

**DECISION MAKING ROLE AMONG DALIT WOMEN IN  
HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT**

*A Case Study of Kalika VDC, Kaski*

**A Thesis Submitted to**

**The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Department of Sociology / Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master of Arts in**

**Sociology**

**By**

**Chandra Kumari Adhikari (Tripathi)**

**Roll No: 52/063**

**Reg. No.: 6-1-48-431-2001**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Department of Sociology / Anthropology**

**Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara.**

**May 2013**

## RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to certify that **Mrs. Chandra Kumari Adhikari** (Tripathi) has completed this dissertation entitled "**Decision Making Role of Dalit Women in Household Management**" under my academic supervision. I, therefore, recommend it to the Research Committee of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology for its acceptance and final evaluation.

.....  
**Indrakala Baral**

Supervisor  
Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Prithvi Narayan Campus  
Pokhara, Nepal

## LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

This dissertation entitled "**Decision Making Role of Dalit Women in Household Management**" submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Chandra Kumari Adhikari (Tripathi) has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts in Sociology by the undersigned member of the dissertation committee.

### Evaluation Committee

.....

Mrs. Indrakala Baral  
Supervisor

.....

Dr. Lekhnath Bhattarai  
External Examiner

.....

Shanti Bhusal  
Head, Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara.

**Date: May 28, 2013**

## **RECOMMENDATION LETTER: LANGUAGE CORRECTION**

This is to certify that I have gone through Mrs. **Chandra Kumari Adhikari (Tripathi)** M.A. thesis entitled "Decision Making Role of Dalit Women in Household Management". I have made some language correction of it without distorting its contents, report format and other mechanics of writing.

Mrs. Adhikari (Tripathi) has used her own language in her thesis that shows her originality of language use and research work. For both general readers and experts in the related field can easily read and understand her report without much difficulty. I, therefore, recommend it to the Research Committee of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithivi Narayan Campus, Pokhara for its final approval.

Mr. Sher Bahadur Chhetri  
Fewa Community Boarding School,  
Pokhara  
Date: 28-05-2013

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This dissertation *Decision Making Role of Dalit Women in Household Management* has been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the university to the compulsory paper (S/A 508) of the second part of master's degree in Sociology. It is an attempt to investigation of the decision making role of Dalit women in household management.

Accomplishing the task of preparing a dissertation is never an easier one since it requires hard labour, concentration, determination and patience on the part of the researcher and cordial co-operation on the part of all concerned parties. I owe a debt of gratitude to all those who have supported and enabled me to accomplish this difficult job.

First of all, I would like to express my whole sincere gratitude to my respected teachers and dissertation supervisor Indrakala Baral who showed great interest and provided academic guidance during the whole research and dissertation-writing period. She provided me valuable suggestions on my dissertation, which greatly helped me to accomplish my research work in time. In spite of his other duties and responsibilities, she shared her priceless time and encouraged me to bring this dissertation into this form. I am also grateful to all the respected teachers of the department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithivi Narayan Campus for their encouragement and suggestions.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Sher Bahadur Chhetri, teacher of Fewa Community Boarding School, Pokhara for language correction. Likewise, I extend my special thanks to my Brother **Mr Bhola Nath Adhikari** for arranging the materials and make it readable. Special thanks also go to my husband **Mr Mani Raj Tripathi** for assisting me during my fieldworks and other dissertation related work. I also provide my heartfelt thanks to my Daughter, **Aayusha Tripathi**, age of 14 months, to provide time without disturbing me for this sensible work. Finally, I heartily thank my family members including my parents, who helped me to move ahead.

**Chandra Kumari Adhikari (Tripathi)**  
*Abstract*

*This study specially focuses on the decision making role of Dalit women in house activities. For that purpose, socio-economic status and decision making process on communal resources and communal institutions among Dalit family are raised to know the exact power of Dalit women among even house hold level. For that purpose the universe of this study site of Dalit households build at different places*

*like Upallo Aarupata, Santimaidan, Gainedanda, Pandechaur, Tallo Aarupata and Duradanda in Kalika VDC ward no 1 has been selected. The surrounding areas of this ward, those totals of altogether 92 Dalit households are the main source of data. Due to the small population size, the census study has been conducted.*

*Dalit, low place or position of the Hindu caste ladder, there is lack of educational access and assess, the vast percentage of Dalit population are under education and communal institutions/ organizations. As Hindu philosophy, the male dominated society, there is also power practice over female by male. The massive role of male over female, there is oppressed in both places-inside and outside of home. Less opportunity of owing land, house, animals and mobilizing the indigenous and traditional resources, there is discriminated role. They have no power to decide children' mate selection, their education, decide to offspring, decide to sell and buy property, family planning and mobilize the economy. As a member of society and community, they have also less access to participate in communal institution. They are filtered first from high caste people and second they filtered by their own family. So they have less powered to consume communal resources and communal benefits.*

## TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>Acknowledgement</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>List of Table</b>	<b>VIII</b>
<b>List of Figure</b>	<b>IX</b>
<b>List of Abbreviation and Acronyms</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>XI</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background	1
<i>1.2 Statement of the problem</i>	2
1.3 Objective of the Study	4
1.4 Importance and Relevance of the Study	4
1.5 Limitation of the Study	5
1.6 Organization of the Study	5
<b>CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	
2.1 Theoretical Overview	8
2.1.1 Theoretical Review on Gender	8
2.2. Social Structure in Gender	9
2.3 Females and the Decision Making Process	12
2.4 Domestic Violence in World Context	13
2.5 Domestic Violence Against Women in Nepal	17
2.6 Conceptual Framework	20
<b>CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	
3.1 Selection of Site and its Rational	22
3.2 Research Design	23
3.3 Nature and Source of Data	24
3.3.1 Primary Source of Information	24
3.3.2 Secondary Sources of Information	25
3.4 Sampling Design	25
3.6 Methods and Instrument of Data Collection	25
3.6.1 Household Enumeration	25
3.6.2 Interview Schedule	26
3.6.3 Interview Method	26
3.6.4 Observation Method	26
3.7 Data Analysis and Presentation	27
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: OUTLINE OR SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF STUDY AREA</b>	
4.1 Population Composition	28
4.2 Religious Structure	29

4.3	Gender/ Sex Distribution	30
4.4	Education Status of the Respondent	32
4.5	Family Types	33
4.6	Livestock Holdings, Types and Distribution	35
4.7	Major Sources of Income	37
4.8.	Source of Loan	39
4.9.	Family Income and Expenditure	40
4.10.	Means of Cooking Stove	41
4.11.	Source of Drinking Water	42

## **CHAPTER FIVE: RESOURCE MOBILIZATION WITHIN FAMILY**

5.1.	Land holding pattern	45
5.2.	Role of Decision Making About Mate Selection	46
5.3.	Daily Activities of Women	47
5.4.	Power to Mobilize the Economy	49
5.5.	Decision Making Role for Children's Education	49
5.6.	Decision for Family Planning	51
5.7.	Difference in Working Hour	52

## **CHAPTER SIX: ROLE OF DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN THE COMMUNIAL INSTITUTION**

6.1.	Perception of Women Working out of Home	54
6.2.	Involvement of NGO/CBO	55
6.3.	Reason for the Involvement	57
6.4.	Encouragement of the Involvement	58
6.5.	Source of Fodder and Fuel	59

## **CHAPTER SEVEN: SUMMARY, FINDING AND CONCLUSION**

7.1	Summary	61
7.2	Major Findings	63
7.3	Conclusion	65

REFERENCES

APPENDIX I

APPENDIX II



## **LIST OF TABLE**

4.1 Population Composition of Dalit Community	28
4.2 Religious Structure	30
4.4 Level of Dalit Community in Education	32
4.6 Livestock Holding Types and Distribution	36
4.7 Statement of Family Income	38
4.8 Source of Loan	39
4.9 Family Income and Expenditure	40
4.10 Means of Cooking Stoves	41
5.1 Landholding Pattern	46
5.3 Daily Activities of Women	48
5.4 Power to Mobilize the Economy	49
5.6 Decision for Family Planning	51
5.7 Difference of Working Hour	52
6.1 Perception of Women Working Out of Home	54
6.2 Involvement in CBO	56
6.4 Encouragement of the Involvement	58

## **IST OF FIGURE**

2.1 Conceptual Framework	20
4.1 Distribution of Dalit Population by Sex	31
4.2 Distribution of Respondent by Family Type	34
4.3 Source of Drinking Water	43
5.1 Role of Decision Making About Mate Selection	47
5.2 Decision Making Role for Children Education	50
6.1 Reason for the Involvement	57
6.2 Source of Fodder and Fuel	59

## **IST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

A.D.	Anno Domini
B.C	Before Christ
B.S	Bikram Shammat
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistic
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
Fig	Figure
I.A	Intermediate in Arts
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
CBO	Community Based Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
No	Number
SLC	School Leaving Certificate
TU	Tribhuvan University
UNDP	United Nation Development Programme
VDC	Village Development Committee