

OCCUPATIONAL PATTERN CHANGE OF DALIT PEOPLE:

A Case Study on Soyang VDC of Ilam District

A thesis

Submitted to

Central Department of Rural Development

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

In Partial Fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of

Master of Arts

In

Rural Development

Submitted By

DEEPAK CHAPAGAIN

Roll No. 177/065/066

TU Regd. 9-1-1-626-2002

Central Department of Rural Development

Tribhuvan University Campus

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

August, 2012

OCCUPATIONAL PATTERN CHANGE OF DALIT PEOPLE:

A Case Study on Soyang VDC of Ilam District

A thesis

Submitted to

Central Department of Rural Development

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

In Partial Fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of

Master of Arts

In

Rural Development

Submitted By

DEEPAK CHAPAGAIN

Roll No. 177/065/066

TU Regd. 9-1-1-626-2002

Central Department of Rural Development

Tribhuvan University Campus

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

August, 2012

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis entitled **OCCUPATIONAL PATTERN CHANGE OF DALIT PEOPLE: (A Case study on Soyang VDC of Ilam District)** has been prepared by Mr. Deepak Chapagain under my supervision in partial fulfillment of requirements for Master Degree of Arts in Rural Development. I hereby recommend this thesis to the evaluation committee for approval.

Supervisor

Associate. Dr. Prem Sharma

Central Department of Rural Development

Tribhuvan University

Date:

APPROVAL SHEET

We certify that this thesis entitled **OCCUPATIONAL PATTERN CHANGE OF DALIT PEOPLE: (A Case study on Soyang VDC of Ilam District)** submitted by Mr. Deepak Chapagain to the Central Department of Rural Development, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Arts in Rural Development has been found satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, we accept this thesis as a part of the said degree.

Thesis Evaluation Committee

Prof. Dr. Umakanta Silwal
Head of Department

Associate to Prof. R.K Dahal
External Examination

Dr. Prem Sharma
Thesis supervisor

Date:

ABSTRACT

The Occupational Change of the Dalit People is the subject Matter of being concern because no doubt that Nepal very diverse from of various caste, ethnicity and language. Such diversification has been a glory to the country. Every caste has their own social-culture and occupational aspects. Socio-cultural and occupational of any community affects the economy level. Thus the study of socio-economic status of Dalie peoples the general information about overall Dalit.

The Dalit people are fully interdependence with other caste people. The socio-economic condition of Dalit is poor than other castes/ethnic groups. Caste -based discrimination and discrimination among religions is gradually decreasing in the society.

The study is "Occupational change of Dalit People" (A case study on Kami and Damai Community in Soyang VDC-9 in Ilam District). It has been carried out using primary data sources obtained from Dalit people settlement area of Soyang VDC Ilam. The general objective of this study area is to find out the occupational change of Dalit community Soyang VDC in Ilam District. The specific objectives of study area are: i) To Introduce of Dalit in the study area. ii) To study the social aspect of Dalit. iii) To describe the occupational aspect of Dalit. And. iv) TO analyze the occupational condition of Dalit.

Descriptive research Design has been adopted for this study and other method of methodology techniques, research Design, data collection and interview, sampling etc are used. There were 60 household of Dalit community Soyang DVC Ilam. 20 of the total household were selected as sample size. To generate the primary data the structured questionnaire key

informant interview and observation also limited by simple random sampling from the Dalit household of this VDC only.

Large No of Dalit people of this VDC is Poor, Socio-economic and cultural status also poor. The economic condition of Dalit of this study area is not modernized and it is going to traditional way. So, the situation of traditional leather- based occupational is in decreasing sage.

Socially Dalit people of this study area are deprived because they have traditional belief towards untouchables where 73.33% were favour in this view and only 26.76 were aware about it. Educational status of Dalit is also not good only 32.96 the total is literate and 56.06 majority of the population was illiterate.

Their traditional agriculture system and on unskilled leather-based indigenous occupation had not sufficient for sustain. 66.00% of the respondent prefers new occupation. Their economic status is that for the higher earnings of the income only.

They had high expenditure in comparison of their income level so, saving condition is very poor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University for allowing me to submit this thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of masters in Rural Development.

My special thanks go to Associated Prof. Dr Umakanta Silwal the head of the Department Central Department of Rural Development, Kirtipur for his ingenious encouragement and academic support.

I would like to extend my heartily gratitude to my thesis supervisor Associate professor Dr. Prem Sharma for his precious guidance and encouragement at all states to my research work. He is always being available when I approached him even on the leave and much impressive advices and suggestions were given to me during thesis writing.

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to my revered parents Durga Prasad Chapagain and Saraswati Chapagain for their kind cooperation. And i am also grateful to my brother and Sister Champak and Usha Chapagain for their warm affection to conduct this research. The researcher heartily acknowledges all kind of help received from her brothers for completing this thesis.

My Special Thanks goes to my spouse Bhawani Pokhrel for continuous Support for drafting this thesis.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my friend T.N Dulal for providing me guidelines and materials in the course of preparing this thesis.

