

# LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY OF BOTE PEOPLE

[A Case of Bote Community of Patihani VDC, Chitwan]

A Thesis

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the

Requirements

for the Award of the Degree of Master of Arts

in Rural Development

Pramod Bhattarai

TU Regd. No.: 6-1-239-96-2000

Central Department of Rural Development

Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences

Tribhuvan University

Kathmandu, Nepal

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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled “**Livelihood Strategy of Bote People: A case of Bote Community of Patihani VDC, Chitwan**” is prepared by **Mr. Pramod Bhattarai** under my guidance and supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master's of Arts in Rural Development. I hereby recommend this thesis for final approval and acceptance.

.....

**Umesh Acharya**  
Supervisor

**Date: 2066/10/19**

## LETTER OF APPROVAL

This thesis entitled, “**Livelihood Strategy of Bote People: A case of Bote Community of Patihani VDC, Chitwan**” written and submitted by **Mr. Pramod Bhattarai** has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements towards the completion of *Master of Arts in Rural Development*.

### **Evaluation Committee:**

---

Prof. Dr. Pradeep K. Khadka  
Head of the Department  
Central Department of Rural Development

---

Dr. Mangala Shrestha  
Professor, Central Department of Rural Development  
(External)

---

Umesh Acharya  
Lecturer, Central Department of Rural Development  
(Supervisor)

**Date: Feb 3, 2010**

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**Pramod Bhattarai**

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## ABSTRACT

*This Thesis on the 'Livelihood strategy of Bote people' was conducted in Patihani VDC of Chitwan District. The study is focused on the marginalized ethnic group of Bote people and explores livelihood patterns of Bote community of Nepal.*

*Conceptually livelihood connotes the means of activities entitlements and assets by which people make a living. It is related with both agriculture and non-agriculture sectors. The sources of livelihood of rural people are mainly threw cash crops, horticulture, animal husbandry, dairy, poultry, piggery, fishery, organic farming-vermin compost, handicrafts, rural artisans, and non-timber forest products etc. which are also followed by the Bote people of the study area. Dependence on wage labour, mostly of the unskilled and underpaid variety, is another important source of livelihood for majority of Botes in the study area. Bote unskilled labours migrate to the urban center for wage labour especially during lean agricultural periods. Botes have lots of hardship and drudgery in their livelihood earning.*

*Research in Bote Tole of Patihani shows that historically people had their livelihood from agriculture based activities. Land was a major household asset and crop production (Maize, millet, paddy, wheat etc) was the means of survival. But rapid urbanization and globalization pushed them in the transition providing both opportunities and constraints. The household assets have undergone rapid modification. Now they have no option other than modifying the traditional occupation. Land fragmentation, change in social institution, resulted from the urbanization and globalization. The livelihood diversification and introducing of foreign employment have recently emerged livelihood strategies of the people in the study area. Due to the proximity to the market, the influence of the urbanization is more apparent in the Bote Village. In the study area most of the households follow the multiple occupations besides agriculture. The role of agriculture activities in their life is substantial. Although a few households sell their crops, most of them sell the vegetable.*

*The livelihood strategy of Bote community in the study area is in transition. It shifted from agriculture to non-agricultural one. The household assets of this community have greatly influenced the process of adaptation of new strategy or modification of traditional occupation. Economic development and other economic activities change the surrounding environment of the people of a particular area have to change their way of life to adopt with the changing environment.*

*Livelihood difficulty reflects on unprofitable farming activities or unremunerative employment, which may not even allow the poor family to meet their basic needs. So, it is inevitable to identify and disseminate the effective livelihood strategy, especially, for the improvement of livelihood of Botes. It is necessary to ensure access to resources and increase social and political participation of Bote community for integral development of rural community in Nepal.*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Page No.

RECOMMENDATION	
APPROVAL LETTER	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	
ABSTRACT	
TABLE OF CONTENTS	
LIST OF TABLES, BOXES, FIGURES AND DIAGRAMS	
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	
CHAPTER- I: INTRODUCTION	1-
5	
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objective of the Study	4
1.4 Scope of the Study	4
1.5 Limitation of the Study	5
1.6 Organization of the Study	5
CHAPTER- II: LITERATURE REVIEW	6-24
2.1 Studies Related to Bote Community	6
2.2 Sustainable Livelihood Approach	10
2.2.1 Framework	12
2.2.2 Vulnerability Context	15
2.2.3 Livelihood Assets	15
2.2.4 Change in Asset Structure	16
2.2.5 Transforming Structure and Process	16
2.2.6 Livelihood Strategy	17
2.2.7 Livelihood Outcomes	17
2.3 Empirical Studies	18
2.3.1 Studies Related to Livelihood Strategies	18
2.4 General Study Related with Different Caste/Ethnicity	22

