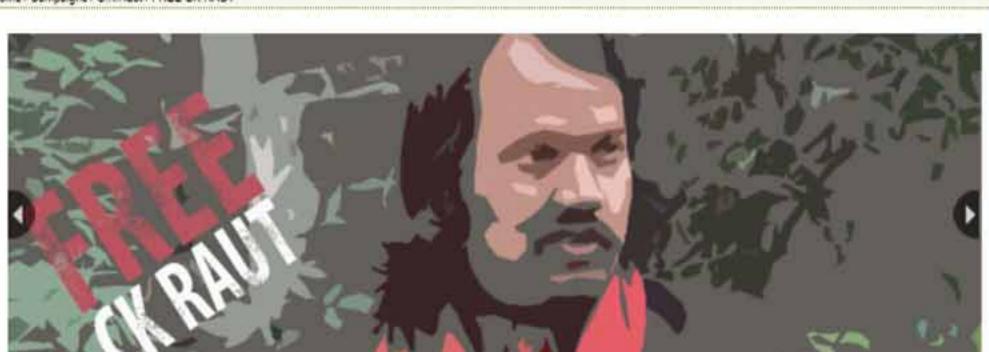
Similarly in Eastern, Central and Western Tarai districts on 23 and 24 September there were protests over the arrest of Dr. C K Raut. The protests were non-violent and attended by youth and students. On 24 September, Dr. Raut's supporters announced a one hour transportation strike in Kathmandu and all Tarai districts. Police intervened in most places and some people were arrested in Janakpur, Birganj and Lahan. A Tarai bandh was also announced for 26 September. In Saptari ER on 27 September a group of CK Raut's supporters burned copies of the Kantipur and Kathmandu Post accusing Kantipur Publications of being biased regarding Madhesi issues, particularly the issue of CK Raut's detention. It has been reported thast anger among some groups toward the state appears to be increasing. In Sunsari ER on 29 September protests continued for CK Raut's release. According to local media, demonstrations

protesting the arrest and demanding the immediate release of CK Raut were being organized every day. However, these events were allegedly being underreported in the National media. This has been perceived as prejudiced action by the media toward Madhesi issues further fueling their anger. Dr. Raut was on a fast unto death whilst in police custody and there were reports of him being



ASIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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FREE CK RAUT

DR. C. K. RAUT Madheshi Rights Activist

Arrested on September 13, 2014



Save Dr. C. K. Raut from life-imprisonment and physical attacks

Police brutality, violence and suppression of peaceful movements External Links in Madhesh/Terai of Nepal; excessive force used on mass
assemblies of Dr. Raut physically injuring dozens, Dr. Raut leg
Amnesty International Appeal
Amnesty International Appeal fractured in police intervention, hundreds of detentions and . RHPC Anneal

