

# HRITI IN 2020

**Annual Report**



**HRITI FOUNDATION**

TOWARDS PROSPEROUS KARNALI

# ABOUT US

Hriti Foundation is a public policy think tank based in Karnali Province of Nepal. Hriti Foundation promotes market-based solutions to resolve the local problems for a prosperous Karnali. The vision of Hriti is to support policymakers for a prosperous Karnali where government ensures economic rights of citizens. Its mission is to inform the policy makers and citizens on individual and economic rights through research and advocacy and to set liberal values as the core values of provincial policies.

It believes in the power of ideas and therefore hosts its flagship program 'Karnali Utsav Kuda Karnalika' – a three-day festival that aims to spark a much-needed debate on the need to unleash Karnali's inherent potential and reorient the focus on homegrown solutions. Karnali Utsav Kuda Karnalika is the largest public-private dialogue platform in Karnali. These events see a presence of more than 70 speakers engaging in a constructive discourse across several sessions. These deliberations host federal ministers, provincial ministers, sectoral experts, policymakers, regulators, business community leaders, civil society actors, and journalists who delve into the prospects of Karnali and challenges it faces both at a political and economic front.

The foundation actively conducts 'Let's Speak' that is a regular fortnightly discussion series hosted parallelly at different parts of the province. This program engages young intellectuals who discuss on contemporary issues, prospects and challenges that exist in Karnali. Likewise, 'Karnali Kachahari' is another major program hosted by Hriti. This program is a monthly panel discussion based public event where the foundation brings together province and local policymakers and citizens to discuss sub-national economic and development issue

## Mission

The mission statement of Hriti Foundation is to inform the policy makers and citizens on individual and economic rights through research and advocacy.

## Vision

Hriti Foundation envisions a prosperous Karnali where government ensures economic rights of citizens.

## Objectives



To aware and inform policymakers and citizens of Karnali about the concept and prospects of market economy.



To set liberal values as the core values of provincial policies and free market competition as the tool to achieve economic transformation of the province.



To create the fruitful engagement between policymakers and citizens.

