AGE AT MARRIAGE AND FERTILITY

(A Case Study of Marbu V. D. C., Dolakha District)

A Dissertation Submitted to Central Department of Population Studies (CDPS), Faculty of Humanities and Social Science in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies

Submitted by:

Prabha Kala Rai

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

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RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that **Prabha Kala Rai** has worked under my supervision and guidance for the preparation of the dissertation entitled **Age at Marriage and Fertility: A Case Study of Marbu V. D. C., Dolakha District** for the partial fulfillment of Master's Degree of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge the study is original. Therefore, I recommend it for evaluation to the dissertation committee.

December 2009

……

Sunil Kumar Acharya

(Supervisor)

Central Department of Population Studies

Tribhuvan University

Kirtipur

APPROVAL SHEEP

This dissertation entitled **Age at Marriage and Fertility: A Case Study of Marbu VDC, Dolakha District** by **Prabha Kala Rai** has been has been accepted as partial fulfillment of requirement for the degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies.

Approved by

_____

Dr. Prem Sing Bisht

(Professor and Head)

_____

Mr. Ramesh Prasad Adhikari

(External Examiner)

_____

Mr. Sunil Kumar Acharya

(Supervisor)

Dissertation Committee

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ABSTRACT

This study deals the relationship between age at marriage and fertility in Marbu VDC, Dolakha district. It is based on primary data. The data was collected through the interview with 110 ever-married women of reproductive age group (15-49 years) from 120 households.

Among the total household population, females' population are more than males. The proportion of widowhood and divorced were very low comparing with married. Most of the population aged 6 years and above were found to be literate. A few households had modern toilet facilities. Most of the households had many livestock and poultry and used piped water.

In this study, age at marriage is determined by women' and husbands' education, occupation, religion, ethnicity and social custom and traditions. These also affect fertility directly and indirectly. Among the 110 respondents, literate respondents had higher mean age at marriage and lower CEB than illiterate. Overall, respondents' mean age at marriage was 18.9 years. Occupation also determines the mean age at marriage and fertility. Who were engaged in service had higher mean age at marriage and lower CEB than other occupations. Respondents, who followed Hindu religion, had higher mean age at marriage and lower CEB than Buddhist. There were Newar, Sherpa, B.K. and Magar only. Among them, Sherpa respondents had the lowest mean age at marriage and the lowest CEB. Respondents, who followed arrange marriage had lower mean age at marriage and higher CEB than loved married respondents. Knowledge and use of FP are found to be negatively associated with fertility. Respondents who had knowledge of FP had lower CEB than who hadn't it. Who had experience of using FP had lower CEB than nonuser. Respondents had different complications to not using FP. These determine the CEB. Respondents who were using FP had lower CEB than who weren't using FP. Miscarriage and induced abortion affect the CEB. Who had experience of miscarriage and induced abortion had lower CEB than who hadn't experience of it.

The socio- economic and demographic factors show that the age of women and duration of marriage are found to be positively associated with fertility. Age at marriage is found to have negative relationship with mean CEB.

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ACRONYMS

AM:	Age at Marriage
B. S.:	Bikram Sambat
CBS:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS:	Central Department of Population Studies
CEB:	Children Ever Born
CNAS:	Central for Nepal Asia Studies
FP:	Family Planning
FPAN:	Family Planning Association of Nepal
INGO:	International Non-governmental Organization
HHs:	Households
MAM:	Mean Age at Marriage
MOH:	Ministry of Health
MOPE:	Ministry of Population and Environment
NDHS :	Nepal Demographic Health Survey
NPC:	National Planning Commission
NFHS:	Nepal Family Health Survey
NFS:	Nepal Fertility Survey
NGO:	Non Governmental Organization
N:	Number
PRB:	Population Reference Bureau
SLC:	School Leaving Certificate
SMAM:	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage
TFR:	Total Fertility Rate
UN:	United Nations
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund