

**Women Empowerment through Mason Training Activities after
Gorkha Earthquake 2072:
A Case Study of Chautara Sangachowkgadhi Municipality ward no.
-12, Sindhupalchowk District, Nepal**

A Thesis Submitted to
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in
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By
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Letter of Recommendation

The thesis entitled **Women Empowerment through Mason Training Activities after Gorkha Earthquake 2072: A Case Study of Chautara Sangachowkgadhi Municipality ward no.-12, Sindhupalchowk District, Nepal** has been prepared by **Udaya Bikram Thapa** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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Date: 10/08/2018

25/04/2075

Approval Letter

The thesis entitled **Women Empowerment through Mason Training Activities after Gorkha Earthquake 2072: A Case Study of Chautara Sangachowkgadhi Municipality ward no.-12, Sindhupalchowk District, Nepal** by **Udaya Bikram Thapa** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master's Degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been approved by the evaluation committee.

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled **Women Empowerment through Mason Training Activities after Gorkha Earthquake 2072: A Case Study of Chautara Sangachowkgadhi Municipality ward no.-12, Sindhupalchowk District, Nepal** submitted to the Department of Rural Development, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus 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 result of this thesis has not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purposes. I assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

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.....

Udaya Bikram Thapa

Abstract

No spirited that there are equal share of women in the social economic and overall development of society. Even though, social setting and men dominated social construct have undermined the contribution of women. Women empowerment now have been not only the vocal means but a means to show how hard and important they are. Empowerment as a process, which enables women to meet both their particle as well as strategic needs, different development organizations are playing key role to intensify the hidden energy among women in different platform by different means.

The highly expanding construction industry thus needs to be expanded to a limit to include the currently marginalized female population. Empowerment allows individuals to reach their full potential, to improve their political and social participation, and to believe in their own capabilities. Gender equity thus can be promoted through this empowerment.

The concept of women in construction industries seem lucrative and powerful. But in real ground the number of women being part of construction work is very low and countable. They are mostly engaged in the most simple labor works (shifting sand, carrying bricks, and crushing rocks into smaller stones, making aggregates). Also, the women working in construction works are low paid. Reconstruction is also an opportunity for social reconstruction, to build a society where women's needs are addressed and they can contribute for Nepal's overall development.

This study concludes women's employment in the construction sector as mason increases their empowerment in each and every sphere of the society. This is helping women being skilled and economically independent and surfing opportunities for further advanced skills in construction and career enhancement. Their participation in trainings and social activities are also increasing. Hence, the employment opportunities in construction itself providing to trained mason in post reconstruction phase is one of the effective ways to empower educated women in the society.

Though few women masons are continuing their job as mason as compared to their male counterparts. Both male and female get same priority for getting chance for their participation in training; capacity building however, male being dominated in nature captures the opportunities in most cases, also support from the family to

women to go to mason job is in negligible amount. The supporting organizations for mason training have definitely are helping women being empowered socially, economically due to the socio-cultural setup in the Nepalese society which will need more time to get improve in the long run.

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Acronyms/Abbreviations

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| CBS | - | Central Bureau of Statistics |
| CTEVT | - | Council of Technical Education and Vocational Training |
| DUDBC Division | - | Department Urban Development and Building Construction |
| ERRA | - | Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Assessment |
| FM | - | Frequency Modulations |
| GDP | - | Gross Development Product |
| GFDRR | - | Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery |
| GNP | - | Gross National Product |
| GOs | - | Government organizations |
| I/NGOs | - | International Non-Governmental Organizations |
| Km ² | - | Square Kilometer |
| KM | - | Kilometer |
| ME | - | Marginal Error |
| NGOs | - | Non-Governmental Organizations |
| NPC | - | National planning commission |
| NRA | - | National Reconstruction Authority |
| PDNA | - | Post Disaster Needs Assessment |
| PDRF | - | Post Disaster Recovery Framework |
| POs | - | Partner Organizations |
| RCC | - | Reinforced Cement Concrete |
| RHRP | - | Rural Housing Reconstruction Program |
| TA | - | Technical Assistance |
| ToT | - | Training of Trainer |
| UN | - | United Nations' |
| UNDP | - | United Nations Development Program |
| US\$ | - | United States Dollar |
| VDC | - | Village Development Committee |
| WEF | - | World Economic Forum |
| WID | - | Women in Development |