

PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF TOURISM IN DARCHULA DISTRICT:

A Case Study of Malikarjun, VDC, Nepal

**A Thesis Submitted to
The Central Department of Rural Development
Tribhuvan University,
In Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for the
Degree of the Master of Arts (MA)
In
Rural Development**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled **Problems and Prospects of Tourism in Darchula District: A Case Study of Malikarjun, VDC, Nepal** submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, 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 have not been presented or submitted for the award of any degree or for any other purposes. I assure tha no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

The thesis entitled **Problems and Prospects of Tourism in Darchula District: A Case Study of Malikarjun, VDC, and Nepal** has been prepared by **Karan Singh Dhami** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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APPROVAL LETTER

The thesis entitled **Problems and Prospects of Tourism in Darchula District: A Case Study of Malikarjun, VDC, Nepal** submitted by **Karan Singh Dhami** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree (MA) in Rural Development has approved by the evaluation committee.

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ACKNOWLEDGEENTS

My hearty gratitude is to my supervisor, prof. Dr. Prem Sharma Head of Department Central Department of Rural Development, Kirtipur, for his noble guidance and keen supervision throughout my work and inspiration towards research work. His clear views about the subject, profound thought and inspiring personality always encouraged me to go through my work without difficulties. Without his valuable contribution, guidance and suggestions, this study could not have been completed. I am grateful to Prof. Dr. Prem Sharma, Head of Central Department of Rural Development, University Campus, Kirtipur, and Kathmandu, Nepal for giving me chance to conduct this study.

I would like to thank all the teachers and administrative staffs of Central Department of Rural Development for their help during the study period. I also like to recall my heartfelt reverence to the Librarians of Tribhuvan University Central Library and Central Department of Rural Development.

I am indebted to Dr. Uma Kant Silwal of past Head of Central Department of Rural Development for his valuable suggestions, inspirations and kind cooperation while preparing and completing this study.

I am highly indebted to all the villagers of Malikarjun for their support and cooperation during the field study and I also like to express my gratitude to Office of the Village Development Committee, Malikarjun for providing me information about the study area.

I would like to express gratitude to my Father Madan Singh Dhama, Mother Dhuli Devi Dhama Brother Lalit Singh Dhama and all family their valuable support in the study and research.

Special thanks to my friend Sarita Kumari Thakulla, Binod Singh Dhama, Milan Bagale, Bishal Basnet and Krishna Gnywali, Binod Rawat for supporting me in various ways. At last, I would like to remember my entire respected person, relatives, friends who directly and indirectly have supported, helped and encouraged me.

KARAN SINGH DHAMI

Date: May, 2017

ABSTRACT

Far-western development region including Darchula district has huge potential for tourism industry. This region has historical, cultural, religions and naturally important different sites and most of them are unexplored and unidentified. Government's role, plans, policies, institutional arrangements are important for the development and management of tourism. They serve several important functions including tourism planning and development, coordination, marketing and promotion, regulation and control. These all are in crisis in the region.

The main objectives of the study are; to explore the present situation of tourism, to analyze the trend of tourist arrival and status of local people in Darchula district and to identify the problem and prospects of tourism in the study area.

In this study the explanatory and descriptive research design has applied. Out of 36 VDC and 1 Municipality in Darchula district ward No.4 of Malikarjun VDC was taken purposively and the 65 respondents (35 local people, 19 tourists and 11 hoteliers) were selected as randomly.

The major problems of tourist identified from this study in the region are proper consecration of nature, infrastructure and facilities development, lack of proper tourism planning and implementation, poor implementation of existing rules and regulations, lack of marketing and promotion, lack of coordination between local organizations. The major prospects of tourism identified from this study in the region are: friendly people, natural beauty, historical sites, cultural diversity, religions sites, protected areas; market in abundance. In the study area there is one of the famous historical ancient and religious places of Nepal. Malikarjun Temple is one of the most interesting and historian for Hindu and Buddha. We can promote village tourism, religious tourism as well as community based tourism in this area. The other important destinations areas are; Malikarjun Temple Area, Latinath Temple area, Api mountain area, Api Nampa Conservation Area, Gokuleswor Bazar, Darchula Bazar, Byasi Culture, Sitala lake, Mahakali River, Chameliya River, and Byas cave area only.

The main conclusion from this study is that the proper co-ordinations, collaboration and co-operation must be necessary among the government bodies for tourism development local organizations, entrepreneurs and peoples for the tourism

development of the region and district for the one of the main instruments and government's role would be the most.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
DECLARATION LETTER	i
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION	ii
APPROVAL SHEET	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEENTS	iv
ABSTRACT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	x
ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS	xi
CHAPTER-I: INTRODUCTION	1-7
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objective of the Study	5
1.4 Significance of the Study	5
1.5 limitations of the Study	6
1.6 Organization of the Study	6
CHAPTER-II: LITERATURE REVIEW	8-28
2.1 Introduction	8
2.2 Major Tourist Activities	13
2.3 Current Status of Tourism in Nepal	15
2.3.1 Program Implementation Mechanism	16
2.3.2 Tourism Policy	17
2.4 Impacts of Tourism	21
2.5 Problems of Tourism Development	21
2.6 Prospects of Tourism Development	24
2.7 Conclusion	26
CHAPTER-III:RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	29-31

3.1 Research Design	29
3.2 Nature and Sources of Data	29
3.2.1 Sources of Primary Data	29
3.2.2 Sources of Secondary Data	30
3.3 Techniques and Tools of Data Collection	30
3.4 Universe and Sampling	31
3.5 Method of Data Analysis	31

