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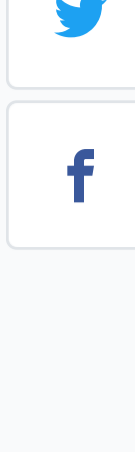
Dec 15, 2021 #EndCasteDiscrimination newsletter



WORKING GLOBALLY AGAINST CASTE-BASED DISCRIMINATION

#EndCasteDiscrimination newsletter

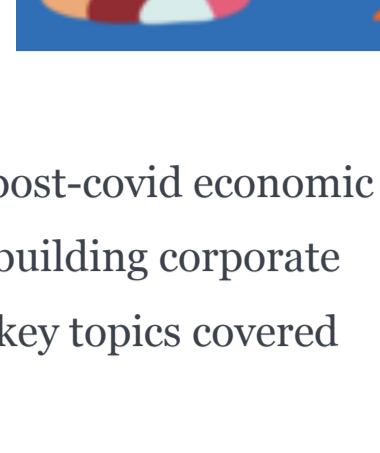
By International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) • Issue #1 • View online



EU-NGO Forum

Dalit rights defenders speak out on caste at the EU-NGO Forum

Economic, social and labour rights were the thematic headlines of this year's EU-NGO Human Rights Forum, where three Dalit human rights defenders were featured as panellists, facilitated by IDSN. Caste-related barriers to healthcare in Pakistan, post-covid economic and social recovery for Dalit workers in South Asia and building corporate accountability to respect human rights were among the key topics covered by the panellists [...]

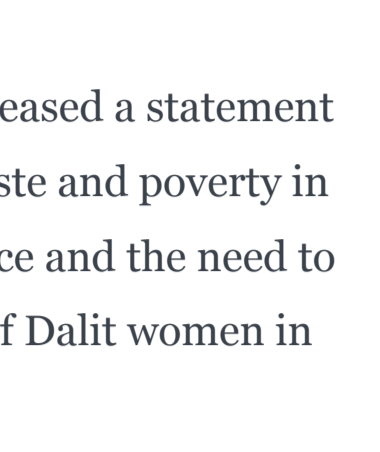


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Caste and poverty

Nepal: UN poverty expert says caste discrimination is "single most important factor" explaining why Dalits are disproportionately affected by poverty

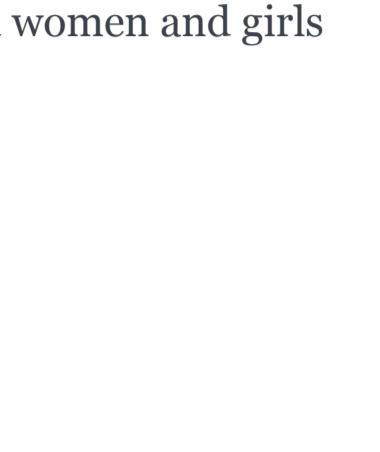
Following his visit to Nepal where he met several IDSN members and affiliates, the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty, Olivier De Schutter, released a statement highlighting the persistent interconnections between caste and poverty in Nepal. The Rapporteur also raised issues of caste violence and the need to do more to ensure meaningful political representation of Dalit women in Nepal [...]



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UN report: One third of India's Dalits remain poor

The most recent Global Multidimensional Poverty Index includes caste as an important indicator of poverty in India. According to this method of measuring poverty, progress has been made, but Dalits and Adivasis are still disproportionately poor and women and girls are lagging behind [...]

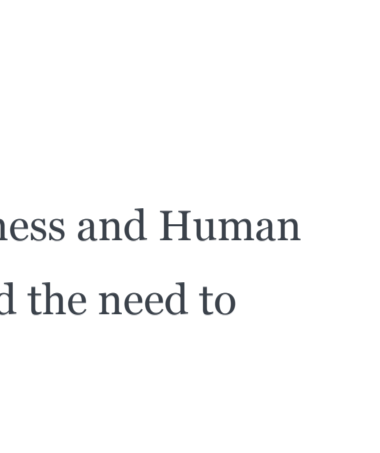


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Caste, business and human rights

Caste and human rights in supply chains raised at UN Forum

IDSN participated in the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights from 29 November – 1 December, learning and drawing attention to the urgent need to address caste discrimination and violence in global supply chains. Several panellists from the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights responded directly to IDSN's questions and noted the need to address caste discrimination and violence [...]



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Brief: Dalit women face violence and harassment in India's garment industry

Brief and recommendations in relation to the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights calling for stepping up action on ending caste- and gender violence and discrimination in global garment supply chains [...]



