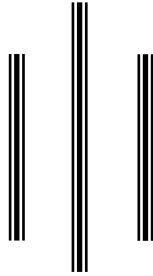


**PARTICIPATION AND DECISION MAKING ROLE OF WOMEN
SHAREHOLDERS IN CO-OPERATIVES OF DHIKURPOKHARI VDC, KASKI**



A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO:

Tribhuvan University, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Sociology / Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus,
In the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree in Sociology



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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to certify that **Mrs. Pabitra Paudel** has completed this dissertation entitled " **Participation and Decision Making Roles of Women Shareholders in Co-operatives of Dhikurpokhari VDC, Kaski**" under my academic supervision. I, therefore, recommend and forward this dissertation for final approval and acceptance by the dissertation committee.

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

This dissertation entitled "Participation and Decision Making Roles of Women Shareholders in Co-operatives of Dhikurpokhari VDC, Kaski" submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Mrs. Pabitra Paudel has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts in Sociology by the undersigned member of the dissertation committee.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page No.</i>
<i>Letter of recommendation</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Letter of Approval</i>	<i>ii</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>viii</i>
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>Abstract</i>	<i>x</i>
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	3
1.3 Objective of the Study	5
1.4 Significance of the Study	6
1.5 Limitation of the Study	6
1.6 Organization of the Study	6
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Co-operatives	8
2.2. Co-operative; Values and Principles	9
2.3 Gender Issues in Co-operatives	9
2.4 Factors that Affect Women's Participation in Co-operatives	12
2.5 Socio-Economic Benefit of Cooperatives to Women	15
2.5.1 Economic Benefit of Cooperative	16
2.5.2 Social Benefit of Cooperatives.	16
2.6 Review of Preview Studies	17
2.7 Conceptual Framework of the Study	20

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Selection of Site and its Rational	22
3.2 Research Design	22
3.3 Population and Census Design	23
3.4 Nature and Source of Data	23
3.5 Case Studies	24
3.6 Methods and Instrument of Data Collection	24
3.6.1 Household Enumeration	24
3.6.2 Interview Method	24
3.6.3 Observation Method	25
3.7 Data Analysis and Presentation	25

CHAPTER FOUR; OUTLINE OF THE STUDY AREA AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

4.1 Physical setting of Study Area	26
4.2. Population Composition	27
4.3 Religious Structure	28
4.4 Marital and Age Status of the Respondents	29
4.5 Education Status of Children	30
4.6 Family Types and Size	32
4.7 Livestock Holdings, Types and Distribution	33
4.8 Major Sources of Income	36
4.9 Family Income and Expenditure (Monthly)	37

CHAPTER FIVE; PARTICIPATION AND DECISION MAKING ROLE OF WOMEN IN RURAL COOPERATIVES

5.1 Knowledge of Respondents about Cooperatives	39
5.2 Membership and Participation in Cooperatives	41
5.3 Women's Involvement in Decision Making and Implementing Decisions	43
5.4 Leadership propensity and participation in Management	

` Committee	43
5.5 Participation of Women in General Meetings	44
5.6 Access to Training	45
5.7 Decision Making Power of Family Resources; Before and After Membership in Cooperative	48
5.8 Benefits after Joining in Cooperatives	49
5.9 Suggestions for Improving Women's Participation	51

CHAPTER SIX; AFFECTING FACTORS OF WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN CO-OPERATIVES

6.1 Educational Status of Respondents	53
6.2 Respondents' Position in Co-operative	55
6.3 Source of Family Loan	56
6.4 Purpose of Co-operative Loan	58
6.5 Distance of Women Members from the Office of the Cooperative	58
6.6 Reasons for Joining Co-operatives	59

CHAPTER SEVEN; SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

7.1 Summary	61
7.2 Major Findings	63
7.3 Conclusion	64

References

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1	Population Composition of Different Co-Operative Members	27
Table 4.2	Religious Structure	29
Table 4.3	Marital and Age Status of the Respondents	30
Table 4.4	Number of Students Attending School By Gender & Level of Education	31
Table 4.5	Livestock Holdings, Types and Distribution	35
Table 4.6	Major Source of Family Income	37
Table 4.8	Family Income and Expenditure	38
Table 5. 1	Knowledge of Respondents about Co-Operatives	40
Table 5.2	Involvement in Decision Making And Implementing Decisions	43
Table 5.3	Leadership Propensity and Participation In Management Committee	44
Table 5.4	Participation of Women in General Meetings	45
Table 5.5	Access to Training	46
Table 5.6	Decision Making Power of Family Resources; Before And After Membership In Cooperative	48
Table 5.7	Benefits after Joining In Cooperatives	49
Table 6.1	Educational Status of Respondents	54
Table 6.2	Source of Family Loan	57
Table 6.3	Purpose of Co-Operative Loan	58
Table 6.4	Reasons of Joining Co-Operatives	59

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 2.1	Conceptual Framework	20
Fig. 4.1	Distributions of Respondents by Family Type	33
Fig. 5.1	Satisfaction of Shareholders From Cooperative	51
Fig. 6.1	Respondents' Position in Co-Operative	55
Fig. 6.2	Distance of Women Members from the Office Of The Cooperative	59

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Agricultural Development Bank
ADLI	Agricultural Development Led Industrialization
BOARD	Bureau of Agricultural and Rural Development
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FCA	Federal Cooperative Agency
GA	General Assembly
HDR	Human Development Resource
ILO	International Labor Organization
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OCDC	Organizing cooperative for Development Capacity
OBPED	Oromiaya Beare of Planning and Economic Development

ABSTRACT

This study has mainly concentrated to the participation and decision making roles of women shareholders in co-operatives in the Dhikurpokhari VDC, Kaski. It deals with the women participation in co-operatives and their decision making roles on co-operative management and the challenges faced by the female at their working place. It has dealt with numerous research questions, based on socio-economic condition, gender and opportunity, the relationship between culture and masculinity practices, the roles played by the women, access and decision making for communal participation, major source of income, decision for household resource mobilization and responsibility and authority of the female.

To find out the answer of those research questions, the research has been adopted observation, interview, and focus group discussions as a part of techniques of sociological research so as to collect data. However, the primary data were played a dominant role into drawing a valid conclusion. Some relevant and useful secondary data were also incorporated.

Women are conspicuously under-represented in decision making, implementing decisions, attending general meeting, involvement in share purchasing and leadership. The survey result showed that the majority of the respondents were not aware of the rules, the by-laws, principles, values, rights and obligation of members and how income is distributed. Lack of awareness, culture, lack of access to information, work load in the house, lack of education, lack of capital, the negative attitude of the society towards women were the most important factors contributing to the inactive participation of women in cooperatives in the study area. Therefore, cooperatives should focus on creating awareness, educating women, increasing training access to women and educating the society to bring attitudinal change on gender issue.