

A Story of 'A Woman of Street'

Nirmala is getting better day by day. She has developed her insight. She can talk well and her behavior is well. She can do her personal care by herself.

BACKGROUND

Nirmala was rescued in October from the streets of Sindhupalchowk district, eastern part of capital city Kathmandu. She had been living in the local streets in Sipaghat for 12 years.



She had an arranged marriage. She faced internal problems in her marriage. So, She eloped with another married man. Unfortunately, She was not well treated in her second husband's family too. She had to face many problems/barriers which probably tend to suffer from mental health problem.

There are lots of women like Nirmala who are the victims of domestic violence. Second marriage for women is not well accepted in the society that creates conflict among the members of family and the society people raise their eyebrow towards them.

Due to this, She was neglected by her family and the society. Neither her husband's family well treated her nor her mother's family accepted. Due to the stress, she got into mental health problems and as a result she had to leave community and accept the streets. She stayed in streets for 12 long years as a psychotic mental patient. She roamed in the street, ate what was thrown in the roads.

As time went on, some local people realized she needs to be rescued. So, some locals informed KOSHISH about her.

KOSHISH rescued her in October 2011 from the site and brought her in KOSHISH Drop In Center. In the beginning, she escaped from the center for twice. She jumped from the gate and ran away for twice. The members of KOSHISH followed her but couldn't catch up her. She ran like a horse.



KOSHISH transferred her to Nepal Medical College – Teaching Hospital under the direct supervision of Psychiatrist Doctors and Nurses.

CONCLUSION

KOSHISH is helping her for treatment as evidence based care. KOSHISH is creating a model to prove that mental health problem is manageable. She is the one who suffered from mental health problem due to the stress and domestic violence. There are thousands of women who are on the streets due to the mental health problems. So, KOSHISH is sensitizing and grabbing attention of the government and other stakeholders towards mental health problem and the persons living with psychosocial disability. The issues are provocative.