

STELLA TAMANG

Mrs. TAMANG belongs to Tamang Indigenous Community of Nepal. She is the Central Committee Member of Nepal Tamang Ghedung. She is the founder of Nepal Tamang Women Ghedung (NTG).

Mrs. Tamang is the Founding Chair and currently Advisor of the National Indigenous Women Federation of Nepal (NIWF). She is the convenor and is the Chairperson of the South Asia Indigenous Women Forum which constitutes the seven countries of South Asia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Professionally, she is the Founder-Principal of Bhrikuti Secondary School, which was founded in 1975. She is also the Founder of Bikalpa Gyan Tatha Bikas Kendra, an Alternative Traditional Learning and Development Centre for Indigenous young women who are deprived of opportunities for appropriate education.

Mrs. Tamang has received the National Education Day Award, HMG Nepal twice and the One Hundred Heroines Award, Rochester, USA. She has received ASHOKA fellowship for her innovative work for social change through Bikalpa Gyan Tatha Bikas Kendra.

She has been involved in national, regional and International Policy dialogues regarding Indigenous Peoples with a special focus on indigenous women and children. She is a member of Nepal Sustainable Development and Environment Steering Committee.

She was an International Steering Committee member of the NGO Forum for World Conference Against Racism and was a member of the Indigenous Peoples' Coordination Committee for World Summit on Sustainable Development. She has been following and participating in international processes relating to indigenous peoples within the UN system. She is one of the panelists on Indigenous Women, Conflict Prevention and Post Conflict Peace Building in relation to the Commission of the Status of Women on 10 March 2004, organised by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous issues at UN Headquarters, New York. She is leading the Working Group on Indigenous Women and Conflict Prevention at the UN Permanent Forum, third session 2004.

She is also the founder of Milijuli Nepal, an affiliate organization of the INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION. Through this organization, she has organized Interfaith dialogues. She has organized trainings on Nonviolent Conflict Resolutions, Buddhism and Developments in Nepal. She organized the Asia Girl Child Peace Camp in Nepal in 1999 and 2003 focusing on Nonviolent Mediation training for young women.

She is also the member of the Core Committee of Indigenous Peoples' Initiatives for Peace Talks in Nepal and a member of the Civil Society Solidarity Group for Peace in Nepal, a coalition of NGOs. Recently, she has been involved with the team for Armed Conflict and Peace

Building to prepare a situation paper and recommendations for the Nepal Development Forum (NGO). Recently, she has organized a series of consultations with women in Nepal on the Women Peace Initiative in Nepal.