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WORKING GLOBALLY AGAINST CASTE-BASED DISCRIMINATION

News and updates on ending caste discrimination - July 22

By International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) • Issue #6 • View online

Leave no-one behind: Addressing business-related human rights issues and exclusion of communities on the basis of caste and descent

IDSN and the UN OHCHR Minority section brought together an experts' round table discussion to mark the 30th Anniversary of the UN Minority mandate.

It was an incredibly rewarding two hours of discussion and sharing, with a very diverse group of speakers. With activists from all over South Asia, Japan and the USA, participants addressed descent and work-based discrimination (DWBD) and the intersectionality of caste and gender in the business setting.

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UN Expert on Extreme Poverty Presents his Visit Report to Nepal, highlighting his concerns about Dalits and their susceptibility to poverty

The UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty, Olivier de Schutter, presented to the Human Rights Council his visit report to Nepal, which took place from 29 November to 9 December 2021.

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Joint submission to the UN CERD Committee on the right to health

The Sexual Rights Initiative, National Council of Women Leaders (NCWL), Dalit National Rights Defenders Network (DHRDNet), AWID, Her Rights Initiative (HRI) and IDSN have worked together to create a submission to the CERD Committee on the right to health and how it impacts minorities. Download the full report here.

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IDSN UN submissions to India and Pakistan's 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review

IDSN and numerous in country organisations have submitted a joint stakeholder submission to the 4th cycle of the UPR of Pakistan. It gives an update on how Pakistan has made progress on the recommendations from the previous cycles. We have also submitted a joint stakeholder submission to the 4th cycle of the UPR of India. This document looks at issues of interest to caste-affected communities and details recommendations that the government of India can take.

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EU meeting with Ahmed Shaheed, the current UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief

In June, IDSN and a group of other civil society organisations met with Ahmed Shaheed, the current Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief, in Brussels.

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EU Call for Evidence in the framework of the drafting of an EU forced labour Instrument

IDSN has submitted a response to the EU's call for evidence on forced labour, listing a number of recommendations on modern slavery and bonded labour. Download IDSN's full report here.

ec.europa.eu • Share

News from our members

India: Why justice eludes many Dalit survivors of sexual violence (Al Jazeera)

A recent report notes that access to justice is limited for Dalit women, especially in rural areas.

"Caste atrocities are not just based on caste; they're also based on caste and gender. It's Dalit women's bodies that become targets of violence. For the majority of Dalit girls, the extreme forms of violence they face is sexual violence," lawyer and rights activist Manjula Pradeep, also the director of campaigns for NCWL and DHRDN, told Al Jazeera.

www.aljazeera.com • Share



Darnal Award for Social Justice goes to Karnali Arts Centre and Equality Labs (Dignity Post)

The biennial Darnal Award for Social Justice 2022 has been awarded to the Karnali Arts Centre, a community-based arts organisation of Nepal and Equality Labs, a US-based Dalit civil rights organisation. The award is organized by the Sarita Pariyar Trust Fund, in collaboration with Samata Foundation, an independent think-tank specializing in research and advocacy on caste-based issues concerning Nepal's Dalit community.

dignitypost.com • Share



Other news headlines

Sri Lankan tea pickers' dreams shattered by economic crisis (Reuters)

Plantation workers, who hail predominantly from the island's Tamil minority, are affected more than most as they own no land to provide a cushion against soaring food prices.

www.reuters.com • Share



A Dalit women-led union leads the way to make workplaces safer in Tamil Nadu (Times of India)

A campaign by a Tamil Nadu Textile and Common Labour Union (TTCU) following the rape and murder of a member has been successful in making the global fashion brands ensure there is no gender-based violence against women workers in factories they source from.

timesofindia.indiatimes.com • Share



Murder, rape and abuse in Asia's factories: the true price of fast fashion (The Guardian)

Jayasre Kathiravel's murder exposed the epidemic of abuse facing garment workers. But will a groundbreaking new agreement improve their lot?

www.theguardian.com • Share

The mystifying rise of suicide in Pakistan's Thar Desert (Al Jazeera)

Suicides have spiked dramatically in the historically remote region of Pakistan. Is breakneck social change to blame?

www.aljazeera.com • Share



No education for the forcibly converted (The News)

Attempts were made to ban forced conversions for underage girls in 2016 and again in 2019 in Sindh and then later in the National Assembly, but they failed to proceed due to religious objections.

www.thenews.com.pk • Share



Journalists From India's Lowered Castes Are Making Their Stories Known (Next City)

Voices represented in Indian media are overwhelmingly upper-caste and male. Now Dalit-led media, taking inspiration from Dr. Ambedkar's legacy and Black liberation movements, is bringing their experiences to light with grace and humor — both at home and in the diaspora.

nextcity.org • Share

How India's first all-women newsroom is creating a media revolution (BBC News)

Khabar Lahariya is the first and only newsroom in India run entirely by women from marginalised backgrounds.

www.bbc.com • Share



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By International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN)

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