

# Social Inclusion Practices in Local Governance in Nepal

**Tulasa Devi Dulal\***

Faculty Associate at the Department of Population Studies, Patan Multiple Cam-pus, TU, Lalitpur, Nepal

## Email address:

tulasadulal123@gmail.com (Tulasa Devi Dulal)

\*Corresponding author

## Abstract

This paper highlights the social inclusion practices in the local election in Nepal. The concept of social inclusion becoming a major national concern in Nepal during the past 20 years. The paper is based on secondary data. It used meta-analysis of government reports, historical documents, statistics, and laws. Women, Indigenous peoples (adibashi janajati), Tarai peoples (madhesi), and occupational caste groups (dalits), who have historically been shut out of social and political life and denied access to social services, have all vigorously brought attention to this issue. The government of Nepal has promised and plans to make the state and society inclusive in response to the ongoing social movement of the excluded groups. Along with numerous national laws, policies, national plans, and development initiatives, their promises and plans are outlined in the constitution. Political debates, scholarly discussions, media coverage, and everyday public discourse all frequently touch on social inclusion and exclusion. However, social inclusion and exclusion in Nepal continue to be unresolved issues. The 2015 Constitution of Nepal defines the nation as an inclusive state with provisions to ensure equal access to opportunities and resources for all. The Local Self-Governance Act (LSGA) of 1999 decentralized authority to promote people's participation in local governance. These are just a few of the initiatives. Nepal has taken to improve social inclusion and local governance. The number of elected women representatives has slightly increased in the local elections 2022, about 14,402 women were elected to local units. Minorities communities, single women, and Dalits were participated accordingly in local election. To make Nepal an inclusive society and a state, respect and acknowledge social diversity, group identities, and meaningfully represent the excluded groups in state politics.

## Keywords

Social Inclusion, Local Governance, Local Election, Women, Minorities