

Shattered Dreams to United Hands:

A Case Study of Trafficked Girls at Shakti Samuha, Kathmandu

**A Dissertation Submitted to
The Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, TU, Kirtipur,
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Ref. No.

Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Nepal

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

The dissertation work entitled “*Shattered Dreams to United Hands :- (A Case Study of Trafficked Girls at Skakti Samuha Kathmandu)*” is prepared by Ms. Laxmi Devi Subba of Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University as a partial fulfillment for the degree of Master of Arts in Sociology Studies. I, forward this dissertation for evaluation to the Dissertation Committee for approval.

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LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

The dissertation entitled **“Shattered Dreams to United Hands: A Case Study of Trafficked Girls at Skakti Samuha Kathmandu”** is prepared and submitted by Ms. Laxmi Devi Subba has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology.

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SUMMARY

Trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation is a tragic and long prevailing problem for this country. Vast number of women and children were already trafficked to neighboring country and sent back home with infection of deadly AIDS virus and few lucky ones are rescued and repatriated back home. In 1986, the first specific law was enacted with special mechanism to improve efforts to combat trafficking. However, even after enactment of this weapon against trafficking, there has been no significant improvement in the enforcement of the law. Women and children are still being trafficked, rescued and repatriated as usual. The repatriated women suffer number of physical, emotional and psychological and social problems making their integration to the society tough.

This study finds different aspects of repatriated women and girls, here mentioned as SOTs. It has successfully produced the empirical data on their social demographics, causes of trafficking and their present situation in a shelter run by Shakti Samuha called Shakti Kendra. It has provided very important data on their present condition especially their relation with family, change in life, empowerment, financial satisfaction, social stigmatization and their social acceptance. The study finds out that the stigma in survivors created by community people is major obstacle in their integration. These results are backed up by real time narratives of five of the SOTs.

Nepal has already signed and ratified 19 Human Rights treaties and covenants, 11 ILO conventions and four International Humanitarian laws but the essence of these laws have not been practically implemented due to different governmental, legal and policy level glitches. This study has tried to enumerate the existing laws related to women and children trafficking. It has presented present day situation of different International, Regional Covenants and National level plan, policy, pertaining laws and their implementation. The study showed that the State has more than enough laws, plans and policies regarding anti-trafficking but weak political stability, majority of people below poverty line and literacy emerged as the hindrances.

Based on the findings, the study recommends strict law enforcement, prioritizing public awareness on trafficking and advocacy for SOTs rights and necessity of formulating anti-trafficking programmers and its effective implementation with the involvement of survivors for their successful reintegration.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ABC Nepal	Agro forestry Basic Health and Cooperation, Nepal
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC	Convention on Rights of Child
CWIN	Child Workers Concerned Center in Nepal
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GoN	Government of Nepal
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMG Nepal	then His Majestys Government of Nepal
I/NGOs	International/Non-Governmental Ogranisatioans
ICCPR	International Convention on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ILO-IPEC	International Labour Organisation-International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
JIT	Joint initiative in the Millennium against Trafficking
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCSW	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NPA	National Plan of Action
NWC	National Women Commission
ONRT	Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking
OSRT	Office of the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SLC	School Leaving Certificate
SOTs	Survivors of Trafficking
STOP	Stop Trafficking Oppression and Prostitution of Children and Women
TIP	Trafficking in Person
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
VDC	Village Development Office
WDO	Women Development Office
WOREC	Women Rehabilitation Centre