

Sagar's 'Beating of the boy' wins Photo of the Year award

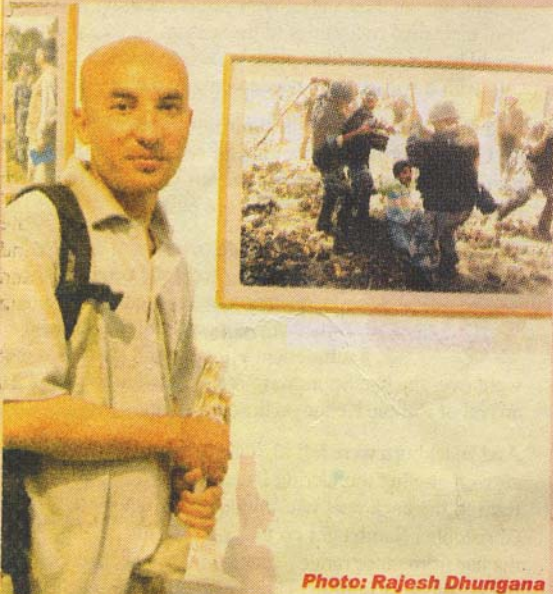


Photo: Rajesh Dhungana

Sagar Shrestha posing with his own photograph that won him 'Photo of the Year' award organised at Nepal Art Council, Friday. The Photo contest was organised by Nepal Forum of Photo Journalists.

Photographs reflect the glimpses of life. Everyone can figure out the reality via photographs and can learn about history, culture and various threads of human society. Should you miss to witness a particular event or part of a memorable time, that moment could be preserved as a record of history? Pictures never tell lie so they never die.

During *Janaandolan-II*, during protests at Gangabu while others fled a boy of about 10 was caught by police and was beaten badly. The photograph of that scene captured showed that some policemen were beating the boy other policemen were trying to shield him from the beating.

The moment caught by photographer Sagar Shrestha, touches everyone's senses and the photograph was adjudged the best photograph of the year at the photo contest organised by National

Forum of Photojournalists (NFPJ) Friday. The press photo exhibition was started from 11th May to 15th and sponsored by photo concern.

"It was curfew then but people had disregarded the order and breached the restricted area. The child in the picture was one of the protesters who dared fighting autocracy. I captured him when he stumbled and fell while trying to run," Sagar said.

He said his photograph winning best photo award was a great motivation to him. He said that the provision of cash prize of Rs. 50,000 from this year would encourage other photographers.

Shrestha is interested in political as well as conflict photography and he was fired from his job for his stunts in conflict photography. He did not want to reveal for which organisation he used to work for.

He started career in photography in 2051 and is currently associated with Independent News

Service. Unlike the past, there was three-member jury to judge the best photograph. There were four categories for the judgement - news, environment, sports and feature.

Rajendra Manandhar, Rabi Manandhar, Sundar Shrestha bagged the first, second and third prizes respectively in the news category. In the sports category, Udip Singh Chhetry, Tashi Ghale and Prakash Mathema got the first, second and third prize respectively.

Similarly, the photographs of Ekal Silwal, Shilendra Kharel and Chandra Shekhar Karki received the accolade in the feature category and Shailendra Kharel, Janak Nepal and Shalkram Tripathi were winners in the environment category.

The winners of each category got Rs. 15,000, 10,000 and 5,000 respectively.

By Hema Shrestha
(Shrestha is an intern at TRN)



Photo: Shekhar Chaulagain/TRN

Visitors at photo exhibition organised by Nepal Forum of Photo Journalists.