## Thematic Areas

1

Free Market and Entrepreneurship

2

Education

3

Rule of Law

4

Property rights

5

Tax and budget policy

6

Parliamentary Process

7

Citizen Engagement

8

Youth Empowerment

5

Governance and Federalism



## Contact Us



Hriti Foundation, Birendranagar  
Surkhet, Karnali Province Nepal



+977-083521564  
+977-9858034426



hritifoundation@gmail.com  
info@hriti.org  
karnaliutsav@gmail.com



www.hriti.org  
www.karnaliutsav.hriti.org



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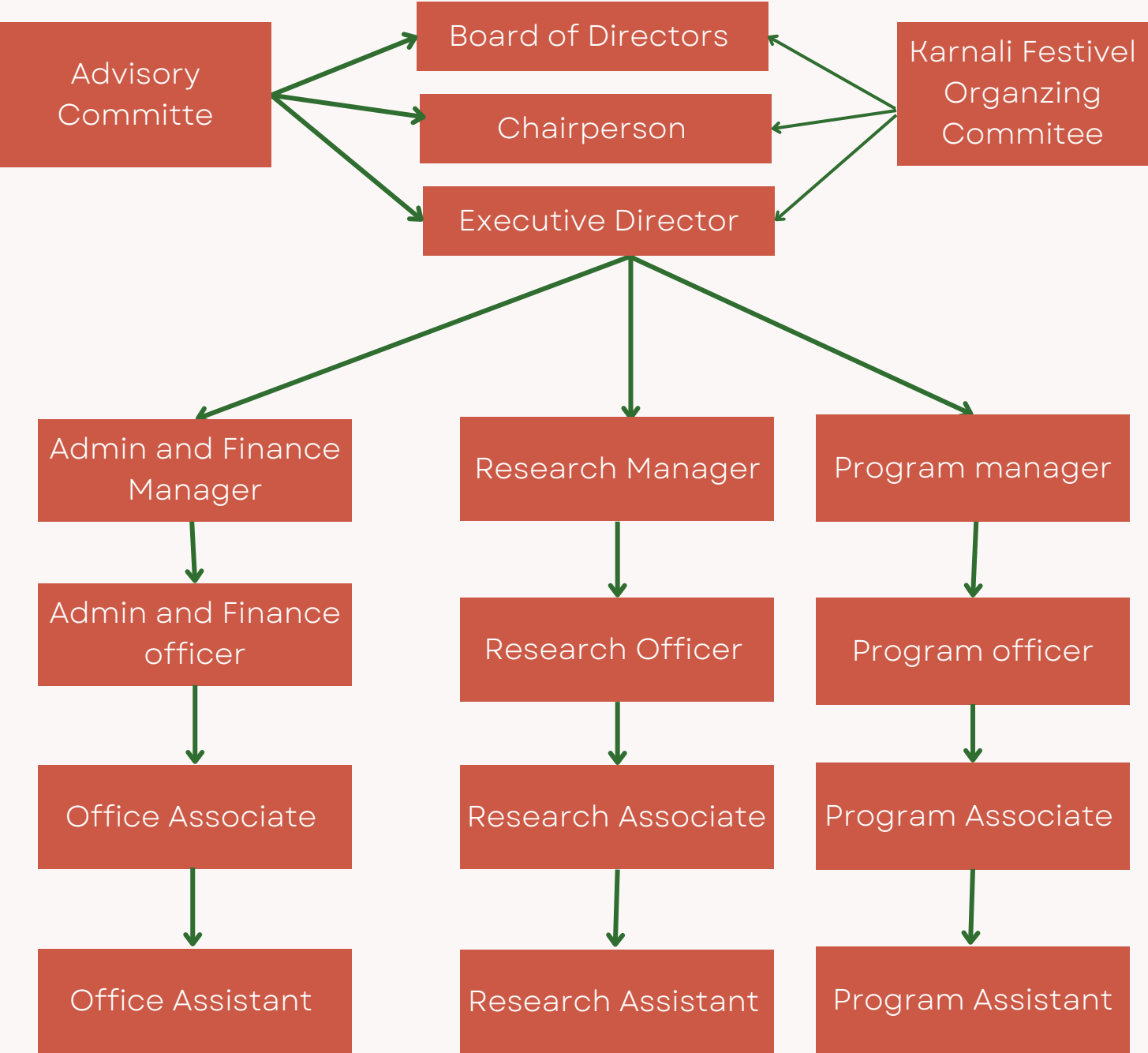


youtube.com/@hritifoundation  
youtube.com/@karnaliutsav



instagram.com/hritifoundation/  
instagram.com/karnaliutsav/

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



## CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Kamal Raj Lamsal  
Chairperson



Public policy making is directly linked to the citizen. Formulation of public policy and its implementation give an indication of the direction in which the state is heading. Even in public policy arena, policies related to economic affairs guide the country's economic development and prosperity. In today's world, economic issues are viewed with utmost importance.

Economic matters are connected with personal happiness of people and prosperity of the country also. Economic prosperity is considered to be the main feature of prosperity of nation. The more people are involved in economic activities, the faster the country will prosper. This means that people will contribute to the prosperity of the country only if they are personally involved in economic activities and earn money individually.

Nepal is a developing country. With the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal 2072, the country went into federalism. 7 provinces were established in the country with the concept of decentralization of rights. 753 local governments were established with various powers. After Nepal went to federalism, powers were decentralized to three tiers of government. In the past, the country, which was run by a unified central leadership, has been decentralized to the provincial and local levels with their own rights. Provinces and local levels have been given the right to make policies appropriate to the local need. Local and provincial governments have also right to formulate budget as their local need and local expectations.

Hiti Foundation was established in 2019 A.D in Karnali Province, which is lagging behind in almost all the development indicators among the 7 provinces of Nepal, with the justification of studying, researching and advocating on public policy issues with the local government and the provincial government. Considering the statistics of the Karnali province government that only 42 percent of the population is engaged in economic activities in Karnali Province, we established the Hriti Foundation for the purpose of conducting research and advocating to engage all citizens in economic activities.

Hence Hriti Foundation envisions a prosperous Karnali where the government ensures the economic rights of the citizens. Hriti Foundation has been conducting public dialogues and has been trying to ensure citizen participation in policy making.

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## WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN 2020



VIDEOS

20



PUBLICATIONS

3



ARTICLES/BLOGS

15



DISCUSSION/DEBATE

18



IN PERSON REACH

3,000



VIRTUAL REACH

2,00,000

# LET'S SPEAK !

Let's Speak is a regular discussion program on economic-political issues of Karnali Province. Young and intellectual people discuss on current issues, make input on sound public policy. This program aims to bring policy makers and young intellectuals together to develop alternative ideas on public policy. This program has been organized continuously since the inception of Hriti Foundation.

