SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND AND LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY OF THARU COMMUNITY

(A Case Study of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City, Sunsari District)

A Thesis is Submitted to the Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of the Master of the Arts (M.A) in Sociology

$\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

Shanti Gautam

Roll No.: 356 (2068 MA II year)

T.U. Regd. No.:6-2-218-19-2006

Central Department of Sociology
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
April 2017

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to certify that Mrs. Shanti Gautam, a student of Sociology Department, has completed her thesis work entitled Socio–Economic Background and Livelihood Strategy of Tharu Community: A Case Study of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City, Sunsari District in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's degree in Sociology under my guidance and supervision and I recommend it for final evaluation and approval.

Furthermore, I wish her bright future in the days to come.

Date: 09/04/2017

Dr. MeenaUprety
Supervisor
Sociology Department

APPROVAL LETTER

This Thesis entitled 'Socio-Economic Background and Livelihood Strategy of Tharu Community: A Case Study of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City, Sunsari District', submitted by Mrs. Shanti Gautam has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Sociology.

Evaluation Committee
Prof. Dr. Tulsi Ram Pandey
(Head of the Department)
Dr. Tika Ram Gautam
(External Examiner)
Do Mana Hanata
Dr. MeenaUprety
(Supervisor)

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge this thesis is my original and no part of it was earlier submitted for the candidature of research degree to any university, college or educational institution. The subject matter presented in this thesis report is the result of own work. Whatever subject matter I have presented in this thesis report belongs to my own except some cited texts.

Date: 09.04.2017			

Shanti Gautam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Thesis 'Socio-Economic Background and Livelihood Strategy of Tharu Community: A Case Study of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City, Sunsari District' has been prepared in the form of partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master to be submitted to the central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur.

I am very much grateful to my supervisor Dr. MeenaUprety, Lecturer Central Department of Sociology, T.U. for her valuable guidance, proper supervision and encouragement towards achieving the goal of completion of this dissertation and providing the useful materials.. Her broad horizon of knowledge, clear view about the subject and inspiring personality always encouraged me to go through my work without any difficulties.

Similarly, my sincere gratitude goes to Mr. Krishna Sapkota teaching laboratory school in Kirtipur, who helped me in various phases during the data collection. In the same way I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the respondents who provided necessary information for the fulfillment of the objectives of this thesis.

I am thankful to my friends, relatives, my parents, my dear husband and well-wisher who directly or indirectly helped me while carrying out this study. At last but not the least my cordial thanks to all villagers concerned for helping during the field survey.

April, 2017 Shanti Gautam

CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENT

		Pages
Recommendati	on	I
Letter of appro	oval	II
Acknowledgem	ents	III
Table of conten	nts	IV
List of tables		VI
List of figures		VI
Abbreviations		VII
	: INTRODUCTION	1-5
1.1	Background of the study	1
1.2		3
-1-2	1.2.1 Research question	4
1.3	•	4
1.4		4
CHAPTER-II	REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK	6-15
2.1	Review of the related literature	6
2.2	Theoretical framework	13
2.3	Implication of review of the study	14
2.4	The conceptual framework of the study	15
CHAPTER III	: METHODS AND METHODOLOGY	16-19
3.1	Research design	16
3.2	Population and sample	16
3.3	Research tools	16
3.4	Sources of data	17
3.5	Data collection procedure	17
3.6	Data analysis procedures	17
3.7	Ethical considerations	17
3.8	Operational definition of the key terms	17

3.9	Limitation of study	18
CHAPTER IV:	SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND AND LIVELIHOO	DD
	STRATEGIES	19-46
4.1	General background of Itahari Sub Metropolitan City	20
4.2	Information Related to Socio-demography	
	4.2.1 Age composition of respondents	22
	4.2.2 Education level of respondents	24
	4.2.3 Land ownership	26
	4.2.4 Respondents of drinking water	27
	4.2.5 Income level of respondents	28
	4.2.6 Use of domestic fuel of respondents	29
	4.2.7 Any saving pattern	30
	4.2.8 Distribution of respondent by education and sex	31
	4.2.9 Property ownership in the name of women	32
	4.2.10 Distribution of respondents by education and	
	saving Institution	33
	4.2.11 Food sufficient condition of tharus	34
	4.2.12 Family structure	35
	4.2.13 Income sufficiency status of the respondents family	36
	4.2.14 Occupation of the respondents	37
	4.2.15 Health services of respondents	38
	4.2.16 Affordable of health services	39
	4.2.17 Types of using toilet	40
4.3	Socio- cultural aspects	41
	4.3.1 Marriage age and marital practice	41
	4.3.2 Dowry practices	42
	4.3.3 Alcohol drinking habits	43
	4.3.4 Health Seeking behavior in Tharu people	45
CHAPTER V:	FINDING, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	47-52
5.1	Summary	47
	5.1.1 Major Findings	48
5.2	Conclusion	49
5.3	Key Recommendation	50
	5.3.1 Recommendation for Further Study	51

REFERENCES

APPENDIX

 ${\bf Interview\ Schedule}-{\it Questioner}$

Declaration

LIST OF TABLE

Table No.	Pa	ige No.
1	Ethnic composition o Itahari sub metropolitan city	21
2	Distribution of respondents by age group	23
3	Education status of respondents	25
4	Population distribution of respondents by land ownership	26
5	Respondents of drinking water	27
6	Domestic fuel of respondents	29
7	Saving pattern	30
8	Distribution of respondents by education and sex	31
9	Property ownership in the name of women	32
10	Distribution of respondents by education and saving institution	n 33
11	Food sufficiency condition of Tharu	34
12	Food available status of respondents	36
13	Occupation of the respondents	37
14	Distance of health center	38
15	Types of using toilet	40
16	Age at marriage and marital practice	42
17	Dowry practice	43
18	Drinking habits	44
19	Facing any health problem by drinking	45
20	Health seeking behavior In Tharu people	46

LIST OF FIGURE

Figure No.		Page No.
1	Income level of respondents	28
2	Family structure	35
3	Affordable of health services	39

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

B.S. - BikramSambat

CBO - Community Based Organization

CCD - Center for Cooperation and Development

CBS - Central Bureau of Statistics

DFID - Department for International Development

GoN - Government of Nepal

HDR - Human Development Report

ILO - International Labor Organization

I/NGOs - International Non-governmental Organization

IEC - Information and Education Center

K.M - Kilo Miter

MDG - Millennium Development Goal

MMR - Maternal Mortality Ratio

NDHS - Nepal Demographic and Health Survey

NGO - Non-Government Organization

NPC - National Planning Commission

PHC - Primary HealthCare Center

QOLN - Quality of Life Nepal

TFR - Total Fertility Rate

UN - United Nations

UNAIDS - United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS

VDC - Village Development Committee

WHO - World Health Organization