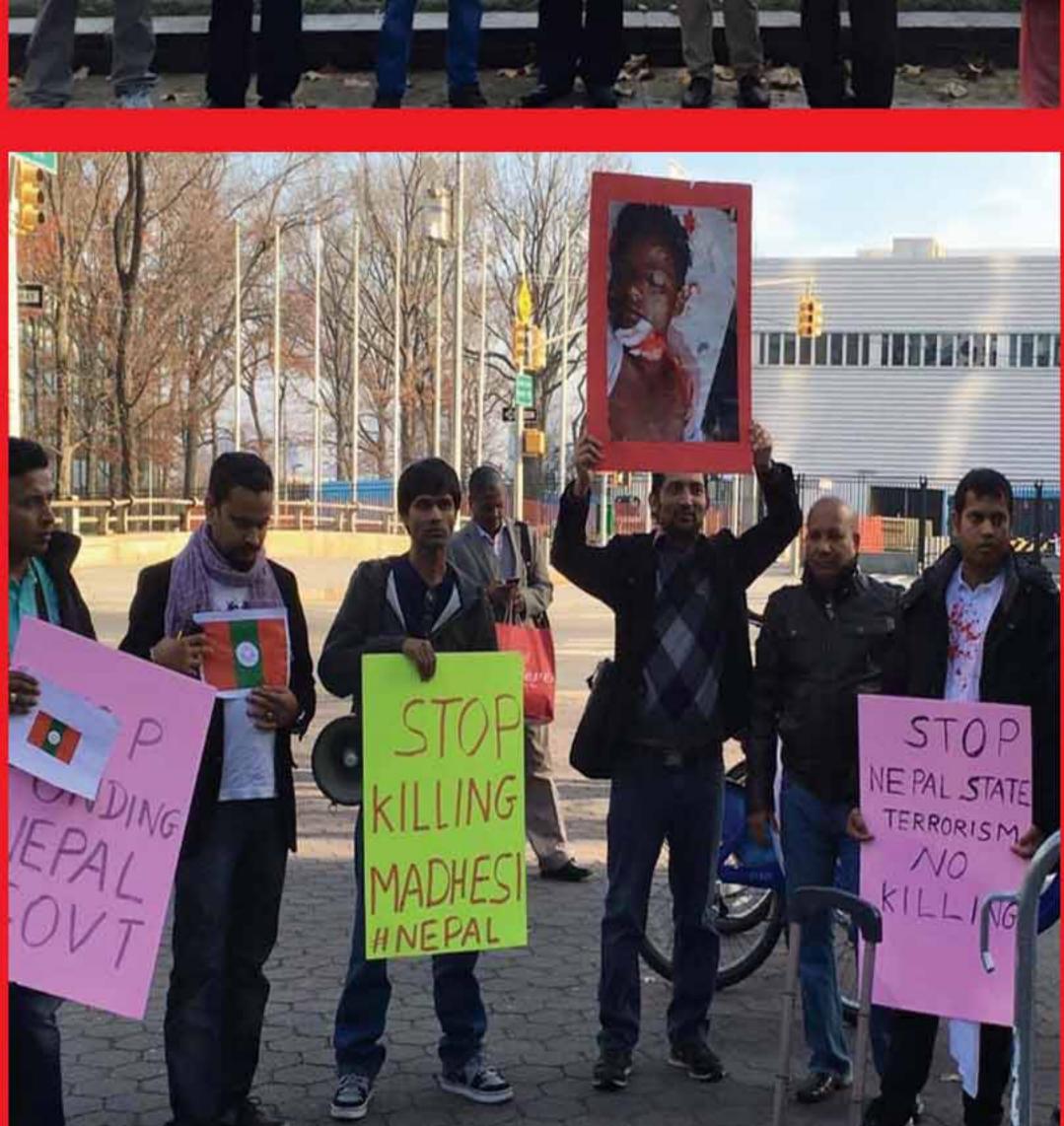


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2015 May 12 ▶

Upon an appeal from Dr C. K. Raut, the Madheshis in several districts observed a one-day-fast and donated their share of food for Nepal's great earthquake victims.

■ 2015 January 9

In response to police's brutal suppression, Dr. Raut announces the 'rose movement' in various districts, to handover flowers to police in retaliation to their brutal suppression.



DENIAL TO DEFENSE CK Raut St. सी. के राउन St. सी. के राउन St. सी. के राउन BLACK BUDDHAS के हे हाइस्टामा पूर्व कि

लियोजन आयोग

जनमत संग्रह मतगणना प्रमाणपत्र

निर्वाचन क्षेत्र नं .: 2

जम्मा मतदाता संख्याः ४८७

खसेको मतः 33 ८

मधेशको पक्षमा मतः 289

मधेशकी तर्फबाट प्रतिनिधि

सदर मतः

निर्वाचन अधिकृत

जिल्लाः सिन्हा

■ 2015 May 26

Dr. C. K. Raut arrested from a TV station in Itahari of Sunsari district, forbidding him from giving an interview. Dr. Raut's books, speeches, interviews and videos also banned.

