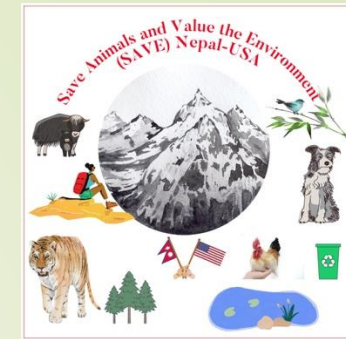




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ANIMAL LAW STUDIES
Lewis & Clark Law School

Lewis and Clark Law School
Center for Animal Law Studies (CALS)
Global Ambassador Program (2024-25) *



INTRODUCING ANIMAL LAW TO A NEW GENERATION OF LAW STUDENTS IN NEPAL

➤ Julie Palais (MSL '24, US) & Varnika Singh (LLM '24, India)



* This project
was supported
by a grant from
the Center for
Animal Law
Studies at Lewis
& Clark Law
School.

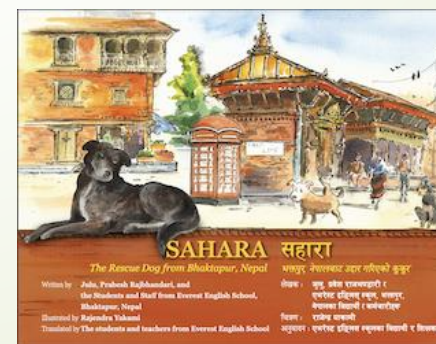
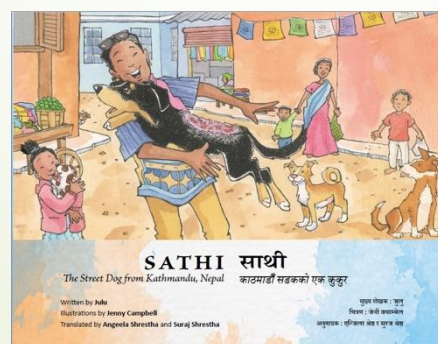
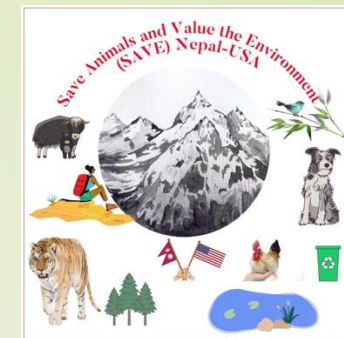
<https://law.lclark.edu/live/news/54661-announcing-the-2024-25-cals-ambassadors>



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Dr. Julie M. Palais

- PhD, MS in Geology; Former Program Director, Antarctic Glaciology, U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF);
- “Encore Career” – Animal Welfare; MS in Anthrozoology, Master of Studies in Animal Law (MSL); Founding Director of SAVE Nepal
- Author of several bilingual books - Sathi The Street Dog from Kathmandu, Nepal; Saathi The Street Dog from Dharamsala, India; Sahara The Rescue Dog from Bhaktapur, Nepal.
- Interests related to animal welfare in Nepal include animal cruelty committed against free-roaming dogs, human-wildlife conflict, captive wildlife held in substandard community forest zoos, working-equine welfare, the future of animal agriculture in Nepal, and the link to environmental issues and climate change.





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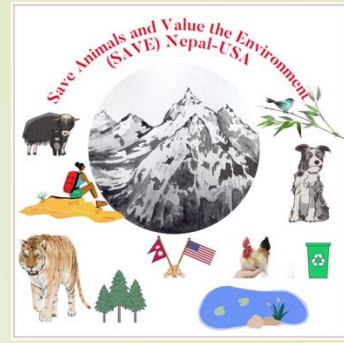
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Advocate Varnika Singh

- BA.LLB , LLM in Science and technology, LLM in Animal Laws
- Practicing Advocate at High Court of Delhi and Supreme Court of India, India, Head Legal Consultant - Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO), India
- Authored articles on sexual crimes against animals
- Interests related to animal protection work - Sexual crimes against animals, Asian Elephants, Community dogs, animals in circuses and zoos, and animal fighting.