# Let's Speak!

a conversation series

## LET'S SPEAK ON: LIMITS OF FREEDOM

HRITI FOUNDATION

Regular discussion series on **Political Economic** issues of **KARNALI**

**Let's Speak!**  
a conversation series

ON **'LIMITS OF FREEDOM'**

**Catch us LIVE**

September 02, 2020  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
fb.com/Hritifoundation

www.hriti.org

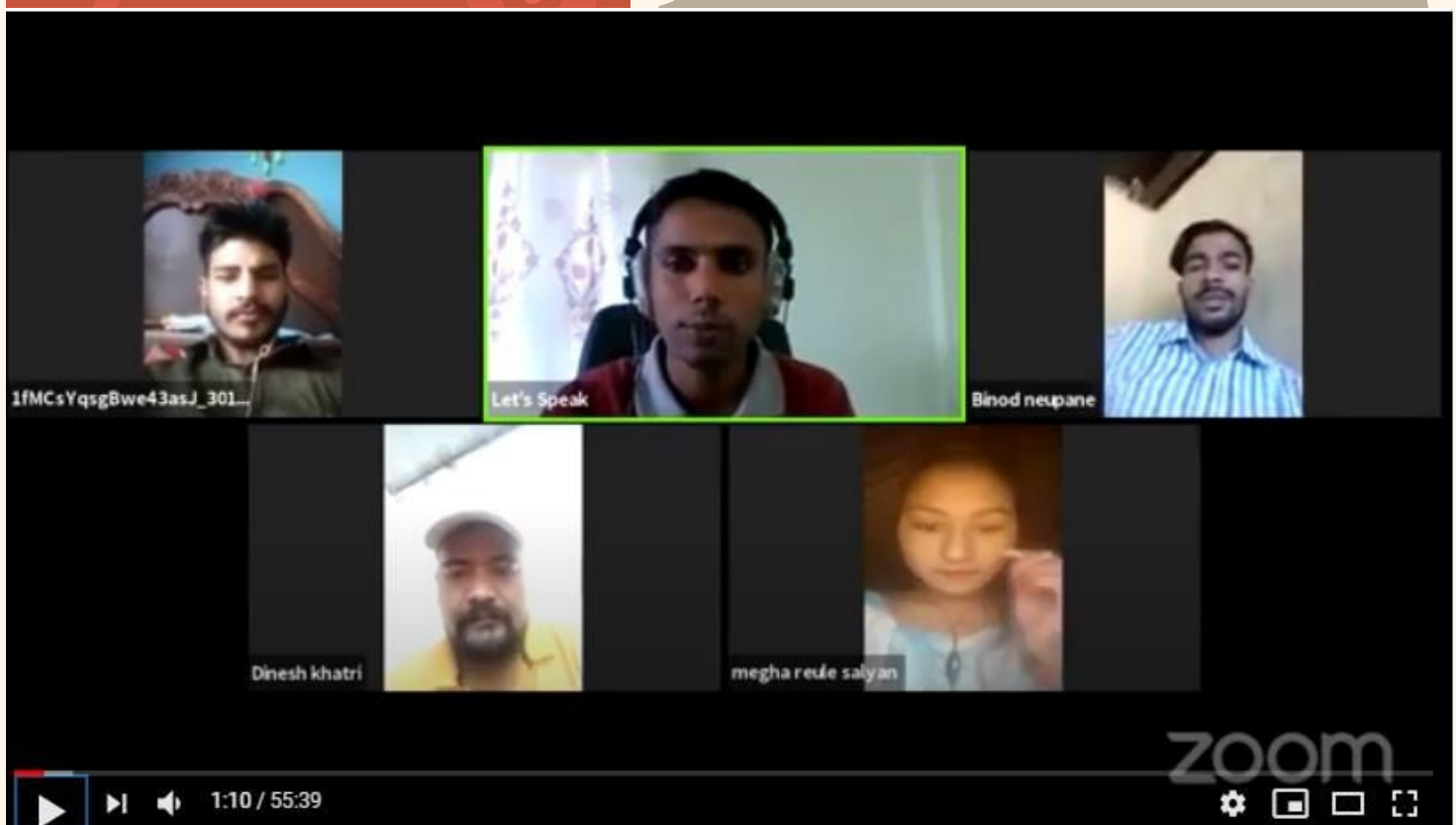
Gurans Rural Municipality, Dailekh, Karnali has decided to fine its government school teachers for enrolling their own children in different private schools. On September 02, 2020 Hriti Foundation hosted a virtual discussion program on the issue to start a wider public discourse on the intervention of the Gurans RM and the future implications it holds for the people of Gurans as well as other municipalities on Nepal.



