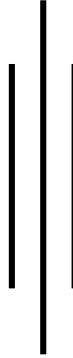


**SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACTS OF DRINKING WATER AND
SANITATION PROJECT ON LOCAL PEOPLE
A CASE OF LEKHNATH MUNICIPALITY**



**A DISSERTATION
SUBMITTED TO**

**Tribhuvan University Department of Sociology/Anthropology Prithivi Narayan
Campus in the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the
Master Degree in Anthropology**



BY

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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This dissertation entitled **Socio-Cultural Impacts of Drinking Water and Sanitation Project on Local People: A Case of Lekhnath Municipality** submitted by **Mrs. Sushila Bhurtel** to the Department of Sociology/ Anthropology, Prithivi Narayan Campus, Pokhara, Faculty of Humanities and Social sciences, Tribhuvan University, in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Anthropology has been found satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, we accept this dissertation as a part of the mentioned degree.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Department of Sociology/Anthropology for granting me permission to conduct the research entitled “Socio- Cultural Impacts of Drinking Water and Sanitation Project on Local People, A Case of Lekhnath Municipality.” Now, it is in the form of dissertation in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master Degree in Sociology/Anthropology. It has come to this stage with the help of different persons and institutions.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my dissertation supervisor, **Mr. Hari Kumar Ojha**, an honorable Faculty Member of Department of Sociology/Anthropology, P.N. Campus for his kind co-operation, proper guidance and valuable suggestion during my research work without which it would not have been possible to complete this work. Similarly, I am grateful to **Mrs. Shanti Bhusal**, Head of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, P.N. Campus for her precious encouragement, support and suggestions.

Similarly, I am thankful to all the inhabitants of Lekhnath and respected persons from Lekhnath Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation management committee for their honest cooperation provided in the field work of this research. I am also heartily thankful to respected teacher **Mr. Amrit Kumar Bhandari**, Faculty member at the Department of Sociology/Anthropology for his suggestions and advices provided in the course of preparing this dissertation. I must thank **Mr. Tara Prasad Chapagain** also for bringing this dissertation into this form through his sincere, skillful and professional computer works.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to **Mr. Anil Parajuli** Lecturer of English at P.N. Campus for language correction. Special thanks also go to my friend **Shilu G.C.** for assisting me during my field works.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my family members, especially to my mother and father, brother and my husband, friends for their kind support and continuous encouragement to complete this research work.

Feb 20, 2014, Pokhara

Sushila Bhurtel

ABSTRACT

The major objective of this study is to explore the impacts of the project (STWSS) among the people of Lekhnath Municipality after its establishment. To that end, research questions were raised and combinations of qualitative and quantitative methods were adopted. On the basis of the research objectives, the problems associated with the drinking water, health and sanitation facilities were analyzed and explained in detail. Further, the changes in their lifestyle have also been explored extensively. The study demands both exploratory as well as descriptive research design. Generally, the exploratory research design was used to show the various aspects of the problems of the study area before the project (STWSS) implementation, while the descriptive research design was used to describe the effects of the project (STWSS) on Lekhnath people. Observation, interview, key-informants interview, in depth- interview and focus group discussions were adopted to collect data. However, the primary data played a dominant role into drawing a valid conclusion. Some relevant and useful secondary data were also incorporated. Demographic information such as caste/ ethnicity, religion, occupation, education, age was reflected. Table, bar diagrams and pie charts were used to analyze the data.

This research proposes to investigate the role of drinking water supply and sanitation system in bringing the changes in the lives of local people of Lekhnath Municipality. Before the project's construction, people faced problem as they had to allocate for time for collecting water and they had little attention on other activities. But, now the continuous engagement in construction and management of drinking water project has changed their lifestyle. People now started to involve in other development activities due to availability of water. Both male and female member were actively participate in the project's management and maintenance work. Now, people were satisfied with the project's establishment.

According to the study, 96.7 percent of the respondents had to use public tap before the project construction. Similarly, 98.4 percent of the respondents felt that the project construction has saved a large part of the time invested in fetching water. 77 percent of them express their view that the tendency of spreading water borne disease after the project construction is decreasing and 23 percent of them says it is decreasing rapidly. Likewise, 88.5 percent of the respondents have been able to use the saved time in other development activities.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACAP:	Annapurna Conservation Area Project
CBOs:	Community-Based Organization
DDCs:	District Development Committees
DWSS:	Department of Water Supply and Sewerage
LDWSS:	Lekhnath Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation
LSTWSS:	Lekhnath Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation
NGO:	Non-government Organization
NWSSP:	National Water Supply Sector Policy
STWSS:	Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation
SWOG:	Social Works Group
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF:	United Nations International Children Emergency Fund
VDCs:	Village Development Committees
WHO:	World Health Organization