

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Red Panda Network

198 Dashrath Chand Marg, Baluwatar

Kathmandu, Nepal

**Dayahang Rai: Red Panda Network Conservation Ambassador**

Popular Nepali actor, director, and playwright, [Dayahang Rai](#), has joined Red Panda Network (RPN) as a conservation ambassador.

Dayahang is one of Nepal's acclaimed film stars. He will help us raise national awareness of this endangered species and a rising threat to their survival — the illegal red panda trade.

“We are thrilled to work with one of the most popular actors in Nepal,” says Ang Phuri Sherpa, RPN's Country Director. “We are very hopeful that he will bring our red panda conservation message to a wider audience in Nepal, as well as India, and Bhutan.”

Dayahang is also eager to help RPN's mission. “I grew up in a remote village in eastern Nepal. I spent my childhood feeling very close to nature but I was never aware that our area is blessed with the presence of this beautiful animal.”

*Highway* and *White Sun* are Dayahang's internationally successful films. [White Sun](#) was selected as the Nepali entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 90<sup>th</sup> Academy Award and was premiered at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Venice International Film Festival. He has received three national awards for Best Supporting Actor in 2009 for *Dasdhunga* and Best Actor for *Sambodhan* and *Kabaddi Kabaddi* in 2014 and 2016. Dayahang has acted in 40 Nepali movies including *Kabaddi* and *Loot* which are some of the most popular. He is also very active in Nepali theater; acting in 33 plays, and directing and writing over a dozen more.

“I am fortunate to be a part of this noble effort to conserve our national treasure. I will try my best to contribute to the conservation of red panda.”

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Red Panda Network (RPN) protects wild red pandas and their habitat through the education and empowerment of local communities. Learn more about our work at [www.redpandanetwork.org](http://www.redpandanetwork.org).