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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Jan 00 to present Festival Director,** Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival

Organisean annual and competitive mountain film festival. The main purpose of KIMFF is to showcase films that attract peer review and critiques that lead to better documentation of mountain issues, particularly of highland regions of the developing world. A member of the International Alliance for Mountain Film, KIMFF is part of a campaign to make the audio-visual medium come in the aid of the social and economic transformation of the human landscape in Nepal and promotes local filmmaking through workshops and discussion fora. Every year, ‘Travelling KIMFF’, a specially curated package of films travels to the Nepali hinterland to promote intercultural dialogue and enhance audio-visual literacy among viewers. [www.kimff.org](http://www.kimff.org) .

**Jun 07 to Jan 11 Political Affairs Officer,** United Nations Mission in Nepal

Maintained regular monitoring, evaluation, analysis of major political events and trends throughout Nepal. Assessed their political implications with a view to strengthening Nepal’s peace process. Maintained relations with key actors of major political parties as well as ethnic-based parties and women’s groups affiliated with political parties/ movements. Monitored developments regarding the drafting of the constitution by the Constituent Assembly and produced reports on the progress and challenges in the process as well as developments concerning traditionally marginalised groups. Produced thematic reports, code cables to UN HQ in New York and provided analytical input to the Joint Missions Analysis Cell (JMAC). Presented political briefings to UN Country Team.

**Jul 05 to May 07** **Commissioning/ Content Editor**, Interworld Radio South Asia

Commissioned, edited, produced short English-language features suitable for international distribution in South Asia and globally through Interworld Radio IWR website. Designed and produced Panoscope, a fortnightly radio magazine which covered issues related to conflict, environment, globalisation, media pluralism, and public health. Developed and implemented a strategy to support program making in South Asia. Organised/ conducted various radio and ICT related training activities. [www.panosradiosouthasia.org](http://www.panosradiosouthasia.org)

**Feb 05 to Dec 08** **Co-Producer** *The Sari Soldiers*

Filmed over three years during the most historic and pivotal time in Nepal’s modern history, the independent feature documentary *The Sari Soldiers* intimately delves into the extraordinary journey of six women on opposing sides of the conflict, through the democratic revolution that reshapes the country’s future. It has won several awards and is currently being used in Nepal and internationally as a powerful tool to work with existing human rights, sustainable peace, gender and development priorities. [www.sarisoldiers.com](http://www.sarisoldiers.com)

**Jan 00 to Dec 04 Director/ Producer** *Daughters of Everest*

Anaward-winningdocumentary on the Nepali Women’s Millennium Everest Expedition Spring 2000, the film brings a unique flavor to a familiar story: the attempt to climb Mount Everest. It gives a close-up account of the first-ever expedition of Sherpa women to climb Mt. Everest. Although the Sherpa people are legendary for their unmatched skill in mountaineering, Sherpa women are discouraged from climbing Everest, relegated instead into support roles in the climbing industry of Nepal. Told from a woman’s perspective rarely seen on Everest or off, this film is both a dramatic, inspiring Everest story and an absorbing portrait of the Sherpa community.

**Dec 96 to Apr 03 Stringer,** *Inter Press Service (IPS)*

Wrote news stories, features, and analysis for IPS - a communication institution with a global news agency at its core. IPS is an alternative voice in the midst of traditional, mainstream views, providing news and analyses on issues relevant to the global south.

**Aug 00 to Jan 03** **Writer**, *Nepali Times* weekly

Reported news and wrote analysis on Nepal’s political and socio-economic developments. Travelled extensively through Nepal and India to gain insight into the causes of Nepal’s conflict and the Maoist insurgency, increasing ethnic tensions in the country and the decreasing hold of the state over local government. Conducted research and wrote articles on conflict resolution and peace building, and issues related to Human Rights, social inclusion, development, and migration.

**Jun 99 to Jan 00** **Resource person**, *Birth of a Baby* Training Video

Conducted research for training film on promoting safe motherhood and neonatal care in Nepal. Worked closely with Female Community Health Volunteers/ Traditional Birth Attendants in Baglung and Makawanpur districts as part of the project.

