

Tourism Development in Bhaktapur: (A Case Study of Three Squares of Bhaktapur District)

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By:

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is certified that the **Thesis** Submitted by **Apsara Karki** entitled **Tourism Development in Bhaktapur** (A Case Study of Three Square of Bhaktapur District) has been prepared as approved by this department in the prescribed format of the faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. This thesis is forwarded for its evaluation.

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APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis entitled **Tourism Development in Bhaktapur** (A Case study of Three Square of Bhaktapur District) submitted by **Apsara Karki** has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development.

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ABSTRACT

Tourism is defined as a business activity connected with providing accommodation, services and entertainment for people who are visiting a place for pleasure. With the advertisement of the new millennium, tourist activity and its impact have become of great importance to a change world, where more and more people have the opportunity of becoming tourists.

With the beaming of modern tourism in Nepal four decades back tourist activities in Bhaktapur also gained momentum as a “Cultural tourism” destination. Abundance of historic, artistic and unique architectures, monuments, culturally rich festivals, dances, music, art and life style in Bhaktapur city have attracted millions of tourists since then. The major sightseeing places in Bhaktapur include Durbar Square, Taumadhi Square and Dattarey Square.

This study is concerned of three squares (Durbar Square, Taumadhi Square and Dattarey Square) and intended to find out trend of tourism and its socioeconomic impact in the study areas. Especially these following specific objectives were taken to analyze the study topic. Specific objectives are follows;

-) To show the trend of tourist inflow in Bhaktapur.*
-) To examine the condition of cultural heritage in the study area.*
-) To identify the problems and prospects of tourist in the study area.*

Bhaktapur is known to be cultural heritage city in Nepal. Among the total tourists visiting to Nepal are cultural tourists so this city is main attraction for those all tourists who are interested in cultural heritage. UNESCO listed 10 heritages sites of Nepal. Among them one is Bhaktapur Durbar Square. To maintain the dignity of the city in the world, a lot of works should be done such as environment sanitation, reconstructed, well managed and preservation of cultural and historical places etc. Despite sign of a development in the heritages sites, there is no room for gratification.

Similar pattern of seasonal variation of tourist inflow is found in case of Bhaktapur as well. October, November and March show the high inflow of tourist in the study area. The inflow is equal in September, December, February and April. The summer months June and July record the least inflow. Tourist inflow is relatively high in autumn and spring and least in winter and summer seasons.

Tourism is the main source of revenue for Bhaktapur. Bhaktapur municipality has not adequate funds for undertaking this activity. Bhaktapur Municipality has decided to implement the tourist entrance fee in 1993 to generate funds in order to maintain historical structures in this town.

Due to lack of proper management of the tourism industry of Bhaktapur, tourists are facing many problems (hotels and restaurants, recreation centers, tourist guides and transportation and physical facilities). Therefore, a well-managed tourism industry should be launched as soon as possible.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AD	: Anno Domini
BCCI	: Bhaktapur Chamber of Commerce and Industry
BTDC	: Bhaktapur tourism Development Committee
LEAP	: Local Effort and preservation
NTB	: Nepal tourism Board
SAARC	: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
UNESCO	: United Nation Education Scientific Cultural Organization
US	: United States