

**Impacts of Homestay Tourism on People's Life:
A Comparative Study of Amaltari and Ghaleygaun of Nepal**

A Dissertation

**Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
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RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

We certify that, this dissertation entitled Impacts of Homestay Tourism on People's Life: A Comparative Study of Amaltari and Ghaleygaun of Nepal submitted to the office of Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, to fulfillment of the requirement for the PhD degree in Rural Development is the original record of independent research work carried out by Suresh Acharya under our supervision and guidance. It has not been previously submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree for any other similar title to the best of our knowledge. The study is original, carries very much useful new information's as well as knowledge in the field of socio-economic impacts of homestay tourism in Nepal. We hereby recommend this PhD dissertation for the evaluation process further.

Dissertation Committee



Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka
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Date: 15th August '21

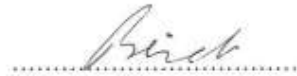
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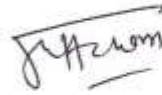


Prof. Dr. Bindu Pokhrel
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Date: 15th August '21

DECLARATION

I hereby, declare that this PhD dissertation entitled " Impacts of Homestay On Peoples Life : Comparative Study of Amaltari and Ghaleygaun of Nepal " submitted to the Office of Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Tribhuvan University, Nepal , is an entirely original work from virgin area prepared under the supervision and guidance of Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka and Co-Supervisor, Prof. Dr. Bindu Pokhrel have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different primary, secondary and tertiary sources in the course of writing this dissertation. The result presented in this dissertation have not ever been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree for any other purposes. No part of this dissertation has ever been published in the form of article or a part of any book. I am morally solely responsible if any evidence is found against my declaration.



Suresh Acharya

Jan 2021

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ABSTRACT

Homestay tourism developed as an alternative form of tourism. In rural homestay, tourists stay with host family, get chance to enjoy and experience host family culture and life ways in purely local setting. The community managed homestay tourism, driven by sustainable development approach is expected to benefit especially, the grassroots and isolated but culturally and naturally rich community economically with simultaneous protection of environment and traditional culture. This dissertation focused on Impacts of Homestay Tourism on People's Life: a comparative study of Amaltari and Ghalaygaun in Nepal.

The study adopted exploratory and descriptive design, with mixed methods and triangulation approach to the study. The study covered two ecological zones; one in the southern *terai* (plain land) region and next from the northern hills of Nepal. The study is based on multi stage sampling that comprised of purposive sampling for selecting the homestay in two ecological zones and subsequently the simple random sampling for selecting household units of 20 host households and 20 non-homestay households for impacts study. SPSS and Excel were used as analytical tools.

The case study conducted in Amaltari Madhyawarti homestay and Ghalegaun revealed that it has huge potential for homestay tourism. Not necessarily the modern infrastructure and the climate, but of course the basic amenities, the natural beauty, the culture, history and isolation from the usual life ways that many of us do have contributed to flourishing of homestay with the average annual income of Rs. 293,200 and Rs. 213,226 in Amaltari and Ghalegaun respectively contributing to 45 percent of the total yearly income of the HHs.

The perception of the operating host members, non-homestay HMC members, tourists, the associated Government line agencies and other NGOs on tourism development were more positive. The research findings identified much agreement among the two villages suggesting that homestay has been instrumental in bringing positive impacts; economic gains, employment generation, social cohesion, enhanced community infrastructure and cultural and environmental preservation. However, there is loss of traditional economic

activities with declining interest on agriculture, cultural ways of life and intense work pressure. Among the two villages, Amaltari was a novice while Ghalegaun was in the maturity stage of Butler's (1980) Life Cycle Model. Despite the duration of their homestay experience of the two villages, the Doxey's (1975) Irridex Model practically prevailed in both the villages with not much difference.

An attempt was also done to distinguish the motive factors of the host community and the tourist that is crucial for increasing the opportunity and diluting the challenges prevailed in the area. The findings concluded that the desire to economic gain, and increased employment among local people as the major driving factor to homestay entrepreneurship.

The study concluded that there are four pillars to success and sustainability of homestay; natural, cultural, potentiality realization and leadership at local level. The synergy of leadership and the self-motivation of locals is pivotal in homestay tourism development.

However, the emigration of able bodied man power in the villages resulting elderly ones back in the village was a challenge to homestay expansion and lack of funds for the poorest was another serious obstacle for creating inclusive homestay as it advocates pro-poor tourism for rural development. Equally, the role of all stakeholders including the government can add life to homestay sustainability especially in rural areas that are in dire needs of assistance in big projects such as infrastructure development. Hence, policy implications emerging from findings have been outlined and future strategies are suggested.

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ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONSs

ACAP	Annapurna Conservation Area Project
AD	Anno Domini
AHMC	Amaltari Homestay Management Committee
ANMD	Alumni Network for Mountain Development
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
B. S.	Bikram Sambat
BZ	Buffer Zone
BZUC	Buffer Zone User's Committee
CBM	Community Based Management
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CBT	Community Based Tourism
CDO	Chief District Officer
CNP	Chitwan National Park
DCC	District Coordination Committee
DDC	District Development Committee
Dec.	December
DFID	Department for International Development
DHCC	District Home stay Coordination Committee
\$	Dollar
ECER	East Coast Economic Region
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GHMC	Ghalegaun Homestay Management Committee
GIZ	German Corporation for International Cooperation
GoN	Government of Nepal
HAN	Homestay Association Nepal
HOSAN	Homestay Association of Nepal
HH	Household

HMC	Homestay Management Committee
HMCM	Homestay Management Committee Member
HMG/N	His Majesty's Government of Nepal
HTN	Homestay Tourism in Nepal
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KII	Key Informants' Interview
Km.	Kilometers
LDCs	Least-Developed Countries
mi	Miles
MoCTCA	Ministry of Culture Tourism and Civil Aviation
MoLJPA	Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
NATHM	Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management
NGO	Non-Government Organization
No.	Number
NPC	National Planning Commission
NRB	Nepal Rastra Bank
NR	Nepali Rupees
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
%	Percent
RM	Rural Municipality
RNAC	Royal Nepal Airlines Corporation
Rs.	Rupees
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SET	Social Exchange Theory
Std. Dev.	Standard Deviation
TGTDB-Nepal	Tara Gaon Tourism Development Board- Nepal
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and

	Cultural Organization
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
US	United States
VDC	Village Development Committee
VITOF-Nepal	Village Tourism Promotion Forum-Nepal
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WDR	Western Development Region
WTO	World Tourism Organization
WTTC	World Travel and Tourism Council
WWF	World Wildlife Fund