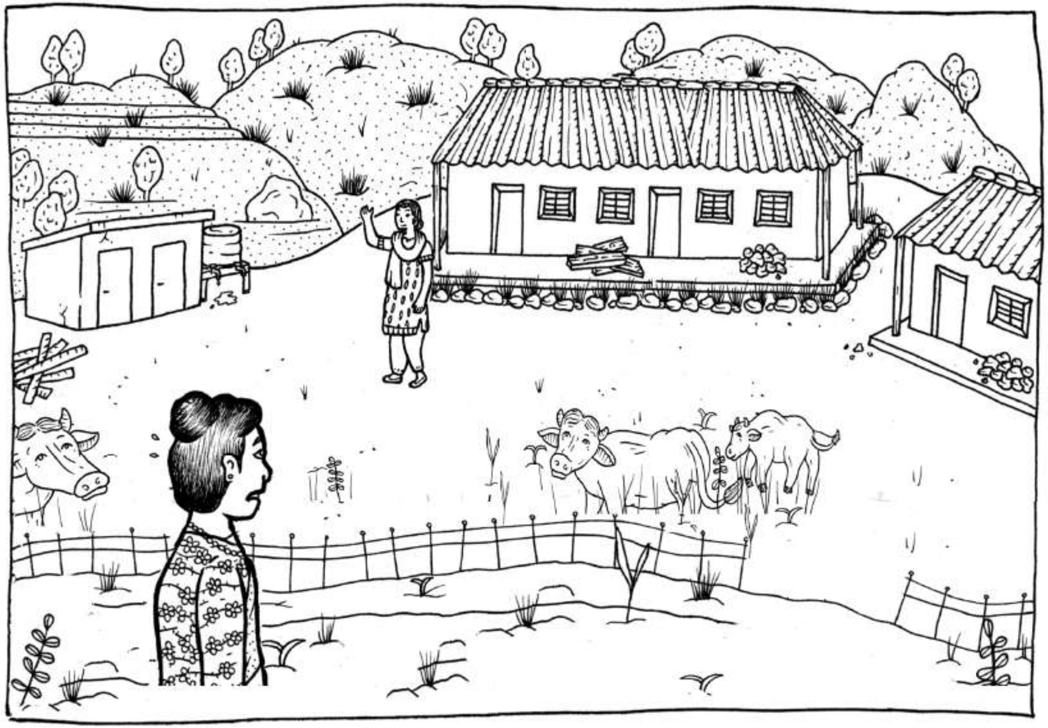


चित्रकथा
A picture story

रीताकी आमा विद्यालय गएपछि
When Rita's mother visits the school

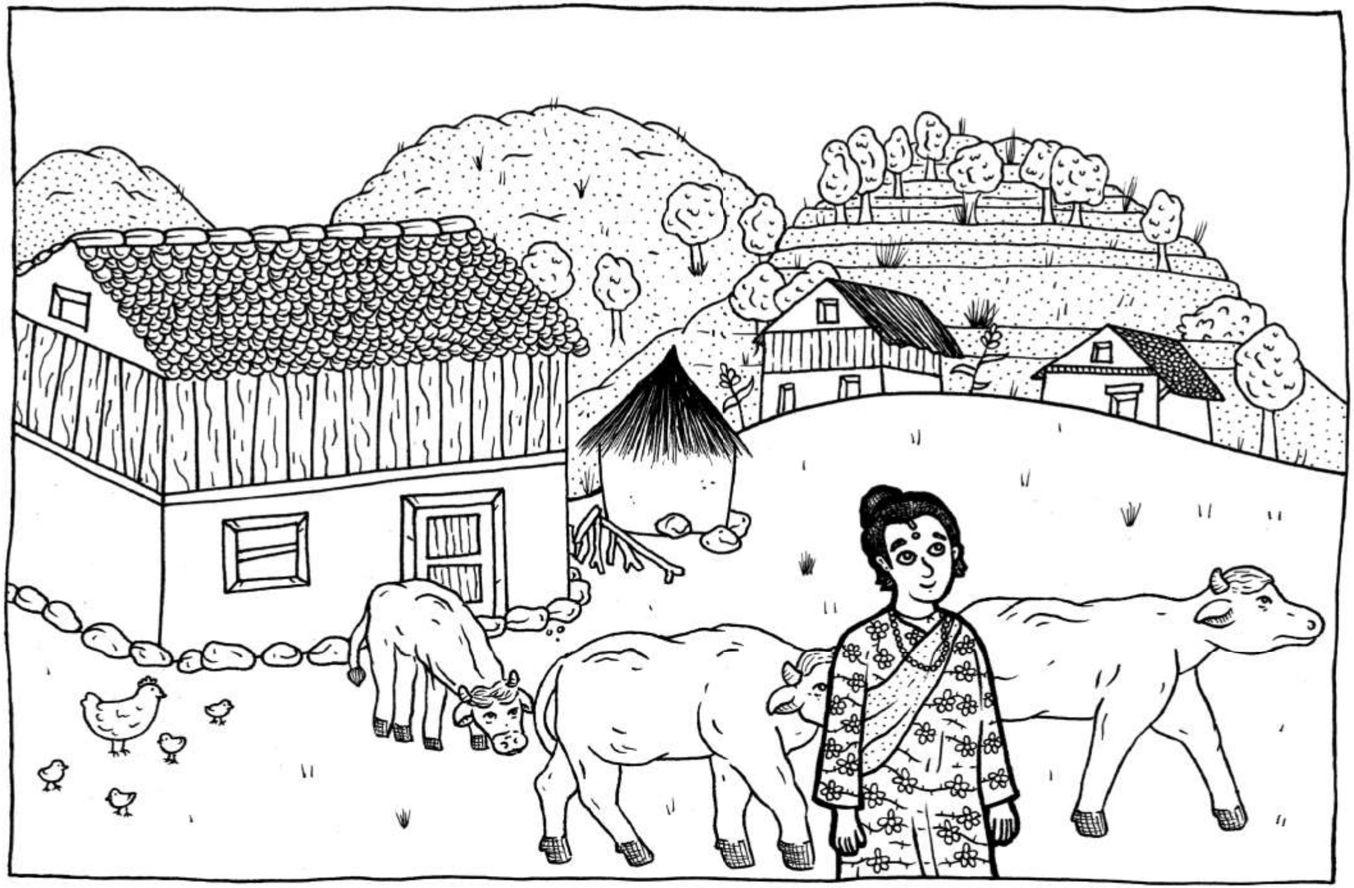
LUCA
SCHOOL OF ARTS

रीताकी आमा विद्यालय गएपछि

When Rita's mother visits the school

चमेलीलाई आज आफ्नै विचारमा अल्मलिएर बिहानको घरधन्दा सक्न ढिला भयो । छिमेकीहरूले अघि नै आफ्ना गाईवस्तुहरू चराउन लगिसकेछन् ।

Lost in her own thoughts, Chameli was a bit late to finish her morning chores today. Her neighbours had already taken their animals to herd.



विद्यालयमा घाँस अन्त भन्दा अलि हरियो थियो। हेर्दाहेर्दै उनका वस्तुहरू त त्यहाँ पुगिसके छन्।

In few winks, her animals headed towards the school compound where grass is relatively greener.

Maya Teacher: *'Namaste! Aren't you Rita's mother? I am Maya, her new teacher. Come, I will show you the school.'*

Chameli: *'Yes, I am her mother but I will leave now. I am shy and I don't want to embarrass the Sirs either.'*

Maya Teacher: *'Don't worry. The two male Sirs are absent for few days and the Head teacher rarely comes to the school. It is only me, new Miss, Kopila and the Peon sir!'*

She agrees still with some hesitation.

नमस्कार ! तपाईं रीताकी आमा होइन र ? म नयाँ शिक्षक माया। आउनुहोस् न, म तपाईंलाई इस्कुल देखाउँछु।
दुइजनै सरहरू तीन दिनदेखि इस्कुल आउनु भाको छैन। आज त म, नयाँ मिस कोपिला र पिउन सर मात्रै छौं।
हो, म रीताकी आमा हुँ। भित्र आउनु र ? मलाई लाज लाग्छ। सरहरूलाई पनि अनौठो लाग्ला।