# LET'S SPEAK ON: ELECTRICITY PROBLEM IN KARNALI



Hriti Foundation organized the discussion program on the problem of irregular electricity supply and its effects on Karnali's growth in its discussion series Let's Speak. The discussion was held on 7 October 2020 youths and stakeholders from seven districts of Karnali.



# LET'S SPEAK ON: ALCOHOL BAN: POLICY AND CONSEQUENCES



Hriti Foundation organized the discussion program on alcohol ban policy and its policy consequences on Oct 11, 2020. Local level representatives, civil society members and stakeholders participated in discussion. That discussion was based on research paper produced by Hriti Foundation.

## SAWAL UDYAMIKO

“  
‘Sawal Uddyamiko’ is a discussion series which aims to portray the entrepreneurial journey of an entrepreneur. This event is held every month.



# SAWAL UDYAMIKO



AUG 26, 2020 | BHADRA 10, 2077  
9:00<sup>am</sup> - 10:00<sup>am</sup>

**EP 01** featuring **Mr. Laxman Kandel** Entrepreneur

Organised by **HRITI FOUNDATION** Supported by **SAMRIDDIH FOUNDATION** **ATLAS NETWORK** Catch us! **LIVE** /HritiFoundation

Oct 14, 2020 | Asoj 28, 2077  
9:00<sup>am</sup> - 10:00<sup>am</sup>

**EP 04** featuring **Mrs. Hima Upadhyay** Entrepreneur

Organised by **HRITI FOUNDATION** Supported by **SAMRIDDIH FOUNDATION** **ATLAS NETWORK** Catch us! **LIVE** /HritiFoundation

SAWAL UDYAMIKO

DEC 9, 2020 | MANSHIR 24, 2077  
9:00<sup>am</sup> - 10:00<sup>am</sup>

**EP 05** featuring **Mohan Paudyal** Entrepreneur

Organised by **HRITI FOUNDATION** Supported by **SAMRIDDIH FOUNDATION** **ATLAS NETWORK** Catch us! **LIVE** /HritiFoundation

## Episode: 1

The first episode of discussion features an experienced and influential person, Mr. Laxman Kandel, a well-known entrepreneur from Karnali Province.

## Episode: 2

The second episode of discussion features an experienced and influential person, Mr. Bhadra Bhandari, a well-known entrepreneur and social worker from Karnali Province.

## Episode: 3

The third episode of discussion features an emerging tourism entrepreneur of Karnali Province Mr. Debikrishna Rokaya.

## Episode: 4

The fourth episode of discussion features famous entrepreneur of Karnali Mrs. Hima Upadhyay.

## Episode: 5

The fifth episode of discussion features famous entrepreneur of Karnali Mr. Mohan Paudyal.

## कर्णालीको जडिबुटी बजारमा निजी क्षेत्रको सम्भावना

नीतिगत सुधारका सुझावहरू



ऋति फाउण्डेसन  
२०७६

Commercialization of herbs which have very high sales potential is believed to be important for the economic development of Karnali province. All districts of Karnali province are rich in natural resources and herbs. In recent times, more people have been attracted to this 2 occupation due to good income generated from the collection and sale of herbs. Herbs have also played an important role in improving the living standard of Karnali citizens. Hriti Foundation prepared the discussion paper on potential of herbs in Karnali province and role of private sector to commercialize the herbs.

