

**Study on the Socio-cultural and Eco Status of
Dura: a Case Study of Sindure VDC of
Lamjuung District**

**A Thesis Submitted to
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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

It is certified that the dissertation work entitled "**Study on the Socio-cultural and Eco Status of Dura: a Case Study of Sindure VDC of Lamjung District**" submitted by Singh Raj Dura for the partial fulfillment of the requirements of Master Arts in Rural Development, has been prepared under my supervision. The result presented in the dissertation is solely based on the student's fieldwork and have not been submitted for any other Academic Degree.

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It is certified that the dissertation work entitled "**Study on the Socio-cultural and Eco Status of Dura : a Case Study of Sindure VDC of Lamjung District**" submitted by Singh Raj Dura has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of Master Degree in Rural Development.

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The final responsibility for all remaining errors and defects, however if of mine alone.

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List of Abbreviation and Acronyms

ASML	Above mean sea level
C	Central
CA	Circa
CBS	Central Beuro of Statistic
DDC	District development committee
DOS	Department of Survey
ed	Edition
etal	See another person
Gov	Government of Nepal
Mals	Mount Manaslu
MLD	Ministry of Local Development
NPC	National planning commission
VDC	Village development committee
WTO	World Trade Organization

Glossary of Terms

Bariland	A class of land type, normally not irrigated and maize is grown during the main cropping season along with other crops in mixture.
Bhut	Evil spirit
Bhoj	Feast banquet.
Bhumi Puja	Worship of the earth deity.
Damai	An untouchable caste of tailors and musicians.
Kami	Untouchable caste of metal workers.
Khoi	A community funded and organized feast; usually associated with the Sorati and gatherings, and Putpute custom and Ghantu dance.
Jand	A 'beer' made from fermented millet of rice.
Janti	The groom's procession to the bride's house.
Jari	Adultery; jari fine is the fee paid a adulterer to the injured party.
Jhankri	Shaman; healer of spirit-caused illness.
Jyabi:	A kind of bag which is a like fishing net. In this bag hens and kids are put carry one place to another.
Kul deuta	The family of lineage god; the god resides near the household hearth and is given daily food offering and yearly blood offerings.
Khetland	Classes of land type generally lower in elevation; terraced and has facing for irrigation and normally rice is grown during the main season.
Lageko Bhageko	Evil spirit who attacks the unfortunate person in day to day life, people talk about Lageko, Bhageko, Bhut, Masan, Pichas etc without any clear distinction and meaning when talking about particular trouble maker they call it Lageko, Bhageko as well as Masan.
Nag	Snake; especially a legendary of deified serpent.
Parma	A communal system of labor exchange.
Pewa	Gifts given a women by her husband and mother & father at the time of the wedding ceremony and throughout their married life; according to Nepalese law, a woman has a complete right over her Pewa to sell or dispose of as she pleases.
Pichas	Evil spirit
Prasad	Literally translatable as blessed; in the context of worship ceremonies it refers to a portion of food which has been given to the god(s) and returned for human consumption.
Puja	To worship in any number of forms: prayer, animal

sacrifice of any offering; Pujari is one who performs a puja

Raksi	A liquor made from the distillation of grain
Rodhi ghar	A social institution for unmarried boys and girls; youngsters gather in the evenings to sit, sing and talk together. It is found predominantly in the Western hills of Nepal among the Dura, Gurungs and Mangrs.
Sudeni	(Traditional birth attendance other) herbal practitioners found in their communities.
Sapha	A white clothe worn on the head as a turban; it is given to men as a sign of respect and honor after a task has been success fully performed.
Sarki	Untouchable caste of leatherworkers.
Tika	A decorative mark worn on the forehead between the eyes.
VDC	A political-administrative unit with varying geographical area and population consists of nine wards (smallest political units). It has an elected council with members consisting of Chairperson, Vice chairperson and other members.
Ward	A smallest political unit of a VDC. A ward consists of villages in a small geographic area.

Abstract

"A man who loves his culture as well as a peacock has pride his feathers."

Dura tribe of Nepal is one of the castes who are in less number though they are dominant people of Sindure Thuloswara migrated from Lamjung to other 12 districts; Tanhanu, Citwan, Kaski, Doti, Kailali, Nawalparasi, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Okhaldhunga, Ramachhap and Rautahat. However their history is a little explanation whereas history of ancestors is unknown, adage saying; ' they are migrated from Dullu Dailakh to Lamjung on contrary, another history says that they are migrated Lamjung on the way from Rudhura Bhot of Mustang, after called them as slowly Rudhura to Dura.' However the history is 512 years old where we can read and get information more vividly than years of 512 ago.

Physically, they closely resemble with the people of Mogolian races. To be more critical, they are like Gurung tribe of Nepal. They resemble with the Gurung not only in physiognomy, but also they are the adherents of Gurung culture, so, sometime, someone claim that Dura is sub-caste of Gurung but it is not true. The very character is that they have own culture and distinct language but it is not happy enough that their language is only restricted in a person's books journals and dissertations. It means the language of Dura is going endanger; the best speaker also speaks broken and rare words. In caste of Dura, there is main problem which is trend of racial drain no stopped yet.

They have six caste divisions and feel equal among these, by nature they are jolly, they have the customs of observing many rituals including birth to death; Rodhi, Parma, Sorati and Ghantu are their breath; culturally, rich but economically, education and politically, they are lagged behind due to small and low productivity land, high population in mass of illiterate and negligence and less contribution in education sectors.

They are also engaged in agriculture as if other professions but abroad take place higher than other profession such administration, educational, and political sectors whereas most of the people are in India.

In term of population, there is small mass of people however we should wish their prosperous life in future and no extinct their language, rituals and original identity and should be brought in main stream of nation which is not doubtfully potential power in development of nation and unit of unity also.