चमेली छक्क परिन् । कक्षा कोठाहरू कागजका टुक्रा, प्लास्टिकका खोल, माकुरोका जालो र जताततै धुलैधुलोले भरिएका रहेछन् । झ्यालका पल्लाहरू फुस्केर झुण्डिरहेका र एउटा कुनामा भाँचिएका डेस्कबेञ्चहरू थुपारिएका रहेछन् । साना कक्षामा बस्नलाई एउटा मैलो झुत्रे कार्पेटको टुक्रा रहेछ । टिनको तातोले कोठा बसिनसक्नु गर्मी रहेछ ।

Chameli is shocked. Classrooms are so filthy – full of pieces of paper, plastic wrappers and everything covered in dust. Window panes are broken, broken benches are piled in one corner. Little children have to sit on a piece of dirty vinyl carpet. Classroom is very hot under the metal roof.

Chameli: *(thinking) 'Oof! This is filthier than my animal shade.'*

छ्या ! यो त
गाईवस्तुको गोठ भन्दा
पनि फोहोर रहेछ !

Chameli: *'The school is very dirty. Don't you want to clean your classroom yourself once in a while?'*

Teacher Maya: *'No, sister, teachers are not supposed to do the menial jobs. If we do, everybody will look down upon us.'*

इस्कुल यस्तो फोहोर रहेछ। तपाईंलाई कहिल्यै पनि एक पटक आफूले पढाउने कोठा सफा गरौं जस्तो लाग्दैन ?
होइन दिदी, शिक्षकहरूले सफा गर्न थालियो भने त सबैले हामीलाई हेपिहाल्छन् नि ! हाम्रो काम त पढाउने पो हो त !

चमेली घर फर्कने बेला भयो । उनलाई विद्यालयको धेरै कुरा मन नपरेको कुरा मायाले थाहा पाइन् । उनले चमेलीसँग भएको कुराकानी नयाँ महिला शिक्षक र पिउन सरलाई सुनाइन् ।

चमेलीलाई पनि कत्तिबेला मैना फुपूलाई भेटौं र आजको कुरा सुनाउँ जस्तो भयो । उनी गाउँले नै मानेकी फुपू थिइन् ।

It was time for Chameli to leave. Maya sensed her disapproval of the whole thing. Maya shared this encounter with the new lady teacher and the Peon Sir.

Looking at the school, Chameli was anxious to tell this to children's aunt, who was known as everybody's aunt Mynah, as soon as possible.

Teacher Maya: *'You know, if we have to hear such things often, it will be difficult to continuos this work. After all, what do we get out of all this.*

Chameli: *(thinking) 'I feel sorry. I have often shouted at my children for not putting things properly and making things filthy. School is such a chaos. I must tell this to Mynah aunt.'*

सुन्नुभो,आमाबाबुको कुरा यसरी सुनिरहनु पर्ने भो भने, यो काम गर्न सकिँदैन होला। आखिर, यो कामले हामीलाई के नै भएको छ र ?
मलाई बिस्वाद लाग्यो। मैले मेरा छोराछोरीलाई सामान ठीक ठाउँमा राखेनौ, घर फोहोर पार्‍यौ भनेर बेलाबेला गाली गर्छु। इस्कुलै त यस्तो लथालिङ्ग रहेछ। यो कुरा कतिबेला मैना फुपूलाई भनौं।

अर्को दिन, विद्यालयमा

माया सबै भन्दा अघि विद्यालय आइन् । उनले धुलैधुलो भएको भुइँमा पानी छर्किन् र कक्षा बढारिन् । विद्यार्थीहरूले कक्षा कोठा सफा भएको याद गरे र उनीहरू खुशी देखिए । मायालाई पनि निक्कै राम्रो लाग्यो ।

Next day at the school.

Maya came to school earlier than anybody else. She sprinkled water over the dusty floor, swept her classroom, and brushed the dust off the carpet. The children noticed the cleaner classroom and looked happy. This gave Maya a good feeling.

Boy: *'Our teacher is the best.'*

Girl 1: *'How nice!'*

Girl 2: *'How clean!'*

Namaste
नमस्ते
हाम्रो मिस त सबै भन्दा राम्रो हुनुहुन्छ नि ?
आहा ! कति राम्रो !
आहा ! कति सफा !

