

LEGAL AND JUDICIAL

South Asian Nationals Marriage in Nepal

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Learn the South Asian nationals marriage process in Nepal, including legal requirements, documents, District Court registration, fees, costs, timelines, and lawyer assistance for Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Maldivian, Bhutanese, and Afghan nationals.

South Asian nationals, including **Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Maldivian, Bhutanese and Afghan nationals**, may be able to register marriage in Nepal when they satisfy the applicable requirements of Nepali law. The procedure depends on whether the marriage is between two foreign nationals or between a South Asian foreign national and a Nepali citizen.

The main legal framework is the [National Civil Code, 2074](#). Section 77 provides for marriage by registration through the concerned District Court when the parties are in Nepal. It requires the application to contain personal and previous-marriage details and the names of at least two witnesses. It also provides that either the man or woman, or both, must have resided in the concerned district for at least 15 days before filing. Section 78 requires the authority to make the necessary inquiry and decide within seven days of filing whether the marriage can be concluded.

Government guidance also recognizes marriage-registration procedures involving Nepali and foreign nationals and lists documents such as a valid foreign passport, Nepali visa and No Objection Letter. [Adalat Lawyers in Nepal](#).

1. What Is South Asian Nationals Marriage in Nepal?

South Asian nationals marriage in Nepal refers to marriage registration involving citizens of countries such as India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bhutan and Afghanistan under the applicable Nepali legal procedure. The nationality of the foreign spouse does not by itself create a separate marriage category. The parties must satisfy the requirements established by Nepali marriage law and provide documents proving identity, nationality and eligibility to marry.

Where a foreign national marries a Nepali citizen, additional documentation may be required from the foreign national's embassy or competent authority. Government guidance lists a valid foreign passport, Nepali visa and relevant No Objection Letter among the documents for marriage between Nepali and foreign citizens.

The marriage certificate issued in Nepal can also be relevant for subsequent immigration, civil-registration or foreign administrative procedures.

2. What Laws Govern South Asian Nationals Marriage?

The primary law governing marriage registration in Nepal is the **National Civil Code, 2074**. Section 77 specifically provides for marriage by registration. When the parties are in Nepal, the application is filed before the concerned District Court. The application must provide specified information about the parties, including names, ages, addresses, professions, parents, grandparents and previous marriage information, together with the names of at least two witnesses.

Section 78 provides for an inquiry after filing and requires the concerned authority to decide within seven days whether the proposed marriage can be concluded.

Other laws and administrative rules may become relevant where the foreign spouse later seeks a **marriage visa, immigration status or local marriage registration**. The Department of Immigration currently provides a marriage visa category for foreigners married to Nepali citizens.

3. Where Can South Asian Nationals Register Marriage?

South Asian nationals who choose **marriage by registration in Nepal** generally apply to the concerned District Court under Section 77 of the National Civil Code. The correct District Court depends on the statutory residence requirement and the circumstances of the applicants.

Section 77 requires either the man or woman, or both, to have resided in the concerned district for at least **15 days** before filing the application.

Government offices also publish procedures concerning marriage between Nepali and foreign nationals. For example, an official citizen charter lists a procedure requiring the foreign applicant's valid passport, Nepali visa and No Objection Letter.

South Asian nationals should confirm the competent court and current documentation requirements before travelling or filing. Requirements can also differ depending on whether the marriage is between two foreign nationals or between a foreign national and a Nepali citizen.

4. What Legal Requirements Apply to South Asian Nationals?

South Asian nationals must satisfy the general legal conditions for a valid marriage in Nepal. Foreign nationality does not remove the requirements concerning age, consent, existing marital status and prohibited relationships.

Applicants should generally establish that:

- Both parties have reached the legally prescribed marriage age.
- Both parties freely consent to the marriage.
- Neither party has an existing marriage.
- The parties are not within a legally prohibited relationship.
- The foreign applicant's identity and nationality are established.
- Required residence conditions are satisfied.
- Required foreign documents are genuine and acceptable.
- The parties provide the information and witnesses required by law.

The exact documentary requirements may differ according to the applicant's country. An Indian applicant, for example, may have different civil-status documents from a Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Maldivian, Bhutanese or Afghan applicant.

