

KAMANA KAFLE

Researcher & Scientist | PhD Applicant | Advocate for Sustainable Agriculture
Jonesboro, AR | 870-882-4160 | dr.kkafle@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Agriculture May 2026
Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas
Research: Factors Influencing Agricultural Students' Intentions to Enter Production Agriculture

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Dec 2022
Purwanchal University, Kritipur, Kathmandu
Dissertation: Assessment of the Situation of Chemical Fertilizers in Nepal

PUBLICATIONS, POSTER PRESENTATIONS & EXHIBITS

Dual Framework Analysis of Sustainable Livelihoods, Labour Rights, and Ethical Practices in Bangladesh Tea Gardens | Progga Parmita Chowdhury¹, **Kamana Kafle**², Rahul Haribhau Wadghane³
Journal of Asian and African Studies (Manuscript Submitted) Feb 2026

The Kamana Writes E-Probe, Sri Lanka
Monthly Magazine Feb 2026

Mapping Decadal Variations in Rice and Soybean Cultivated Acreage in Arkansas Using the Cropland Data Layer | Arkansas GIS Users Forum
Poster Presentation Oct 2025

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant | Sustainability & Environmental Engineering
Zhang Chiqian Lab, College of Engineering | Arkansas State University Oct 2025 – Present

- Evaluated peracetic acid (PAA) as a sustainable disinfectant for municipal water systems, conducting 50+ experimental trials and managing resulting water quality datasets.
- Engineered value-added products from rice hulls using solar-driven processes, contributing to zero-waste protocol development and material efficiency analysis.
- Structured and validated experimental data for 2+ concurrent research projects, performing preliminary statistical analysis and collaborating across 3+ engineering disciplines to standardize findings for publication.

Graduate Assistant & GIS Instructor Support

College of Agriculture | Arkansas State University | Jonesboro, AR Aug 2024 – Dec 2025

- Supported instruction for 50+ students per semester in Geospatial Data Applications, managing labs, grading assignments, and resolving 95%+ of technical issues within 24 hours.
- Mentored 20+ students weekly in cartography, spatial analysis, and geodatabase design, contributing to a 15% average increase in technical map scores.
- Developed 15+ standardized GIS workspaces and curated 50+ datasets, reducing student setup time by 30%, and implemented a QC protocol for 200+ map submissions to ensure accuracy and reproducibility.

Lead & Agriculture Program Coordinator

Kamana Agriculture Solutions & Research Centre | Kathmandu

Oct 2021 – Jul 2024

- Led a team of 13 researchers in precision agriculture field trials, contributing to a 25% increase in smallholder farm productivity.
- Designed and delivered community programs, training 500+ farmers in soil health and regenerative practices, reducing input costs by 25%.
- Assisted 15 farmers in securing agricultural grants and connected 300+ unbanked farmers to formal banking systems.

Creator & Host The Kamana Talks (Since 2023)

- Produced 20+ expert interviews on agricultural innovation, sustainability, and youth leadership.
- Featured on national TV for contributions to modern agriculture and digital outreach.
- Built a digital education platform reaching 27,000+ learners.

COMMUNITY & CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT (LAST TWO YEARS)

Center for Leadership Excellence | We Build Leadership Community (WBLC)

Internship

Sep 2025 – Present

Graduate Student Council (GSC) | College of Agriculture

Representative

Jul 2025 – Present

Arkansas State University | College of Agriculture

College Ambassador

Jan 2025 – Dec 2025

NOTABLE HONORS & AWARDS

Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship | University of Arkansas (2026–2030)

\$88,000 award for academic excellence and research leadership

Riceland Scholar | Arkansas State University (2025)

Academic Excellence Award | Arkansas State University (2025)

AWARDED GRANTS AND FUNDING

Agricultural Podcast Collaboration (9 Episodes) – Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Award Amount: \$6,000 (USD) | Period: 2023–2024

Hult Prize Social Enterprise Project – Hult Prize Foundation (HICAST)

Award Amount: \$1,900 (USD) | Period: 2021

INVITED KEYNOTES AND PANEL PRESENTATIONS

Mastering Public Speaking for Remote Work and Freelancing; **Keynote Speaker**, Online Work Africa Summit 2025

Jul 24, 2025

Voices of Change: Empowering Communities Through Podcasting; **Presenter**, Arkansas Council of Women in Higher Education Fall 2024 Professional Development Workshop

Oct 16, 2024