## वीरेन्द्रनगरमा फुटपाथको व्यवस्थापनका वैकल्पिक उपायहरू

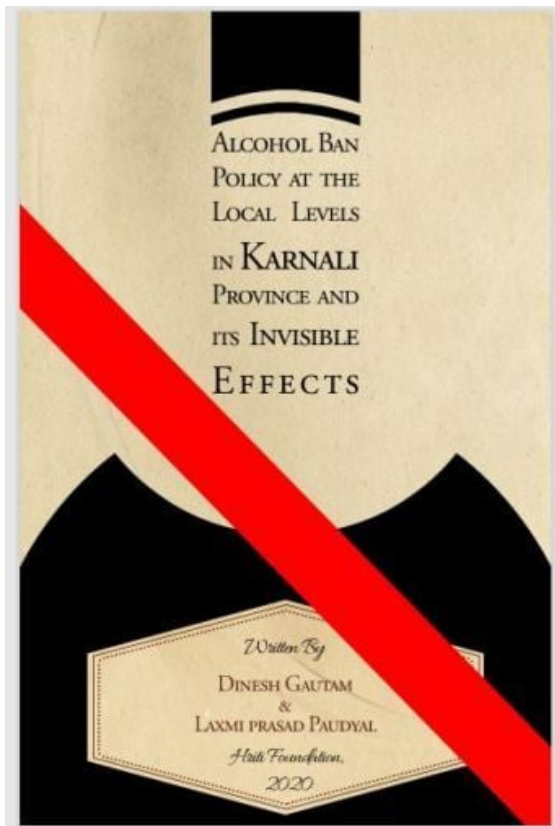


लक्ष्मीप्रसाद पौडेल  
ऋति फाउण्डेसन  
२०७६

Street vendor management needs to be prioritized by the municipality. With the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal 2072, the country went into federal structure. Birendranagar municipality of Surkhet was declared as the permanent capital of the Karnali province, which covers the largest of the seven provinces. With the announcement of the capital city, the urbanization in Birendranagar has increased exponentially. There is also a huge increase in the number of people in the city while the use of vehicles is increasing. The roads within the municipality are not new. In this case, the increased activity has created a barrier to traffic. In addition, unmanaged streets have made this problem even more complicated. Hriti Foundation presented the policy alternatives for street vendor's management in Birendranagar city through the discussion paper.

## RESEARCH/PUBLICATION

Restrictions on the production and sale of alcohol by any government have both positive and negative, as well as both short-term and long-term impacts. Restaurants and resorts are highly affected sectors. On one hand; we want as many tourists as possible to come to the province and spend as much as possible. On the other hand, local governments have introduced policies such as alcohol ban that directly affect the hotel business and tourism industry. For most foreign tourists, alcohol is an important part of their lives. Socially banning alcohol will definitely stop them from coming to Karnali. If tourists do not come, innumerable employment opportunities will be lost and government revenue will also decrease. How can it socialize people while prohibiting alcohol socially? Can the state not teach people to drink alcohol in a responsible and disciplined manner? Hriti Foundation prepared the research paper about the alcohol ban policy in local of Karnali province and its invisible effects.



## ARTICLES/BLOGS

We have been publishing articles in the newspaper about the things that we need to convey to the citizens and stakeholders.

We have been publishing the subjects of our studies and research in the form of articles in newspapers in a simple and local language. We believe the issue raised through newspaper will reach many people among the citizens and stakeholders.

# ARTICLES/BLOGS

We have published a research paper on 'Alternative ideas for managing street vendors in Birendranagar. Based on the study, we published articles in the newspaper in 2 parts.

We have studied why various local levels of Karnali brought the policy of alcohol prohibition, but the implementation was complicated. In addition, we also sought foreign learning regarding such policies. Based on this, we also prepared a research paper. Based on the research paper, we have also published an article in two parts.

On July 28, 2020 Our Cofounder Mr. Khagendra Puri wrote an article about the financial literacy and digital banking in Sajhabisaunee Daily.

On September 29, 2020 our researcher Laxmi Prasad Poudel has analyzed the existing economic and social indicators of Karnali Province and presented why people should be involved in more and more economic activities to improve the indicators in his latest article.

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Our researchers Janaki Acharya and Anita KC wrote an article about the 'significance of self-employment program in Nepal and its impact' in Sajhabisaunee Daily in two parts.



## POLICY DIALOGUE



We are conducting policy discussions among the concerned and responsible agencies on the policies adopted by different levels of government. We have also been advocating for the mandatory participation of citizens and stakeholders in policy making. What should be the policies and plans brought by the government, are bringing and should be brought? In order to bring the opinions of the stakeholders to the relevant parties, we will hold a debate by keeping both sides together.



On Dec 2019 Hriti Foundation, was organized an interaction program about the possibilities of herbal business in Karnali Province and its role for prosperous Karnali.

