

DB Sagar – Bio

Mr. Dil Bishwakarma (known as DB Sagar) is co-founder and current President of the **International Commission for Dalit Rights (ICDR)**, an apex global advocacy organization of local, national, and regional Dalit and pro-Dalit diaspora organizations across the world. He is also a social entrepreneur, and founder and Chairperson of **Innovative Microfinance Corporation**, USA and **JEEV Pvt. Ltd.** in Nepal.



Mr. **DB Sagar** is a globally recognized personality in the area of international human rights advocacy and public policy, and also brings substantial expertise in running international non-government organizations, social enterprises, and global forums. His credentials are impeccable, with over 15 years of experience in international human rights, social justice, rule of law, conflict mediation, negotiations, peace-building, litigation, and development cooperation at the local, national, regional, and global levels.

He has advised the Nepal government, political parties, and Constituent Assembly of Nepal on the rights of Dalits and vulnerable groups, Constitution-making and State-restructuring processes, post-conflict settlement, federalization, and international human rights mechanisms. He has testified before the **UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)**, **UN Human Rights Sub-Committee**, the **European Parliament** on matters of Discrimination based on Caste or Descent, and has also testified before the **British House of Commons** on matters of Human Rights and the democratic crisis of Nepal (2005). He actively engaged in the NGO Preparatory Committee of the **UN World Conference against Racism** in 2001 and **World Social Forum** in 2004.

Mr. DB Sagar served as Convener of the **First Global Conference on Defending Dalit Rights 2015** and drafted the **Dalit Rights Global Declaration 2015**. He coordinated 205 Dalit and diaspora organizations, and mobilized the **Global March against Caste-Based Discrimination-2014** and the **Human Chain Demonstration for Dalit Dignity and Solidarity-2015** in Washington, D.C. He has been advocating for passage of a Binding Resolution against Caste-based Discrimination by the U.S. Congress, and endorsement of the UN Principles and Guidelines to Elimination of Caste and All Forms of Discrimination by UN member states. He is actively engaged with the UN Vision 2030, especially toward recognizing caste and inequality as a key challenge of the 2015 Post-Development Agendas.

He was awarded the **United Nations Association Community Human Rights Award 2007** and **Grossman International Award 2010** for his dedication to human rights, social justice, and international public service. He is a victim and witness of Caste-based discrimination, violence, and socio-political exclusion. He was actively engaged in Nepal's democracy movement in 1990 as a student activist, and intensively involved in conflict mediation throughout the decade-long Maoist Conflict (1996-2006) as the President of **Dalit NGO Federation** of Nepal. He played a noted role as a human rights defender at the national and international levels in the Second People's Movement against the Royal Regime 2005/06.

Mr. DB Sagar received his Master in Law (LL.M.) degree from American University Washington College of Law, and Master in Arts on Sociology from American University, Washington, D.C. He has undertaken NGO Leadership and Development training from American University School of International Studies; and Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance from UNCONGO. He has given interviews for national and international news media, and has written several articles and reports, and provided expert commentary on human rights and public policies.