

GITA PARIYAR

SUCCESS STORY-2017



"I AM A SIMPLE WOMAN WITH SIMPLE THOUGHTS WHO LIVING A SIMPLE LIFE. THERE ARE NO MONUMENTS IN MY BEHALF AND MY NAME WILL SOON TO BE FORGET. BUT I LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL, AND FOR ME; IT WILL ALWAYS BE ENOUGH"

- GITA PARIYAR

GITA PARIYAR WAS BORN IN WEST PART OF REMOTE VILLAGE OF NEPAL IN 2034/10/10 BS FROM FATHER LATE RUP BADAHUR PARIYAR AND MOTHER KAN MAYA PARIYAR. SHE IS BELONGS TO DALIT (UNTOUCHABLE) AND IN BOTTOM LINE IN CASTE HIERARCHY OF NEPAL. HIS FATHER WAS TRADITIONAL TAILOR AND SEWING UPPER CASTE'S CLOTHES WHOLE YEAR ONLY FOR A BUCKET OF CORN AND A BAG OF MILLET ONCE A YEAR. SHE IS 7TH NUMBER'S DAUGHTER OUT OF EIGHT DAUGHTERS AND A SON FROM HER PARENTS. HER PARENTS WAITED FOR SON SINCE LONG TIME.

AFTER EIGHT DAUGHTERS HER PARENTS ABLE TO GOT A SON. MORE KIDS WITHOUT INCOME PUSHED HER FAMILY TO POOR AND POOR. AS SHE A MEMBER OF POOR DALIT FAMILY SHE HAS FACE UNCOUNTABLE HURDLES EVEN TO EAT FULL STOMACH AND CHANCE TO BETTER EDUCATION AS WELL. SHE HAS TO FIGHT WITH SOCIAL INJUSTICE AT EVERY POINT OF HER LIFE FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD WHEN SHE WAS ABLE TO PLAY WITH HER CHILDHOOD FRIENDS. HER CHILDHOOD FRIENDS WERE FROM UPPER CASTE WHO PLAYED TOGETHER BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL BUT THEY POUR WATER ON THEIR BODY BEFORE ENTER THEIR HOME BECAUSE THEY TOUCHED ME A DALIT (UNTOUCHABLE) IN PRACTICE OF NEPAL'S CULTURE. SHE BECAME HURT BUT THAT GAVE HER POWER TO FIGHT AGAINST INJUSTICE.

GITA PARIYAR IS A FEARLESS WOMAN WHO KEEPS PURSING HER DREAMS DESPITE THE CHALLENGES SHE FACES. SHE WANTS TO LIVE A LIFE WITH DIGNITY, ADVOCATE FOR HER COMMUNITY, AND CHANGE COMMON PERCEPTIONS ABOUT HER CASTE. DESPITE OBSTACLES, GITA NEVER STOPS AND TAKES COURAGEOUS STEPS WHENEVER SHE IS CHALLENGED.

BIO

Name: Gita Pariyar
Nickname: Chhuchchi Didi
DOB: 2034/10/10
23/01/1978
Address: Sahid Lakhan Village
Municipality-5, Gorkha.
Education: Basic

Trainings:

CHW, Smoke Free Stove, Candle & Incense, Goat & boiler rearing, Mushroom production, Bid embroider, Ginger, Entrepreneurship, SA tools, Bamboo craft, health related trainings, Disaster Risk Reduction, Maternal & child health, Nutrition, Soap production, cutting & sewing, etc.....

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Women living in developing countries like Nepal have to struggle a lot to prove their competency. It is also true for Gita she is able to excel herself a well known social activist and trainer in Gorkha District.

Gita Pariyar was just 14 and she got marriage when studying at grade seven. She had hope to continuing her school from husband's home but her father-in-law refused her request. Her decisive life was started from that point. Her partner was also only 17 when they got marriage and just appeared SLC. After SLC result he went out for further study left her alone in village. At that point she realized alone and helpless and felt a bad blonder ruin her life.