अर्को दिन गाउँमा

चमेलीले मैना फुपूलाई भेटेर आफूले विद्यालयमा देखेकी सबै कुरा भनिन् । कुरा सुनेपछि मैना फुपू पनि निकै दुःखी भइन् । उनले चमेलीलाई आफ्नो घरमा सकेजति गाउँलेहरूलाई भेला गर्न लगाइन् । मैना फुपूको घरमा १०-१२ जना गाउँलेहरू भेला भए, जसमा धेरैजसो महिला र बालबालिका थिए । आउने १-२ जनाले पनि उस्तै अनुभवहरू सुनाए तर कसैलाई पनि के गर्ने भन्ने थाहा भएन ।

Next day in the village.

Chameli met Mynah, the aunt, and told her what she saw at school. Her heart was shrunk too. She asked Chameli to gather as many villagers as possible in her house. In the evening, few people mostly women and children turned up in Mynah's house. A few other women shared experiences similar to Chameli's but nobody knew what to do.When everybody was pausing, Mynah the aunt said in her heavy voice:

> *'I have an interim proposal. Can each of us go to the school in turn for some time? Then, we'll have a better insight. Then we know what we can do. It cannot change overnight.'*

> **Villeger A:** *Committee dose not sit together. Head sir and committee chair are relatives- what to talk about them?*

समितिको बैठक पनि बस्दैन, के कुरा गर्नु ? हेडसर र अध्यक्ष त आफन्त नै भइहाले।
मेरो एउटा प्रस्ताव छ। हामी हरेक घरबाट पालैपालो ५-७ दिनसम्म इस्कुल जान सक्छौं? त्यसो गऱ्यौं भने, हामी राम्रोसँग कुरा थाहा पाउन सक्छौँ। के गर्ने भन्ने विचार पनि आउँछ। आजको भोलि नै यो अवस्थामा परिवर्तन आउने होइन।

गाउँलेहरू प्रत्येक दिन, आफ्नो पालो मिलाएर विद्यालय जान थाले ।

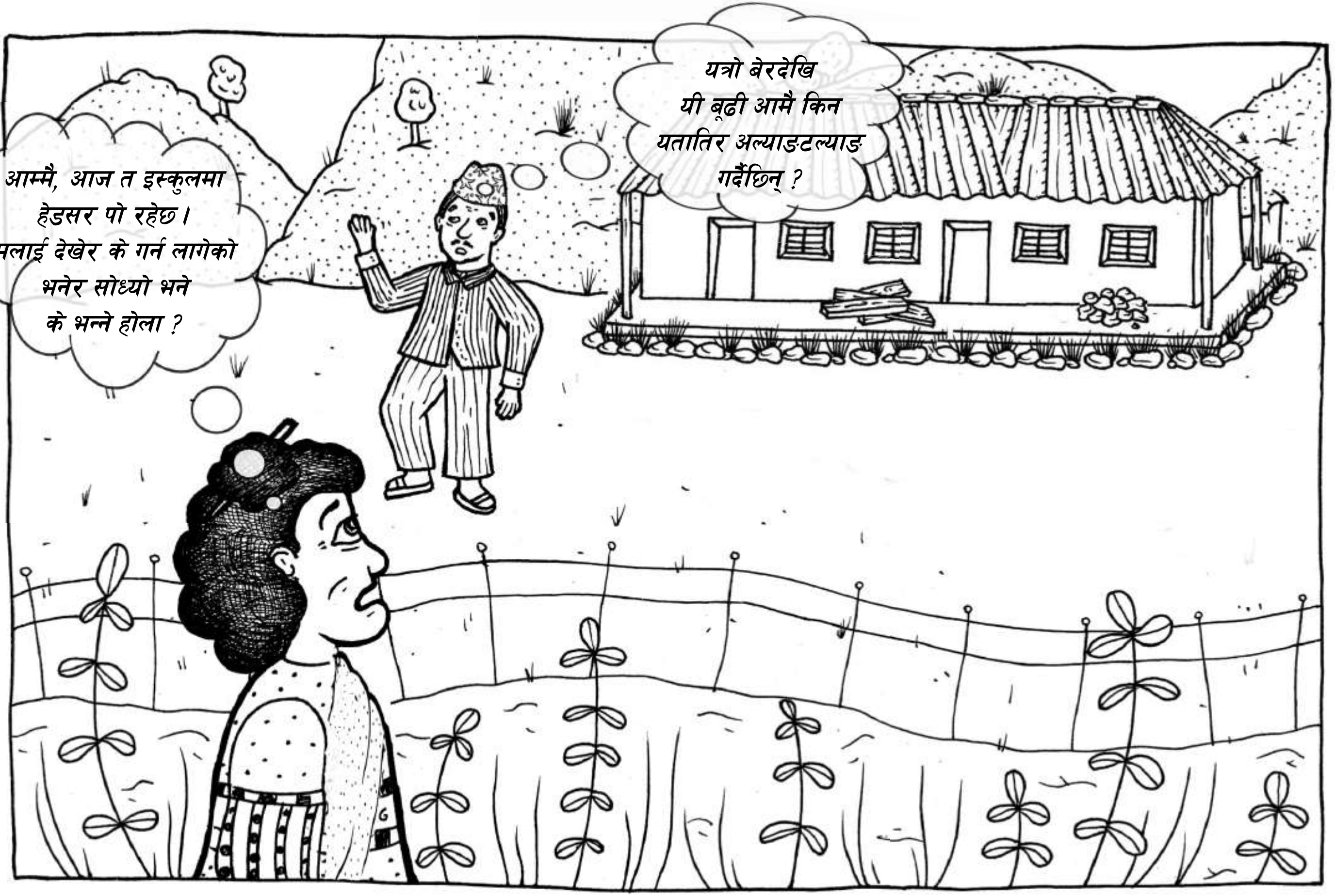
पाँचौं दिन, कल्याणी आमाको पालो थियो । त्यसै दिन हेडसर पनि आएका रहेछन् । तिनी विद्यालय वरिपरि हेर्दै घुमेको देखेर उनलाई अनौठो लाग्यो ।

