

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF DALITS:

**A Case Study of Sarki Community of Inaruwa Municipality,
Sunsari District**

A Thesis

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By

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis report entitled *Socio-economic Status of Dalits: A Case Study of Sarki Community of Inaruwa Municipality, Sunsari District* is prepared by Miss. Sujata Bhattarai under my guidance and supervision for the partial requirement of Master's Degree in Rural Development. Therefore, this thesis report is recommended to the evaluation committee for its final approval.

.....

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Date: 2065/

APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that the thesis entitled *Socio-economic Status of Dalits: A Case Study of Sarki Community of Inaruwa Municipality, Balaha, Sunsari District* written and submitted by Sujata Bhattarai has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements toward the completion of Masters of Arts in Rural Development.

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- Sujata Bhattarai

ABSTRACT

The socio-economic condition of the Dalit Sarki is the subject matter of being concern because no doubt that Nepal has very diverse form of various caste, ethnicity and language. Such diversification has been a glory to the country. Every caste has their own socio-cultural and occupation aspects. Socio-cultural and occupation of any community affect the economy level. Thus the study of socio-economic status of Dalit Sarki gives the general information about overall Dalit.

Dalit Sarki people are fully interdependence with other caste people. The socio-economic condition of Sarki is poor than other castes/ethnic groups. Caste-based discrimination and discrimination among religions is gradually decreasing in the society.

The study is "Socio-economic Status of Dalits" (A Case Study on Sarki Community in Inaruwa Municipality, Balaha, Sunsari District). It has been carried out using primary data sources obtained from Dalit Sarki settlement area of Inaruwa Municipality, Sunsari. The general objectives of this study are to find out the socio-economic condition of Sarki community of Inaruwa Municipality in Sunsari district. The specific objectives of study area are: (I) To introduce of sarkis in the study area (ii) To study the social aspect of sarkis (iii) to describe the cultural aspect of sarkis and (iv) To analyze the economic condition of sarkis.

Descriptive research design has been adopted for this study and other method of methodology techniques, research design, data collection and interview, sampling etc. are used. There were 78 household of Dalit Sarki in Inaruwa Municipality. 30 of the total household were selected as sample size. To generate the primary data the structured questionnaire, key informant interview and observation also limited by simple random sampling from the Sarki household of this Municipality only.

Large number of Sarki people of this Municipality is poor, socio-economic and cultural status also poor. The economic condition of Sarki of this study area is not modernized

and it is going to traditional way. So, the situation of traditional leather-based occupation is in decreasing stage.

Socially Sarki people of this study area are deprived because they have traditional belief towards untouchability where 73.33% were favour in this view and only 26.67% were aware about it. Educational status of Sarki is also not good only 40% of the total is literate and (60%) majority of the population was illiterate. Only a Sarki male person has passed the SLC. They had given priority on arranged marriage of 80% of the total; only young generation of 20% had adopted love marriage.

The situation of the importance towards their sons and daughters was uniformity because 100% Sarki people gave importance towards their sons due to their traditional beliefs.

Twenty four households of Sarki (80%) of the total were the Hindu and 6 households (20%) were Christian of this study area. Economically Sarki people are poor because 50% people have adopted agriculture as their main occupation, 43.33% people have adopted leather-based itraditional occupation and only 6.67% people have adopted service sector as their main occupation. From where their traditional agriculture system and unskilled leather-based indigenous occupation had not sufficient for sustain.

No one landless in this study are and majority of the Sarki people have in the range of 5-10 ropanis landholding size which comprises 43.33% of the total population.

They had high expenditure in comparison of their income level so, saving condition is very poor. The most of the Sarki people were in burden of the loan where 28 households (93.33%) were found to be loan-holder in this Sarki community of this study area. Thus the overall social and economic condition of Sarki is poor of this study area.

