

**Impacts of Drinking Water Project on Rural Women**  
*A Sociological Appraisal of Pelakot Udiyachour Drinking Water  
Project, Pelakot, Syangja*

**A Dissertation**

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

*By*

**Bhim Prasad Neupane**

**Roll No: 48/059**

**T.U. Registration No. 59048-91**

Tribhuvan University  
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Prithivi Narayan Campus  
Pokhara, Nepal  
April, 2009

## **Letter of Recommendation**

This is to certify that Mr. Bhim Prasad Neupane has completed this dissertation entitled **Impacts of Drinking Water Project on Rural Women: A Sociological Appraisal of Pelakot Udiyachour Drinking Water Project, Pelakot, Syangja** under my supervision and guidance. I, therefore, recommend this dissertation for final approval and acceptance.

Date: April 1, 2009

---

Shanta Kumari Khatri  
Teaching Assistant  
Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Prithivi Narayan Campus  
Pokhara, Nepal

### **Recommendation by Editor**

This is to certify that I have read through the draft of dissertation entitled Impacts of Drinking Water Project on Rural Women: A Sociological Appraisal of Pelakot Udiyachour Drinking Water Project, Pelakot, Syangja by Mr. Bhim Prasad Neupane as language editor and made necessary corrections and improvements there in. I have been impressed by his intelligible presentation of the facts through the medium of plain and correct English.

Date: April 18, 2009

---

Parmeshwor Baral  
Teaching Assistant  
Department of English Education  
Prithivi Narayan Campus  
Pokhara, Nepal

## **Approval Letter**

This thesis entitled Impacts of Drinking Water Project on Rural Women: A Sociological Appraisal of Pelakot Udiyachour Drinking Water Project, Pelakot, Syangja submitted to the Department of Sociology/Anthropology; Prithivi Narayan Campus by Mr. Bhim Prasad Neupane has been approved by the undersigned members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.

### **Members of Dissertation Evaluation Committee**

---

(Shanta Kumari Khatri)  
Supervisor

---

(Prof. Nagendra Lal Shrivastav)  
External

---

(Biswo Kallyan Parajuli, PhD)  
Head  
Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Prithivi Narayan Campus

Date: April 8, 2009

## ***ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS***

This dissertation has been prepared as the mandatory assignment to fulfill the requirement of SA 508. Preparing it was never an easy task for me. I have been able to give final shape of this dissertation with the help and assistance from different persons and institutions.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt thank to the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus and its chairperson Dr. Biswo Kallyan Parajuli for providing me an opportunity and a favourable environment for the preparation of this dissertation. I am very much grateful to my dissertation supervisor Ms. Shanta Kumari Khatri, Teaching Assistant at the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus, for valuable and insightful guidance she provided in the course of preparing this dissertation. I also express my thanks to all of the faculty members at the department especially Mr. Janardan Thapa and Mr. Amrit Kumar Bhandari for their astute suggestions and advices they provided in the course of preparing this dissertation.

Similarly, I am thankful to all the inhabitants of Udiyachaur and Khanidada, Pelakot, Syangja, and respected persons from PUDWP management committee for their honest cooperation provided in the field work of this research. I must thank Mr. Ishwor Shrestha also for typing and bringing this dissertation into this form through his sincere, skillful and professional computer works.

At last, I must express my sincere gratitude to all of my family members for helping me in all moments and courses I had to go through while preparing this dissertation.

April 1, 2009  
Pokhara

Bhim Prasad Neupane

## Table of Contents

<i>Acknowledgement</i>	v
<i>Table of Contents</i>	vi-viii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	ix
<i>List of Tables</i>	x
<i>List of Figures</i>	xi
<b>Chapter I</b>	<b>1-10</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	3
1.3 Objectives of the Study	5
1.4 Definition of Terms	6
1.5 Conceptual Framework of the Study	7
1.6 Importance of the study	8
1.7 Limitation of the study	8
1.8 Organization of the study	9
<b>CHAPTER II</b>	<b>11-20</b>
<b>REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURES</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1 Theoretical Discussions	11
2.1.1 Gender and Gender Relations	11
2.1.2 Concept of Participation and People's Participation in Development	13
2.2 Review of Related Literatures	14
<b>Chapter III</b>	<b>21-25</b>
<b>RESEARCH METHODS</b>	<b>21</b>
3.1 Research Design	21
3.2 Rationale of Selection of Study Area	21
3.3 Sampling and Sample Size	22
3.4 Sources of Data and Data Collection Techniques	23
3.4.1 Household Survey	23

3.4.2	Interview	23
3.4.3	Direct Observation	23
3.4.4	Key Informants	24
3.4.5	Secondary Data Collection	24
3.4.6	Data Processing and Analysis	24
3.4.7	Problem of Data Collection	24
 <b>Chapter IV</b>		<b>26-32</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION TO STUDY AREA AND THE RESPONDENTS</b>		<b>26</b>
4.1	Physical Setting of the Study Area	26
4.2	Cultural Setting	27
4.3	Socio-demographic Profile of Respondent	27
4.3.1	Caste and Ethnicity of the Respondents	28
4.3.2	Religion of the Respondents	29
4.3.3	Age of Household Members of the Respondents	29
4.3.4	Education of the Respondents	30
4.3.5	Occupation of the Respondents	31
4.3.6	Source of Water before PUDWP	32
 <b>Chapter V</b>		<b>33-37</b>
<b>WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PUDWP'S ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>33</b>
5.1	Comparison of Concern of Women and Men about Drinking Water Facilities	33
5.2	Involvement of Women during the Construction of the Project	34
5.3	Participation of Women after the Completion of Project Construction	35
5.4	Involvement of Women in Operation and Maintenance	36
 <b>Chapter VI</b>		<b>38-45</b>
<b>ROLE OF PUDWP IN CHANGING WOMEN'S WORKING PATTERN</b>		<b>38</b>
6.1	Source of Collecting Water before the PUDWP's Completion	38
6.2	Time Spent for Collecting Water before the Project Construction	39
6.3	Working Pattern of Women Related to Drinking Water Supply after PUDWP's Construction	40
6.3.1	Easy Access to Water Sources	40

6.3.2	Use of Water for Kitchen Gardening	41
6.4	Major Changes in Women's Working Pattern Related to Drinking Water Supply	42
6.4.1	Time Saving	42
6.4.2	Convenience	42
6.4.3	Change in Household Division of Labour	43
<b>Chapter VII</b>		<b>46-51</b>
<b>ROLE OF THE PUDWP IN WOMEN EMPOERMENT</b>		<b>46</b>
7.1	Use of Saved Time by Women	46
7.2	Major Dimensions of Women's Empowerment	47
7.2.1	Involvement in Income-Generation	47
7.2.2	Leadership Development	48
7.2.3	Involvement in Decision-Making	49
7.2.4	Development of Participatory Attitude	50
7.2.5	Participation in Development Activities	51
<b>Chapter VIII</b>		<b>52-59</b>
<b>SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATION</b>		<b>52</b>
8.1	Summary	52
8.2	Findings	55
8.3	Conclusion	57
<b>References Cited</b>		<b>60-62</b>



## **List of Tables**

<b>Table</b>	<b>Page</b>
4.1 Caste and Ethnicity of the Respondents	28
4.2 Religion of the Respondents	29
4.3 Educational Status of the Respondents	31
4.4 Sources of Water of the Respondents before PUDWP	32
5.1 Possession of the Feeling of Self-Encouragement by Women to Participate in the PUDWP's Activities	34
5.2 Level of Participation of Women after the Construction of the PUDWP	36
6.1 Time Spent for Collecting Water before the Project Construction	39
6.2 Time Spent for Collecting Water after the Project Construction	40
6.3 Use of Water except in Household Use	41
6.4 PUDWP has Saved Time Spent on Collecting Water	42
7.1 Possession of Kitchen Garden around the Respondents' Households	47
7.2 Family Members who Attend Social Gatherings and Meetings	50
7.3 Women Wish to Participate in Coming Development Projects Too	50
7.4 Involvement of Women in Development Activities due to Saved Time	51

## **List of Figures**

<b>Figure</b>	<b>Page</b>
1.1 Conceptual Framework of the Study	7
4.1 Age Group of the Respondents	30
4.2 Occupation of the Respondents	31
5.1 Comparison of Concern of Women and Men about Drinking Water Facilities	33
5.2 Level of Participation of Women during the Construction of the PUDWP	35
5.3 Involvement of Women in Operation and Maintenance	37
6.1 Source of Collecting Water before the PUDWP's Completion	38
6.2 PUDWP has Made the Collection of Water for Household Use Convenient	43
6.3 Household Labour done by Men after the PUDWP's Construction	44
6.4 Purpose of Collecting Water by Men and Women	45
7.1 Pattern of Using Saved Time from Collecting Water by the Women	46
7.2 Increase in Confidence Level among Respondent Women	48
7.3 Family Members who Attend Social Gatherings and Meetings	49

## **List of Abbreviations**

B.K	= Bishwakarma
G.T.	= Gharti Thapa
GAD	= Gender and Development
GATS	= General Agreement on Trade in Services
GOI	= Gender Related Development Index
HDI	= Human Development Index
ICIMOD	= International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
INGOs	= International Non-Governmental Organizations
NGOs	= Non-Governmental Organizations
NHDR	= Nepal Human Development Report
PUDWP	= Pelakot Udiyachaur Drinking AWater Project
SFDP	= Stanford Faculty Development Program
UN	= United Nations
UNDP	= United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	= United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
VDC	= Village Development Community
WAD	= Women and Development
WDM	= World Development Movement
WID	= Women in Development