The villagers started dropping by, one, each day, quietly.

On the fifth day, it was Kalyani's turn on the very day, the head teacher had happened to come to the school. He saw her loitering around and noticed something fishy.

Head Teacher: *(thinking) 'Why is this lady loitering around for so long?'*

Kalyani: *(thinking) 'Oh god, its the head teacher today what I tell if he asks what I am up to?'*


आम्मै, आज त इस्कुलमा हेडसर पो रहेछ। मलाई देखेर के गर्न लागेको भनेर सोध्यो भने के भन्ने होला ?
यत्रो बेरदेखि यी बूढी आमै किन यतातिर अल्याङटल्याङ गर्दैछिन् ?

कल्याणीले कुरा पेटमा राख्न सकिनन् । आफू, गाउँलेहरूले गरेको निर्णय अनुसार, विद्यालयमा के हुन्छ भनेर हेर्न आएकी भनिन् ।

उनीहरू बीच केही खस्रा कुरा भए ।

Kalyani could not keep the matter in herself. She revealed immediately that she came to see what happens in the school as decided by the villagers.

Kalyani: *'We are worried about children. It's a real problem that no one is paying attention to the worsening situation of this school.'*

Head Teacher: *'Who told you we are absent, not teaching, don't you see me here? You simple villagers don't know how bad the government policy is!'*

They exchanged some not so friendly chats.

हामीलाई नानीहरूको धेरै चिन्ता छ। इस्कुल झन्झन् बिग्रिँदै छ। कसैले वास्ता गर्दैन।
कसले भन्यो तपाईंलाई हामी इस्कुल आउँदैनौं भनेर ? शिक्षक छैन रे ? तपाईंले यहाँ मलाई देख्नुभएन ? तपाईं सोझा गाउँलेहरूलाई केही थाहा छैन, सरकारी नीति कति खराब छ !

विद्यालयमा, हेडसर अलि चिन्तित देखिए। उनले कसैसँग कुरा गरेनन् तर सबैले महसूस गर्न सक्थे कि हेडसरको मन मस्तिष्कमा नानाथरि कुरा खेलिरहेको छ।

At the school, the head teacher felt a bit anxious. He did not speak to anyone but everybody could feel that there was some upheaval in the head teacher's head.

