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## JUNE'16 ISSUE

### Hope, Leadership and Systemic Change

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#### Dear Friends,

Last month, a colleague asked me - 'Why are you doing the *Daayitwa* work? Given all the leg-pulling and corruption in the system, there's little hope that you will bring any change.' Around the same time, I visited Gulmi for leadership coaching of 20 MBA students who were living with local entrepreneurs to provide technical assistance. A student asked me - 'The head of my host institution, a local financial cooperative, has been dismissing my inputs persistently. If the system is non-cooperative, how can I contribute?'

These comments remind us of the popular phrase - '*system nai khattam chha*' ('system is bad'). Positive-minded people get marginalized by systemic forces and in fact, get ungratefully rewarded with a sea of pain for their endeavors. When in deep pain, it becomes difficult to empathize with others in the system, to diagnose systemic challenges and to take collective action. Not surprisingly, these positive-minded people get trapped in a vicious cycle of pain and inaction. How does one rise to the occasion while treading such painful waters? Where is hope?

For us at *Daayitwa*, the call for leadership becomes only more critical in such arduous times. With pain, can come agency and power to make progress in difficult situations. Real leadership calls for enabling others to achieve shared purpose in uncertain times, with or without formal authority; it calls for keeping focus on bringing positive change, despite all the painful losses.

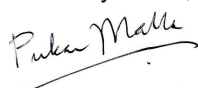
This month, at *Daayitwa*, I am seeing hope in the top 40 women entrepreneurs that we selected in Palpa from a competitive pool of 251 women representing 21 VDCs. These women are keen to learn business and leadership tools so that they can surmount the many financial, family and other societal challenges and grow their enterprises. I am seeing hope in the 12 *Daayitwa* Public Service Fellows - talented and passionate Nepali youth who came from 10 countries for the summer - to serve 8 public agencies through economic policy research. These Fellows have realized that their journeys inside Singha Durbar will not be easy and yet each day, I see them

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enterprising Gulmi is not possible unless they stoke their curiosity and compassion, and become more enterprising themselves. The Nepal Leadership Academy at *Daayitwa* will continue to provide in-practice leadership coaching to such change-agents so they can transform their pain to achieve shared purpose through times of uncertainty.

Leadership has no easy answers. This summer, I hope to find answers to the difficult questions raised last month through the passionate work of our young policy, business and social entrepreneurs, who are relentless about bring systemic change, one step at a time. Jai Nepal!

Sincerely Yours,



Pukar Malla  
Executive Director  
*Daayitwa*

## UPDATES



### Top 40 Women Entrepreneurs, Palpa: SMS Voting Launched

On June 18, *Daayitwa* in collaboration with 'Innovation Action Palpa' announced the top 40 entrepreneurs of *Daayitwa* Women Enterprise Challenge 2016, Palpa. As the next step of the challenge i.e. top 20 selection, our team also launched SMS voting which will last for three weeks. [Read more](#)

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### Daayitwa Welcomes 12 Summer Public Service Fellows

On June 1, an orientation program was organized for our sixth cohort of *Daayitwa* Fellows (Summer 2016). This was followed by a two-day Boot Camp on June 2 & 3 at Chitlang, Makwanpur. The fellows have started their research work and have been working closely with their partner Ministries and Public Agencies. [Read more](#)



### Identifying Market opportunities for Nepali Products

As a part of the Economic Policy Incubator (EPI), Manoj Paudel and Vibhav Pradhan from

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discussion highlighted the need to enhance the competitiveness and output of the Nepalese industrial sector. [Read more](#)



### Leading Rural Enterprise Innovation for KINGS MBA Students

In the end week of May, *Daayitwa* partnered with Nepal Leadership Academy to deliver a leadership and entrepreneurship development course for the participants of Leading Rural Enterprise Innovation (LREI) 2016 in Gulmi. [Read more](#)

### Feature of the Month

**Yagyamurti Timilsina** is a District Officer of Rural Enterprise Acceleration Project (REAP), Palpa. Through this project, he has been working to support and promote entrepreneurship in Palpa district for the past 11 months. The optimism and vigor REAP has brought in his district, he says is commendable. Furthermore, networking with the like minded individuals has helped the entrepreneurs gain visibility and recognition locally. The impact of REAP is not only limited to Palpa, but in the neighboring districts too. Entrepreneurs are now working together to create an enabling environment to nurture community-led entrepreneurship eco-system in this region.

Check out [Yagyamurti Timilsina's story](#).

### Key Learning of the Month

Based on our work with local partner organization (Integrated Rural Development Society) of Gulmi district, the key learning under LREI project has been an eye opening exercise. In the 40-day stay, the 20 MBA students of Kings College resided at the homes of the local entrepreneurs. The student faced multiple challenges- in adapting with the social and political ambience within the community. Thus, reflects on the enterprise ecosystem, its adaptive nature, and suggests

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**



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**“Rebuilding Nepal through Social Entrepreneurship”**

When: June 30 - July 1, 2016  
Where: Hyatt Regency  
Sign up now: [conference.kingscollege.edu.np](http://conference.kingscollege.edu.np)



**See you all at the Conference!**

*Everything that we do here at Daayitwa takes us a step closer to our shared vision of creating a thriving Nepal. To stay updated with our work be sure to **LIKE** our [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) and **FOLLOW** us on [TWITTER](#).*



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