LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES OF WEST HILL MUSLIMS PERSISTENCE AND CHANGE

A Dissertation Submitted to Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology Kirtipur, Kathmandu For the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of Degree of Master of Arts in Anthropology

By
Nirodh Pandey
Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
Kirtipur

2009

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This dissertation entitled "Livelihood Strategies of West Hill Muslims: Persistence and Change" by Mr. Nirodh Pandey is prepared under my supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Anthropology.

T	therefore	recommend	it	for	· evaluation	to the	dissertation	n committe
Ι.	. mererore.	. recommend	ιIL	Ю	evaluation	i io ine	uissertatio	и сониници

Dr. R.B. Chhetri
Supervisor
Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

LETTER OF APPROVAL

This thesis entitled "Livelihood Strategies of West Hill Muslims: Persistence and Change" by Mr. Nirodh Pandey has been accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Masters of Arts in Anthropology.

Dissertation Committee		
Supervisor	Dr. R.B. Chhetri	
External Examiner	Mr. Suresh Dhakal	
Head of the Department	Dr. Om Gurung	
Date:		

Acknowledgments

This dissertation has appeared in this form with the contribution of several people while

carrying out the research.

First of all, my sincere thanks goes to all the Muslim people of Balkot and Chidika VDCs

of Arghakhnchi district, particularly, to Najir Miya, Basir Miya, Safi Ullaha Miya,

Mohammad Safi Ullaha, Mohammad Sakur and Maufud Ali for their kind cooperation

and support during my visit in the research area.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to my respected teacher and

supervisor Dr. R. B. Chhetri for his noble guidance, keen supervision and invaluable

suggestions for the research work.

I can not forget Khemraj Khanal, Madhav Gyawali and Nabaraj Pandey for their valuable

suggestions and encouragement to accomplish this task.

Last, but not the least, I owe lifelong debt of gratitude to my parents, grandmother,

brother, Birodh pandey and sister, Bindu for their constant support, patience and love.

Nirodh Pandey

March, 2009

iii⁴

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
Recommendation Letter	i
Approval Sheet	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Table of Contents	iv
List of Tables	vi
CHAPTER-ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-8
1.1 Background	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2 Statement of the Problem	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.3 Objectives	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.4 Rationale	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.5 Theoretical Framework	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.6 Conceptual Framework	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.7 Organization of the Study	Error! Bookmark not defined.
CHAPTER-TWO: LITERATURE REVIEWERROR!	BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED
13	
CHAPTER-THREE: METHODOLOGY ERROR! BO	OOKMARK NOT DEFINED16
3.1 Research Design	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2 Data Sources	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3 Data Collection Methods	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3.1 Household Survey	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3.2 Livelihood Survey Questionnaire	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3.3 Focus Group Discussion	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3.4 Observation	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3.5 Unstructured Interviews	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.4 Data Analysis and Presentation	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.5 Limitation	Error! Bookmark not defined.
CHAPTER-FOUR: SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC	
BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED. -24	

4.1 The Social Setting	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
4.2 Settlement History	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
4.3 Demographic Profile	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
4.4 Educational Conditions	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
CHAPTER- FIVE: MUSLIMS' LIVELIHOOD STR	ATEGIES 25-28			
CHAPTER-SIX: VILLAGE ECONOMY: CONCULTU	JRE ERROR! BOOKMARK			
NOT DEFINED37				
6.1 Land	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
6.2 Forest Use and Livestock Raising	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
6.3 Cropping Pattern and Extent of Production	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
6.4 Organization of Agricultural Work	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
6.5 Changes in Agriculture during the last two decades	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
CHAPTER-SEVEN: VILLAGE ECONOMY: TRADE	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT			
DEFINED46				
7.1 Trade Up to 2046 B.S.	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
7.2 Trade- 2046 B.S. onwards	Error! Bookmark not defined.			
CHAPTER-EIGHT: VILLAGE ECONOMY: RECENT	INTRODUCTION ERROR!			
BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED5 0				
CHAPTER- NINE: CONCLUSION ERROR! BO	OKMARK NOT DEFINED52			
REFERENCES				

ANNEXES

LIST OF TABLES

Page No.

- Table 1: Distribution of Households and Population by Size of Households, 2008Error! Bookmark not
- Table 2: Age and Sex Structure of the Muslim Population under Study, 2008. Error! Bookmark not defi
- Table 3: Marital Status by Sex and Age group for Muslims under Study, 2008Error! Bookmark not det
- Table 4: Educational Status by Age- group and Sex among Muslims under Study, 2008. Error! Bookman
- Table 5: Distribution of Households by Livelihood Strategies, 2008Error! Bookmark not defined.
- Table 6: Distribution of Economically Active Population By Age, Sex and Residential Status, 2008 Error! Bookmark not defined.
- Table 7: Distribution of Total land owned by Households under study by land type. Error! Bookmark no
- Table 8: Distribution of Households by Size and Type of land holding, 2008. Error! Bookmark not define
- Table 9: Distribution of households which purchased and sold the land during the past two decades.

