#### WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AAMA SAMUHA

(A Case Study of Jagruk Aama Samuha of Chitwan District)

#### A THESIS

Submitted to the Central Department of Sociology Tribhuwan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal In partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the The Degree of Masters of Arts

In

Sociology

<u>Submitted by</u> Jamuna Devi Subedi Central Department of Sociology Tribhuwan University Kirtipur, Kathmandu 2015

# TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ ANTHROPOLOGY KRITIPUR, KATHMANDU

### LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Mrs Jamuna Devi Subedi has completed this dissertation on titled WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AAMA SAMUHA (*A Case Study of JagrukAamaSamuha of Chitwan District*) under my guidance and supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirement for Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology. I recommend and forward this dissertation for final approval and acceptance.

•••••

Dr. Shyamu Thapa Magar Supervisor Lecturer, Anthropology Central Department of Anthropology Tribhuvan University Kritipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

# TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY KRITIPUR, KATHMANDU

## LETTER OF APPROVAL

The dissertation titled **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AAMA SAMUHA** (*A Case Study of Jagruk Aama Samuha of Chitwan District*) submitted by Jamuna Devi Subedi has been approved by the dissertation Evaluation committee under the Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University in partial fulfillment of the requirement for Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology.

#### Approved by

Pro. Dr. Om Gurung Head of Department

Pro.Dr. Surendra Mishra External Examiner

Dr. Shyamu Thapa Magar Supervisor

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I owe much to my mother in law Chitrakumari Lamichhane, sister in law Kamala Lamichhane, and brother in law Narayan Lamichhane for their love and faith in me. I know they have sacrificed much on their part so that I could write my dissertation.

I express my sincere gratitude to my dissertation supervisor Dr.Shyamu Thapa Magar, lecturer, Central Department of Anthropology for her guidance to help me structure this dissertation. It would be impossible to complete the work without her help and insights that I got from his.

I am thankful to the Head of Department, Prof. Dr. Om Gurung and external evaluator of my dissertation, Pro.Dr.Surendra Mishra for approving my dissertation and providing insights to further improve it.

I would like to acknowledge to my Brother Nirmal Sapkota for providing various helpful suggestions. I also wish to thank Mrs. Kamala Lamichhane and Maya Gurung for their kindness cooperation while carrying out my fieldwork. I am equally grateful to the all members of the Jagaruk Ama Samuha of Rambag who had kindly cooperate me providing in depth data required to carry out the research despite their works.

I would like to thank my dearest friends Srijana Kandel, Nirajan Khadka, Benju Gyawali and my brother Pradip Subedi for their cooperation to complete this dissertation. I express my heartfelt thanks to Mr Sameer Bohara of "DJ cyber" for making my dissertation presentable.

#### Jamuna Devi Subedi

# CONTENTS

## Letter of recomondation

# Letter of approval

# Acknowledgements

		Page
Chaj	pter - One: Introduction	1-9
1.1	Background of the Study	1
1.2	Statement of the Problem	3
1.3	Objectives of the Study	6
1.4	Conceptual Framework	7
1.5	Theoretical Framework	8
1.6	Rationale of the Study	9
1.7	Limitation of the Study	9
Chapter-Two: Literature Review 10-2		10-20
2.1	Overall Status of Nepalese Women	10
2.2	Origin of Mother's Groups	12
2.3	Characteristics of Mothers' Groups	13
2.4	Mothers' Groups in the Community Development	14
2.5	The Notion of Empowerment	15
Chaj	pter - Three: Research Methodology	20-21
3.1	Research Design	20
3.2	Selection of the Study Area	20
3.3	Nature and Sources of Data	20
3.4	Tools of Data Collection	21

	3.4.1 Interviews	21
	3.4.2 Focused Group Discussion (FGD)	21
	3.4.3 Key Informant Interview	21
3.5	Data Analysis and Interpretation	21

## **Chapter-Four: The Setting and Background of The Respondents 22-28**

4.1	Introduction of Bharatpur Municipality		22
4.2	Jagruk Mothers' Group of Bharatpur Municipality 13	Rambag	22
	4.2.1 Organizational Structure of Jagruk Mothers Gro	oup	22
	4.2.2 Resource Generation	23	
	4.2.3 Resource Mobilization	23	
	4.2.4 Frequency of Meeting	23	
	4.2.5 Activities of Jagruk Mothers' Group	23	
4.3	Background of the Respondents	24	
	4.3.1 Age composition	24	
	4.3.2 Educational Background	25	
	4.3.3 Caste and Ethnic Composition	26	
	4.3.4 Religious Composition	26	
	4.3.5 Family Background	27	
	4.3.6 Occupation	27	
	4.3.7 Head of the Households	28	

## **Chapter-Five:Jagruk Mothers' Group and Its Empowerment in The Rambag**

		29-42
5.1	Women Empowerment Program	29
5.1.1	Saving and Credit Program with Jagruk Mothers Group	31
5.2	Activities Related to Social Development	32

5.3	Attitude of Males Towards Jagruk MG	35
5.4	Attitude of Non-member Mothers towards Jagruk Mothers Group	p 37
5.5	Problems of Jagruk Mothers' Group	39
5.5.1	The problems faced by Jagruk Mothers Group Members While	Working in
	MG	39
5.5.1.	1 Lack of Sufficient Guidance from Social Leaders	40
	5.5.1.2 Lack of Networking with Other Formal Organization	40
	5.5.1.3 Internal Conflict	40
	5.5.1.4 Limited Financial Sources	40
	5.5.1.5 Influence over the Group by few Dominant Mothers	40
	5.5.1.6 Low Level of Educational Attainment	40
	5.6 External Support	41

# Chapter Six:Impact Analysis of Jagruk Mothers' Group

-4843

6.1	Change in Social Status	43
6.2	Involvement in Social Activities	43
6.3	Decision-Making Capabilities	44
6.4	Change in Attitude of Family Members and Neighbors	44
6.5	Feelings of Women in Present Situation	45
Cha	apter -Seven: Summary and Conclusions	46-48
7.1	Summary	46
7.2	Conclusion	47
RE	FERENCES	49-52
AP	PENDIX	

## List of Table

Table No.	Page
1. The Source of Fund, Programs Jagaruk Mother's Group	24
<ol> <li>2. Age Composition of the Respondents</li> </ol>	24 25
<ol> <li>Educational Background of the Respondents</li> </ol>	25 25
4. Caste and Ethnic Composition of the Respondents	26
5. Religious Composition of the Respondents	27
6. Family Background of the Respondents	27
7. Occupation of the Respondents	28
8. Head of the Households among Respondent	28
9. Training Conducted by Jagaruk Mother's Group	30
10. Problems Faced by MG Members	39
11. External Support Received by the Jagaruk MG Members	41

### LIST OF BOX

Box No.	
	Page
Box No. 1	31
Box No. 2	32
Box No. 3	33
Box No. 4	34
Box No. 5	35
Box No. 6	36
Box No. 7	37
Box No. 8	38

### **ABBREVIATION**

CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Chemical Review Committee
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
ILO	International Labor Organization
UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly Special Session
USAID	United States Aid
INGO	International Non Government Organization
NGO	Non Government Organization
GDI	Gender Related Development Index
HDI	Human Development Index
MG	Mother's Group
WEF	Women's Empowerment Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
VDC	Village Development Committee
DDC	District Development Committee
WID	Women in Developmen
FGD	Focus Group Discussion