CHAPTER-IV: DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION 32-65

4.1 Profile of Study Area	32
4.1.1 Existing Situation of Tourism in Study area	35
4.1.2 Demographic Situation of Darchula District	35
4.1.3 Condition of Government Health Services	37
4.1.4 Water and Sanitation	37
4.1.5 Condition of Basic Infrastructure	37
4.1.6 Approximate Distance from Malikarjun to Tourism Sites	38
4.2 Survey Result Analysis	39
4.3 Analysis of Trend of Tourist Arrival and Status of Local People	39
4.3.1 Survey of Tourist	39
4.3.2 Distribution of Tourist by Nationality	40
4.3.3 Status of Tourist by Religion	40
4.3.4 Tourist Arrival by Age Group and Sex Composition	41
4.3.5 Length of Stay of Tourist in Darchula	42
4.3.6 Expenditure Pattern of Tourist in Darchula	43
4.3.7 Distribution of Tourist by Occupation	43
4.3.8 Opinion of Tourist on Prospect of Tourism in Darchula	44
4.3.9 Problems of Tourism Development in Darchula	44
4.3.10 Opinion of Tourist on Their Favourite Foods	45
4.3.11 Opinion of Tourist about Neatness and Management of the Darchula	45
4.3.12 Opinion of Tourist on the Behaviour of Locals	46
4.4 Survey of Hotel/Restaurant Respondents	47
4.4.1 Identity of Hotel/Restaurant Proprietors	47
4.4.2 Income Variation of Hoteliers in Study Area	47

4.4.3 Survey Local People	48
4.4.4 Educational Status of the Local Respondents	48
4.4.5 Occupational Status of the Local Respondents	49
4.4.6 Annual Income Level of the Local Respondents	49
4.4.7 Annual Expenditure of the Local Respondents	50
4.4.8 Age Group Structure of Family Members of Respondents	50
4.4.9 Knowledge about Tourist and Tourism	51
4.4.10 Sources of Knowledge about Darchula	52
4.4.11 Role of Organization in the Development of Tourism	52
4.4.12 Behaviour of Tourist towards Local People	53
4.4.13 Knowledge of Local People on the Tourism Policy	54
5.5 Problems and Prospects of Tourism Development in Study Area	54
4.5.1 Problems of Tourism Development in Study Area	54
4.5.2 Prospects of Tourism in Study Area	56
4.6 Destination and Prospects of Tourism in Darchula	59

CHAPTER-V: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION 66-71

5.1 Summary	66
5.2 Conclusion	68
5.3 Recommendation	69

REFERENCES 72-74

ANNEX-I: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF TOURISM IN DARCHULA DISTRICT: A Case Study of Malikarjun VDC, Darchula, Nepal)

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR TOURISTS

ANNEX-II: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF TOURISM IN DARCHULA DISTRICT: A Case Study of Malikarjun VDC, Darchula, Nepal)

Questionnaire for the Hotel/Restaurant Owner.

ANNEX-III: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF TOURISM IN DARCHULA DISTRICT: A Case Study of Malikarjun VDC, Darchula, Nepal Nepal)

Questionnaire for Local Respondents

ANNEX-IV: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF TOURISM IN DARCHULA DISTRICT: A Case Study of Malikarjun VDC, Darchula, Nepal

Check List for Observation

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table 4.1	Population Distribution	35
Table 4.2	Urban, Rural and Absent Population	36
Table 4.3	Population Distribution by Religion	36
Table 4.4	Number of Government Health Services	37
Table 4.5	Drinking Water Sanitation	37
Table 4.6	Transportation in Darchula	38
Table 4.7	Approximate Distance from Malikarjun to Tourism Sites	38
Table 4.8	Distribution of Tourist by Nationality	40
Table 4.9	Status of Tourist by Religion	41
Table 4.10	The Length of Stay of Tourist	42
Table 4.11	Expenditure Pattern of Tourist for One Night	43
Table 4.12	Status of Tourists by Occupation	43
Table 4.13	Prospect of Tourism in Darchula	44
Table 4.14	Problems of Tourism Development in Darchula	45
Table 4.15	Opinion of Tourist on Their Favourite Foods	45
Table 4.16	Opinion of Tourist about Management and Neatness	46
Table 4.17	Behaviours of Local to a Tourist	47
Table 4.18	Income Variation of Hotel/Restaurants	48
Table 4.19	Occupational Status of the Respondents	49
Table 4.20	Average yearly Income of the Respondents	50
Table 4.21	Average Yearly Expenditure Level of the Local Respondents	50
Table 4.22	Knowledge about Tourism and Tourists	52
Table 4.23	Sources of Knowledge about Darchula	52
Table 4.24	Role of Organization	53
Table 4.25	Behaviour of Tourist towards Local People	53
Table 4.26	Satisfaction of Locals on Tourism Policy	54

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Title	Page No.
Figure 4.1:	Age and Sex Composition of Tourist	41
Figure 4.2:	Identity of Hotelier Proprietors	47
Figure 4.3:	Educational level of Sample Population	48
Figure 4.4:	Age Group Structure of Family Members	51

ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
BS	Bikram Sambat
CBS	Central Bureau of Statics
DDC	District Development Committee
MOCTCA	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
NGO	Non Government Organization
NRB	Nepal Rastra Bank
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
TRPAP	Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme
UNDP	United Nation Development Programme
WTO	World Tourism Organization
IUOTO	International Union of official Travel Organization
SATC	South Asian Travel Commission
PATA	Pacific Area Travel Association
ASTA	American Society of Travel Agents
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
MOF	Ministry of Finance
M	Meter
KM	Kilometer
TDF	Tourism Development Forum
FNCCI	Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry
VDC	Village Development Committee
SCCI	Darchula Chamber of Commerce and Industry
USA	United State of America
UK	United Kingdom
FY	Fiscal Year
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
LDT	Lumbini Development Trust