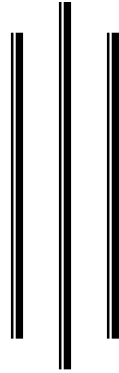
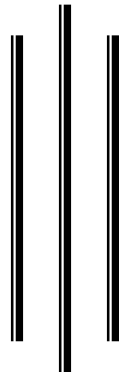


**CHANGE IN RITUALS AMONG THE LIMBU COMMUNITY:
A CASE STUDY OF JORPATI VDC, KATHMANDU**



**A Dissertation
Submitted to:
The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Sociology/Anthropology Prithwi Narayan Campus, Pokhara
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Degree of Master of Arts in
Sociology**



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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that **Mr. Maheswor Sodemba** has completed this dissertation entitled “**Change in Rituals Among the Limbu Community: A Case Study of Jorpati VDC, Kathmandu**” under my supervision and guidance. I, therefore, recommend this dissertation for final approval and acceptance.

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LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

The dissertation entitled “**Change in Rituals Among the Limbu Community: A Case Study of Jorpati VDC, Kathmandu**” submitted by **Mr. Maheswor Sodemba** has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the **Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology**.

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April, 2011

RECOMMENDATION BY EDITOR

This is to certify that I have gone through the draft of dissertation entitled “**Change in Rituals Among the Limbu Community: A Case Study of Jorpati VDC, Kathmandu**” prepared by **Mr. Maheswor Sodemba** as a language editor and made necessary correction and improvements there in. I have been impressed by his intelligible presentation of the facts through the medium of plain and correct English.

Mr. Tej Narayan Adhikari

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April, 2011

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-Maheswor Sodemba

ABSTRACT

Limbus are the migrant ethnic group in the Kathmandu valley. They have been migrated at different parts of Kathmandu from the time immemorial. Among the various parts of Kathmandu, Jorpati VDC is one of them. After their migration into this study area, they have been practicing their life cycle ceremonies according to Limbu *Mundhums*. During the performance of birth, marriage and death rituals, they have used symbols with their specific meanings which have been identified in this study. After their migration, there has been found some changes in the forms of rituals due to various process of cultural changes such as modernization, acculturation, urbanization, sanskritization and also due to the various changing factors such as ecological factor, technological factor, demographic factor, economic factor, political factor and other factors such as issue of ethnic identity. Hence, all these causes and factors are described in this study to know about the changing forms of rituals practiced by the migrant Limbus residing in Jorpati VDC, Kathmandu.

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Glossary

<i>Sappok chomen:</i>	Worship of womb (Kokh Puja)
<i>Phedangma:</i>	A Limbu priest who performs rituals
<i>Samba:</i>	A Limbu priest who specially performs death rituals
<i>Yeba:</i>	Male death ritual performer
<i>Yema:</i>	Female death ritual performer
<i>Mundhum:</i>	Limbus' religious scripture (poetic expressions of legends, history, songs etc)
<i>Phudong:</i>	An animal or part of the slaughtered animal to entertain the guest as a part of the hospitality
<i>Henamepma:</i>	Toast proposal
<i>Yalang/Yarakma:</i>	Paddy dance (Dhan Nach)
<i>Khauma:</i>	Purification (death rituals)
<i>Chamyang:</i>	Money
<i>Parmi:</i>	Intermediator
<i>Mekkam Thim:</i>	Marriage ritual
<i>Nigwa Takma:</i>	Love marriage
<i>Naksingma Mekhim:</i>	Arranged marriage
<i>Ingmiba:</i>	Negotiator (Bharaute)
<i>Pelifak Hukwa:</i>	Bintibisaune Dastur
<i>Mekhli:</i>	A kind of cloth worn by bride during marriage
<i>Taga:</i>	A kind of cloth worn by groom during marriage
<i>Nisingma Sewa:</i>	Introductory salute

<i>Mangenna:</i>	A kind of worship of goddess for the good health of the family members
<i>Nahangma:</i>	A kind of worship performed for good health and prosperity of head of the family
<i>Yangdang Phongma:</i>	To hang a cradle
<i>Samyok:</i>	Cynodon dactylon (Doob grass)
<i>Tumyahang:</i>	Distinguished persons
<i>Sam:</i>	Soul of the dead person
<i>Khumna Marriage:</i>	Theft (abduction) marriage
<i>Mekesama/Menchyaburukma:</i>	Bride's companion during marriage (Lokanti)
<i>Unchi Oppma:</i>	Groom's companion during marriage (Lokande)
<i>Chyabrung:</i>	A kind of Limbu playing instrument (Dhol)
<i>Tiwajo:</i>	A kind of crown usually worn by groom during marriage ceremony
<i>Ingladakma:</i>	A marriage ritual to confirm the groom's parents that they care and look after the bride now onwards
<i>Chesaba:</i>	Mourners
<i>Yupparung:</i>	Silver coin
<i>Tagera Ningwaphuma:</i>	The supreme god of Limbus
<i>Ipungden:</i>	Graveyard
<i>Chedhap:</i>	A kind of basket to place the dead body to take to the graveyard or for cremation