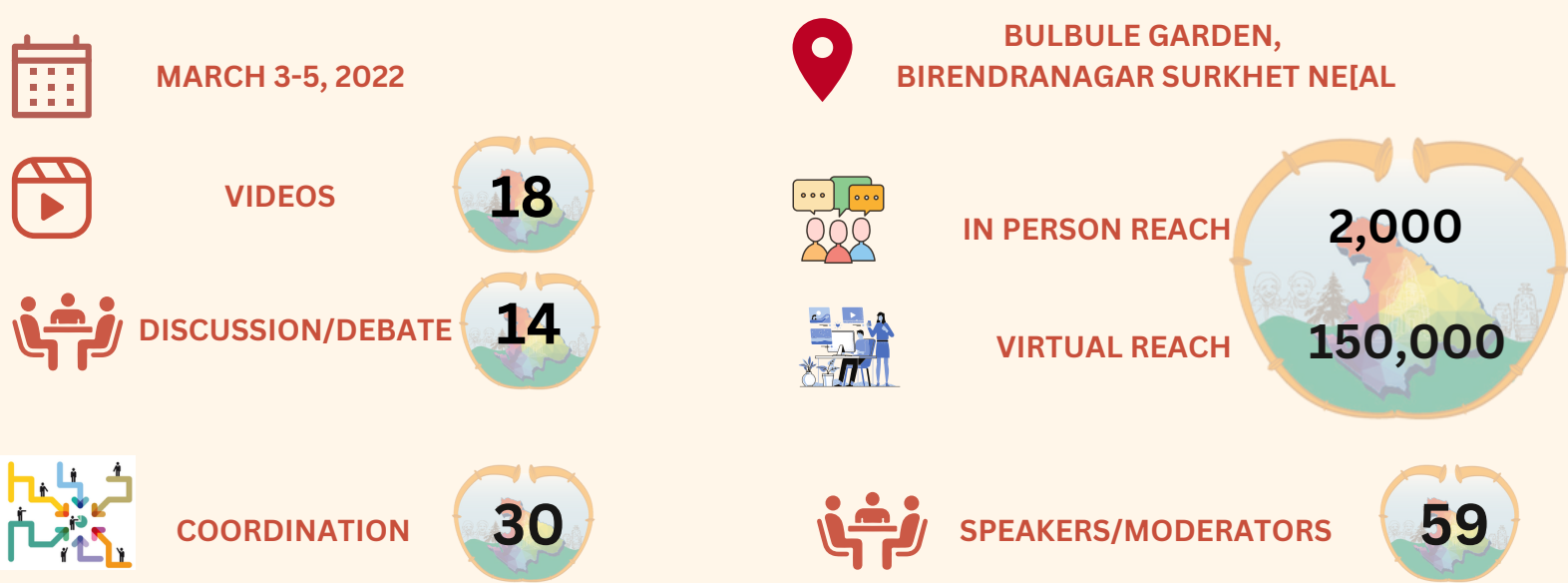
# KARNALI UTSAV (A FESTIVAL OF IDEAS)

FIRST EDITION, 2020



Hriti Foundation organized the First edition of the Karnali Utsav- Kuda Karnalika 2020 on March 3-5 in Birendranagar Surkhet, capital city of Karnali Province. Karnali Utsav is a campaign to get to know and identify Karnali through various aspects. Festival explores the identity and potential of Karnali as well as contributes intellectually to the prosperity of the entire province.

Festival was inaugurated at 11 am on March 3, 2020. The continuous dialogue and discussion in 14 consecutive sessions for the next three days has brought a kind of energy to Karnali. Throughout the festival, the country's attention has been focused on Karnali. The first edition of this campaign to change the perception of Karnali, which has become synonymous with disease, hunger and grief, has been successfully completed. The event was attended by eminent personalities of the country, all those who understood and wanted to understand Karnali.







# KARNALI UTSAV (A FESTIVAL OF IDEAS)

FIRST EDITION, 2020

## SESSION DETAILS

### Session: 1

#### 'SARKARKA TIN TAHA: BAGAUNA KARNALIKA BAH'



Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Moderator

Kantika Sejuwal,  
Mayor,  
Chandannath  
Municipality Jumla

Hon. Shakti B.  
Basnet, Minister,  
Ministry of Forestry  
Nepal

Hon. Prakash Jwala,  
Minister, Ministry of  
Economic affair and  
Planning, Karnali  
Province

Saroj Raj Adhikari,  
Journalist

Session about Federalism and Sub-national Government Learning, Practice, Experiences, Challenges and way forward.

