

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**  
**STREET NEWSPAPER VENDING AS A LIVELIHOOD**  
**STRATEGY IN KATHMANDU METROPOLITAN CITY**  
**(A Comparative Study of Mobile and Fixed Location Newspaper Vendors)**

**A Thesis**

**Submitted to Central Department of Geography, Faculty of  
Humanities and Social Sciences in Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirement for the Master's Degree in Geography**

**By**

**BHOLA NATH DALLAKOTI**  
**Central Department of Geography**  
**Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**June, 2010**

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## RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to certify that the thesis submitted by Bhola Nath Dallakoti entitled **STREET NEWSPAPER VENDING AS A LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY IN KATHMANDU METROPOLITAN CITY (A Comparative Study of Mobile and Fixed Location Newspaper Vendors)** has been prepared under my supervision in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Geography. I recommend this thesis to the Evaluation Committee for examination.

Date:

.....

Supervisor

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Central Department of Geography**

**STREET NEWSPAPER VENDING AS A LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY IN  
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**(A Comparative Study of Mobile and Fixed Location Newspaper Vendors)**

**Approved by**

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**Thesis Committee**

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*June 2010*

*Bhola Nath Dallakoti*

## Abstract

To cope with the ever increasing financial pressures more and more people are being pushed into the visible and invisible labour market i.e. city. A large number of vendors survive in the street of Kathmandu Metropolitan City running street business, shouting aloud and advertising their goods, uttering like *Ghadi-Ghadi*, *Moja-moja*, *pants-pants*, *Kantipur-kantipur*, *Sandhayakalin* and so on. After the restoration of democracy in 1990, new constitution guaranteed press freedom. It accelerated the news publication business that attracted many newspaper vendors in Kathmandu Metropolitan City. The number of the newspaper vendor is increasing since Maoist rebel and insurgency that was started from 1996 AD.

The objectives of the research are to examine socio-economic characteristics, vulnerability context and comparison between the fixed location and mobile news paper vendors of KMC within and around Ringroad. It is based on DFID'S Sustainable Livelihood Framework and empirical studies of different researchers. DFID'S Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) is an intricate pattern of relation among the major components like livelihood assets, vulnerability context transforming structures and livelihood outcomes. This research moves around the theoretical background of SLF and livelihood strategy of newspaper vendors. Methodology includes the exploration of Primary data with sample size of 28.2 percentage and secondary data. Household questionnaire survey, field observation, interview, focus group discussion and case study are the major tools of data collection.

Distinction has been made between fixed location and mobile newspaper vendors in many respects like, family size, ethnicity, literacy, landholding, income, saving facilities. Analyzing the fact, fixed newspaper vendors seem to be better than mobile. But in many other respects such as their problems and ways of life they look alike. Hence, vulnerabilities, shocks, assets and livelihood outcomes are of similar nature for both types of vendors. The issue for newspaper vendor is getting greater significance in the urban area. Considering its contribution to make access to mass communication, the major cities should manage and facilitate the newspaper vendors for solving the problems of poor communication facility, unemployment and urban poverty.

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## ACRONYMS

%	- Percentage
AD	- Anno-Domini
BS	- Bikram Sambat
CBS	- Central Bureau of Statistics
DFID	- Department of International Development
etc	- etcetera
GDI	- Gender-Related Development Index
GIS	- Geographical Information System
GMT	- Greenwich Mean Time
HDI	- Human Development Index
HMG	- His Majesty Government
ILO	- International Labour Organization
KMC	- Kathmandu Metropolitan City
NAC	- Nepal Airlines Corporation
No.	- Number
NRs	- Nepalese Rupees
NV	- Newspaper Vendors
PAN	- Permanent Account Number
PCI	- Per Capita Income
Pop <sup>n</sup> .	- Population
PP	- Pages
SLF	- Sustainable Livelihood Framework
SLC	- School Leaving Certificate
TV	- Television
UNDP	- United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	- Un Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
US	- United States
US\$	- American Dollar

## GLOSSARY

- Ana* - Unit of land approximately 242 square feet or 1/16 *Ropani*
- Banda* - *Banda* refers to the closure of market place, business stall, traffic movement etc.
- Chana Chatpate*- a mixture of grain and gram with spices served in the street
- Chowk* - Courtyard/Junction of roads
- Ghadi* - Watch
- Jamindar* - Land lord
- Khet* - Irrigated terraces or lowlands used for production of rice crop.
- Khoriya* - The traditional shifting cultivation practices
- Kisan* - A person who cultivates land
- Moja* - Shocks
- Ropani* - Unit of land area equivalent to 74×74 feet or 0.12571 acre or 0.05087 hectare
- Sukumbasi* - A person who doesn't have his/her own land