 Error! Bookmark not defined.
- Table 10: Distribution of Households by Number and Type of Livestock owned 2008*Error! Bookmark
- Table 11: Distribution of Households according to food self-sufficiency, 2008Error! Bookmark not def
- Table 12: Number of Muslim traders having shops in different Districts/ Places, 2008*Error! Bookmark
- Table 13: Number of Muslim traders by household, 2008 Error! Bookmark not defined.
- Table 14: Distribution of Muslim Individuals in Foreign Employment by Countries, 2008 Error! Bookma
- Table 15: Number of Muslim Individuals in Foreign Employment by Households, 2008Error! Bookmar
- Table 16: Number of Individuals in Foreign Employment by age, 2008. Error! Bookmark not defined.

ANNEX – II

Livelihood Strategy Survey Questionnaire

1. What are the means of livelihood for your family? (Rank the following in terms of their importance)					
a. Agriculture \square b. Trade \square c. Foreign employment \square d. Others \square (If others, specify)					
2. If any member(s) of your family is/are involved in trade, give the following details.					
Name of family member(s)	Type of Trade	Place			
3. Since when has/have your family members.	per(s) adopted pro	esent trade?			
4. If any members of your family is/are involved in foreign employment, give the					
following details:					
Name of family member(s)		Name of the country			
	_				
5. Since when, has/have your family mem	ber(s) adopted fo	reign employment.			
	_				
6. For what purpose does your family we is	its income from v	various sources? (Rank the			
following in terms of importance.					
a. Basic consumption needs \square	a. Basic consumption needs \square b. Luxury goods \square c. Land purchase \square				
d. Investment in others \Box (If or	thers, specify)				
7. What were the means of livelihood for	your family befor	re the past two decades? (Rank			
the following					
a. Agriculture □ b. Tı	a. Agriculture \square b. Trade \square				
c. Foreign employment \square d. Others \square (If others, specify)					
8. If you or any member(s) of your family involved in bangle selling /mobile trade, give					
the following details:					
Name of family members	Places for ba	ingle selling			

2. What factors were respo	nsible or change in bang	
-	nsible or change in bang	gle selling/mobile trade?
_		
Land . Give information about	d, Agriculture and Liv	estock raising.
Type of land	<u> </u>	and Size (Ropani)
Khet		and size (Ropani)
Bari		
Kharyan/ Butyan		
. Had your household sold	l or hought land during	the nast 20 years?
•		•
Sold: a) Yes □		at: a) Yes \Box b) No \Box
. If yes, give the following	g details.	
Land type	Sold (Ropani)	Bought (Ropani)
Khet Bari		
Kharyan/ Butyan		
3. Do you use improved se	eds and chemical fertilize	zers? a) Yes □ b) No□
3. Do you use improved set 4. If yes, since when have y		
	you started to use these	things?
4. If yes, since when have y	you started to use these	things?
4. If yes, since when have y	you started to use these	things?
4. If yes, since when have your states of the state of th	you started to use these use of the use of the sed in agriculture?	things? nese things? a) Yes□ b) No□
4. If yes, since when have yes5. Is there increase in production6. What type of labour is usea) Family labour	you started to use these uction after the use of the sed in agriculture? b) Reciprocal	things? nese things? a) Yes b) No labour
4. If yes, since when have yes5. Is there increase in production6. What type of labour is usea) Family labour	you started to use these uction after the use of the sed in agriculture? b) Reciprocal d) Mix labour	things? nese things? a) Yes b) No labour

20. How do you manage the food deficit months?				
21. Give details of the type and number of livestock your family has raised.				
Livestock	Total no.			
Buffaloes				
Cows				
Oxen				
Goats				
22. Does your family sell livestock or livestock j	products? a) Yes \square b) No \square			
23. If yes, give details.				
24. Do you get enough grass/ fodder for livestoc	k? a) Yes \Box b) No \Box			
25. If no, how do you manage the grass/ fodder?				
26. What are the sources of firewood for your family?				
a) Private forest \square b) Community forest \square c) Both \square				
27. Do you get enough firewood for your family	? a) Yes □ b) No□			
28. If no, how do you manage the firewoods?				
a) Purchase \Box b) use other alternative fuel \Box				

ANNEX-III

Checklist for Focus Group Discussion

- 1. Settlement History of Muslims in the study area.
- 2. History of bangle selling/mobile trade
- 3. Changes in mobile trade over time
- 4. Causes of changes in trade pattern.
- 5. Economic constraints and opportunities for Muslims over time
- 6. Situation of trade at present
- 7. Causes for the emergence of foreign employment
- 8. Effects of various developments in Muslims' livelihood.