<b>CHAPTER- III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>25-28</b>	
3.1 Research Design		25
3.2 Selection of the Research Site		25
3.3 Sample Procedur		26
3.4 Source of Data collection		26
3.5 Data collection Technique and Tools		26
3.5.1 Questionnaire (Household) Survey		26
3.5.2 Key informant Interview		26
3.5.3 Participatory Observation		27
3.5.4 Informal Discussion		27
3.5.5 Focus Group Discussion		27
3.5.6 Field Notes		28
3.5.7 Life (Oral) History Interview		28
3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation		28
<b>CHAPTER- IV: PRESENTATION OF DATA AND THE STUDY AREA</b>	<b>30-44</b>	
4.1 The Setting		30
4.1.1 Chitwan District: A Short Profile		30
4.1.2 Patihani VDC: A General Profile		32
4.2 The Botes of Patihani VDC		34
4.3 Settlement		35
4.3.1 Housing Pattern		36
4.4 Social Aspect		36
4.4.1 Structure of Family		37
4.4.2 Age Composition		37
4.5 Languages and Religion		39
4.6 Education		40
4.7 Health and Sanitation		41
4.8 Feast and Festivals		42
4.9 Food and Drinking Habits		42
4.10 Life Cycle Rites		42
4.10.1 Birth		42
4.10.2 Marriage		43
4.10.3 Death		43

**CHAPTER-V: TRADITIONAL WAY OF EARNING LIVELIHOOD45-49**

5.1 Fishing	45
5.2 Farm Activities	46
5.2.1 Crop Farming	46
5.2.2 Animal Rearing	48
5.3 Government Service	49

**LIST OF TABLES, BOXES, FIGURS, DIAGRAMS**

<b>Table No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b><u>Page No.</u></b>
1.1	Janajati of Nepal	
2		
4.1	Ethnic Composition of Chitwan District	
32		
4.2	Distribution of Population and Household by Wards	33
4.3	Ethnic Composition of Population of Patihani VDC	34
4.4	Types of Bote Households	
36		
4.5	Family Types of the Households	
36		
4.6	Population Distribution of Bote on the Basis of Age and Sex	
37		
4.7	An Example of Bote Language	
38		
4.8	Education Status by Sex of Bote in the Study Area	40
4.9	Treatment Pattern in Illness of Bote Community	41
5.1	Food Production by Household in Muri	
46		
5.2	Livestock Population by Household	48
6.1	Sustainable Livelihood Models	
51		



6.2	Person Involving in Wage labor	
	52	
6.3	Landholding by Household (Kattha)	55
6.4	Use of Forest Resources by Household	
	56	
6.5	Household Size and Structure	
	59	
6.6	Household Involving in Selling Seasonal Vegetables	62
6.7	Factors Behind Shifts Away from Farming	65
6.8	Multiple Occupational Involvements by Household	66
7.1	Involvement and Training Recipient Women	
	73	
7.2	Distribution of Respondents who known about politics by their Education	
	75	
7.3	Distribution of Respondents by their involvement	
	75	
7.4	Voting Behaviour of Bote in Different Election	
	76	

Figure No.

2.1	Sustainable Rural Livelihood Framework	14
3.1	Schematic Frameworks of Data Analysis	29

Diagram No.

4.1	Religion of the Households of Bote	39
5.1	Food Sufficiency by Month	
	47	

**Boxes**

Box	6.1	
	53	
Box	7.1	
	72	

**CHAPTER-VI: DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE IN HOUSEHOLD ASSETS AND  
LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY 50-67**

6.1 Household Assets	51
6.1.1 Human Capital	51
6.1.2 Physical Capital	53
6.1.3 Natural Capital	54
6.1.4 Social Capital	57
6.1.5 Financial Capital	59
6.2 Livelihood Strategy	60
6.2.1 Commercialization of Farm	61
6.2.2 Off Farm Wage labor	63
6.2.3 Modification in Traditional Occupation	63
6.2.4 Work Opportunities in Non Agriculture	63
6.2.5 Livelihood Diversification	64
6.3 Livelihood Challenges	65
6.4 Livelihood Outcomes	66

**CHAPTER-VII:           WOMEN           AND           INSTITUTIONAL           CHANGE  
6**

**8-75**

7.1 Institution: Conceptual Consideration	69
7.2 Women in Household	69
7.2.1 Household Assets Ownership	69
7.2.2 Work and Responsibilities	70
7.2.3 House Decision Making Process	70
7.2.4 Resources Use	71
7.3 Women in Community and Public Sector	71
7.4 Social Perception toward Women	72
7.5 Women in Education	73
7.6 Political Participation of Bote	73
7.6.1 Voting Behaviour of Bote People	75

CHAPTER-VIII: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION 76-79

8.1 Conclusion	77
8.2 Recommendations	78

REFERENCES

APPENDIX -A, B

PHOTOGRAPHS

## ACRONYMS/ ABBREVIATIONS

CBO	:	Community Based Organization
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDRD	:	Central Department of Rural Development
DDC	:	District Development Committee Development
DFID	:	Department for International Development
HHs	:	Households
ICMOD	:	International Center for Integrated Mountain
IDS	:	International Development Studies
INGO	:	International Non Governmental Organization
NCCR	:	National Center of Competence in Research
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organizations
No.	:	Number
NPC	:	National Planning Commission
NPC	:	National Planning commission
PAF	:	Poverty Alleviation Fund
Regd.	:	Registration
SIDA	:	Swedish International Development Agency
SL	:	Sustainable Livelihood
SPSS	:	Statistical Package for Social Science
SRL	:	Sustainable Rural Livelihood
TU	:	Tribhuvan University

UNDP : United Nations Development Program

VDC : Village Development Committee