



Southasia Institute of
Advanced Studies

www.sias-southasia.org



Nepal Policy Research Network

www.nepalpolicy.net



Martin Chautari

www.martinchautari.org.np

Invite you to

Policy Discussion Series- VIII

"Tragedy of Consensus: Nepal's transitional arrangement in local bodies"

By

Gunjan Dhakal

Venue: Martin Chautari Seminar Hall, Thapathali

Date: Sunday, March 17, 2013 [Chaitra 4, 2069]

Time: 3:00 pm

The political discourse in Nepal's post-2006 transitional period privileges "consensus" among powerful actors as a model of decision-making. As this model takes shape in local government structures as all-party mechanisms—that continue to be powerful even when they have been dissolved in early 2012—governance and service delivery functions of local government units have been impacted in significant ways. The inability of the government to hold local level election since the expiry of its tenure in 2002 has caused the major setback in local level politics, allowing some handful of actors to exercise power at the local level. This has led to the widespread perception on misuse of funds and authority in local jurisdictions, which raise alarms in regard to the resources and efforts put around local governance.

Ms. Gunjan Dhakal holds Master's Degree in Public Policy from Oregon State University, USA and works as a Research Fellow at Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS). She has worked in different research studies under the local governance theme. The discussion will be based on the experiences from two of the recent empirical studies conducted in different districts of Nepal on a) political economy analysis of local governance in Nepal, with reference to health and education sectors, and b) local drivers of conflict and governance.

About the Series

The Policy Discussion Series is an initiative of Martin Chautari and the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) under the aegis of Nepal Policy Research Network (NPRN). It aims to nurture a "community of practice" around public policy in Nepal, by bringing together experienced and emerging public policy scholars and practitioners to share their research insights and experiences with a larger audience.

With this Series, we seek to stimulate debates on contemporary public policy issues, policy research methodologies, and institutions that create policy knowledge. The Series is also a forum for the sharing of findings of policy-related research.