CHANGES IN MARRIAGE SYSTEM AMONG THE THARUS OF GARAMANI, JHAPA DISTRICT

A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE CENTRAL DEPARTEMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

SUBMITTED BY LILA PRASAD CHAUDHARY

T.U. Regd. No.: 6-1-2-670-98

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY
INSTITUTE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY, KIRTIPUR, KTHMANDU, NEPAL
2013

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF HUMANITY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ ANTHROPOLOGY KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This dissertation entitled (CHANGES IN MARRIAGE SYSTEM AMONG THE THARUS OF GARAMANI, JHAPA DISTRICT) has been prepared by MR. Lila Prasad chaudhary under my supervision and guidance he has conducted research in December 2013.

Therefore, I recommend this dissertation to the evaluation committee for its final approval.

	Prof. P.L. Das
	Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology
	T. U., Kirtipur
Date	

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF HUMANITY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ ANTHROPOLOGY KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

This thesis prepared by Mr, Lila Prasad chaudhary entitled Changes in Marriage System among the Tharus of Garamani, Jhapa District has been accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Masters of Art in sociology.

Evaluation Committee	
Prof. Dr. Om Gurung	
Head of the Department	
Prof. P.L. Das	
Dissertation Supervisor	
External Examiner	
	Date:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In the course of the grounding of this dissertation it would not have been possible without the help of supervisor, friends, respondents of the study area and related institutions. So, first of all, I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. P.L. Das, Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology for this precious ideas, support, encouragement and constructive comments and suggestions during various stages of this dissertation.

I would like to show my gratitude to my respected teacher Prof. Dr. Om Gurung, head of the Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology for his valuable input to this study, similarly my appreciation goes to my all respected teachers of Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology.

I would like to thank to the all the respondents of Tharu communities for their positive support and co-operation during my field study.

Last but not least. I owe to father Lalu Chaudhary and mother Bhagiratha who contribution made me to achieve master degree from Tribhuvan University, similarly I would like to thank my sister Parbata, friiends Deepak Mishra, Bikash Chaudhary, Abhash, Lalita and typist Ramesh Maharjan and other for their direct and indirecting helping.

Lila Prasad Chaudhary Kirtipur

April, 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page No.
Lett	er of Recommendation	
Lett	er of Acceptance	
Ack	nowledgement	
Tab	ole of Contents	
List	of Tables	
CH	APTER I: INTRODUCTION	1-6
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Objectives of the Study	3
1.3	Rational of the Study	3
1.4	Organization of the St udy	6
CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF LITERATURE 7-21		7-21
2.1	Types of Marriage in Nepal	11
2.2	Forms and Rituals of Marriage	12
2.3	Pre-Marriage Sexual Activities	12
2.4	Jocking Relations and Marriage Within	12
2.5	Determinants of Marriage	13
2.6	Priorities and Restrictions in Marriage	14
2.7	Love Marriage	14
2.8	Origin and Development of the Tharus	15
2.9	Historical Background of the Tharus of Nepal	18
2.10	Statement of the Problem Marriage in Tharu Community	19
CH	APTER THREE: RESERCH METTHODOLOGY	22-25
3.1	Rational of the Selection of Study Site	22
3.2	Research Design	22
3.3	Nature of Data	23
3.4	Source of Data	23
3.5	Sampling Procedure	23

3.6	Methods of Data Collection	23
	3.6.1 Observation	23
	3.6.2 Questionnaire	23
	3.6.3 Case Study	24
3.7	Data Analysis and Presentation	24
3.8	Limitation of the Study	24
CH	APTER FOUR: INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY AREA	25-31
4.1	Introduction	25
4.2	Major Casts and Ethnic Groups	25
4.3	Population Distribution on the Basis of Age Group	27
4.4	Level of Education	28
4.5	Occupational Involvement	30
CH	APTER FIVE: SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE THARUS OF	
	GARAMANI VDC	32-43
5.1	Population	32
5.2	Surnames	34
5.3	Family Structure	35
5.4	Food	36
5.5	Dress	36
5.6	Ornaments	37
5.7	Education	37
5.8	Religious Activities	38
	5.8.1 Main Festivals	39
	5.8.1.1 Siruwapabni	39
	5.8.1.2 Fagu Purnima (Holi)	40
	5.8.1.3 Pawani of Maghi	40
	5.8.1.4 Dashain	40
	5.8.1.5 Tihar	40
	5.8.1.6 Chath	41
5.9	Chief Rites and Rituals	41

	5.9.1 Birth	41
	5.9.2 Naming Ceremony	41
	5.9.3 Shaving of the Head	42
	5.9.4 Marriage	42
	5.9.5 Death Rituals	42
СН	APTER SIX: TYPES OF THARU MARRIAGE	44-49
6.1	Child Marriage	45
6.2	Polygamy	45
6.3	Widow Marriage	46
6.4	Arrange Marriage	46
6.5	Marriage by Exchange	47
6.6	Marriage by Stealth	48
СН	EPTER SEVEN: MARRRIAGE RITUALS AMONG THARUS	50-65
7.1	Pre-Marriage Rituals	50
	7.1.1 First Encounter	50
	7.1.2 Inquiring	51
	7.1.3 Visiting the Groom's House	52
	7.1.4 Flouring the Rice	53
	7.1.5 Proving the Chastity	53
	7.1.6 Digging the Soil	54
	7.1.7 Making the Stage	54
7.2	Rituals during the Marriage	55
	7.2.1 Symbolic Marriage with the Tree	55
	7.2.2 Ceremony of Paddy Frying	56
	7.2.3 Preparing for the Procession	57
	7.2.4 Welcoming the Guests	57
	7.2.5 Chief Marriage Rituals	58
7.3	Post Marriage Rituals	62
	7.3.1 Farewell	63
	7.3.2 Dwiraagaman	64

CHAPTER EIGHT: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND

RECOMMENDATION		66-69
8.1	Summary and Conclusion	66
8.2	Recommendation	68
BIBLIOGRAPHY		

APPENDICES

LIST OF TABLE

		Page No
Table 1:	Temperature and Rain	26
Table 2:	Population of Garami	27
Table 3:	Population Distribution on Age Basis	27
Table 4:	Population Distribution of the Tharus of Garamani VDC on the Basis	
	of Age Group	28
Table 5:	Description of Education Tharu People in Garamani VDC	29
Table 6:	Description of Various Occupations Persued by the People of	
	Garamani	30
Table 7:	Description of the occupations practiced by the Tharus in Garamani	
	VDC	31
Table 8:	Number and Percentage of Males and Females in Different Wards	
	(Tharu Family)	33
Table 9:	Distribution of Population in Different AGE Groups in the Model	
	Families	34
Table 10	Number of Members in the Model Families	36
Table 11	Educational Attainment of the Model Families	38
Table 12	Number of Types of Marriage in the Model Families	49