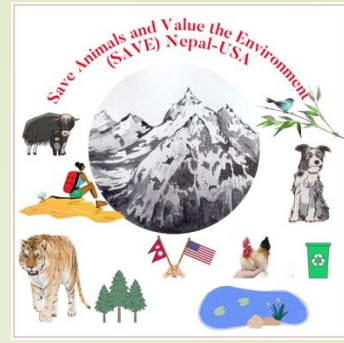


Varnika Singh (LLM '24, India)





Outline



- History of SAVE Nepal? www.save-Nepal.org
- Animal protection issues in Nepal,
- Goal is to improve protections for animals and the environment by training Nepalese lawyers and law students in the field of animal law.
- Lewis & Clark Law School - Global Ambassador Program (GAP) - 1-year effort (started Nov. 1, 2024), to introduce animal law to Nepalese law schools through both online courses and other ancillary activities.
- Activities to Date/Future Plans.
- Concluding Remarks

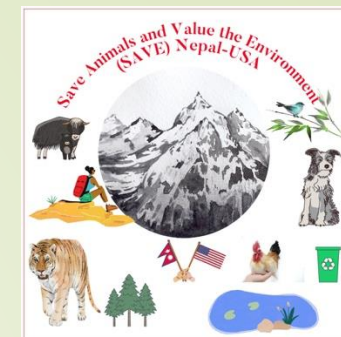
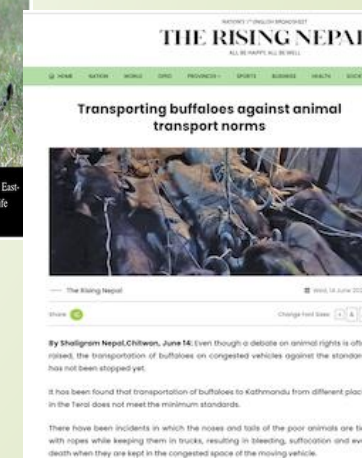
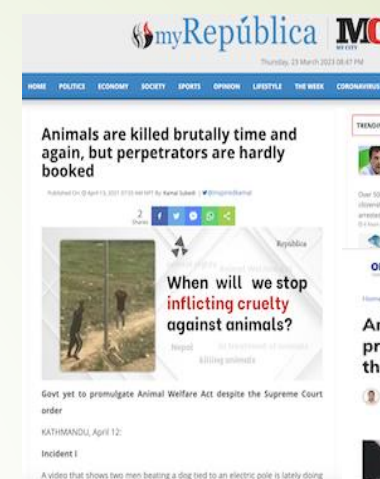




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Animal Protection Issues in Nepal

- Companion Animals – Free-roaming Dogs, Cows, Population Management, Rabies, Extreme Animal Cruelty
- Wildlife- Biodiversity, Loss of Habitat, Human-Wildlife Conflict
- Farmed and Working Animal Welfare, Animal Transport and Related Issues
- Environmental Degradation – Deforestation, Uncontrolled Natural Resource Usage, Air and Water Pollution, Waste Management
- Climate-Related Impacts, Melting Glaciers, Water Resources, and Natural Disasters, Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs).
- Animal protection laws are virtually non-existent, no Animal Welfare Act, and weak enforcement of existing laws.
- Corruption pervades all aspects of society and impacts animal welfare



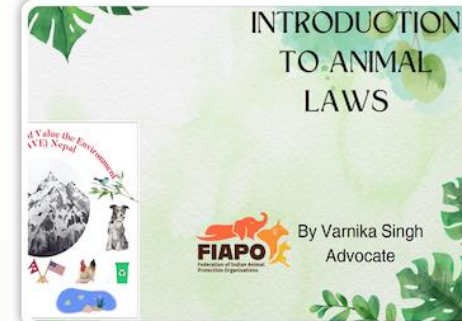


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Pre-GAP Activities (SAVE Nepal Initiative) and Early GAP (January 2024 - November 2024)



Julie and Varnika made visits to several law schools, including both law schools affiliated with Tribhuvan University (TU), two visits to Lumbini Buddhist University Law School, and two visits to Kathmandu University (KU) School of Law (KUSOL), meeting with faculty, administrators and students.

