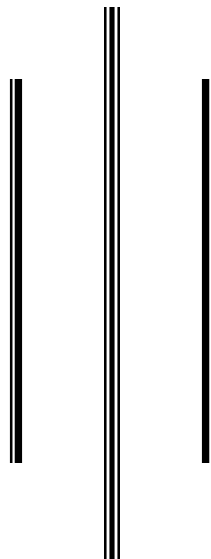


**AN OVERVIEW OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC  
CHANGES BROUGHT BY TOURISM AND  
PROSPECTS OF PROMOTION OF  
ECOTOURISM ON NAGARKOT AREA**

**The dissertation submitted for the partial fulfillment of the requirement for  
the Master's Degree of Humanities and Social Sciences**



Submitted by:  
**SUNITA ADHIKARI**

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**  
**CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTROPOLOGY**  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu  
**Nepal**

**September, 2010**

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**  
Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences  
**CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY**  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

---

**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

This is to certify that works incorporated in this dissertation entitled “*An Overview of socio-economic changes brought by Tourism and prospects of promotion of Ecotourism on Nagarkot Area*” presented by **Sunita Adhikari** was under my supervision and guidance. She has worked with sincere interest during the field work and table work. This dissertation work bears the candidate own work. To the best of my knowledge this dissertation has not been submitted for any other degree.

Therefore, I recommended this dissertation for approval for the partial fulfillment of Master’s Degree of Humanities in Sociology.

**Recommended by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prem Chalaune

Lecturer

Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**  
Institute of Humanities and Arts  
**CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY**  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

---

**LETTER OF APPROVAL**

The dissertation paper entitled “*An Overview of socio-economic changes brought by Tourism and prospects of promotion of Ecotourism on Nagarkot Area*” submitted by **Mrs. Sunita Adhikari** has been accepted as partial fulfillment for the Master’s Degree of Humanities in Sociology.

**Dissertation Evaluation Committee:**

---

Prof. Dr. Om Gurung  
Head of Department  
Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

---

Prem Chalaune  
Supervisor

---

Jiban Mani Poudel  
External Examiner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I wish to acknowledge and extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to many individuals for their invaluable support, co-operation and various forms of help in the course of my research work.

I would like to express my deep gratitude and sincere respect to my Research Supervisor Prem Chalaune, Lecturer, Central Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, for his unparalleled and continuous guidance all through the study, field visit, analysis of the data and obtaining the appreciable results in bringing about this report. This study would not have come in this format without the continuous guidance and support from Lecturer Madhusudhan Subedi, so I would like express my earnest tribute to him. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Head of the Department, Prof. Dr. Om Gurung for his invaluable suggestions and advice from time to time during my whole study period.

I must be obliged to Mr. Dhana Bahadur Lama, Secretary of Nagarkot-Naldum Tourism Development Committee (NNTDC) for providing necessary information and data regarding the study. I am obliged to Mr. Prem Gurung, guide operator of the Nagarkot area for providing information about the tourists and major tourists' trekking route of the area. Mrs. Sukmaya Tamang, Mr. Deepak Khadka of Naldum VDC of Kavrepalanchowk District and other local people of Nagarkot Area for kind support during the period of data collection and their cooperation during field visit.

I concede with thanks to my pals and peers for their company and genuine supports during the study, especially to Mrs. Prabha Pokharel for her sincere help during the data collection and meticulous support during my thesis work.

It is my great time to offer my high regard of honour and appreciation to my parents, brothers and sisters, for their uninterrupted and watchful guidance and support.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge those who directly or indirectly provided me with materials, information and suggestions. Any valuable suggestion regarding this work would be greatly appreciated.

**Sunita Adhikari**  
**Tribhuvan University**  
**Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology**  
**Date: 13/09/2010**

## **ABSTRACT**

Assuming that there will be minimum negative impacts, maximum benefits for local people and their environment, and first hand natural and cultural experiences for visitors can be obtained by promotion of Ecotourism.

The principal purpose of this study was to analyze the present status of tourism and to study the prospect of environmentally sustainable ecotourism development in Nagarkot. This study was based on the primary data collected through questionnaires from 30 local people, 20 tourists and 20 hotel owners as well as interaction with them and secondary data from various sources. The result of this study is that most of the tourists visiting Nagarkot attracted by the view of sunrise/sunset, sightseeing of Himalayan range and peaceful environment also supports for the potentiality of the area as an ecotourism site.

This study identified that there is fewer negative environmental as well as cultural impact on the area. Tourism is found to create some economic opportunities to local people but it is not in a desirable extent and the economic benefit is not distributed equally. Although a number of constraints to further development of ecotourism were identified – poor transportation and communication facilities, poor recreational facilities, a limited season, lack of trained manpower, lack of marketing, poor solid waste management system, limited number of educated people – there is a potential to develop a viable ecotourism enterprise for a high value, low volume ecotourism market.

