SOCIO – ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE SARKI COMMUNITY

(A Case Study in Hemja VDC of Kaski District)

A Dissertation Submitted to:

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By:

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RECOMMENDATION FOR FINAL EVALUATION

This is to certify that Mr. Tirtha Thapa has completed the Dissertation Entitled "Socio-Economic Status of the Sarki Community: A Socio-Anthropological Case Study in Hemja VDC of Kaski District" Under my guidance and supervision. The dissertation embodies the result of his empirical investigation based on field work.

I therefore, recommend this dissertation for final evaluation.

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Recommendation by Language Editor

This is to certify that I have gone through the draft of dissertation entitled "Socio–Economic Status of the Sarki Community: A Socio-Anthropological Case Study in Hemja VDC of Kaski District" submitted by Mr. Thirtha Thapa as a language editor and made necessary correction and improvement there in. I have been impressed by his intelligible presentation of facts through the medium of plain and correct English.

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APPROVAL SHEET

The Dissertation Entitled "Socio – Economical Status of the Sarki Community: A Socio-Anthropological Case Study in Hemja VDC of Kaski District" Submitted By Tirtha Thapa has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master's Degree of Arts in Sociology.

DISSERTATION EVALUATION COMMITTEE

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This research work is conducted on an untouchable (Dalit) caste group of Sarki. For this research, Hemja VDC of Kaski District is selected purposively. The attempt is made to throw some light on socio-economic status of the Dalit community. During the preparation period of this study, several persons and organization have given a lot of contributions. Therefore, I am too much grateful to them all.

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> **Tirtha Thapa** Hemja, Kaski

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to give a short description of the Sarki community, a socially excluded caste group of Nepal, regarding their socio-economic status. For this purpose, Hemja VDC of Kaski District was selected purposively. There are total 38 households of the Sarki Community and the total population of them is 368. Descriptive and analytic methods are used in this study. Mainly primary data are used focusing on qualitive in nature.

The Sarki are traditionally occupational caste. Their main occupation was making Shoes and Plougher others field in past, but the young generation leaving their traditional profession for better economic and social status. Most of the people works daily wages about skilled labour(i.e carpentry, mason) and few of the younger people are went foreign country.

They are Sudra and known as Achhut (Untouchable). The Sarki are religiously Hindu. They follow Hindu religion and worship Hindu God and Goddess. The festivals of the Sarki are similar with other Hindu castes. They mainly celebrate Dashain, Tihar, Maghe Sakranti, etc.

The Sarki are poor and exploited by higher castes. Most of them are few land owner and uneducated. Therefore, they are backward in every field. Caste based discrimination is not so rigid as it was in the past, but some discriminations can be seen clearly. The Sarki are not allowed to enter into the home of upper castes. The Sarki have not actively participation in political affairs. Most of them are only voters. They have few accesses in local resources management.

There were different types of NGOs/INGOs which were working to improve and enhance the life style of Dalits, but there is not seen any positive sign in the improvement of the Sarki life style. Gradually, social awareness is improving and enhancing among the Sarki of the study area due to the effect of modernization.

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ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS

A.D.	=	Anno Domini
B.S	=	Bikram Sambat
C.	=	Celsius
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics
VDC	=	Village Development Committee
DDC	=	District Development Committee
NGO	=	Non-Governmental Organization
INGO	=	International Non-Governmental Organization
CO	=	Community Organization
GO	=	Government Organization
No.	=	Number
Р.	=	Page
PP.	=	Pages
S.N.	=	Serial Number
Sq.	=	Square
Km	=	Kilo Meter
HHs	=	Households