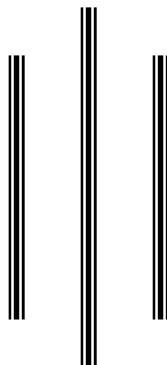


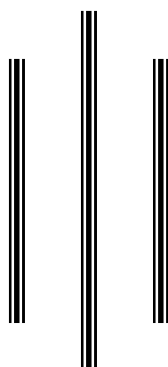
EARLY MARRIAGE AMONG DALIT WOMEN

(A Case Study to Dalit women of Palakot VDC-5, Baglung District)



A Dissertation Submitted to:
Tribhuvan University
Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
University Campus, Kirtipur

For Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement of the Master's Degree of Arts
In Sociology



By:
Baburam Upadhyaya Gautam

January 2014

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology
University Campus, Kirtipur

RECOMMENDATION FOR FINAL EVALUATION

This is to certify that Baburam Upadhyaya Gautam has completed the Dissertation Entitled “**Early Marriage Among Dalit Women, A Case Study to Dalit Women of Palakot VDC-5, Baglung District**” Under my guidance and supervision. The dissertation embodies the result of his empirical investigation based on field work.

I therefore, recommend this dissertation for final evaluation.

Dr. Krishna Bahadur Bhattachan

Supervisor

Department of Sociology/Anthropology

University Campus, Kirtipur

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology
University Campus, Kirtipur

APPROVAL SHEET

The Dissertation entitled **“Early Marriage Among Dalit Women, A Case Study to Dalit Women of Palakot VDC-5, Baglung District”** Prepared and submitted by Baburam Upadhyaya Gautam has been evaluated and accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master’s Degree of Arts in Sociology by the dissertation evaluation committee comprising of :

Dissertation Evaluation Committee

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Mr.Binod Pokhrel | _____ |
| Ass. Department Head | |
| 2. Dr. Krishna Bahadur Battachan | ----- |
| (supervisor) | |
| 3. Mrs Shyamu Thapa Magar | ----- |
| (External Examiner) | |

Date-2070-10-21

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research work is conducted on an untouchable (Dalit) caste group of Sarki. For this research, Palakot VDC wards no 5 of Baglung district is selected purposively. The attempt is made to throw some light on early marriage and its negative health impacts to the Dalit women in the community. During the preparation period of this study, several persons and organization have given a lot of contributions. Therefore, I am very much grateful to them all.

I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Krishna Bahadur Bhattachan, Assistant Professor of Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, University Campus Kirtipur, who despite his busy time schedule spared some for me, to complete this dissertation writing successfully.

I would also express my gratefulness to all the Sarki community of the study-site for their co-operation and help during my field work. This study has not been completed without their assistance.

Last, but not least, I would like to express my gratefulness and respect to my parents Dilaram Gautam and Radhika Gautam who encouraged and helped me to join and complete the Master Level and thesis. I dedicate thanks to Nagina Pageni, Tej Prasad Bhandari for their kindly support encouraging me to complete this task. I also express my thankfulness to all my friends for the help and co-operation in preparing this dissertation. I, finally acknowledge the contribution of everyone whose name could not be mentioned here.

Date: January 2014

Baburam Upadhayaya Gautam

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to give a short description of the Sarki community (sarki women), a socially excluded caste group of Nepal, regarding Early Marriage in Dalit Women. For this purpose Palakot VDC-5 of Baglung District was selected purposively. There are total 50 households of the Sarki Community and the total population of them is 1592. Descriptive and analytic methods are used in this study. Mainly primary data are used focusing on qualities' in nature.

The Sarki are traditionally occupational caste. Their main occupation was making Shoes and Plough others field in past, but the young generation is leaving their traditional profession for better economic and social status. Most of the people are working in daily wages as skilled wages such as earning money. (i.e. carpentry, mason) and few of the younger people are went foreign country.

The Sarki are poor and exploited by higher castes. Most of them are uneducated and owns few lands. Therefore, they are backward in every field. Caste based discrimination is not as rigid as it was in the past, but some discriminations can be seen clearly. The Sarki are not allowed to enter into the home of upper castes. They don't have participation in political affairs. Most of them are only voters. They have few accesses in local resources management.

