



**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



**NEPAL: PROTECT WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS**



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HUMAN RIGHTS  
DEFENDERS**

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INTERNATIONAL**



**PROTECT  
RESPECT  
FULFIL**

When the Maoist government came to power in Nepal in April 2008 it made commitments to protect women's rights. However, these now seem like false promises as the government has failed to investigate and bring to justice those responsible for the murder of two women's rights activists.

One of those activists, Laxmi Bohara, died on the morning of 6 June 2008 after being beaten by her husband and mother-in-law and forced to drink poison. She had been beaten frequently by the two family members for her work on women's rights.

A postmortem conducted by a distant relative of her husband attributed her death to suicide. However, an examination carried out by the hospital stated that Laxmi had died of poisoning and noted that there was severe bruising.

Laxmi's father filed a complaint stating that his daughter had been murdered by her husband and mother-in-law. The police were initially hesitant to lodge the complaint but were forced by national and international pressure to do so. A year since Laxmi Bohara's death, the case is still pending in the district court.

**TAKE ACTION NOW!**

Please sign and send this postcard.  
Amnesty International Nepal will deliver  
the postcards to the President.

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**Dear President,**

I urge the Nepalese authorities to:

- Conduct a prompt and independent investigation into Laxmi Bohara's death.
- Develop a national plan of action to implement the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders to enable human rights defenders to carry out their legitimate work without fear of reprisal.
- Take all possible measures to ensure the safety and protection of women human rights defenders, particularly in rural areas.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach post  
stamp

Dr Ram Baran Yadav, President  
c/o Amnesty International  
Amnesty Marga  
Basantanagar  
Baluja  
Kathmandu, Nepal

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Images: Laxmi Bohara. © Private. Remembrance ceremony, Kathmandu, Nepal, November 2008. © Private. Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom. [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)