# 5th Winter ESDR held

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KATHMANDU School of Law (KSL), one of the leading most law schools in Nepal, organised the "5th Winter Residential School on Economic, Social and Development Rights (ESDR), and Good Governance" from 16 October-07 November 2008 at Nagarkot, Nepal.

The three-week long residential event kicked off on 16th October 2008 at the City Hall, Kathmandu. Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission and former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nepal, Hon'ble Kedar Nath Upadhyaya was the Chief Guest while Hon'ble Top Bahadur Singh, Executive Director of National Judicial Academy and former Justice of the Supreme Court of Nepal ; Attorney General of Nepal Hon'ble Raghav Lal Baidhya and President of Nepal Bar Association senior advocate Bishwo Kant Mainali were the guests of honour at the inauguration ceremony, which was attended by over three hundred audiences including legal professionals, human rights activists, professors, scholars, law teachers, students and guardians of KSL students.

In her welcome speech, Assoc. Prof. Geeta Pathak Sangroula, Convener of the Extra Curricular Activities, KSL highlighted that peace and justice could be achieved through appreciation of democracy and social justice.

Justice Upadhyaya, also the Patron of KSL who inaugurated the programme with the release of Course Compendium said, "The sustainability of democracy depends on socio-economic justice and the economic and social rights are the apparatuses of socio-economic justice". He further added that securing cultural, social and economic rights also helps to improve the eminence of human life.



Guest of Honour, Hon'ble Top Bahadur Singh said, "ESDR are very significant in developing countries to provide a proper place for all the people in society like ours which is divided in two broad groups-haves and havenots, where we still believe in things like touchables and untouchables, where we have a large bulk of marginalized communities."

Another guest of honour Hon'ble Raghav Lal Baidhya said economic, social and development rights of people are as important as the civil and political rights in developing countries where majority of the people are in a condition of extreme poverty. He expected that the winter school will definitely come up with constructive ideas to deal with the current problem of developing countries regarding ESDR. President of Nepal Bar Association senior advocate Bishwo Kant Mainali mentioned the need to ensure social, economic and development rights for the proper functioning of democracy.

Prof. Zakir Hossain, Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Chittagong (CU), Bangladesh, who has been here as a resource person for last four years expressed that although Asian countries like Nepal, India and Bangladesh are rich in tradition, they are very poor in governance. Referring to the UN University report, he said, "There is a great economic disparity between the developed countries and developing countries. Therefore, we invite people to suggest ways for good governance during this three-week long programme."

Highlighting on the objectives of the Residential School, Executive Director of KSL Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yubaraj Sangroula said that it was a matter of pride to all the students and faculties of KSL that the winter school has successfully reached its fifth year and has now become an international programme.

Mr. Madhusudhan Tamang, student of KSL and Mr. Zhu Wei, Ph.D student from Renmin University of China also spoke on behalf of the Nepalese and international participants respectively while Assoc. Prof. H.K. Rana gave the vote of thanks on behalf of KSL for making the programme a prolific success. The programme ended up with the