Deepak Chapagain

Date:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
CHAPTER -ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-6
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	5
1.4 Conceptual Framework	5
CHAPTER - TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	7-17
2.1 The Concept of Dalits	7
2.2 An overview of Dalits	9
CHAPTER -THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	18-21
3.1 Rational of the Site Selection	18
3.2 Research Design	18
3.3 Universe and Sampling Procedure	18
3.4 Source of Data Collection	19
3.5 Techniques of Data Collection	19
3.5.1 Interview	19
3.5.2 Observation	19
3.5.3 Focus Group Discussion	20
3.5.4 Case Study	20
3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation	20
3.7 Limitation of the Study	20
CHAPTER – FOUR: SOCIO- ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY AREA	22-30
4.1 Ilam District Soyarg VDC	22
4.2 Climate	22

4.3 Natural Resources	23
4.4 Social Organization	23
4.5 Demography of the Study Area	24
4.6 Population composition of the population by sex in Soyang VDC is given below in table:	24
4.7 Population of the study area by sex	25
4.8 Demographic Structure of the Respondents	25
4.9 Educational Status of the Respondents	26
4.10 Land ownership of the Respondents	27
4.11 Source of Income	28
4.12 Food Sufficiency	29

CHAPTER – FIVE: DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION 31-52

5.1 Changing Patterns	31
5.2 Occupational Pattern Change	32
5.3 Occupational Distribution of Dalits People in Soyang (10 years ago)	33
5.4 Current Occupation of the Respondents	34
5.5 Social Relation and Attachment	34
5.5.1 Interrelationship of Data Community and High Caste People	36
5.5.2 Interrelationship within Dalit's Community	36
5.6 Dalit people and Bali System	36
5.7 Lack of Raw Materials for Traditional Occupations	37
5.8 Involvement in Traditional Occupation	37
5.9 Behavior of Other Caste towards the Respondents	39
5.10 Preferred Occupation and the Causes	43
5.11 Factors for Adopting New Occupation	45
5.11.1 Changing View of Young Dalit People	45

5.11.2 Socio- Economic Factors	46
5.11.3 External Factor	46
5.11.4 World View as a Cause	47
5.11.5 Livelihood Factor as a Cause	47
5.11.6 Commercialization	47
5.12 Expectations of Dalits	50
5.12.1 Expectation of Dalits from the Society	50

CHAPTER – SIX : SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

AND CONCLUSIONS 53-56

6.1 Summary of Findings	53
6.2 Conclusion	56

Reference

Appendix

LIST OF TABLE

		Page No.
Table No. 1:	Ward wise population Distribution by Sex	24
Table No. 2:	Population of the study area by sex group	25
Table No. 3:	Educational Status of the Respondents	27
Table No. 4:	Land ownership pattern of the Respondents	28
Table No. 5:	Food Sufficiency at household by Months	29
Table No. 6:	Occupational distribution of Dalits in the past	33
Table No. 7:	Current occupations of the Respondents	34
Table No. 8:	Reasons for continuing traditional occupation	38
Table No. 9:	Knowledge of Traditional occupation	38
Table No. 10:	Other's Behaviour towards Respondents in present	41

LIST OF FIGURE

		Page No.
Figure No. 1.1	Concept of Conceptual Framework of Dalits	6
Figure No 2.1	Map of Ilam District and Soyang VDC	30
Figure No. 3.1	Behavior of Other Caste towards the Respondents	40
Figure No 4.1	Causes for the Preference of New Occupation	44
Figure No. 5.1	Society's and state role for uplifting and Dalits	51

REFERENCES

- Bhattachan, Krishna B., Kamala Hamchuri, Yogendra B. Gurung, Chakra M. Bhshwokarma (2002). *Existing Practice of Caste-based Untouchability in Nepal and strategy for a campaign for its Elimination* (Final Report), Kathmandu : Action Aid, Nepal.
- Bhattachan, Krishna B. and et. al (2002). *Existing practice of Caste Based Untouchability in Nepal ad strategy for a Campaign for its Elimination*, kathmandu: Action AID, Nepal.
- Bista, D.B. (1991). *Fatalism and Development: Nepal struggle for Modernization*, Calcutta' Orient Longman Publication.
- Bista D.B. (19920 *People of Nepal*, Kathmandu, Ratna Pustak Bhandar.
- Caplan, L. (1970) *Land and Social Change in East Nepal: A study of Hindu Tribal Relation* 2nd edition Himal Publication (2002) Nepal.
- Central Bureau Statistic, Nepal. (2001), *Population Monograph of Nepal* Kathmandu.
- Domont, Louis (1980) *Homo Hierarchicus: The caste system and its implication*. Chicago University Press, Chicago.
- Dahal, Dilli Ram (2002). *Situational Analysis of Dalit in Nepal*. Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Dahal Dilli Ram (2010). Journal of SASON, vol., *Hindu Nationalism and Untouchable Reform: The status of Dalits Nepali society*.
- Dahal Dilli Ram (1991). *Strategies for Development of Remote Region of Nepal: Darchula District, Kirtipur, CNAS, T.U.*

Dahal Dilli Ram and Krishna B. Bhattachan (2004). "*Sociological Perspective on positive Discrimination/Reservation in Nepal*". A Paper Presented on the stage of Democracy South Asia Project at Dhulikhel on August 11, 2004.