Where a foreign spouse is marrying a Nepali citizen, the relevant embassy or foreign authority may need to issue a **No Objection Letter or equivalent document**. Government citizen-charter information specifically identifies this document for foreign-national marriage procedures.

5. What Documents Are Needed for Marriage Registration?

The documents required for **South Asian nationals marriage registration in Nepal** depend on the nationality of the applicants and whether one spouse is Nepali. Official government guidance for Nepali-foreign marriage lists a valid foreign passport, Nepali visa and No Objection Letter among the required documents.

Common documents may include:

- Valid passport of the foreign applicant.
- Valid Nepal visa.
- Passport-size photographs.
- No Objection Letter from the relevant embassy or authority.
- Single-status or unmarried certificate, where required.

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- Certificate showing legal capacity to marry, where applicable.
 - Divorce decree, if previously married and divorced.
 - Death certificate of former spouse, where applicable.
 - Nepali spouse's citizenship certificate, if applicable.
 - Residence-related documents.
 - Required application form.
 - Witness identification documents.
 - Nepali translations of foreign documents, where required.
 - Authentication or notarization of foreign documents, where required.

Applicants should verify the exact requirements with the concerned District Court and relevant embassy before filing.

6. How Does South Asian Marriage Registration Work?

The **South Asian nationals marriage registration process in Nepal** generally begins with checking eligibility and preparing the required foreign and Nepali documents. Where marriage by registration is used, Section 77 requires filing before the concerned District Court and meeting the statutory residence requirement.

General process:

1. Confirm that both parties are legally eligible to marry.
2. Identify the appropriate District Court.
3. Complete the required 15-day residence period.
4. Obtain the required residence evidence.
5. Contact the relevant embassy or competent authority.
6. Obtain the required No Objection Letter or equivalent.
7. Obtain single-status or legal-capacity documents.
8. Prepare passports and Nepal visa documents.
9. Arrange translations and authentication where necessary.
10. Prepare the required witnesses.
11. Complete the marriage application.

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12. File the application before the competent authority.
 13. Attend the required inquiry and registration procedure.
 14. Confirm the details recorded in the marriage certificate.
 15. Obtain the marriage registration certificate.

The exact procedure may differ where the parties use another legally recognized form of marriage and subsequently register it.

7. How Long Does South Asian Marriage Registration Take?

The time required for **South Asian marriage registration in Nepal** depends on the statutory residence period, document preparation and the workload of the concerned authority.

For marriage by registration before a District Court, Section 77 requires either party or both parties to have resided in the concerned district for at least **15 days** before filing. Section 78 provides that the concerned authority should decide within seven days after the application is filed, following the required inquiry.

Government administrative procedures can have different timelines. For example, an official District Administration Office citizen charter describes a marriage procedure involving Nepali and foreign nationals and states that the process begins on submission and that the certificate is issued on the sixteenth day.

Therefore, applicants should allow additional time for embassy documents, translations, authentication and any request for further evidence.

8. What Government Fees Apply to Marriage Registration?

Government fees for **South Asian nationals marriage registration in Nepal** depend on the particular registration procedure and authority. Published government citizen charters may identify administrative charges for specific marriage services.

For example, the Saptari District Administration Office lists a **NPR 10 ticket** for its specified marriage-registration service involving a Nepali and foreign national.

This amount should not be treated as the total cost of a foreign-national marriage. Additional expenses may include:

- Embassy or consular charges.
- No Objection Letter charges.

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- Translation fees.
 - Notarization fees.
 - Authentication or legalization charges.
 - Photographs and copies.
 - Lawyer's professional fees.
 - Transportation and accommodation.
 - Immigration or visa fees after marriage.

Government fees can change, and different authorities may apply different charges. Applicants should verify the current fee before filing rather than relying on an old fee schedule.

9. What Is the Total Marriage Registration Cost?

The **total cost of South Asian nationals marriage in Nepal** varies according to nationality, document requirements, embassy procedures, translation, authentication and whether the couple hires a lawyer.

The cost can include government charges and private expenses. Foreign nationals may need to obtain certificates from their home-country embassy or competent authority. Some documents may also require translation, notarization or authentication before submission to a Nepali authority.

