Women's Land Property Ownership and Decision Making Power

(A Case Study based on Gender Relation in Yangnam Community of Panchthar District)

A Dissertation Submitted to Faculty of Humanities and Social sciences Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology in partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Anthropology

By TIKA DEVI JABEGU

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY
TRIBHUVAN UNIVERCITY,
KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU,
NEPAL
2010

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Ms. Tika Devi Jabegu has completed her dissertation entitled "Women's Land Property Ownership and Decision Making Power: A Case Study based on Gender Relation in Yangnam Community of Panchthar District" under my supervision and guidance. I therefore, recommended this dissertation for final approval and acceptance.

•

Jailab Kumar Rai (Lecturer)

Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology
Tribhuvan University,
Kirtipur Kathmandu,
Nepal

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

This Dissertation entitled "Women's Land Property Ownership and Decision Making Power: A Case Study based on Gender Relation in Yangnam Community of Panchthar District" submitted by Ms. Tika Devi Jabegu has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of requirement for the Degree of Masters of Arts in Anthropology.

Dissertation Committee:	
Head of the Department	Prof. Dr. Om Gurung
Supervisor	Jailab Kumar Rai (Lecturer)
External Examiner	Prem Chalaune (Lecturer)
Date	

ACKNWLEDGEMENT

My deep gratitude goes to the following people for their help with this dissertation.

First and foremost I am very grateful to my supervisor Mr. Jailab Kumar Rai, Lecturer, Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology for his guidance to help me structure this dissertation. His valuable feedback, advice and suggestions were helpful to me to improve the quality of this dissertation and exist in its entirety because of knowledge I acquire in the past two years from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. I hereby thank all the members of the Department.

I would like to thank my external examiner, Mr. Prem Chalaune for his constructive criticism.

I highly indebted to the people of Yangnam community for their Kindness and cooperation while carrying out my field work there.

Finally I would like to thank my friends and family who have always provided support in any endeavors I have undertaken.

Tika Devi Jabegu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS LIST OF TABLES

CH	HAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	
1.1	Background of the Study	1
1.2	Statement of the Research Problems	4
1.3	Objectives of the study	6
1.4	Rational of the Study	7
1.5	Organization of the Study	8
CH	APTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW	9
2.1	Property Ownership of Women in Nepal	9
2.2	Gender Relations in Nepal	12
2.3	Property Rights and Decision Making Practices in Nepal	13
2.4	System of Land Classification and Ownership to Women.	15
2.5	Conceptual Framework	18
CH	APTER III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	20
3.1	Research Design	20
3.2	Selection of the Study Area	20
3.3	Sampling Procedure	21

3.4	Nature	e and Scope of Data	21
3.5	Data c	collection method	21
	3.3.1	Household survey method	21
	3.3.2	Observation	22
	3.3.3	Case study	22
3.6	Analys	is and Presentation of Research Data	22
3.7	Limita	tion of the Study	23
СН	APTER	IV: OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA	25
4.1	General	I Introduction of Study Area	25
	4.1.1	Natural Resources	26
4.2	Socio-e	conomic Characteristics of the Study Area	26
	4.2.1	Occupation of the respondents	27
	4.2.2	Livestock	28
	4.2.3	Population Composition of Sample Households	28
		4.2.3. 1. Distribution of Age Group	29
	4.2.4	Culture and Religious Status of the Respondents	30
	4.2.5	Cast/ethnicity of respondents	32
	4.2.6	Marital Status of Respondents	33
	4.2.7	Educational Status of Sample Respondents	34
	4.2.8	Economic Condition of households	35
СН	APTER	V: WOMEN'S LAND OWNERSHIP RIGHT	37
5.1	System	of Land Classification and Registered Land	
Ow	nership S	Status of Households	37

5.2	Land Ownership Status of Women	38			
CH	APTER VI: ATTITUDE AND EFFECTS OF WOMEN'S LAND				
PRO	OPERTY OWNERSHIP ON DIFFERENT STATU	41			
6.1	Effect of Women's Land Property Ownership on Marriage	41			
6.2	Effect of Women's Land Property ownership on Land Fragmentation	44			
6.3	Effect of Women's Land property ownership on Household Economy	45			
6.4	Effect of Women's Land Property Ownership on Son Preference	47			
6.5	Effect of women's Land Property Ownership on Education	48			
6.6	Effect of women's Land Property Ownership on Caste/ethnicity	50			
CHAPTER VII: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAND OWNERSHIP AND					
DE	CISION MAKING OF WOMEN	52			
7.1	Gender Disparity in Decision-Making	52			
7.2	Effect of women's Land Property Ownership on Decision Making	54			
CHAPTER VII: SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND					
RE	COMMENDATIONS	58			
8.1	Summary	58			
8.2	Findings	61			
8.3	conclusion	62			
8.3	Recommendation	64			
REFERENCE CITED					
QUESTIONNAIRES					

LIST OF TABLES

- Table 1: Composition of the in sample households
- Table 3: Distribution of population of sampling households by age group
- Table 4: Respondents sample women by age group
- Table 5: Distribution of sample households by Religion
- Table 6: Respondents households by Caste/Ethnicity
- Table 7: Distribution of population of samplings household by Marital Status
- Table 8: Distribution of population samplings by Educational Status
- Table 9: Respondents of sample households by their Economic Status
- Table 10: Distribution of sample households by Land Ownership Status
- Table 11: Respondents women of sample households by Land Ownership Status
- Table 12: Distribution of household decision on Marriage
- Table 13: Distribution of households by effects of women's land property ownership on marriage
- Table 14: Distribution of households by effects of women's land property ownership of women on land fragmentation
- Table 15: Distribution of households by effects of land property ownership of women on household economy
- Table 16: Distribution of households by effects of Women's land property ownership on son preference
- Table 17: Distribution of households by effects of Women's land property ownership on Education
- Table 18: Distribution of households by effects of Women's land property ownership on Caste/Ethinicity
- Table 19: Percentage gender based household head
- Table 20: Distribution of households by effects of Women's land property ownership on Decision Making

ABBREVIATIONS

ILO - International Labor Organization

UN - United Nation

FWLD - Forum for Women, Law and Development

NESAC - Nepal South Asia Centre

CBS - Central Bureau of Statistics

UNFPA - United Nation and Population Fund

HH - Households

VDC - Village Development Committee

LORW - Land Ownership Right for Women