

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN: A CASE STUDY OF KIRTIPUR MUNICIPALITY

A Thesis

**Submitted to the Central Department of Economics,
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the**

**MASTERS OF ARTS in
ECONOMICS**

By

Sirjana Acharya

Roll No. 369/064

**Central Department of Economics,
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur,
Kathmandu, Nepal**

June 2011

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN: A CASE STUDY OF KIRTIPUR MUNICIPALITY

A Thesis

Submitted to the Central Department of Economics,
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

**MASTERS OF ARTS in
ECONOMICS**

By

Sirjana Acharya

Roll No. 369/064

Central Department of Economics,

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur,

Kathmandu, Nepal

June 2011

Date: 16 Jun 2011

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

The thesis entitled “*Socio-Economic Status of Women: A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality, Kathmandu Nepal*” has been prepared by Mrs. Sirjana Acharya under my supervision. I hereby recommend this thesis for examination by the thesis committee as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTERS OF ARTS in ECONOMICS.

.....

Associate Prof. Dr. Pushpa Sherstha (Malla)
Central Department of Economics,
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

APPROVAL LETTER

The thesis entitled “*Socio-Economic Status of Women: A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality, Kathmandu Nepal*” submitted by Mrs. Sirjana Acharya has been evaluated and accepted as the requirement for the Partial fulfillment of the Degree of MASTERS OF ARTS in ECONOMICS.

Thesis Committee

Prof. Dr. Rudhra Prasad Upadhyaya
Head of Department

.....

Prof. Dr. Bijaya Shrestha
External

.....

Associate Prof. Dr. Pushpa Sherstha (Malla)
Supervisor

.....

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who gave me valuable suggestions, stimulating ideas, constructive comments and encouragements. Without their support this study would not be possible. First and foremost, I am very grateful to all my respondents of Kirtipur-12, 14 and 15 who agreed to be interviewed, allowing me to get inside into their lives and works.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and deep appreciation to Associate Prof. Dr. Pushpa Shrestha (Malla), Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, for her continuous guidance, supervision, encouragement and valuable suggestions. I am sincerely thankful to all my respected teacher of this Department who directly and indirectly helped me in the course of writing. I would also like to thank Prof. Dr. Rudhra Prasad Upadhaya, Department Head, Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University, for generous encouragement to my research work.

I am grateful to all my friends; among them are Sujita Karki, Gita Gautam, Devi Subedi, Maya Ghimire, Momendra Shrestha, and Husband Dipak Gautam who supported me in the period of research work and thesis completion.

Last but not least, I extend my special aspiration to my parents Shalik Ram Acharya and Pusalata Acharya, brother Mahesh Acharya who encouraged, inspired and brought me up to this academic level by their great effort, encouragement and continuous support.

Sirjana Acharya
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

June 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
RECOMMENDATION LETTER	I
APPROVAL SHEET	II
ACKNOWLEDEMENT	III
TABLE OF CONTENTS	IV
LIST OF TABLES	VII
LIST OF FIGURE	VIII
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	IX
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-8
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Status of Women in Nepal	3
1.3 Status of Vegetable Farming in Nepal	5
1.3.1 Expenditure on Vegetable Farming	5
1.3.2 Access to Agricultural service	6
1.4 Statement of the Problem	6
1.5 Objective of the Study	8
1.6 Limitation of the Study	8
1.7 Organization of the Study	8
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	10-22
2.1 General Review	10
2.2 Status of Women in Nepal	11
2.3 Role of Women in Agriculture	17
2.4 Role of Women in Vegetable Farming	22
2.5 Conclusion Remarks	22
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	23-25
3.1 Research Design	23

3.2 Introduction of the study area	23
3.3 Nature and Sources of Data Collection	23
3.4 Primary Data	24
3.5 Structured Questionnaire	24
3.6 Interview with key information	24
3.7 Secondary Data	25
3.8 Sample Size	25
3.9 Sampling Procedure	25
3.10 Data Processing and Analysis	25
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS	26-50
4.1.1 Introduction to the Kirtipur Municipality	26
4.1.2 Socio-Economic Status	28
4.1.3 Population Composition by Age and Sex	29
4.1.4 Caste/Ethnicity Composition of Sampled Households	31
4.1.5 Occupation and Economic Characteristics	32
4.1.6 Religious and Language Composition	33
4.1.7 Demographic Profile of the Municipality	35
4.2 Socio-Economic Characteristics of Working Women Respondents	35
4.2.1 Age Structure of the Women Respondents	35
4.2.2 Educational Status of the Respondents	36
4.2.3 Marital Status of the Respondents	37
4.2.4 Family Structure	38
4.2.5 Nature of Daily Activities and working hours of Women engaged in vegetable farmers.	39
4.2.6.1 Decision making by engaged in vegetable farming	41
4.2.6.2 Decision Making on the types of vegetable	42
4.2.6.3 Decision making practices on vegetable Farm Activities	42