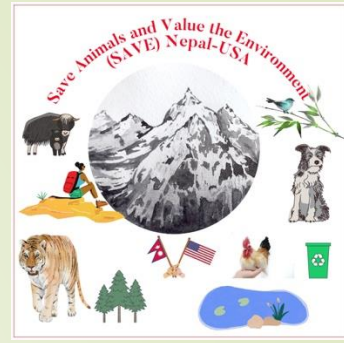




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KU School of Law (KUSOL)

Research Proposals and Papers in Animal Law



Student Proposals and Research Papers

1. Sweekriti Sharma - Legal Welfare and Protection of Street Dogs in Nepal
2. Ayusha Yogi - Beyond Burden: Legal Perspectives on Overuse and Exploitation of Working Animals
3. Pariksha Dhungana - Poaching of Animals: Its Impact on Biodiversity
4. Rabindra Acharya - Animal Sacrifice in Nepal: Analyzing the Balance Between Culture, Laws on Animal Welfare and Cruelty



Pariksha



Ayusha



Sweekriti



Rabindra

PIC•COLLAGE



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Student Mentorship and Interactions

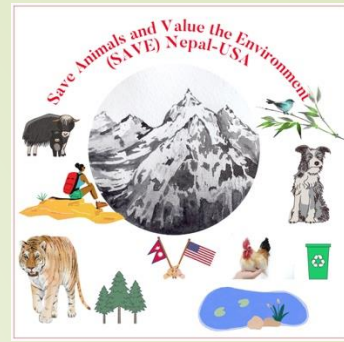
- Varnika set up a WhatsApp group with the four students so that we could easily communicate throughout the semester.
- Julie and Varnika worked with students in Professor Shiva Paudel's Legal Research Methods course to help them with their proposals and papers. They also reviewed and provided feedback to students about their work.
- Meetings with students in a social setting to discuss animal law and opportunities for future research and learning.
- Each student received a \$ 250 stipend for their participation in this experiment as an incentive to become involved (~ 34,000 Nepal Rs) and a gift packet with a certificate of completion.





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Spring Activities (April 10-May 15) 2025 Julie's Visit to Nepal



Kathmandu University School of Law (KU SOL)

- First-ever animal law seminar in Nepal, April 24):
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLad5jZl5s1IITXJcbNGqPoYqpqSg4o2qA>
- Students are planning to publish short news articles about their research in the Nepali edition of Online Khabar newspaper under the guidance of Senior Editor Shiva Mukhiya. <https://english.onlinekhabar.com/writer/shiva-mukhiya>
- One student is working on identifying an academic journal where he can publish his paper.
- Several new students have expressed interest in getting involved in research and learning about animal law after attending the talks given by their peers.

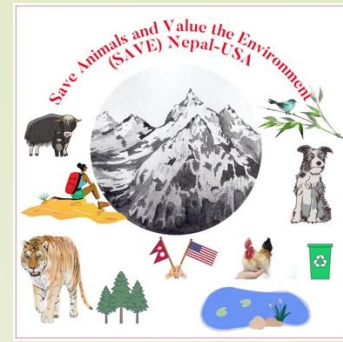




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Plans for the Second Half of the Year

- Julie and Varnika will each develop a six-week course to introduce the field of animal to law students in Nepal. The courses will be made available on a password-protected website to be completed asynchronously. We will involve students in helping us pilot-test the courses.
- Julie will create a general overview course, and Varnika will develop an in-depth course that explores existing animal laws in Nepal and compares them with what exists in India.
- We are tentatively planning to offer several other research opportunities for students during the remainder of the year.
- We are also working with several new students who have expressed interest in becoming involved and learning more about the field of animal law. We are sharing information about opportunities that exist around the world to pursue an LLM in animal law.





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Development of Two Online Asynchronous Courses for any law student in Nepal

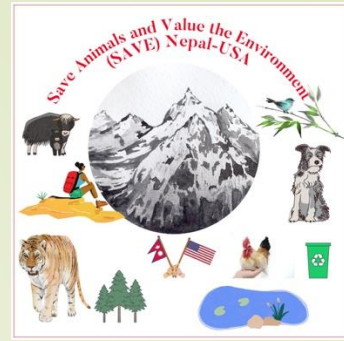
Julie's course

- Introduction to Animal Law Around the World
- What is animal law?
- History and development of the field
- Animal rights vs. animal welfare?
- Legal advances in animal protection
- What animal law can learn from environmental law
- International comparative animal law