Typical expense categories include:

- Court or government filing charges.
- Embassy or consular fees.
- No Objection Letter fees, where applicable.
- Translation charges.
- Notarization and certification.
- Document authentication.
- Passport photographs and copies.
- Transportation and accommodation.
- Lawyer's professional fees.
- Post-marriage immigration fees.

The **marriage visa** is a separate immigration service. The Department of Immigration currently lists the marriage visa fee at USD 15 per month, with additional re-entry charges where applicable.

10. Which Authorities Handle South Asian Marriage Registration?

Several authorities may become involved depending on the type of marriage and the parties' nationality. For marriage by registration in Nepal, the **concerned District Court** is the principal authority under Section 77 of the National Civil Code.

Other authorities may include:

- Concerned District Court.
- District Administration Office, where applicable.
- Local ward office.
- Relevant South Asian embassy or consulate.
- Competent authority in the foreign applicant's home country.
- Department of Immigration.
- Department of National ID and Civil Registration for subsequent local registration matters.

The Department of Immigration currently requires a marriage certificate issued by a District Administration Office or District Court, the Nepali spouse's citizenship certificate and other supporting documents for a marriage visa.

The authority required at each stage therefore depends on the purpose of the procedure and the parties' citizenship.

11. What Happens After Filing Marriage Registration?

After the marriage application is filed, the competent authority reviews the documents and conducts the inquiry required by law. Section 78 of the National Civil Code provides for a decision on whether the proposed marriage can be concluded after the necessary inquiry.

Applicants may need to appear personally and confirm their consent. The witnesses named in the application may also need to attend according to the applicable procedure.

Before accepting the certificate, applicants should check:

- Names and spelling.

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- Dates of birth.
 - Nationality.
 - Passport information.
 - Address.
 - Previous-marriage information.
 - Marriage date.
 - Witness details.

After registration, the marriage certificate should be preserved carefully. If a foreign spouse intends to apply for a **Nepal marriage visa**, the Department of Immigration requires a marriage certificate and the Nepali spouse's citizenship certificate.

The couple should also determine whether local-level marriage registration is required for their intended administrative purpose.

12. Can South Asian Nationals Marry Nepali Citizens?

Yes. **South Asian nationals can marry Nepali citizens in Nepal** if they satisfy the applicable legal requirements and provide the required documents.

Government guidance specifically recognizes marriage registration between Nepali and foreign nationals. The published requirements include the foreigner's valid passport, Nepali visa and No Objection Letter from the relevant embassy or foreign authority.

After marriage registration, the foreign spouse may qualify to apply for a **marriage visa**. The Department of Immigration currently states that marriage visa applicants must provide a valid passport, marriage certificate issued by the District Administration Office or District Court, the Nepali spouse's citizenship certificate and the required supporting documents.

Marriage itself does not automatically grant Nepali citizenship. Citizenship, immigration status and marriage registration are separate legal matters.

13. What Checklist Should South Asian Nationals Complete?

South Asian nationals should complete a document and eligibility checklist before beginning the marriage-registration process. This can prevent delays caused by missing foreign documents or incorrect information.

Pre-filing checklist:

- Confirm both parties meet the legal marriage age.
- Confirm free consent of both parties.
- Confirm neither party has an existing marriage.
- Check passport validity.
- Check Nepal visa validity.
- Identify the appropriate District Court.
- Confirm the 15-day residence requirement.
- Obtain required residence evidence.
- Contact the relevant embassy.
- Obtain the No Objection Letter or equivalent.
- Obtain single-status or legal-capacity documentation.
- Prepare divorce or death documents if applicable.
- Arrange translation of foreign documents.
- Complete authentication or notarization where required.
- Prepare passport photographs.
- Prepare witness identification.
- Confirm current government fees.
- Keep original documents and copies.

Applicants from **India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bhutan and Afghanistan** should confirm requirements according to their specific nationality because embassy and civil-status procedures can differ.

14. When Should South Asian Nationals Hire Lawyers?

South Asian nationals may hire a [marriage lawyer in Nepal](#) when they need assistance with District Court procedures, foreign documents, residence requirements or post-marriage immigration matters.

Legal assistance can be useful when:

- The applicant is unfamiliar with Nepali marriage law.