4.2.7 Respondents and their Income	43
4.2.8 Respondents and their Assets	44
4.2.9 Control Over Income	45
4.2.10 Mobility Level of Women Farmer	47
4.2.11 Duality in female role as house-wife and outdoor work	48
4.2.12 Wage Discrimination between Male and Female	48
4.2.13 Moral/Physical Exploitation	49
4.2.14 Problems Faced by the Vegetable Growing Women in Vegetable Farming	50 50
4.3 Status of Vegetable Growing Women in Kirtipur Municipality	50
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION 51-57	
5.1 Summary	52
5.2 Conclusion	54
5.3 Recommendation	56
5.3.1 Economic Status of Women	56
5.3.2 Social Status of Women and Decision Making	56
5.3.3 Time Management of the Women	57
5.2.4 Capacity Building of Women and other	57
References	58
ANNEXES 1	60

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Table Title	Page No.
4.1	Ward wise Population Distribution in Kirtipur Municipality	29
4.2	Population Composition by age and Sex in Kirtipur Municipality	30
4.3	Cast/ Ethnic Composition of Sample Households.	31
4.4	Major Occupation of Respondent Households	33
4.5	Religious Composition of sampled Households	34
4.6	Distribution of Sample Households by three wards of Kirtipur Municipality	35
4.7	Age Wise Distribution of women Respondents.	36
4.8	Educational Wise Distribution of the Respondents.	37
4.9	Marital Status Wise Distribution of the Respondents	37
4.10	Distribution of the Respondents by Family Types	38
4.11	Nature of Daily Activities and Working Hours of Women Vegetable Farming.	40
4.12	Distribution of the Respondents on the Basis of Decision making Position.	41
4.13	Decision Making Position on the choice of vegetables farming	42
4.14	Distribution of the women Respondents, their Husband and Others by types of Decision of vegetable farm Activities.	43
4.15	Income Pattern of the Women Vegetable Farmers.	44
4.16	Distribution of the Respondents on the Basis of Assets owned.	45
4.17	Possession of income Earned from Vegetables.	45
4.18	Decision Making Practices on Money Expenditure.	46
4.19	Distribution of the Respondents on the Basis of Mobility Level	47
4.20	Distribution of the Respondents on the Basis of Dual Role as a House-Wife and Working Women	48
4.21	Response of Respondents on Wage Discrimination between Male and Female with Same Kinds of Work.	49
4.22	Response of Respondents on Moral/Physical Exploitation in Their Work.	49
4.23	Problem Faced by Vegetable Varming	50

LIST OF FIGURE

Figure No.	Figure Title	Page No.
Figure: 4.1	Population Composition by age and Sex in Kirtipur Municipality.	30
Figure: 4.2	Caste/Ethnic Composition Sampled Households	32
Figure: 4.3	Major Occupation of Respondent Households	33
Figure: 4.4	Religious Composition of Sampled Households	34
Figure: 4.5	Marital Status of the Respondents.	38
Figure: 4.6	Distribution of the Respondents by Family Types	39
Figure: 4.7	Decision Making Practices on Money Expenditure	

LIST OF PHOTO

Photo 4.1	Photo Nayabazar	27
-----------	-----------------	----

LIST OF MAP

Map 4.1	Kirtipur Municipality	28
---------	-----------------------	----

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CEDA	:	Central for Economic Development and Administration
DDC	:	District Development Programme
FAO	:	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
ILO	:	International Labour Organization
INGO	:	International Non-Government Organization
MOA	:	Ministry of Agriculture
MOF	:	Ministry of Finance
NARC	:	Nepal Agriculture Research Council
NGO	:	Non-Government Organization
NHDR	:	Nepal Human Development
SAARC	:	South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
T.U	:	Tribhuvan University
WDR	:	World Development Report
WFDD	:	Women Farmer Development Division