REFERENDUM 2015 December

Mock referendum held in several districts. People vote overwhelmingly in favour of 'Free Madhesh'.

2016 January 24

Treason cases filed against 17 activists for holding a referendum.







INDEPENDENT GOVERNANCE

2016 March

Crackdown on formation of local independent governments (Village Swaraj Councils); several sedition cases filed.

▼ Leaders facing sedition charges.









#AIM involved in daily social works.



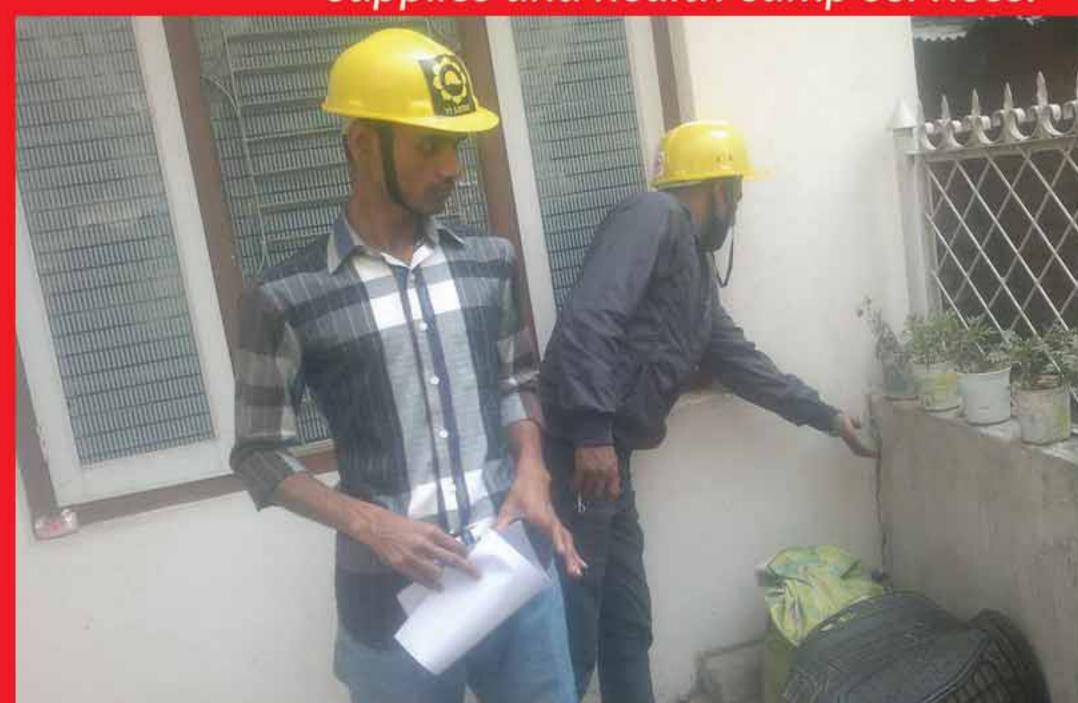






▲ ▼AIM's Y!LOTUS actively involved in relief and rescue operations in floods, fires and earthquakes.

RED LOTUS involved in medical emergency supplies and health camp services. ▶



▲ ▼ 1 Million Neem Plantation Movement.
Madhesh Premier League - Sporting Events ▶

























On 18th January 2017, at the same place (Lahan, Siraha), both the #AIM (despite prohibitions and crackdowns) and the Madheshi parliamentary forces organised mass-assemblies to celebrate the Sacrifice Day of Martyrs. An estimated quarter a million people attending the #AIM's assemblies and rallies altogether (right), in contrast to barely 100 people in the assembly of the Madheshi parliamentary forces (left) addressed by their top leaders, unquestionably proved the verdict in favour of "Free Madhesh". For this, Dr. Raut was arrested on 2nd February 2017 and tortured in custody for 86 days.







