

Sapana's dream recognized, again

Winning an award has become a habit of sort for this women rights activist. Renowned lawyer Sapana Pradhan Malla recently walked away with yet another award – the Third Annual Lotus Leadership Award set up by the Asia Foundation. Amidst an august gathering at the Loeb Central Park Boathouse in New York on June 6, Malla shared the prestigious award with Chong-Moon Lee, a prominent Asian American philanthropist.

The recent award follows another achievement in 2008 when she received Gruber Foundation's Gruber Women Rights Prize, in which she shared \$ 500,000 worth award with two other recipients. Former president of Forum for Women, Law and Development



and former member of Constituent Assembly, Sapana got the latest recognition for "being a driving force behind the

passage of the Human Trafficking Act which has become a model for the region."

This event is not just

an opportunity to connect the inequality and injustice of women with the people from various parts of the world but also

to recognize our collective effort to bring strong anti-human trafficking law, says Sapana. "Insensitive intelligentsia, non-responsive state behavior and failing rule of law both at national and international level are the most serious threats to combat human trafficking."

"We need to say and practice loudly that human's human right and humanity is not on sale," she says confidently. "Now, we all need to work to put law into place for its meaningful realization."

Sapana, which means dream in Nepali, seems to be making her all out efforts to fulfill dreams of many Nepalese women who have faced discrimination on various forms. And, the latest recognition must have definitely boosted her confidence.