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Caste-based slavery

UN slavery expert raises concern over caste discrimination in Sri Lanka

Following his visit to Sri Lanka last week, the UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Tomoya Obokata, raised concern over caste-based discrimination in Sri Lanka affecting the lives and opportunities for oppressed castes in the country. IDSN welcomes the attention to an often hidden issue in Sri Lanka. [...]



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New study on caste and modern slavery in South Asia

Important new study on caste and modern slavery by Asia Dalit Rights Forum - covering Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka [...]



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Campaign launched to #CastOutSlavery

"As a part of our campaign towards Human Rights Day 2021, we will be sharing 10 Days with CDWD. Stay tuned and learn more about these communities and the hurdles they have continued to face over generations towards realizing their human rights." [...]



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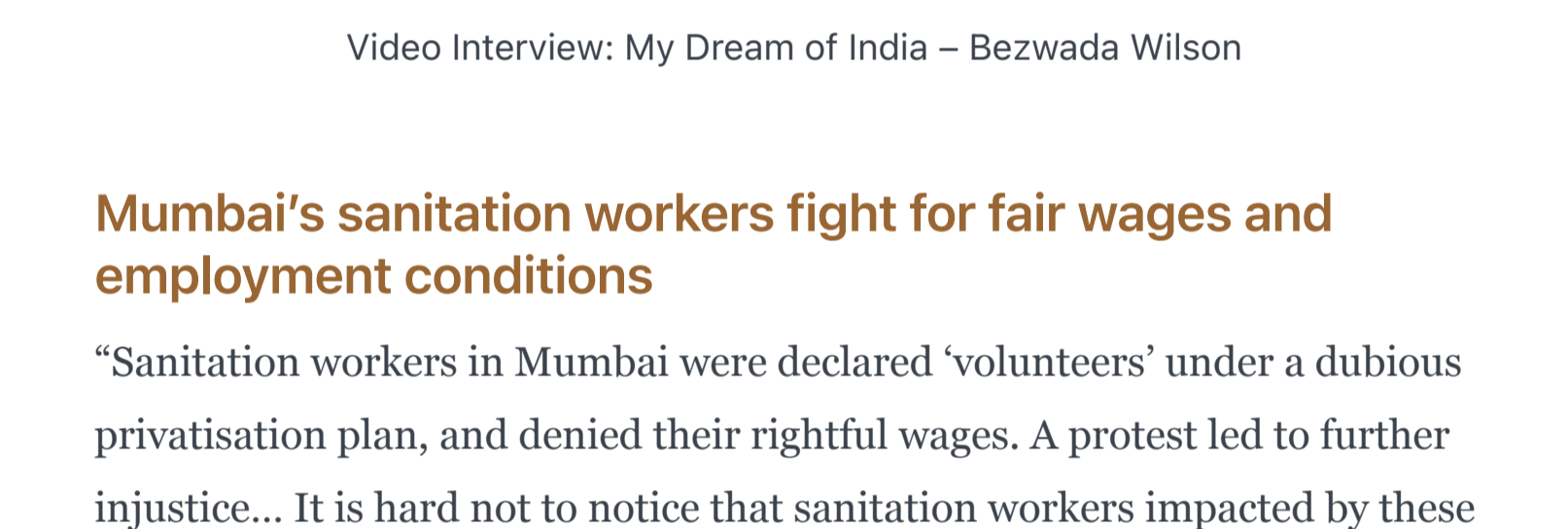
Caste, water and sanitation

Global forum addresses the caste and sanitation work nexus

The links between caste and hazardous forms of sanitation work were highlighted by speakers at the Sanitation Workers Forum 2021 from 29 November – 2 December. Participants at the forum urged that immediate steps are taken to ensure the safety and dignity of millions of sanitation workers worldwide – and ensure social protections. [...]



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Video Interview: My Dream of India – Bezwada Wilson

Mumbai's sanitation workers fight for fair wages and employment conditions

"Sanitation workers in Mumbai were declared 'volunteers' under a dubious privatisation plan, and denied their rightful wages. A protest led to further injustice... It is hard not to notice that sanitation workers impacted by these manoeuvres are, invariably, Dalits." [...]

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IDSN Executive Director visits Oslo and Suffolk

IDSN speaks on global solidarity

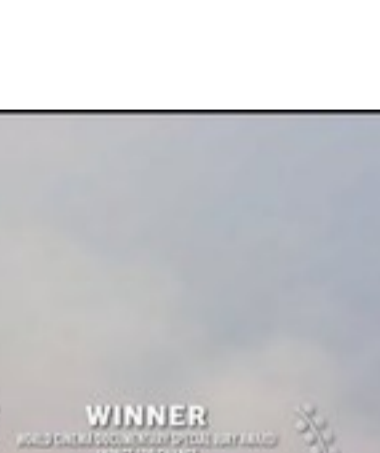
The Norwegian Human Rights Fund (NHRF) hosted a panel to explore major challenges for human rights defenders in Afghanistan and beyond and what Norway and the international community can do to show solidarity. IDSN Executive Director, Meena Varma, gave her thoughts on the panel [...]



