

Her Excellency
Bidhya Devi Bhandari
The Right Honourable
President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
via Botschaft der Demokratischen Bundesrepublik Nepal
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Your Excellency;

Please permit me to bring the fate of a young Nepali Christian family man to your attention. He is Pastor Keshab Acharya - 32 years old and father of two - from Pokhara in the province of Gandaki Pradesh. He has been innocently imprisoned in Nepal since March 23rd, 2020.

He belongs to the minority of Christians in your country and frequently publishes speeches and prayers on the Internet. He also prayed that the Corona Virus would be defeated. This virus affects people worldwide and forces a large part of the states to drastically restrict everyday life. That his prayer would help contain the pandemic is part of his religious belief, which he is allowed to publicly confess under Article 18 of the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” and the “International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.”

At first, Acharya was accused of misleading the public through misinformation. He was then also charged to have violated religious feelings and to be engaged in proselytizing. These are allegations that Nepalese Christians increasingly exposed to.

I therefore, ask you, dear Madam President, to do everything in your power to advocate the release of this Christian man.

Most respectfully,