

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:  
A STUDY OF PWDs IN KUNJO VDC OF MUSTANG**

**A Thesis**

**Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science of  
Tribhuvan University in Fulfillment of the Requirements  
For the Degree of Rural Development**

**Submitted By**

**Manisha Gauchan**

**Exam Roll No.: 2547**

**T.U. Regd. No.: 6-1-38-634-98**

**Central Department of Rural Development**

**Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur**

**Kathmandu, Nepal**

**April, 2011**

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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled "*Socio-economic Status of People with Disabilities: A study of PWDs in Kunjo VDC of Mustang*" prepared by Ms Manisha Gauchan under my Supervision in partially fulfillment of requirements for Master Degree of Arts in Rural Development. I hereby recommend this thesis to the evaluation committee for approval.

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Supervisor

**Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka**  
Central Department of Rural Development  
Tribhuvan University

**APPROVAL SHEET**

This thesis entitled "*Socio-economic Status of People with Disabilities: A study of PWDs in Kunjo VDC of Mustang*" submitted by Ms Manisha Gauchan to the Central Department of Rural Development, faculty of Humanities and Social sciences, Tribhuwan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Arts in Rural Development has been satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, we accept this thesis as a part of the said Degree.

**Thesis Evaluation Committee**

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**Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka**  
Head of Department  
Central Department of Rural Development

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External Examiner  
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Thesis Supervisor

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The present research entitled "*Socio-economic Status of People with Disabilities: A study of PWDs in Kunjo VDC of Mustang*" is an effort which consists of the contribution by all my friends, my relatives, my respected teachers and well wishers. All of them have inspired me to complete this study. I remember those people with disabilities in Kunjo VDC without them this study could not have been possible. I would like to dedicate this study to all of them who are having disabilities in any case of life.

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Manisha Gauchan

Date.....

## **ABSTRACT**

*People with Disabilities (PWDs) are one of the marginalized groups in Nepal. Few researches exploring situation of PWDs have shown that disabled people are experiencing stigma and discrimination in the society. However, there has not been any such study so far that has explored socio economic status of PWDs particularly in Mustang district. The present research is a qualitative and descriptive study exploring the socio-economic status of entire population of PWDs living in Kunjo VDC of Mustang district. Focus Group Discussion, Semi-structured and Key Informant interviews were conducted to acquire the required information. From District Woman Development Committee data collected, it was identified that out of the total VDCs in the district, Kunjo VDC had high number of recorded PWDs identity cards distribution. Out of the total PWDs who received the identity cards in the VDC, 22 were taken as respondents. Similarly, 12 PWDs who had not yet received the card were also taken as respondents for the survey.*

*The research found that, most of the PWDs were found to be from the households with agriculture as the primary means of livelihood. Majority 47% of the disabled people in Kunjo VDC had speech and hearing disability. None of them are found to have received training on sign language. Majority of disabled people are dependent on their family members for daily living. Few of the PWDs are able to engage in income earning activities which have improved their socio economic status. However, almost all of them are deprived from education and income earning opportunities. Furthermore, the study has also explored information on possibilities and potentialities of the PWDs and seeks possible recommendations to up lift their socioeconomic status.*

**Key Words:** *People with Disabilities (PWDs), Socio-economic status, possibilities and potentialities, Kunjo VDC, Mustang.*

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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

ANC	-	Anti-Natal Care
CBR	-	Community Based Rehabilitation
DC	-	Delivery Care
DDC	-	District Development Committee
DHRC-N	-	Nepal Disabled Human Rights Center
FGD	-	Focus Group D
HDR	-	Human Development Reports
IYDP	-	Year of Disabled Person
NFDA	-	Nepal Federation of Disabled Association
PWDs	-	People with Disabilities
SES	-	Socio-economic Status
UN	-	United Nation
UNCRPD	-	United Nation's Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities
VDC	-	Village Development Committee
WDC	-	Women Development Committee
WHO	-	World Health Organization