

**Effects of Land Acquisition on Livelihood of People:
A Case Study of Gautam Buddha International Airport Project Bhairahawa
Rupandehi,**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Tribhuvan University, Faculty of Humanities and
Social Science, Department of Anthropology, in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirement for the Master's Degree of Arts
in Anthropology**

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that **Surya Prasad Sharma** has completed this thesis entitled **Effects of Land Acquisition on Livelihood of People: A Case Study of Gautam Buddha International Airport Project Rupandehi, Bhairahawa** under my supervision and guidance. I therefore, recommended and forward this thesis for final approval and acceptance by the thesis committee.

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APPROVAL LETTER

This dissertation entitled **Effects of Land Acquisition on Livelihood of People: A Case Study of Gautam Buddha International Airport Project Rupandehi, Bhairahawa** submitted to the Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Prithvi Narayan Camus, Bagar, Pokhara by **Surya Prasad Sharma** has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Arts in Anthropology by the undersigned members of the thesis evaluation committee.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ ACRONYMS

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
AH	-	Affected Household
AP	-	Affected Person
BPL	-	Below Poverty Level
CAAN	-	Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal
CCV	-	Community Consensus Valuation
CDO	-	Chief District Officer
CFC	-	Compensation Fixation Committee
CPR	-	Common Property Resource
DDC	-	District Development Committee
DSC	-	Design Supervision Consultant
DMS	-	Design, Management and Supervision Consultant
EA	-	Executing Agency
GBAP	-	Gautam Buddha Airport Project
GDI	-	Gender Development Index
GoN	-	Government of Nepal
GRC	-	Grievance Redress Committee
HDI	-	Human Development Index
HH	-	Household
HPI	-	Human Poverty Index
IA	-	Implementing Agency
LACFC	-	Land Acquisition and Compensation Fixation Committee
IR	-	Involuntary Resettlement
NGO	-	Non-Government Organization
NRs	-	Nepalese Rupees
PD	-	Project Director
PMIU	-	Project Management and Implementation Unit
RP	-	Resettlement Plan
SDS	-	Social Development Specialist
SLC	-	Sub-project Level Committee
ToR	-	Terms of Reference
VDC	-	Village Development Committee

Abstract

The Gautam Buddha International Airport Project in Bhairahawa, Nepal, has been one of the country's most significant infrastructure developments in recent years. However, the project's impact on local livelihoods due to land acquisition has been a subject of concern. The project has required the acquisition of large tracts of land, which has led to the displacement of communities and affected their livelihoods. This study aims to explore the effects of the Gautam Buddha International Airport Project on the livelihoods of the communities affected by land acquisition. The study employs a qualitative research approach and gathers data through interviews and focus group discussions with affected communities, government officials, and project stakeholders. The study finds that the land acquisition for the project has disrupted the traditional livelihood practices of the affected communities, leading to loss of income and increased vulnerability. However, the project has also created new employment opportunities, and some of the affected communities have been compensated with alternative land and monetary compensation. Overall, the study recommends a more inclusive and participatory approach to land acquisition and compensation, taking into account the social and cultural aspects of the affected communities.