

**FERTILITY BEHAVIOUR OF DALIT COMMUNITY
(A Case Study of Gauripur VDC, Siraha)**

A THESIS

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DECLARATION

Except where otherwise acknowledged in the text, the analysis in this thesis represents my own original research.

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March, 2012

RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that the thesis

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Fertility Behaviour of Dalit Community

(A Case Study of Gauripur VDC Ward No. 4 and 5, Laxmipur Siraha)

is Recommended for External Examination.

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VIVA- VOCE SHEET

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and find that the thesis to be an independent work of the student written according to the prescribed format. We accept the thesis as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master of Arts in Population Studies.

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study is to examine the "Fertility Behaviour of Dalit Community: A Case Study Gauripur VDC Ward No. 4 and 5, Laxmipur, Siraha" in terms of selected demographic and socio-economic variables, knowledge of family planning relation between CEB with education, occupation, income and age at marriage. The study included 115 currently married women of reproductive ages (15-49years) from 115 households with 735 entire family members. Household and individual level information are collected by census method .

Among total Dalit population, male constitute 53.61 percent and female constitute 46.41 percent and hence the sex ratio is 115.54. About 66.13 percent people are married. The literacy rate of the Dalit population is 52.86 percent and 61.74 percent of respondent's women are illiterate. Among the total respondents 29.57 percent women are engaged in agricultural sector. 81.52 percent respondents are used of family planning method. High fertility culture is shown by these people. Women of age group 45-49 years has 5.38 mean CEB.

Lower fertility behaviour has associated with literacy and having higher age at marriage. Better occupation status helps to reduce fertility. Use of contraception, age at marriage, literacy status and occupation of respondents are found to be inversely (negatively) associated with the number of fertility (CEB). In the study area most of the Dalit women are backward from social economic and educational level. Most of the Dalit women are engaged in agriculture and daily wage labour. The educational situation is very poor. In the study area few, Dalit females are in reproductive age (15-49 years) have been attained formal education. It is argued that fertility remains high due to high child mortality. High fertility has ensured high dependency and burden. Similarly, current skewed distribution of population towards the younger ages would result high fertility in coming years.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BDCS	:	Birth, Death and Contraceptive Survey
CBR	:	Crude Birth Rate
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistic
CDPS	:	Central Department of Population Studies
CEB	:	Children Ever Born
CHW	:	Community Health Workers
CPR	:	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
FP	:	Family Planning
HHH	:	Head of the Household
HHs	:	Households
HMF	:	His Majesty's Government
ICPD	:	International Conference on Population and Development
IEC	:	Information, Education and Communication
IMR	:	Infant Mortality Rate
INFO	:	International Non-Government Organization
IUD	:	Intra Uterine Device
MoH	:	Ministry of Health
MOPE	:	Ministry of Population and Environment
NDHS	:	Nepal Demographic and Health Survey
NGOs	:	Non-Government Organization
NLSS	:	Nepal Living Standard Survey
PHC/HP	:	Primary Health Center/Health Post
PRB	:	Population Reference Bureau
TFR	:	Total Fertility Rate
TU	:	Tribhuvan University

UN : United Nations
UNDP : United Nation Development Programme
VDC : Village Development Committee
VHW : Village Health Worker
WHO : World Health Organization