Educational Status of Tharu Community

(A Case Study of Narayanpur, VDC, Dang District)

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

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis entitled "Educational Status of Tharu Community: A Case Study of Narayanpur VDC- Dang District" has been completed by *Sharad Chandra Gautam* under my guidance and supervision for the fulfillment of the requirement of the thesis for the award of the Degree of Master's of Arts in Population Studies. I, here by recommend this thesis for its evaluation and approval.

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APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that this thesis entitled "Educational Status of Tharu Community: A Case Study of Narayanpur VDC-, Dang District" written and submitted by *Sharad Chandra Gautam* has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements towards the completion of Master's of Arts in Population Studies.

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ABSTRACT

Tharu people are indigenous people of the Terai regions of Nepal who are mostly reside on the foothills of the Chure and Siwali rang from east to west of Nepal. Tharu are basically agricultural peasant. Tharus population occupies 6.75 percent of the total population of Nepal. Mostly Tharu people are found in western Terai of Nepal such as Dung, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Kanchanpur which occupy 30-50 percent of the total district population. Tharu people do not have satisfactory educational status as well as socio-economic status due various dominate factors.

The objective of the study is to find the educational status of Tharu community and specific objectives are: to identify the status of female education in Tharu community, to find the barriers inaccessibility of education in Tharu community and to find out the cases of dropout of Tharu students from school 100 households have been selected to met the objective of this study. Household survey and key informant interview have been used to collect the primary data. The collected data have been classified in different categories and interpret using simple mathematical device.

Out of 100 HHs, males and female respondents are respectively 56 and 44. It has been found that 39 percent respondents are literate and 61 percent are illiterate. Majority of the students attend school. Only 12.2 percent students do not attend school. The main reason of being absence is poor economic condition which accounts 32.1 percent. Out to the total students of age group 5-14 years have enrolled in government and private school which accounts respectively 62.2 percent and 37.8 percent. The concentration of female in primary education is high. 19.7 percent students have dropped out the school out of the total students. Most of the students (53.3%) have dropped out in secondary level. The main cause of dropping school is domestic work (35.6%).

Educational status of Tharu community is not satisfactory due to poor economic condition and other several reasons. But the attitude of Tharu community forward education has been positively changing gradually and enrollment ratio of Tharu students in school has been increasing. Most of the Tharu people have been trapped in a vicious circle of poverty therefore, it is essential to improve the economic condition of Tharu propel through various intensive income generating activities

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

- CBS : Central Bureau of Statistics CERID : Ceter for Educational Innovation and Development GOs : Government Organizations HHs : Households HMG : His Majesty of Government : International Government Organizations INGOs MS Excel : Microsoft Excell MS Word : Micrsoft Word : Nepal Demographic and Health Survey NDHS NGOs : Non-Governmental Organizations Rs. : Rupees : School Leaving Certificate SLC SPSS : Statistical Package for Social Science TU : Tribhuvan University UNDP : United Nations Development Programme : United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural UNESCO UNICEF : United Nations Children's Fund
- VDC : Village Development Committee