Head Teacher: *(thinking) 'The lousy peon has not been doing his job. People don't point to him for not cleaning but blame me. Stupid villagers! It should be ok, until they start pointing that their children are not learning!'*

यो लठुवा पिउन आफ्नो कामै गर्दैन। गाउँलेहरूले
मलाई दोष लगाउँछन्। इस्कुल मैले बढार्नु ?
गाउँलेले आफ्ना छोराछोरीले किन केही पढ्न
जान्दैनन् भनेर सोध्न नआएसम्म
अरू कुरा टर्दै जाला !

अर्को दिन बिकुको पालो थियो । ऊ भर्खर शहरबाट पढेर काम गरेर गाउँ फर्केको ठिटो थियो । ऊ बिहान ९ः३० बजे विद्यालय गयो । एकजना शिक्षक दिउँसोको १२ः३० बजे आइपुगे । उनी कार्यालयमा गएर हाजिर कापीमा विद्यालयमा नआएका दिनको पनि हाजिर गर्न थाले ।

The next day it was Biku's turn to watch the school. He had just come from the town. He sets off early and got to the school by 9:30. A male teacher came to the school at noon. He got in the office and was signing attendance register also for the days he was not there.

Biku: *'Sir, please stop signing for the days you have not come. Even today, its 12:30 and school stops at 1!'*

Teacher: *'Who are you? Why is this your business? Do you know who am I? I saved this school on the condition that they allow me to get paid whether or not I teach or come. Bluffs the young chick!'*

Biku: *'You may have but today I won't let you sign in the attendance register.'*

Biku snatched the attendance book, ran to the village and told what had happened.

सर, नआएको दिनको हाजिर गर्न मिल्छ र ? आज पनि तपाईं साढे बाह्रमा आउनु भो ! इस्कुल चाहिँ एक बजे बन्द भइहाल्छ !
तिमी को हो ? तिमीलाई के मतलब ? तिमीलाई थाहा छ म को हुँ? यो इस्कुल बचाउन म आए पनि न आए पनि मलाई तलब दिन्छु भनेर मलाई शिक्षक बनाएको हो। बुझ्नु न सुझ्नु, धेरै बोल्छ काँचो केटो !
तपाईंले भनेको कुरा हुन सक्छ तर आज म तपाईंलाई नआएको दिनको हाजिर गर्न दिन्न !