CONTENTS

	Page No.
Recommendation Letter	i
Approval Sheet	ii
Abstract	iii
Acknowledgements	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	ix
Abbreviations/Acronyms	xi
CHAPTER -I: INTRODUCTION	1-11
1.1 Background	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2 Statement of the Problem	5
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Rationale of the Study	8
1.5 Conceptual Framework	8
4.6 Limitations of the Study	10
1.7 Organization of the Study	10
CHAPTER - II: REVIEW OF LITERATURE	12-20
2.1 Review on Caste System	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.2. The Study of <i>Thar</i> and <i>Gotra</i> of Sarkis	20
CHAPTER -III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	21-23
3.1 Rationale of the Selection of the Study Area	21
3.2 Research Design	21
3.3 Nature and Sources of Data	21
3.4 Universe and Sampling	22

3.5 Data Collection Tools and Techniques	22
3.5.1 Questionnaire	22
3.5.2 Observation	22
3.5.3 Households Survey	22
3.5.4 Key Informant Interview	23
3.6 Secondary Data Collection	23
3.7 Data Processing and Analysis	23
CHAPTER- IV: SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA	24-29
4.1 Physical Setting of Sunsari District	24
4.2 Natural Resources	24
4.2.1 Land	24
4.2.2 Forest	25
4.2.3 Water	25
4.3 Social Setting	25
4.3.1 Population Size	25
4.3.2 Caste and Ethnicity	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.3.3 Language	27
4.3.4 Religion	28
4.3.5 Development of Infrastructure in Inaruwa Municipality	28
4.4 History of Sarki in Inaruwa Municipality	28
CHAPTER - V: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA	30-50
5.1 Social Condition of Sarki	30
5.1.1 Introduction of Sarki of Inaruwa Municipality	30
5.1.2 Population of Sarki	30
5.1.3 Caste Based Discrimination on Public Spheres	30
5.1.4 Educational Condition	32
5.1.5 The Social Lifestyle	33

5.1.6 Family Structure	33
5.1.7 Condition of Women	36
5.1.8 Social and Political Awareness	37
5.2 Cultural Condition of Sarki	37
5.2.1 Language	37
5.2.2 Food Habit	38
5.2.3 Clothing Ornaments	38
5.2.4 Ritual Passage	38
5.2.5 Festivals	41
5.2.6 Religion	42
5.3 Economic Condition of Sarki	42
5.3.1 Occupation	43
5.3.2 Land Ownership	44
5.3.3 Situation of Agricultural Production	45
5.3.4 Livestock	45
5.3.5 Income, Expenditure and Saving Condition of Sarki	46
5.3.6 Causes of Economic Backwardness	48

CHAPTER - VI: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND

RECOMMENDATIONS

51-55

6.1 Summary	51
6.2 Conclusion	52
6.3 Recommendations	53

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ANNEXES

LIST OF TABLES

	Page No.
Table 4.1: Distribution of Population of Inaruwa Municipality by Ward, Household and Sex	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Table 4.2: Caste/ Ethnic wise Population of Inaruwa municipality	27
Table 4.3: Distribution of Population by Languages	28
Table 5.1: Distribution of Discrimination by Place	30
Table 5.2: Respondents' View Towards Untouchability in the Inaruwa Municipality	31
Table 5.3: Distribution of the Feelings of Respondents to Abolish Caste- Based Discrimination	32
Table 5.4: Distribution of Educational Status of the Respondents	32
Table 5.5: Family Size of the Respondents	33
Table 5.6: Distribution of the Respondents by Family Type	34
Table 5.7: Respondents' Son and Daughter by Age Group	34
Table 5.8: Distribution of the Respondents by Marriage Age	35
Table 5.9: Distribution of the Respondents by Marriage System	35
Table 5.10: Distribution of the Respondents by Type of Marriage	35
Table 5.11: Distribution of Respondents in Importance Towards Sons/Daughters	36
Table 5.12: Distribution of Religion of Respondents	42
Table 5.13: Distribution of Respondents by the Main Occupation	43
Table 5.14: Distribution of the Condition of Leatherwork of Respondent	44
Table 5.15: Distribution of Landholding Size of Respondents	44
Table 5.16: Distribution of Agriculture Production in a Year	45
Table 5.17: Distribution of the Respondents by Livestock	45

Table 5.18: Distribution of Respondent by Household Total Yearly Income Level	46
Table 5.19: Distribution of Respondent by Household Total Yearly Expenditure	46
Table 5.20: Distribution of Respondent by Household Total Yearly Saving	47
Table 5.21: Distribution of Loans of Respondents	48

ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

B.S.	Bikram Sambat
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
DWO	Dalit Welfare Organization
FEDO	Feminist Dalit Organization
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
JUP	Jana Utthan Pratisthan
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NHDR	Nepal Human Development Report
NNDSWO	Nepal National Depressed Social Welfare Organization
UMN	United Mission to Nepal
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
DDC	District Development Committee