Varnika's course

Animal Law in Nepal and India: A Comparative Perspective

- Historical background
- Philosophical Underpinnings
- Legal theories and developments
- Animal welfare law vs. animal rights law
- Legislative developments and court cases
- Enforcement issues, societal attitudes, cultural barriers
- The intersection of animal law with other fields of law

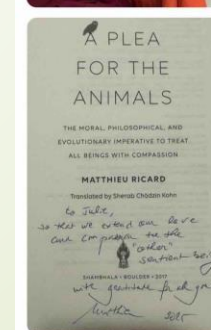
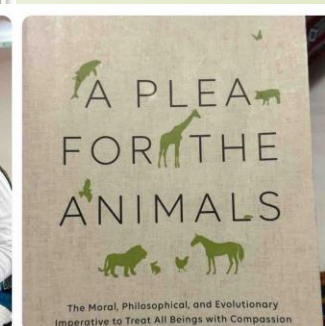
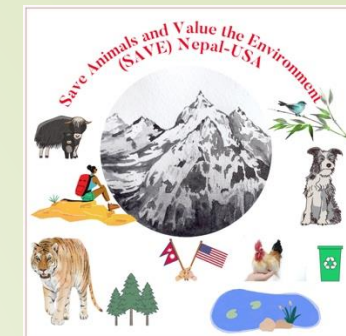




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Future Plans – Post-GAP Year (after Oct. 31, 2025)

- We plan to continue interacting with all of the students who have expressed interest in animal law.
- We plan to involve the students in helping us “pilot-test” the courses that we will be developing during the second half of the year.
- We are encouraging graduating students to consider applying to an animal law LLM program, once they have completed their JD degrees.
- Julie is planning, through the SAVE-Nepal initiative, to host the first-ever animal law conference in Nepal and is working with Matthieu Ricard to get his book “A Plea for the Animals” translated into Nepali.



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Concluding Remarks

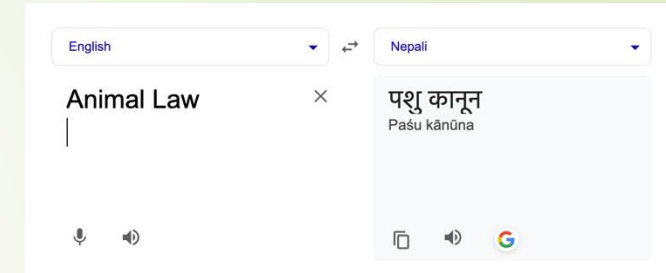
“You have to build a foundation, and the next generation builds on that foundation and the next and next.....”.

---Joyce Tischler (Mother of Animal Law) *





Highlights to date

- The term “animal law” is now in the Nepali lexicon.
- Lawyers and law students have expressed interest in learning more about the field of animal law and want to pursue research to help address the problems they observe all around them in Nepal.
- Administrators want to add animal law to the curriculum, but financial and human resource constraints exist.
- Student interest is contagious, and many have expressed interest in joining the movement.
- Stay tuned!



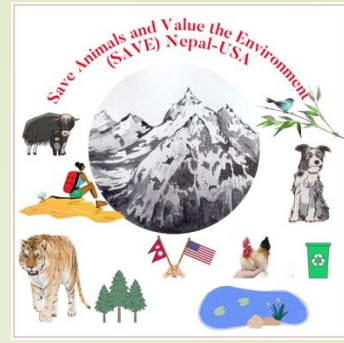
Lawyer Details

 Prakriti Acharya acharyaprakriti77@gmail.com	<p>Animal law Criminal law</p> <p>Specialization: Corporate law Labour law Media law</p> <p>Bar License#: 20833</p> <p>Country: Nepal</p> <p>City: Kathmandu</p>
 Sanjay Adhikari sanjayadhikari2052@gmail.com	<p>Animal law Constitutional law Environmental law</p> <p>Specialization: Administrative law Criminal law Cultural property law</p> <p>Bar License#: 18542</p> <p>Country: Nepal</p>

* <https://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/magazine/entry/we-are-all-complicit/##>



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QUESTIONS?

Julie M. Palais (USA) - juliempalais@gmail.com
Varnika Singh (India) - varnica09@gmail.com