The study concluded that Nagarkot offers a high value ecotourism attraction in terms of the natural and scenic attributes combined with the cultural and lifestyle of its indigenous people. Hence, the prospects of ecotourism on Nagarkot is found to be very cheerful and relies greatly on planners, government, local leaders and local people of the area as well as infrastructure development that are essential for ecotourism development and thus achieving partial aim of millennium development goal.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Page no.</u>
<b>Letter of Recommendation</b>	<b>i</b>
Letter of Approval	ii
Acknowledgement	iii
Acronyms	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	viii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER: I INTRODUCTION.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
1.1 Background of the Study .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
1.2 Statement of the Problem.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
1.3 Objectives of the Study.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
1.4 Rationale of the study .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
CHAPTER: II REVIEW OF LITERATURE .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.1 Defining Tourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.2 Concept of Ecotourism .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.2.1 Requirements for Ecotourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.2.2 Principles of Ecotourism .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.2.3 History of Ecotourism .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.2.4 Other Forms of Tourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.3 Global Scenario of Ecotourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.4 Ecotourism in Nepalese Context.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.5 Identification of Ecotourism Potential .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.6 Review of Previous Studies Regarding Tourism and Ecotourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.1 Rationale of Selection of the Study Area.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.2 Research Design.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.3 Nature and Sources of Data .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.4 Universe and Sampling .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.5 Methods of data Collection .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.5.1 Research Tools.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.5.1.1 Questionnaire Survey .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.5.2 Interview .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.5.3 Non-participant Observation .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
3.7 Limitations of the study .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
CHAPTER IV DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.1 Introduction:.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.2 Climate.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.3 Flora and Fauna.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

4.4 Population .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
CHAPTER: V RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.1 Demographic Variables of the Local Residents.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.1.1 Age.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.1.2 Gender .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.1.3 Occupation.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2 Status of Tourism in Nagarkot.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.3 Socio-cultural costs and benefits .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.3.1 Negative Impacts of tourism on social and cultural values	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
<b>defined.</b>	
5.2.2 Economic Impacts of tourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.2.1 Prices of Goods.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.2.2 Employment Opportunity .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.2.3 Income distribution from tourism.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.2.4 Infrastructure Development.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.3 Environmental Impacts.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.3.1 Sanitation and Solid Waste Problem: .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.3.2 Deforestation .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.2.3.3 Air Pollution/Noise Pollution .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3 Tourists' Experience .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.1 Age and Sex Composition .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.2 Tourist arrival by major regions .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.3 Occupation.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.4 Purpose of visit.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.5 Average level of Satisfaction.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.6 Length of Stay .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.3.7 Expenditure Pattern .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4 Potentiality of Ecotourism in Nagarkot .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.1 Scenic Attractions:.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.2 Pleasant Climate .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3 Trekking.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3.1 Nagarkot to Changunarayan: .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3.2 Nagarkot to Bhaktapur Durbar Square: .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3.3 Nagarkot to Indrawati:.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3.4 Nagarkot to Sankhu Bajrayogini: .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3.5 Nagarkot to Banepa Dhulikhel .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.3.6 Visit of Nagarkot Village .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.4.4 Cultural Attraction.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5 Constraints for Tourism Development in Nagarkot...	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5.1 Transportation and Communication: .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5.2 Water Supply .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5.3 Recreational Facilities .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5.4 Information Centre and Publicity: .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5.5 Sanitation .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
5.5.6 Trained Manpower .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

CHAPTER: VI SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

6.1 Summary ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

6.2 Conclusion ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

6.3 Recommendation ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

REFERENCES ..... 59

**APPENDICES**

Appendix I I

Appendix II IV

Appendix III VII

Appendix IV X



## **List of Tables:**

Table 5.1: Employment provided by Hotels in Nagarkot**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Table 5.2: Response of local people (in %) about the facilities available .....**Error!**

**Bookmark not defined.**

Table 5.3: Response of Hotel owners (in %) about the facilities available .....**Error!**

**Bookmark not defined.**

Table 5.5: Expenditure pattern of Tourists in Nagarkot**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

## **List of Figures:**

- Fig 2.1: Sustainable ecotourism values and principles model **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 4.1: Location Map of Study Area ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.3: Percentage of Occupation of Local Respondents **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.4: Perception about the impact on the religious beliefs of local people .**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.5: Perception about the increase in price of goods **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.6: Percentage of People involving in Tourism Related Jobs **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.7: Creation of job opportunity to the local people due to tourism **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.8: Perception of Local people and Hotel owners about the average. .... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.9: Responses about the cleanliness of the place **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.10: Responses of Local Peoples about Solid Waste Problem in Nagarkot **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.11: Percentage of Responses of Local people and Hotel owners **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.12: Response of Local people regarding air and noise pollution **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.13: Age composition of Tourists ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.14: Sex composition of Tourists ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.15: Tourists Visiting Nagarkot from Different Regions **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.16: Occupation of Tourist Respondents ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.17: Average level of satisfaction of tourists after visiting Nagarkot ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Table 5.4: Duration of Stay of Tourists in Nagarkot. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Fig 5.18: Duration of Stay of Tourists in Nagarkot **Error! Bookmark not defined.**



## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HMG	His Majesty's Government
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
KMTNC	King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation
MoCTCA	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoPE	Ministry of Population and Environment
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NNTDC	Nagarkot-Naldum Tourism Development Committee
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
RNAC	Royal Nepal Airlines Corporation
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SoE	State of Environment
STN	Sustainable Tourism Network
TIES	The International Ecotourism Society
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
VDC	Village Development Committee
WTO	World Tourism Organization