

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THARU  
COMMUNITY IN NEPAL**  
(A Case Study of Mainapokhar VDC - 1, Bardiya District)

**A THESIS  
SUBMITTED TO  
CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY / ANTHROPOLOGY  
THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
In Partial fulfillment of requirement for the Master's  
Degree of Arts in Sociology**

**By  
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Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
April, 2010**

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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Mr. Dinesh Kumar Sharma has completed this thesis entitled "**Socio-economic Status of Tharu Community in Nepal (A Case Study of Mainapokhar VDC - 1, Bardiya District)**" under my guidance. This is his independent work for the fulfillment of the master in Sociology. I recommend this thesis for final evaluation.

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Dr. Chintamani Pokharel  
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Date: .....

## **APPROVAL LETTER**

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "**Socio-economic Status of Tharu Community in Nepal (A Case Study of Mainapokhar VDC - 1, Bardiya District)**" submitted by Mr. Dinesh Kumar Sharma has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements toward the completion of Masters of Arts in Sociology.

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Advice, recommendations and complains are always warmly welcome.

Date: April, 2010

Dinesh Kumar Sharma

## ABSTRACT

*Nepal is one of the poorest country in terms of economical condition but very rich in terms of caste, language, culture, traditional and bio-diversity. The development of ethnic diversity is very important for the development of a society as well as country. In Nepal from the very beginning we are very familiar to ethnic diversity and its importance for the development. But the ethnic groups of Nepal to some extent are very backward position. Due to lack of knowledge and academic qualification. They are living their lifestyle in their own way. They are not know about importance of time, and education. The spent major sources of earning on the feast and drinking Jad, Raksi and Tobacco. Family size is very large due to the lack of education about family planning. They have less excess in development activities and political status so it is necessary to motivate to take part in local level. Most of the Tharu people are living in rural area so Tharu people lies in poverty class.*

*The specific objectives of study is to find out the socio-economic condition of Tharus, to identify lifestyle of Tharu and to suggest measures for the improvement in their status.*

*Out of the 45 households were surveyed both primary and secondary sources were used for the purpose of data collection. Questionnaire schedule, key informant interview, focus group discussion and observation were used for primary data.*

*'Tharus' identified as one of the largest groups of people living in Terai. They recognized themselves as one of the oldest groups to inhabitant of study area. Tradition and culture is the most of identification of the any particular culture groups. This study is focused to find out the socio-economic condition of Tharu. Some specified problems are recognized. Other social culture, overall of the study shows that Tharu society of Mainapokhar is socially and economically deprives. So, the government should provide different program, allocation of special seats for Tharu in education, health and jobs for these indigenous. Government should provides regular classes for special education to change their traditional mind, it should be facility of low interest of loan for seeds and fertilizer. They are not still getting sufficient hand to mouth in their daily life.*

*It is hoped that this study socio-economic condition of Tharu can be an important work. Thus, attempt will serve as a valuable document now and in future to formulate policies, strategies, development programmer and projects for upliftment of the status of Tharu to achieve the objectives of equality and development. This thesis discuss status of Tharu people of Mainapokhar VDC, Ward No. 1, Bardiya district, Bheri zone, Nepal.*

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

BASE	–	Backward Society Education
BS	–	Bikram Sambat
CBS	–	Central Bureau of Statistics
CERID	–	Center for Educational Innovation and Development
DDC	–	District Development Committee
GOs	–	Governmental Organizations
H.H.	–	Household
INGO	–	International Non Governmental Organization
IRR	–	Improvement Risk and Construction
JT	–	Junior Technician
JTA	–	Junior Technician Assistant
Max.	–	Maximum
Min.	–	Minimum
NGO	–	Non Governmental Organization
SFDP	–	Small Farmer Development Program
VDC	–	Village Development Committee

## GLOSSARY

Bigha	–	Unit of land
Boksi	–	Witch craft
Dall Bhat Tina	–	Cooled rice, dall and vegetable
Daru	–	Home made liquor
Dhikri	–	Thick Sheet bread of rice flour
Doni	–	Leaf made plate which is used to keep vegetable.
Gailsha	–	Glass
Ghatawa	–	6 <sup>th</sup> day ceremony of new born child
Guruwa	–	Beach doctor
Halo	–	Plough
Jaal	–	Fishing net
Jad	–	Home made beer
Jal	–	Water
Jamara	–	Yellow wheal's grosses
Jamin	–	Land
Janamkundali	–	Heroscops
Khatiya	–	Stretcher to carry death body
Khetwa	–	Cultivated land
Kisan	–	A household who owns some land is locally known a kishan.
Kuldevata	–	Family god
Kulwa	–	Traditional canal
Lowara	–	Fried paddy
Minjhari	–	A place where traditional god kept.
Mistriya	–	Skill worker who built home
Panchawa	–	Traditional village chief
Parbatiya	–	Migrated person from hills
Pattri/Tepari	–	Leaf made dis.
Pauwa	–	A kind of sandle which is made by wood.
Rajput	–	A kind of upper caste in caste system
Tulsi	–	A type of plant