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- The embassy requires a specific certificate.
 - The applicant is unsure about the correct No Objection Letter.
 - Foreign documents require authentication or translation.
 - One spouse was previously married.
 - The couple has limited time in Nepal.
 - The court requests additional evidence.
 - The foreign spouse plans to apply for a marriage visa.
 - The marriage certificate will be used outside Nepal.

A lawyer can review documents before filing, prepare applications, coordinate procedural requirements and assist with court proceedings. However, legal representation does not eliminate statutory requirements or replace documents that must come from an embassy or government authority.

15. What Legal Services Support South Asian Nationals?

Adalat Lawyers in Nepal can provide legal assistance to South Asian nationals seeking marriage registration in Nepal, depending on the facts and applicable law. Legal services may cover both the registration process and related post-marriage matters.

Services may include:

- Marriage eligibility assessment.
- Nationality-specific document review.
- Passport and visa review.
- No Objection Letter guidance.
- Single-status document guidance.
- Foreign-document authentication guidance.
- Translation coordination.
- District Court application preparation.
- Court filing assistance.
- Court procedure support.
- Marriage certificate assistance.

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- Local marriage-registration guidance.
 - Marriage visa documentation assistance.
 - Immigration legal advice.
 - Guidance on using the Nepali marriage certificate abroad.

Applicants should provide complete and accurate information regarding nationality, residence, marital history and immigration status. These facts can affect the applicable procedure.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can South Asian nationals legally marry in Nepal?

Yes. South Asian nationals can marry in Nepal when they satisfy Nepali marriage-law requirements and provide acceptable identity, marital-status and legal-capacity documents. The exact process depends on nationality and whether the other spouse is Nepali or another foreign national. Applicants should confirm requirements with the concerned authority before filing.

Where can South Asian nationals register marriage?

Marriage by registration is generally filed before the concerned District Court under Section 77 of the National Civil Code. The law requires either party or both parties to have resided in the concerned district for at least 15 days before filing. The appropriate court should be confirmed according to the parties' circumstances.

What documents do South Asian nationals need?

Foreign applicants commonly need a valid passport, Nepal visa, photographs and a No Objection Letter or equivalent document. Depending on nationality, authorities may also require single-status, legal-capacity, divorce or other civil-status documents. Foreign documents may need translation, notarization or authentication before submission.

How long does marriage registration take in Nepal?

For marriage by registration, Section 77 requires a 15-day residence period in the concerned district before filing. Section 78 provides that the authority should decide within seven days after filing following the required inquiry. Foreign document preparation and authentication can add additional time to the overall process.

How much does marriage registration cost in Nepal?

The total cost depends on government charges, embassy fees, foreign-document preparation, translation, authentication, transportation and lawyer fees. A published government citizen charter lists a NPR 10 ticket for a specified Nepali-foreign marriage service. Applicants should confirm current charges before filing because fees can vary by service.

What government fees apply to marriage registration?

Government fees depend on the applicable authority and procedure. Some official citizen-charter information lists a NPR 10 ticket for a specified marriage-registration service involving Nepali and foreign nationals. This does not include embassy, translation, authentication, immigration or lawyer expenses. Current charges should be confirmed before filing.

Can South Asian nationals marry Nepali citizens legally?

Yes. South Asian nationals can marry Nepali citizens in Nepal if the statutory requirements are satisfied. Government guidance recognizes marriage between Nepali and foreign citizens and lists foreign passport, Nepali visa and No Objection Letter requirements. A foreign spouse may separately apply for a marriage visa after registration.

Is residence required for marriage registration in Nepal?

Yes, where the parties use marriage by registration under Section 77. Either the man or woman, or both, must have resided in the concerned district for at least 15 days before filing the application. Applicants should maintain evidence of residence and confirm the requirement with the concerned District Court.

Are witnesses required for South Asian marriage registration?

Yes. Section 77 requires the marriage-by-registration application to specify the names of at least two witnesses. The practical attendance and identification requirements should be confirmed with the concerned authority. Some government administrative procedures may specify additional witness requirements for particular registration services.

Can lawyers assist South Asian nationals with marriage?

Yes. Lawyers can assist with eligibility review, foreign-document requirements, No Objection Letter guidance, application preparation, District Court procedures and post-marriage immigration matters. They can also help coordinate translation

and authentication. The couple must still provide genuine documents and personally satisfy requirements imposed by the competent authorities.

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