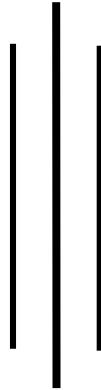


PARTICIPATION OF DALIT IN FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

(A case study of Garamani VDC, Jhapa District)



A Thesis

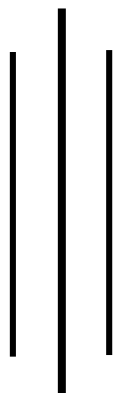
Submitted to

The Department of Rural Development, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam

For the partial fulfillment of the Requirements of Master
of Arts in the Faculty of Humanities and social Science

Tribhuvan University

Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam



Submitted By:

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**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
MAHENDRA RATNA MULTIPLE CAMPUS
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Date :-

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled "Participation of Dalit In Forest resource Management (A case study of Garamani-4,Jhapa)" has been prepared by Mr.Mahesh Adhikari under my supervision in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master in Rural Development.

I forward it with recommendation for approval.

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APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "Participation of Dalit in forest resources management (A Case study of Garmani-4, Jhapa district)" written and submitted by Mr. Mahesh Adhikari has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements toward the completion of Master of Arts in rural development.

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled "**Participation of dalit in forest resource Management(A Case Study of Garamani VDC, Jhapa District)**" submitted to the Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam, is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of preparing this thesis. The results of this thesis have not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purpose. I assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

.....

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Nepal has formulated reservation policy on the basis of "Interim Constitution of Nepal 2006" to uplift the socio-economic status of deprived society such as women, Dalits, Indigenous people, Muslims, Madhesis and backward sector. As I have grown-up in that society, the hardship those people have been facing since ages urged me to take some initiative to contribute to them by doing a study over their status. This thesis writing opportunity has given me to do something in this regard. I am indebted to Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam to give me to choose the topic "participation of Dalits in community forest management in Bhelagadhi Community Forest".

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Department of Rural Development, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam for providing me a golden opportunity to study the participation of Dalits in Forest Resources Management of Garamani VDC, Jhapa. I am deeply indebted and grateful to Mr. Bednath Giri, teaching assistant of Department of Rural Development, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam for outstanding guidance, suggestion and inspiration.

I express my heartfelt thanks to my employee-colleagues Mr. Hira Bahadur Khadka who helped me to collect and compile the data of study area. Similarly, my special thanks also go to cooperative-employees of District Development Committee, Jhapa and all my friends for their help and inspirations. My heartfelt thankfulness also goes to the respondents of Garamani VDC, Jhapa for their support and co-operation during field-survey.

Last but not the least, I would like to express my deep gratitude to my siblings who have always encouraged and supported to complete my Masters Degree to the best of their capacity.

Mahesh Adhikari

Feb. 2014

ABSTRACT

This study entitles "Participation of Dalits in Forest Resource Management" (A case study of Garamani VDC, Jhapa District" was based on primary data collected in Oct-Nov 2010. To main objective of the study was to find out the participation of Dalits in Forest Resource Management on the basis of case study of Bhelagadhi Community Forest User Committee at Garamani VDC, Jhapa District. The specific objectives were to analyze the socio-economic condition of Dalits FUGs members, to study the accessibility of dalits in forest resource management and to analyze the provision of forest user group to empower dalits in study area.

For the purpose of the study, the researcher had applied both exploratory and descriptive research design. The sources of data were both primary and secondary and the nature of data was both qualitative and quantitative. There are 60 households of Dalits household in the community forest of Bhelagadhi community forestry of Garamani VDC, Jhapa. 20% households were selected as universe sample for the study purpose. So the study was census survey. Dalits respondents of the village who are the member of forest user group (One from each household) and ten key informants were the respondents of the study.

Study has shown the low literacy figure (41% of male and 48% of female) of Dalits and low awareness leave of Dalits towards forestry. Farming is the major occupation of Dalits. Almost 80 percent of them are living in subsistence. Waged labor is a primary source of income of the respondents.

Lack of leadership development and discriminatory practice most of illiterate Dalits are not participating regularly in forest related activities although there was the chairperson and treasurer of Bhelagadhi CFUG were from Dalits cast. They were just physically participating. Almost all Dalits are participating in monitoring, evaluation and benefit sharing process. They have felt a sense of responsibility to protect and manage their resources. The participation of Dalits is not equal with related to other casts but on an average, the effectiveness of Dalits participation in forest resources management is satisfactory.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BS	:	Bikram sambat
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CF	:	Community Forest
CFUG	:	Community Forest User Groups
CFUGC	:	Community Forest User group Committee
DFO	:	District Forest Office
DoF	:	Department of Forest
FAO	:	Food and agriculture organization
FECOFUN	:	Federation of Community Forestry user Groups
FUG	:	Forest User Groups
FY	:	Fiscal Year
Ha	:	Hector
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
HH	:	Households
INGOs	:	International Non-Government Organization
MG	:	Mega Watt
NFP	:	Nepal Forestry plan
NGOs	:	Non-Governmental organization
NPC	:	National Planning commission
NNC	:	Nepal Nature Conservation
NTFPs	:	Non-Timber Forests Products
VDC	:	Village development Committee
MOFSC	:	Ministry of forest & soil conservation