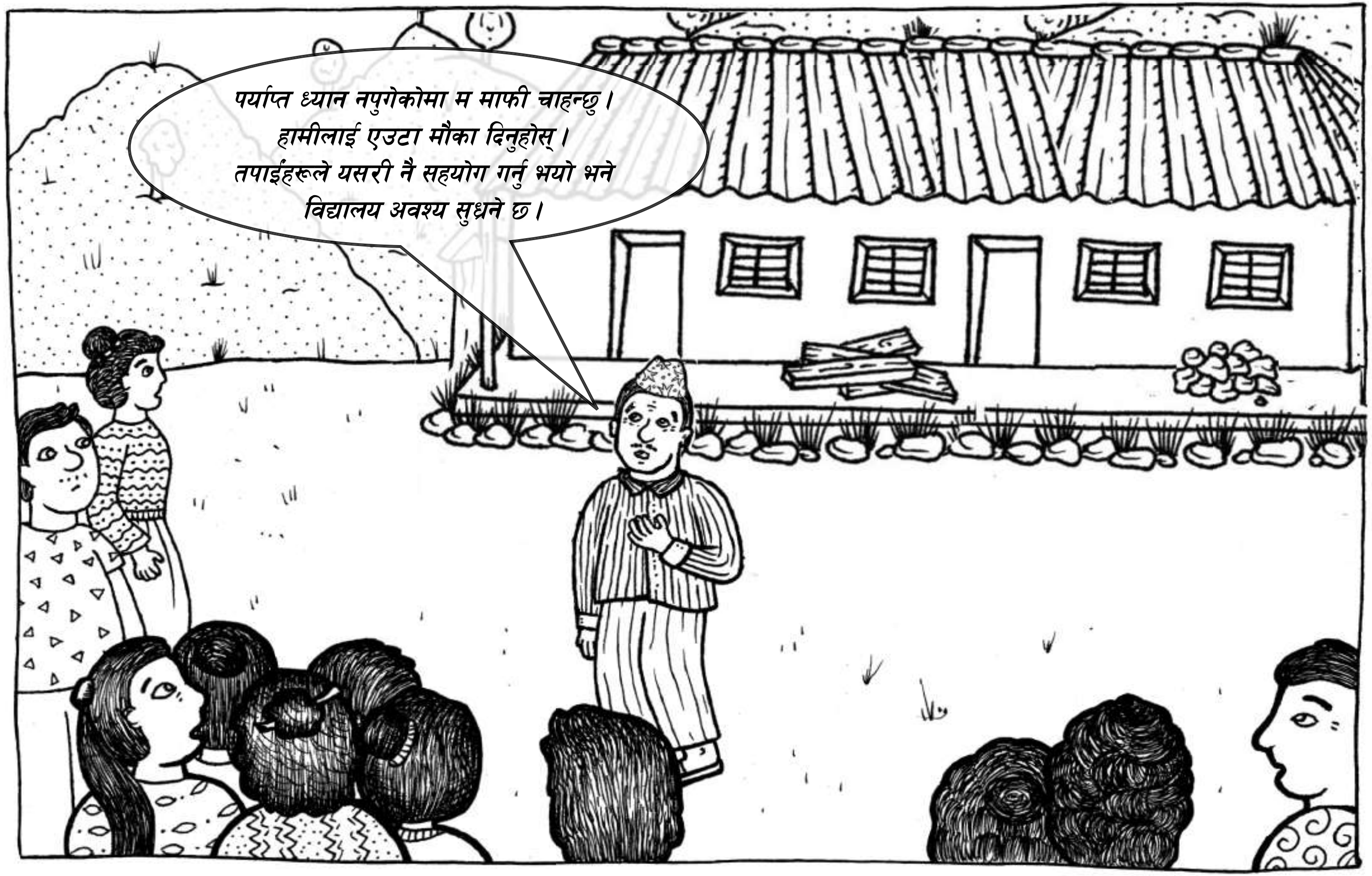
यस घटनाबारे गाउँहरूले हेडसर सहित शिक्षकहरूसँग कुराकानी गर्ने निर्णय गरे। शनिवार बिहान सबैजना भेला हुने खबर पठाए।

बिहानै हेडसरले गाउँलेहरू विद्यालयतिर आउँदै गरेको देखे। गाउँलेको ठूलो संख्या देखेर उनी अलि सशङ्कित भए। उनलाई जिल्लाका हाकिम र निरीक्षकहरूसँग कसरी व्यवहार गर्ने थाहा थियो। कहिले पनि अभिभावकहरूको भीडको सामना गरेका थिएनन्। कल्याणी जस्ताको कुरामा सम्पूर्ण गाउँ लागेको देखेर हेडसर छक्क परे। उनले महसूस गरे समय फेरिएको छ!

The villagers decided to confront the head teacher on Saturday morning and sent message.

Early morning, the head teacher saw the villagers coming to him. He knew how to deal with officers from the district office but not agitated crowd of parents. He was surprised that people were following people like Kalyani. He realised the time has changed!

Head Teacher: *'I am sorry for the lack of our care. Please give us a chance. If we receive your support likle this, school will be defenitely improved.'*


पर्याप्त ध्यान नपुगेकोमा म माफी चाहन्छु।
हामीलाई एउटा मौका दिनुहोस्।
तपाईंहरूले यसरी नै सहयोग गर्नु भयो भने
विद्यालय अवश्य सुध्रने छ।

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Primary Sketches by **Hannah Van der Cruyssen** and **Lynne Vermeulen**
Text and editing by **Teeka Bhattarai, Bijaya Subba** and **Sumnima Dewan**
2018 September

यो किताब **शिक्षा नीति तथा अभ्यास केन्द्र र लुका स्कूल अफ आर्ट्स्**, बेल्जियमको
स्वयंसेवी सहकार्यमा तयार गरिएको हो ।
आधारभूत चित्रः **हान भान दर क्रुसेन र लिन भर्म्युलेन**
शब्द र परिष्कारः **टीका भट्टराई, विजया सुब्बा र सुम्निमा देवान**
२०७५ भदौ

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