### Session: 2

#### 'KHAS KA KHASKHUS'



Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Moderator

Ramananda  
Acharya, linguist

Dr. Ramesh Dhungel  
Historian

Dr. Badri Chapagain  
Physician/Researcher

Madhav Chaulagain  
Researcher

Session about 'Khas' (Nepali) Language Historical prospective and Khas empire

### Session: 3

#### 'SANSKAR RA SAMANATA'



Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Moderator

Gita Koirala  
Advocate

Usha Titichhu  
Activist

Prof. Dr. Sanjeev  
Upreti,  
Writer

Tika Bista  
Journalist

Session about Inclusion, Equal participation and Social Structure

### Session: 4

#### 'RANGA'



Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Moderator

Maya Thapa  
Artist

Min Bahadur Bham  
Artist

Ganesh Gautam  
Artist

Prakash Lamichhane  
Journalist

Session about the literature, art and film and Possibilities in Karnali

### Session: 5

#### 'KARNALI KYANAM GHUMERA HERDA'



Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Moderator

Asmita Thapa  
Traveller

Mohan Mainali  
Writer/Journalist

Amar Shahi  
Tourism  
Entrepreneur

Damodar Neupane  
Writer/Journalist

Session about tourism in Karnali, experiences of traveler investment possibilities in tourism sector

### Session: 6

#### 'PRASHNA KINA GARNE?'



Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Moderator

Hari Sharma,  
Political analyst

Sarita Tiwari  
Activist/Writer

Shiva Gaunle  
Senior Journalist

Dilbhusan Pathak  
Senior Journalist

Session about tourism in Karnali, experiences of traveler investment possibilities in tourism sector

**Session: 7**  
**'SIMANTA SWOR'**



Session about tourism in Karnali, experiences of traveler investment possibilities in tourism sector

**Session: 9**  
**'KARNALIKA KATHA'**



Session about tourism in Karnali, experiences of traveler investment possibilities in tourism sector

**Session: 11**  
**'KARNALIKO EGHARAU JILLA'**



A session about the endangered indigenous Raute community living in different jungle of Karnali and their livelihood.

**Session: 13**  
**'KRISHI, PARYATAN RA PANI: PURBADHARMA LAGANI'**



Session about Agriculture, Tourism and Investment in Karnali.

**Session: 8**  
**'DABAI RA DEUTA BHOK RA BHAKARI'**



Session about the literature, art and film and Possibilities in Karnali

**Session: 10**  
**'KAHARI BANALA KARNALI'**



Session about the literature, art and film and Possibilities in Karnali

**Session: 12**  
**'KALAPAHADKA TODA'**



Session about Youth and Employment in Karnali.

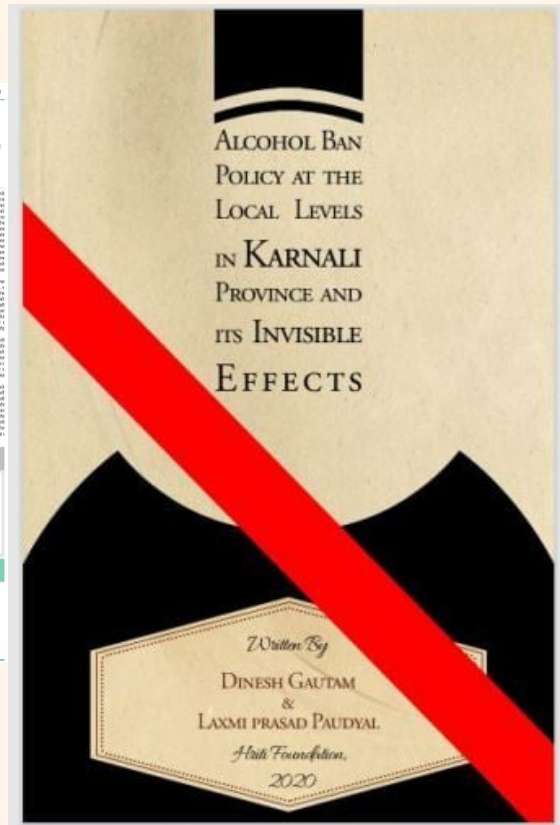
**Session: 14**  
**'DIGITAL KARNALI'**



Session about Digital Karnali Karnali

# VIDEOS





**HIRITI FOUNDATION**  
TOWARDS PROSPEROUS KARNALI