



Accountability Watch Committee (AWC)  
जवाफदेहिता निगरानी समिति

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27 January 2020

**Press Statement**

**Appeal to Immediately and Unconditionally release Arrested HRDs  
and Conflict Victims**

Accountability Watch Committee (AWC) expresses serious concern regarding the arrest of Human Rights Defenders and conflict victims demanding justice to Arjun Lama and not to sworn in Agni Sapkota, who is accused of murder of Arjun Lama, as the Speaker of House of Representative by the President Bidhya Devi Bhandari at latter's office today morning. Among the arrestees are Purni Maya Lama, widow of Arjun Lama, Charan Prasai, Janak Raut, Nirajan Thapaliya, Bal Krishna Ghimire, Jesselina Rana, Alina Gautam, Bipin Budhathoki, Sankar Budhathoki, Mahamuniswar Acharya, Prashant Tripathi and Rajan Kuikel.

AWC demands immediate and unconditional release of the arrestees and respect to citizen's right to peaceful assembly and protest, to reconsider the demands and seek out solution to address those demands.

On behalf of the Accountability Watch Committee

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Om Prakash Sen Thakuri

Secretariate

Advocacy Forum – Nepal