

**Justice, Security and Vulnerable Populations of South Asia: A Conference
11-12 October 2025**

**Organised by Calcutta Research Group (CRG)
In Collaboration with Fund for Global Human Rights (FGHR)
And Nepal Institute of Peace (NIP)
Venue: Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal**

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Day 1: 11 October 2025

10 AM-10:30 AM: Registration

10:30 AM-11:00 AM: Session 1: Introductory Session

Chair: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury (Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, & CRG, India)

10:30 AM-10:45 AM: Welcome Address: Ajit Acharya (Secretary, Nepal Institute of Peace, Nepal)

10:45 AM-11:00 AM: Introductory Comments: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury

11:00 AM-11:30 AM: Tea Break

11:30 AM-12:30 PM: Session 2: Refugees, Camps and Neighbourhood Policies

Chair: Jeevan Thiagarajah (Chairman, Centre for Humanitarian Affairs, Sri Lanka)

Speakers: i) Niloy Ranjan Biswas (Professor, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh)

'Agency' of Stateless Persons in the South Asian Protection Mechanism

ii) Sucharita Sengupta (Postdoc Research Fellow, O. P. Jindal Global University, & CRG, India)

Rethinking the Notion of Security in "Refugee Camps"

12:30 PM-1:30 PM: Lunch Break

1:30 PM-3:30 PM: Session 3: Climate Disasters and Vulnerable Communities

Chair: Hari Sharma (Political Analyst, Nepal)

Speakers: i) Arjun Dhakal (Consultant, Green Growth and Sustainable Development, Nepal)

Transboundary Floods of Tibet's Lhende River flood— Climate Change Linkages and Impacts on Vulnerable Communities and Economy of Nepal

ii) Ajit Acharya (Researcher, Nepal Institute of Peace, Nepal)

Climate Disasters and Vulnerable Communities

iii) Renu Sijapati (General Secretary, FEDO Nepal)

Climate Change and its Impact on Dalits Communities

iv) Shatabdi Das (Assistant Director, CRG, India)

Climate Disasters, Displacement and Vulnerability in India

3:30 PM-4:00 PM: Tea Break

4:00 PM-5:30 PM: Session 4: Discussion on "Security, Peace and Human Rights"

Moderator: Niloy Ranjan Biswas

In Conversation Jeevan Thiagarajah and Bharat Bhushan (Eminent Journalist, & CRG, India)

Day 2: 12 October 2025

9:00 AM-9:30 AM: Registration

9:30 AM-11:00 AM: Session 5: Session Digital Security, Protection and Legal Framework

Chair: Ajit Acharya

Speakers: i) Ritam Sengupta (Assistant Professor, O. P. Jindal Global University, India)

Digital Insecurity

ii) Sahana Basavapatna (Lawyer, High Court, Bangalore, & CRG, India)

The Devadasis of Karnataka: Examining their Access to Rights, Digital Technology and Justice

iii) Ishita Dey (Assistant Professor, South Asian University, & CRG, India)

Gender and Security: Female Participation in Labour Force and Debates on “Night Shift”

11:00 AM–11:30 AM: Tea Break

11:30 AM-1:30 PM: Session 6: Land, Water, Climate Risks and Food Security

Chair: Pitambar Bhandari (Department Head and Faculty, Central Department of Conflict, Peace & Development, Tribhuvan University, Nepal)

Speakers: i) Bhagavati Adhikari (Executive Director, Nepal Mahila Ekta Samaj, Nepal)

Informal Settlements and Housing Rights in Nepal

ii) Sujit Kumar Saksena (Researcher, Nepal Institute of Peace, Nepal)

Water Crisis in Madhesh

iii) Purushotam Aryal (MPhil/PhD Candidate, Tribhuvan University, Nepal)

Ensuring the Right to Food in Nepal: Challenges and Pathways to Equity

iv) Devi Datta Acharya (President, National Federation of the Disabled -Nepal)

Disability and Right to Food

v) Debashree Chakraborty (Researcher, CRG, India)

Environmental Concerns and Security Challenges

1:30 PM–2:30 PM: Lunch Break

2:30 PM-4:00 PM: Session 7: Concluding Session

Chair: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury

2:30 PM-3:40 PM: Valedictory Lecture: *Non-Traditional Security in South Asia*

Speaker: Lok Raj Baral (Professor of Political Science and Former Ambassador of Nepal to India)

3:40 PM-3:50 PM: Concluding Remarks: Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury

3:50 PM-4:00 PM: Vote of Thanks: Debashree Chakraborty, and

Som Niroula (Researcher, Nepal Institute of Peace, Nepal)

Rapporteurs

Sucharita Sengupta [Sessions 1 & 2]

Ishita Dey [Session 4]

Debashree Chakraborty [Sessions 5 & 7]

Shatabdi Das [Sessions 3 & 6]

****This schedule is tentative and subject to last minute changes.**