



## United Mission to Nepal

by **NILE SPRAGUE** 

United Mission to Nepal works in 10 districts through seven cluster offices to improve life for impoverished communities, especially women. The mission's work increases women's access to education, health care, peace-building training and income-generating skills.

United Mission to Nepal works with other Christian non-governmental organizations to offer literacy classes to rural women. They also learn about basic primary health care, HIV and AIDS, family planning, women's rights. and practice saving and microcredit within their small groups. The women also develop their leadership skills as they speak out about their lives.and learn to advocate for their families, and community and themselves.



Opposite page, Bishnu Nepali, 35, with son, is a student at United Mission to Nepal's women's literacy class in the Daubaji Village Development Committee (VDC) area, Nawalparasi District, Nepal.



Young women practice writing skills in a literacy class provided by United Mission to Nepal. Below, Diya Sanu, 31, feeds her buffalo in Daubaji VDC, Nawalparasi Distrist, Nepal.

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Women in United Mission to Nepal's education program take a break between class sessions. Below, women file into the mission for literacy class. Regular class attendance can be a challenge for the women as they are already overwhelmed by the amount of work at home. With so many responsibilities, it's sometimes difficult for the women to make themselves their priority.

Above, left, women learn to read and write in Daubaji in Nepal. Right top, Balkumari Thada, 65, is also a student at United Mission to Nepal's women's empowerment classes in the Nawalparasi District. Below, Ms. Thada, right, confers with another student in the mission's literacy class for women. As the women become equipped with skills and confidence, they become better prepared to mobilize their community for needed services.





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