There were different types of NGOs/INGOs which were working to improve and enhance the life style of Dalit Women and trying to prevent early marriage system among Dalit Women. But there has not seen any positive sign in the improvement of the Sarki women's tendency of marriage. Neither they are yet concerned to their health nor do they use contraceptive to control the child birth in early age. So they became the victims of many more lifelong diseases. Gradually, social awareness is improving and enhancing among the Sarki of the study area due to the effect of modernism.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.	
Recommendation	ii
Approval Sheet	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	viii
Abbreviations/Acronyms	ix
CHAPTER – ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-8
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3 Objective of the Study	7
1.4 Rational of the Study	8
CHAPTER – TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	9-18
2.1 Status of Dalit Women in Nepal	9
2.2 Physical Involvement of Dalit Women	12
2.3 Dalit Women and Early Marriage	13
2.4 Dalit Women and Health Condition	14
2.5 Dalit Women and Economy	15
2.6 Dalit Women and Legal Rights	15
2.7 Women and Property Rights	17
2.8 Husband Wife Relationship for Family Planning in Dalit Community	17
CHAPTER–THREE: METHODOLOGY	19-22
3.1 Rational of Selecting the Study Area	19
3.2 Research Design	19
3.2.1 Nature of Data	19
3.2.2 Sources of Data	20
3.2.2.1 Primary Sources	20
3.2.2.2 Secondary Sources	20
3.4 Sample Method of Data Collection	20
3.4.1 Tools of Data collection	20
3.4.1.1 Interview	21

3.4.1.2	Questionnaires:	21
3.4.1.3	Observation	21
3.5	Universe and Sampling	21
3.6	Data Presentation and Analysis	22
3.7	Limitation of the Study	22
CHAPTER- FOUR: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA		23-41
4.1	Social Condition of Dalit Women	23
4.1.1	Introduction of Charmakar of Palakot	23
4.1.2	Geographical Condition of the Area	24
4.1.3	Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents	24
4.1.4	Caste Based Discriminations on Public Spheres	26
4.2	Socio Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents	28
4.2.1	Age Group of Female Respondents	28
4.2.2	Educational Condition of Dalit women in Palakot-5	30
4.2.3	Early Marriage practices of the Respondents:	31
4.2.4	Family Size of Respondents	32
4.2.5	Earning and Saving of the Respondents	34
4.2.6	Food Sufficiency of the Respondents	35
4.2.7	Ownership on Land	36
4.2.8	Health Condition of the Dalit Women	37
4.3	Causes of Early Marriage	40
CHAPTER – FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION		42-46
5.1	Summary	42
5.2	Conclusion	43
5.3	Recommendation	45
BIBLIOGRAPHY		47-50
ANNEXES		51-57
Annex – I: Questionnaire for Household Survey		51
Annex – II: Questionnaire for Key Informants		53
Annex – III: Some Glimps of the Visited Area		55

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page No.
4.1	Distribution of Population in Palakot VDC	25
4.2	Distribution of Population of Sarkies in Palakot VDC	26
4.3	Caste Based Discrimination on Public Spheres	27
4.4	Distribution of Respondents by Age	30
4.5	Distribution of Educational Status of the Respondents	31
4.6	Marriage Decision of the Respondents	31
4.7	Marriage Age of the Respondents	32
4.8	Distribution of Respondents by Family Size	32
4.9	Source of Income of the Respondents.	34
4.10	Saving Condition of the Respondents	34
4.11	Food Sufficiency of the Respondents.	35
4.12	Distribution of Respondents by Land Ownership	37
4.13	Resting Time of the Day	37
4.14	Brought Up Diseases of Respondents	38
4.15	Distribution of Respondents by the Use of Toilet	39
4.16	Enforcement Factor for Early Marriage	40
4.17	Distribution of Respondents by the Information on Family Planning	41

ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS

A. D.	=	Anno Domini
B.S	=	Bikram Sambat
C.	=	Celsius
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics
CO	=	Community Organization
DDC	=	District Development Committee
GO	=	Government Organization
HHs	=	Households
INGO	=	International Non-Governmental Organization
Km	=	Kilo Meter
NGO	=	Non-Governmental Organization
No.	=	Number
P.	=	Page
PP.	=	Pages
S. N.	=	Serial Number
S.Q	=	Square
VDC	=	Village Development Committee