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IDSN speaks at screening of award winning film Writing with Fire

The IDSN Executive Director, Meena Varma, took part in a panel discussion on caste and gender, at the screening in Suffolk. The panel was chaired by India Knight, journalist and columnist for the Sunday Times. [...]



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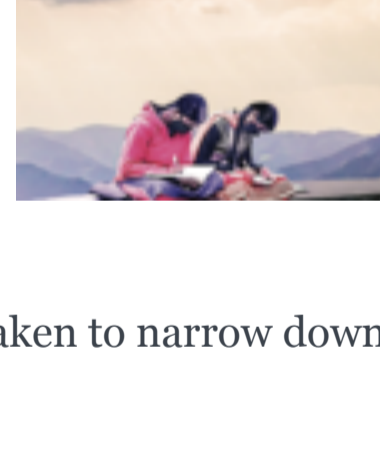


Writing With Fire (Official Trailer)

Caste and education

Report: Confronting the Pandemic #EducationJustice

The survey report found that it was nearly impossible for students from marginalised communities to afford a stable internet connection while they're struggling against starvation during the pandemic. Furthermore, no strong measures were taken to narrow down the digital gaps [...]

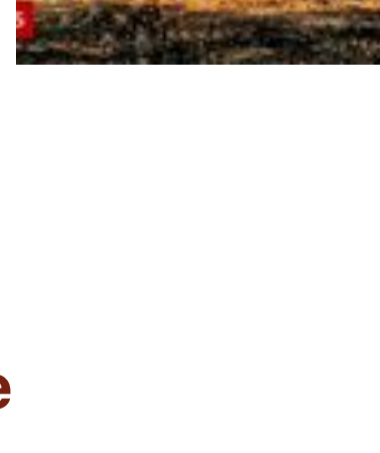


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Caste and relationships

What the data tells us about love and marriage in India

"In a 2014 survey of more than 70,000 people, fewer than 10% of urban Indians said that anyone in their family had married outside their caste and not many more outside their jati or sub-caste." [...]

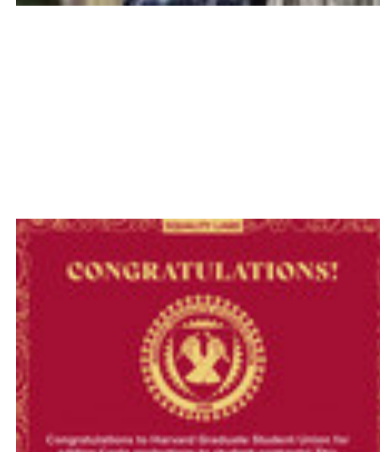


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US Universities take action on caste

UC Davis quietly added caste to its antidiscrimination policy. Will it cause others to do the same?

In September, UC Davis became the first University of California institution to add caste [...]



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Harvard adds caste bias protections for graduate student workers

Harvard University is the latest U.S. school to add measures protecting caste-oppressed students following a push from graduate workers and a national campaign [...]



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UC Berkeley students approve anti-caste discrimination bill

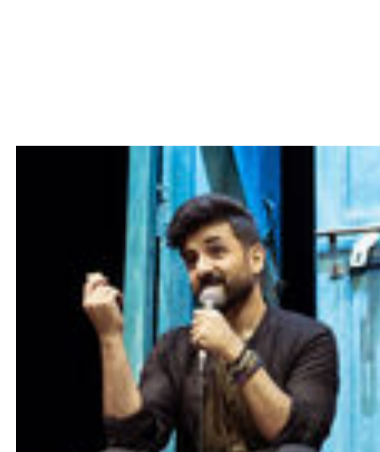
This week, the ASUC Senate (legislative branch of the Berkeley student government) unanimously approved a bill urging campus administration to address caste and perceived caste discrimination in its anti-discrimination policy [...]



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Why are American colleges addressing caste discrimination?

Caste is unfamiliar to many Americans, but colleges, at the urging of South Asian students, include it in their anti-discrimination policies [...]



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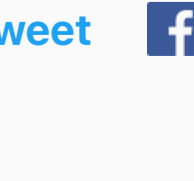
Caste has migrated beyond India

"Not addressing caste as a menace against humanity will only undermine the sacrifices made by the anti-caste heroes. Society must not be selective in a manner that George Floyd's tragic death garners worldwide outrage, but heinous crimes against Dalits like the Khairlanji massacre and the Hathras rape case remain an 'internal matter'." [...]



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