Without her husband's care she started her new life in new home. She always treated positively by mother-in-law, sister & brother of her husband. She became a household servant in her own home. She with the support of her sister-in-law, formed a self-help saving group with 22 members in 1998 and she hold the Secretary post.

With her sister-in-law, president of the group she started women empowerment program through "small loan for small business" within group members, who collecting Rs. 20 per month. She was the first member who took small loan sum of rupees 500 from the group and bought a hen and a rooster. She did so much struggle to keep hen & rooster in her home but she accept torture & never back from her aim to get succeed in business. And then she is able to grow 13 hens and rooster only in 10 months and earn 3,000 by sell them. By this way she started her step to success.



EMPOWER GENERATION'S LINES ABOUT GITA!

Gita Pariyar is a fearless woman who keeps pursuing her dreams despite the challenges she faces. She wants to live a life with dignity, advocate for her community, and change common perceptions about her caste. Despite obstacles, Gita never stops and takes courageous steps whenever she is challenged.

Gita belongs to the Dalit (Untouchable) Caste and is co-CEO of Asmita & Laxmi Saurya Urjah Traders, A clean energy business in Empower Generation's distribution network and supported by our partner the Unitarian Universalist Committee (UUSC).

Gita also works as a community health worker, training people to use clean cook stoves, and is always looking for ways to help other people. There is a lot of discrimination against Dalits in Nepal, and it is difficult for people from other castes to get over their prejudice, which results in not allowing Dalits to enter their home or refusing to touch anything a Dalit as touched. Because of this, people are reluctant to invite Gita into their home for build cook stove-use training or to listen to her clean energy product sales pitches. In order to overcome these obstacles, Gita partners with people from other castes. For example, she co-runs Ashmita and Laxmi Saurya Urjah Traders with Danu Ale, who is from an indigenous caste.

Gita gets disheartened by people's perceptions of her and other Dalits, but she reminds herself that though, she cannot enter their homes, they see the work she is doing through her business. She is not only earning money but is also earning respect as a business owner, creating jobs for others in her community.

With her determination to help others and with the encouragement of her husband and the Association for Dalit Women's Advancement of Nepal (ADWAN), Gita decided to run for local office. She won the election in May. In her newly elected role, Gita wants to become a voice for the voiceless and change the fate of the disadvantaged.

She wants to bring the government's attention towards the problems faced by her community and work for the betterment of the people. Gita's hard work and her selfless attitude helped her win the local election and get elected as Ward Member in Taklung, Gorkha District. Gita's political rise has opened the doors for other women from her village to enter local leadership positions.

We wish Gita all the success in her future endeavors and are so proud of her!



"I have been suffered by the three major obstacles to overcome: Being a Dalit caste, my family's poverty, and simply being a Girl. It was so hard to overwhelming all these obstacles for dignified life" I believe on that; 'tireless and selfless try from heart & soul definitely hit the Goal.



Her group affiliated with adwan in 1998 and it opens the door to enter the new world. She received capacity building exposure conducted to develop women as community leader through Women Group Empowerment program implemented by ADWAN. She exclaimed *"At this moment, I feel that if I was not exposed to these modern means then my live practice would be same. Even my life would be of no difference then ordinary rural poor women in Nepal"*.

From this point she has received tremendous support from her husband and other family members also received awareness and sensitization. She also had chance to attend various types of personality development and skill development training. She became a first promoter in ADWAN as Smoke Free Stoves Construction Trainer of Gotkha District. She became famous promoter in Gorkha along with neighbor district. After then she was able to gain economic benefit of Rs 10,000 in a monthly basis. She still remember this insightful experience; *'It was my big life time opportunity that I had in correct time to prove myself. I never can stay without thanking ADWAN for provided me a life-changing skills and providing technical support'*.



In my community, and most poverty stricken societies across the nation, girls are burden to be cast off at marriage, never to be thought of again. I thought went back to father's home but in my community and society at large it was daring to return home a married girl was 'SHAMEFUL' & stopped me in burden.

