

**CONFLICT MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY FORESTS
(A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF MALINGENI, HUKKAFORE,
PATLECHAUR AND JUKE SAPLANGECOMMUNITY
FOREST OF TEHRATHUM DISTRICT)**

**A DISSERTATION
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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

It is certified that the dissertation entitled "**Conflict Management of Community Forests: A Comparative Study of Malengeni, Hukkafore, Patlechaur and Juke Saplange Community Forests of Tehrathum District**" by **Bhakta Bahadur Khadka** is completed under my supervision and guidance. I would like to recommend it for the final approval.

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ABSTRACT

This is the study of conflicts issues and their adopted methods of management between different stakeholders of Malengeni, Hukkafore, Patlechaur and Juke Saplange community forests of Tehrathum district.

The main objectives of the study are: to find out the conflicts of forests, to explore the causes and consequences of conflicts, to compare the level of conflicts and to assess the methods of conflict management.

This study is based on mainly primary data and partially on the secondary data. Primary data was collected in July 2006 from 100 respondents in total with key informants. Questionnaire, interview and checklist were the main tools of the study.

Limbu, Rai, Chhetri and Gurung were the major user castes of community forests and they all were from Kirat (Rai and Limbu), