

Kawasoti, Nawalparasi (Ba.Su.Pu.)
January 16, 2026

INTRODUCTION ABOUT SNAKE HANDLING AND SAFETY - WORKSHOP

- 2026 -



ORGANIZED BY

Stand Up 4 Elephants (SU4E), Kawasoti-15 in partnership with, Gundrahi Dhakaha Intermediate Community Forest, Kawasoti-15.

Trainers:

Mr. Prem Mahato (Professional Snake Rescuer from Mr. Rohit Giri's team)

Mr. Yam Bahadur Rawat (Ranger, Amaltari sector currently doing his Masters in Snake Genetic Studies from Bhutan)



How it all started

The idea to organize a snake awareness and rescue workshop with Stand Up 4 Elephants emerged from a simple but important discussion on the ground.

During a meeting with local stakeholders and community forest officials, they shared a recurring challenge: they are frequently called to intervene in snake-related situations, yet they lack adequate training and technical knowledge to handle these rescues safely and effectively. They clearly expressed how valuable proper training would be for them and their communities.

Recognizing this genuine need, Stand Up 4 Elephants felt it was both relevant and necessary to support them. Thanks to the commitment and network of our Vice President, Aayush Raj Pandey, we were able to connect with one of the leading snake specialists in Nepal.

Once this collaboration was secured, we immediately reached out to the stakeholders to share the good news, marking the first concrete step toward organizing a workshop aimed at improving safety, knowledge, and coexistence between people and wildlife.



PARTICIPANTS

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- 28 Dipak Magar Gairi, Kawasoti-13
- 29 Om Narayan Gurau Patwari, Madhyabindu-1nnnnnnn





Half day Theory at the Community Center, Amaltari Homestay Village

THE THEORY

First Theoretical session was done by Mr. Prem Mahato where he first shared his personal experience and understanding of snakes. He mentioned that he has been doing snake rescue works due to his passion and love for the animal, as he believes that proper understanding and skills helps not only to safely rescue the snake but most importantly save human lives. He explained that there are over 90 species of snakes found in Nepal out of which around 20 are venomous and rest are non venomous.

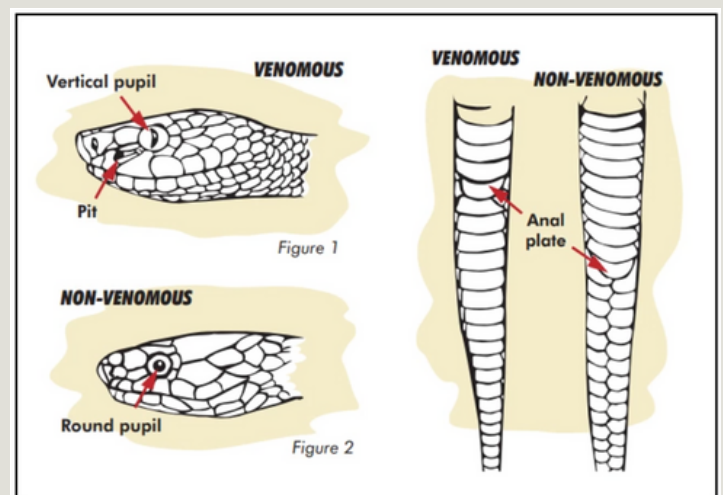
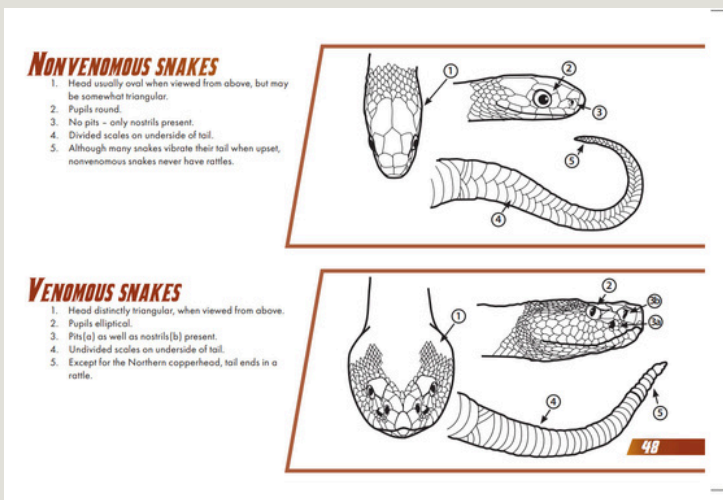
Through a powerpoint presentation he clearly showed images of various venomous and non venomous snakes found in Nepal and also mentioned how in different terrains they may have different properties. He clearly mentioned how this one day training cannot turn all the participants into sanke handlers but still now they shall be able to calmly handle such situations and make sure the snake and everyone around are safe until the snake is rescued by professionals.

He also explained why it is first very important to identify the snake and also shared various ways we could find help to identify the snake (taking a picture and sharing in groups or social media, discussing with the professional snake. He showed how physical properties of snakes vary within venomous and non venomous snakes and also showed how to distinguish a snake from it tail, eyes, scales and head shape.

THE THEORY



Second part of the Theoretical session was handled by Mr. Yam Bahadur Rawat who had been working at Chitwan National park as a Ranger and now is on student leave pursuing his Masters Degree in snake study from Bhutan. Currently he is practicing his studies studying about various snakes found in Kawasoti region and gave us an insight on the scopes and advantages of proper snake handling. He also explained the importance of this field and said he could also help interested participants to further continue working with snakes. He presented some interesting facts of how properties of snakes could be so confusing and varying that could have happened due to certain environment and how genetic studies could help to identify.





THE PRACTICE

Mr. Prem began the session by showing and explaining different tools that are used to rescue a snake and briefly showed the importance of correct posture (handler) and patience while going near the snake.

All the participants were shown procedures of handling different tools and things to keep in mind while using them.



Half Day practice with tools and fak snakes at the SU4E sanctuary

At first he showed how to open a snake bag and let the snake get out safely to ensure that everytime the snake is safely released back into nature. He had brought a Cobra that had been rescued a day before from Kawasoti. Very calmly he asked everyone to stay calm, not move and focus on the snake and understand its activities.

THE PRACTICE

Everybody clearly saw how not moving and staying calm actually was helping the snake to calm down and find its way to the bag that was properly placed in corner of a wall and with help of a hook he gently without lifting guided the snake into the bag. In the meantime he also showed in cases where you need to lift the snake how to properly handle it maintaining the right distance, body posture and environment.



After the snake got into the bag both Mr. Prem and Mr. Yam together placed the hook on top of the bag making sure that snake was on the inside part of the bag and safely tied the opening of the bag. Later students also practiced using hooks on a snake that was made from ropes and tapes.





Half day Theory at the Community Center, Amaltari Homestay Village

CONCLUSION

At the end of the day both trainers clearly explained the main foccus of this training was to raise awareness create common ground for conscious co-existence. How this training has provided basic knowledge to the participants to be able to properly handle snake-human conflict and prevent loss of any kind. Participation certificates were distributed to all participants by Mr. Michael Bailey (SU4E) and Mr. Nar Bahadur Mahato, President (GDICFUG) and package of snake handling tool (Big hook, small hook and Gloves) were presented to 14 villages tied with Gundrahi Community forest.