**Dec 96 to Jan 99** **Nepal Correspondent**, *The Asian Age* daily, India

Covered news and wrote articles/analysis on political events and developments in Nepal with a focus on Nepal-India relations. Engaged with political actors, parliamentarians, civil society, representatives of the Indian establishment and the general public in the course of writing news stories/analysis. Conducted research on Nepal – India ties/ relations, areas of cooperation/ tensions vis a vis existing geopolitics in the South Asia region.

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**Jun 98 to Nov 98** **Fellow**, *The St. Petersburg Times*, Florida, USA

Completed with distinction a six-month working fellowship, which included reporting and writing for *The St. Petersburg Times*, Florida.

**Dec 95 to Apr 97** **Senior Reporter**, *Everest Herald* daily

Covered news and wrote articles on political and socio-economic developments in Nepal. Conducted research and designed feature projects for the daily. Assigned stories to apprentice reporters. Wrote a weekly column “Voices” which focused on a range of issues affecting the Nepali public including development and gender disparity. Supervised columns on “People” and “Grassroots”.

**Nov 92 to Nov 95 Reporter/Sub-Editor**, The Kathmandu Post daily

Reported news and wrote feature articles for Nepal’s first private daily established after the 1990 pro-democracy movements in the country. Traveled extensively across Nepal researching news stories. Copy-edited the daily news section. Designed ad edited the features section of the paper.

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION**

**Aug 2011 Post Graduation Certificate**, Conflict Resolution Skills, Coventry University, U.K.

**Oct 1991 Bachelor of Arts**,English Honors, Loreto College, Darjeeling, India

**Nov 1986 Senior Cambridge**,St. Mary’s High School, Kathmandu, Nepal

**Dec 1985 School Leaving Certificate**, St. Mary’s High School, Kathmandu, Nepal

**OTHER TRAINING**

**Nov 2010** Facilitation of Dialogue Processes and Mediation Efforts, Sweden.

**Feb 2010** Negotiation and MediationTraining, UNMIN, Kathmandu.

**Aug 2009** Professional Approach to Electronic Cinematography, Kathmandu.

**Feb 2003** Research/Reporting on the Asian Migration Trail, IPS Workshop for Journalists, Bangkok.

**May 1999** Female Outdoor Leadership Training, Nepal Mountaineering Association, Kathmandu.

**Oct 1998** Newspaper Writing and Editing Seminar, Poynter Institute for Media Studies, Florida, USA.

**May 1997** One-man CameraTraining for Journalists, Worldview, Kathmandu.

**Mar 1995** English for Journalists, Part I and II, British Council, Kathmandu.

**May 1994** Advanced Level Training Course in Video Production, Kathmandu.

**Oct 1993** Children and Women First Journalists Workshop, Kathmandu.

**Oct 1992** 10 months Proficiency Course in Journalism, Nepal Press Institute, Kathmandu.

**Publications and Research**

**June 2008** *The Sari Soldiers -* an independent feature documentary which intimately delves into the conflict in Nepal.

**Mar 2004** *Daughters of Everest -* an independent feature documentary that looks at climbing from a gender perspective.

**Jan 2004** *Maid to Order -**Nepali domestic workers in Hong Kong*, Chapter in Inter Press Service publication *On the Asian Migration Trail*

**Feb 2002** *Abortion Reform and Legislation in Nepal*, Panos London Illuminating Voices

**AFFILIATIONS** Media for Development – *MFD* believes that media can be a powerful and effective tool for communication, and in spreading social messages that enable people to live a life of dignity and respect. *MFD* has developed communication and media projects and has designed and produced interactive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for several national and international organisations.

Himal Association – *HA* has played a key role in the incubation of several institutions in Nepal recognized both home and abroad for their contributions in the fields of journalism, research in educational, social, cultural, and political scenarios as well as peace activism.

Centre for Investigative Journalism – *CIJ* is dedicated to promoting investigative journalism in Nepal. It provides trainings and fellowships to journalists, and has produced several publications, including a Handbook on Courtroom Journalism and Impunity in the Nepali polity.

**LANGUAGES** Fluent in Nepali and English. Speak some Hindi.