Dahal Dilli Ram (2003). *Social Composition of the population: Caste/Ethnicity and Religion in Nepal*. Population Monograph of Nepal. Volume 1 CBS Nepal.

Hachhethu, K. (2003). *The question of Inclusion and Exclusion in Nepal: Inference between state and ethnicity*. A paper presented in Social Science Baha Conference in Kathmandu.

Sharma, Khagendra, Gyanu Chhetri, and Sita Rana (1994). *A Modest study of the Current socio-economic situation of the lowest status caste and Tribal Communities in Nepal*, Kathamndu: save the Children US.

Sharma, Prayag Raj (1997). *Caste, Social Mobility and Sanskritization: A study of Nepal's Old Legal Code*. Kailash Magazine.

Subedi, Madhusudan (1995). *Socio-cultural strategies of Badis for Adoption : A Socio-Anthropological Study in Dang District*. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, Nepal: T.U.

VDC Profile, (2011). Village Profile of Soyang.

Hachhethu, K. (2001). *Party Building In Nepal: The Nepali Congress Party and the Communist Party of Nepal*. Unpublished Ph. D. Dissertation in Political Science, T. U. Kathmandu, Kirtipur.

Koirala, Bidya Nath (1996). *Schooling and Dalits of Nepal: A Case Study of Bungkot Dalit Community*. An Unpublished Ph.D Dissertation submitted to the University of Alberta, Canada.

NDC, Report (2002). Kathmandu, Nepal.

NDC, Report, (2008). Kathmandu Nepal.

Abbreviations/Acronyms

ADB	=	Asian Development Bank
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics
ICIMOD	=	International Center for Integrated Mountain Development
MoF	=	Ministry of Finance
NDC	=	National Dalits Commission
NGO	=	Non-Government Organization
NO	=	Number
NPC	=	National Planning Commission
UNDP	=	United Nations Environment Program
VDC	=	Village Development Committee

ANNEX -A

Questionnaire

Occupational Pattern Change of Dalits People

A Study on Soyang VDC of Ilam District

A) Family Details:

S.N	Name/ Caste	The Relation with head of the family	Sex	Age	Education	Occupation

1. How Much land do you have in your Name?
a) 1 Ropani b) 2 Ropani c) 3 Ropani d) More then 3 Ropai
2. How long have you living in this Village?
a) Since 10 years b) Since 30 years) c) Before 30 years ago
3. If you have migrated from which place are you?

.....
.....

B) Question based on land and properly

- 1) How many

S.N	Khet (in Ropani)	Bari (in Ropani)	pakho (in Ropani)	Total (in Ropani)

2. Have you owned others land?

if so give details

.....

3. What type of holding livestock's of the Household?

a) Own b) Thekka c) Andhia d) Rent

4) The details of your domestic animals that you have?

Domestic Animals	No. of local	No. of hybrid	Total
Hen			
Buffalos			
Pigs			
Goats			
Cows			

c) Details about traditional occupations

1. Do you work on Aaran?
a) Yes a) No
2. How many clients were there before 10 years ago?
a) 10-20 houses b) 15-30 houses c) 30 above
3. Where do Bistas live?
a) In the local area b) Out side the local area
- 4) Which caste do Bistas follow?
a) Brahman b) Chhetri c) Newar
d) Rai/ Limbu e) Others

D) The details of the occupation change

1. Who determined your Bali in the past?
a) Own b) Mukhiya c) Local Bodies d) Bista
2. What is the determined factor of the announcing Bali?
.....
.....
3. When do you get Bali?
a) 1 years b) 6 months c) 3 months d) 1 month
4. Does the given Bali fulfill your hand to mouth problem of the whole year?
a) Before 3 months b) for a year c) for 6 months
5. Why did you leave the traditional (Aaran) occupations?
a) Lack or raw materials b) No good incomes
c) No availability of works

6. What do you get from the Bistas?
- a) Vegetables b) Clothes c) Food d) Others
7. What are the causes behind leaving the "Bali Ghare Pratha"?(Traditional)
- a) Less Bali b) less no. of Bistas c) No fulfilling our demands
- 8) If your traditional occupation is made advanced would you like to continue this?
-
-
- 9) Do you want your new generation to continue this?
- a) Yes, I want b) no, I don't want
-
- 10) Have any of your family members gone to foreign country?
- a) Yes b) No
- 11) Do you have any loan for agriculture?
- a) Yes b) No
- 12) How do you meet your scarcity of hand to mouth and others?
-