

# First South Asian Restorative Justice Essay Prize

Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice & Kathmandu University

The First South Asian Restorative Justice Essay Prize is a joint initiative of Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice and Kathmandu University School of Law to promote innovative and restorative justice principles among future legal professionals in South Asia. This prestigious Prize provides a platform for emerging powerful voices to contribute to the dialogue on out-of-the-box and alternative approaches to justice which have potentials of creating healing communities through the application of restorative justice in various justice contexts. This initiative also hopes to establish a network of young professionals interested in advancing principles and practices of restorative justice in South Asia.

## EVENT DETAILS

### Timeline

19 August, 2024	Call for applications and Registration opens
5 October, 2024	Deadline to registration ends
15 October, 2024	Essay submission deadline
25 November, 2024	Announcement of awardees
3 December, 2024	Distribution of the Prize

### Eligibility

The essay prize is open to students who are currently pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree in law. Eligible participants must be enrolled in law programs within South Asia (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka). This opportunity invites law students from these countries to contribute their perspectives and insights on restorative justice through their essays.

### Topics for the essay

Participants can choose any one from the following to write their essays on:

- a. Embracing Restorative Justice Principles in South Asian Justice Systems to Foster Harmonious Communities
- b. Applying Restorative Justice in Juvenile Justice Systems of South Asia
- c. Advancing Restorative Justice for Corrections in South Asian Criminal Justice Systems

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

### General

- i. Essays must be original and free of plagiarism.
- ii. Essays should be limited to 2500-3000 words (excluding the footnotes and abstract).

- iii. One essay should have only one author.
- iv. Abstract should be limited to 50 words (exclusive of total word count of the essay).
- v. Submissions shall be made through email: [programs@nepalrestorativejustice.org](mailto:programs@nepalrestorativejustice.org).
- vi. Submission shall be submitted in both word and pdf formats.
- vii. The name of the file should be the same as the title of the essay.
- viii. No indication to the author identity should exist within the submitted manuscript. Such a breach will lead to rejection of the submission.
- ix. Essay should not contain any grammar, punctuation and spelling errors.
- x. Please make sure that the details provided in the registration form is same as during the submission.

## **Format**

- Font: Times New Roman
- Size: 12
- Line Spacing: 1
- Alignment: Justified
- Margins: 1 inch on all sides
- Page numbers: Page numbers on each page
- Citation Style: Bluebook or APA (please specify the edition used)

## **REGISTRATION**

- Please follow this link for registration: [Registration for SA Restorative Justice Prize](#)

## **EVALUATION PROCESS**

- i. All essays will go through a blind double review process including two stages:
- ii. The essay will have two stages of review:
  - Technical Review: The article shall be checked for plagiarism and AI-usage along with language and grammar.
  - Content Review: Review on whether it fulfills criteria of contemporariness, relevance, novelty.

## **PRIZE**

- Winner: The winner will receive a distinguished honor along with a cash prize of USD 500 and an opportunity to publish their writing in the NFRJ website, KUSoL blog and a compilation of essays.
- First runner-up: The first runner-up will be awarded an Honorable Mention and an opportunity to publish their writing in the NFRJ website, KUSoL blog and a compilation of essays.
- Second runner-up: The second runner-up will be awarded an Honorable Mention and an opportunity to publish their writing in the NFRJ website, KUSoL blog and a compilation of essays.

- The Prize recipients will be announced on 25 November 2024 through the NFRJ website and email.
- The recipient of the Prize shall be invited to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Nepal Conference on Restorative Justice on 3 December 2024 and awarded the prize. The cost of attending the Conference will be covered by the organizers.

## ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

### **Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice**

Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice (NFRJ) is a non-governmental non-profit organization working in the fields of restorative justice, dialogue and peacebuilding in Nepal. It began as a loose forum in 2014 and was formally registered in 2017. From the time of inception, NFRJ has been dedicated to strengthening the principles and practices of restorative justice, dialogue and peacebuilding in the formal and community systems, and furthering the global movement in these fields.

NFRJ's mission is to promote restorative and transformative justice for individuals, groups, and communities in Nepal and beyond. It provides support to establish high-quality practices aligned with restorative principles, dialogue, and justice. NFRJ's programs are centered around the themes of "Reimagining Justice" and "Recrafting Peace." The organization believes that universities, colleges, schools, and academic institutions are vital platforms for reimagining justice and discussing new justice concepts. Recognizing that future justice workers, human right activists, lawyers, judges, lawmakers, and policymakers are currently studying at these institutions, NFRJ values the ideas and efforts of future leaders. Therefore, the Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice plans to award students who present innovative ideas on justice.

### **Kathmandu University School of Law**

Kathmandu University School of Law (KUSOL) is one of the prestigious law schools in Nepal. The goal of KUSOL is to prepare students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and leaders, with the flexibility to respond to changes in the legal profession. To that end, KUSOL blends practical skills training with legal theory throughout the curriculum as they strive for excellence in both teaching and scholarship. KUSOL's mission is to produce a diverse group of graduates with the skill, judgment, and moral compass to become exceptional lawyers and legal professionals and socially responsible members of the global community.

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**In case of any inquiries, please contact:**

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