YD Fellowship: Know the People

Accountability Lab has introduced the Youth in Strengthening Democracy (YD) Fellowship, that empowers the young people who have the immense potential of influencing decisions and protecting the democratic values. This initiative empowers the young changemakers to become influential thought leaders through critical analysis, peer learning, networking, and advocacy facilitated by a media lab. With the completion of the first cohort, we are glad to host the second cohort of YD fellows with these amazing young people who are eager to take forward this journey.

Abhishek Tiwari, currently pursuing a Master's degree in International Cooperation and Development, serves as President of the Federal Youth Club Network in the National Youth Council and also holds the position of President at the Leo Club of Kathmandu Abhishek. With engagements spanning both professional and social sectors, Abhishek is a firm believer in the indispensable role of youth in democracy.





Alisha Khadka is an advocate with an unwavering dedication to human rights and criminal law. She had completed BA LLB from National Law College. Her passion lies in championing justice, ensuring that every voice is heard and every right is upheld. She thrives amidst the intricacies of the legal landscape, particularly in advocating for individuals facing societal challenges and navigating the complexities of intersectionality. For her, it is beyond legal battles; it is about amplifying the voices of the marginalized and vulnerable individuals. Alisha finds solace and inspiration in arts and design. She loves baking and gardening in her free time.



Anil Sharma, currently in his fourth year pursuing a BBS degree, is dedicated to advocating for good governance and fostering socio-political awareness. Actively involved in local social improvement movements, Anil is committed to empowering his community and contributing to the grassroots strengthening of democracy. As a member of the Youth in Strengthening Democracy Fellowship 2024 Cohort, he eagerly anticipates utilizing his passion and skills to drive positive change and inspire fellow youths.

Anuj Paudyal, a high school graduate from Jhapa, Nepal, is passionate about sports and believes in the ethos of learning through sharing. He previously served as President of the Interact Club at Golden Gate International College and later as Zonal Interact Representative for Zone 6 of Interact District 3292. With experience in event management, sales, and marketing, Anuj enjoys exploring diverse interests including economics, history, geopolitics, travel, and literature. Through this fellowship, he aims to promote media literacy and digital advocacy to bolster democracy.





Anusuya Sharma is currently pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science (IT) and overseeing a Vice-president role at Rotaract Club. Along with a love for storytelling she keeps a keen interest in human rights issues and community engagement. She believes in collective action to drive positive changes and in ensuring inclusivity for all. Anusuya values continuous growth as a leader, recognizing that collective effort can lead to a better world for everyone.

Bijay Regmi, originally from Swargadwari Municipality in Pyuthan District, is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Physics and Mathematics at Butwal Multiple Campus. He is dedicated to addressing the challenges encountered by students in rural areas and aspires to promote educational inclusion throughout the country. He mentors students for SEE and +2 board exams through his YouTube channel, "Being Social," with 68 thousand subscribers reaching over 400,000 students. Bijay's mission extends beyond academic support; he endeavors to cultivate social awareness among students on issues such as good governance, the legal system in Nepal, human rights, climate change, cultural preservation and more.





Diwakar Uprety, a fervent young activist from Nepal, advocates passionately for democracy, climate action, and social justice. He is currently pursuing Sociology and Rural Development at Tri-Chandra Campus, where his academic studies fuel his dedicated activism. Diwakar through his writings comments, critiques and timely analyzes Nepal's democratic values and also highlights the connection between climate change and democratic principles in fostering societal change. His unwavering dedication to these causes epitomizes youth activism, inspiring advancements towards a more equitable, sustainable, and just society both locally and globally.

Hrithik Yadav, is a final-year law student at Kathmandu School of Law. He notably served as an international speaker at the esteemed 12th Asia Pro Bono Conference held in the Philippines in 2023. Additionally, he achieved finalist status in the Nepali Congress Policy Hackathon of 2023 and undertook research endeavors for the Madhesh Ethnographic Research in 2024, and various esteems tontly contributed accolades received from fellowships.Hrithik has consistently scholarly articles on democracy, judiciary, human rights, and political matters in reputable national peer-reviewed journals and prominent mainstream Nepali newspapers, both in Nepali and English languages. Beyond his academic pursuits, Hrithik has initiated numerous writ petitions advocating for human rights, environmental causes, and educational reform.





Jasmine is from Nepalgunj and is currently pursuing her MBA. From a young age, she has been engaged with lots of community based organizations and NGOs in bringing out the marginal voices. At present she is also working at National Federation of the Disabled Nepal (NFD-N). A beacon of excellence, she excels in academic spheres, earning the prestigious Dean's List award at her bachelor's level, while equally excels in her literary prowess through her impactful articles and write ups where she continues to advocate for youth voices through her compelling words.

Jharana Nyaupane, currently a student of Environmental Science at Tri-Chandra Multiple Campus, and is from Kapilvastu, Banganga. In her early



twenties, she is exploring life and is passionate about learning, working, and making positive impacts. Societal and environmental issues hold significant importance for her. Jharana finds joy in interacting with mindful individuals, reading books, and hiking in nature, activities that contribute to her personal growth and well-being.

