



## Association of Nepali Teraian in America for Teraian Identity, Integration and Empowerment

December 14, 2015

### PRESS RELEASE

**Subject: New York Cycle Rally Protest against Human Rights Violations in Terai/Madhesh, Nepal: NOTES OF THANKS and Statement about ANTA's Position**

The Association of Nepali Teraian in America's Greater New York Chapter (ANTA-GNYC) in collaboration with Madhesh Human Rights (Madhur) and Madheshi Community Empowerment in America (MCEA) held protest bicycle rally in New York in front of United Nation on Sunday, December 13, 2015 against Human Rights Violations in Terai/Madhesh of Nepal. The program was indeed a grand success. ANTA sincerely appreciates participants and supporters of this program.

The protests in Madhesh for equal rights and against the regressive and discriminatory constitution have been going for since four months and this rally was to acknowledge 120 days of ongoing protest on December 13, 2015 in New York. According to the recent report of Human Right Watch, there has been massive human right violation by Nepali Security forces in Terai-Madhesh. The security forces have already killed more than 50 people, including a 4-year old child and 14-year old girl. ANTA is saddened by the deepening economic and political crisis in Nepal resulting from the lackluster response of major political party leaders to over four month long popular protests in the plain region, and over the government's complete indifference to grave deprivations of normal life conditions for the millions of Nepali citizens resulting from the closing of schools, factories and transportation.

The ANTA-GNYC's purpose of above event was solely to raise voice and bring awareness of the issues on the human rights violation, suppression and brutal killing to peaceful protesters in Nepal demanding for their rights in their country where around 50 people have been killed by armed police force. Here, ANTA would like to inform all the members, friends, well-wishers, and all others that in above mentioned rally some protesters were holding the irrelevant play cards with a symbol supposedly associated with a campaign launched by an Alliance in Nepal. ANTA doesn't support those kinds of intention, but condemns any kind of human right violation, and continues to work on the founding principle of its non-political organizational status.

ANTA and its Greater New York Chapter (GNYC) want to clarify that the above mentioned activity was done without their knowledge and dissociate themselves from such activity. ANTA and its Greater New York Chapter (GNYC) also clearly state that they are neither responsible for activity of other organization or their intention, nor any individual's opinion or personal agenda(s).

Finally, ANTA urge to stop human right violations in Terai-Madhesh, and reiterates that the future of peace and prosperity in Nepal can only be secured by resolving Nepal's internal differences through honest and speedy negotiations. Nepal today stands at a critical crossroads. If not quickly resolved, the current impasse can easily lead to greater social, economic, and political divisions, which can threaten national unity, peace and prosperity in Nepal. ANTA, therefore, calls on all Nepali stakeholders to seriously engage each other and find a way out of the current crisis.

**About Association of Nepali Teraian in America (ANTA):**

ANTA is a non-profit and non-political organization aiming to promote advancement and awareness of the Teraian's Identity, Linguistic and Cultural heritage, and facilitate close ties, cooperation and networking among Nepali Teraians in North America. It also promotes cooperation and strengthens ties with other Nepali Organizations in North America. For information, please visit: [www.terai.org](http://www.terai.org).

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