Jharana Nyaupane



Jyoti Mandal hails from Dhanauji Rural Municipality in Madhesh Pradesh. Currently pursuing a B.A.LL.B degree at Kathmandu School of Law, Jyoti is deeply committed to integrating practical knowledge with theoretical understanding in her legal education. With the aspiration to become a Human Rights Activist, Jyoti aims to leverage her knowledge and abilities to foster legal awareness and advocacy within her community. Jyoti believes that everyone should possess a basic understanding of the law and endeavors to empower individuals to make informed decisions.

Pushpa is a final year student majoring in Bachelors of Science- Nursing. Pushpa founded her own organization Association of Nurses Solidarity for Advancement. She is also working as a joint secretary of students union at Maharajgunj Nursing Campus. Pushpa also has experience of working full time with the international team of Denmark for Physicians for social responsibility of Nepal. She proudly identifies as a participant to the YD fellowship Cohort of 2024 and embraces the ethos of youth empowerment and democratic principles.





Sabhyata Chapagain is a dedicated advocate for democratic principles and social justice. With an academic background in Social Work, she comprehends the significance of empowering individuals for their active and meaningful participation in the democratic process. Sabhyata aims to bolster democracy by nurturing civic engagement and political literacy among marginalized communities. Throughout her fellowship, she engages in numerous workshops, outreach programs, and educational initiatives to empower citizens with the knowledge and skills necessary to advocate for their rights and hold their leaders accountable.

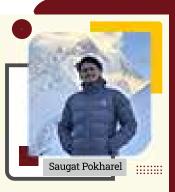
Samita Khula, a recent graduate holding a Master's degree in Economics from South Asian University. Samita has honed her skills as a Data Analyst through hands-on experiences at both BRB Motor Corp (Motor Company) and GIZ Nepal. Samita is a goal-oriented individual with a knack for comprehensive research planning. Her vision extends beyond the present as she aspires to be a renowned Economist and Researcher, contributing meaningfully to the field and shaping the economic landscape.





Sangam is currently an undergraduate fourth-year Mechanical engineering student at Kathmandu University. She has excellent communication skills, enabling her to effectively communicate with a wide range of people within a contemporary and economical business setting. Sangam avidly looks into the opportunities to enhance her professional skills, capabilities, and knowledge in any sector.

Saugat Pokharel, an accomplished debater and debate adjudicator from Nepal, currently holds the position of Director at Debate Network Nepal. With a remarkable track record of 40 debate tournaments and notable achievements, including being the first Nepali World Schools Debating adjudicator in the Championship quarter-finals, Saugat passionately advocates for the transformative potential of open dialogue in addressing global challenges. Currently, he is committed to elevating the quality of discourse in Nepal's public sphere by educating young students and integrating debate education into school curricula. Saugat is also a third-year law student at Kathmandu School of Law.





Shishir Marasini is a BBA student with passion for social work, leadership, and politics. His journey into these realms was by a genuine desire to effect positive change within his community. Throughout his academic pursuits, Shishir has recognized the pivotal role of effective leadership in driving impactful initiatives. Actively involved in various social projects, he endeavors to uplift those in need and contribute to societal advancement. Concurrently, Shishir immerses himself in the study of political dynamics, acknowledging its potential to shape our world. He aspires to leverage his skills and knowledge to lead with integrity, advocating for policies that serve the greater good. Guided by the values of compassion, empathy, and dedication, Shishir remains committed to making a meaningful difference wherever his path may lead.

Sonica Pyakurel, a graduate of Development Studies, is deeply committed to advocating for climate change issues and promoting sustainable development. With a balanced mix of academic knowledge and practical experience in these crucial areas. Her enthusiasm for learning is fueled by optimism, particularly in her quest to deepen her understanding of democracy and human rights. Sonica looks forward to sharing her experiences and learning from the diverse perspectives within the fellowship program.





Swechchha Adhikari, an Electrical Engineering major, believes in personal transformation as the catalyst for dismantling societal stereotypes. Swechchha has engagement in diverse sectors as she actively seeks firsthand experiences, driven by an insatiable thirst for knowledge and growth. Swechchha aspires to lead in the energy sector, focusing on Climate Change and Renewable Energy. Beyond technical matters, she advocates strongly for human rights, particularly for women and youth, ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes. Swechchha blends technical expertise with advocacy to drive positive social change.

Yadav Singh Dhami, a social science student pursuing a master's degree in Rural Development at the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University. Dhami has years of experience as data analyst at Cloudfactory. As a socially aware individual, Yadav is driven by a desire to contribute to societal improvement. He seeks to understand the workings of various systems before actively engaging in initiatives aimed at enhancing community well-being. In his leisure time, Yadav enjoys a range of activities including untabing marine listoning to mucio mosting

In his leisure time, Yadav enjoys a range of activities including watching movies, listening to music, meeting new people, playing video games, photography, photo editing, and reading books.

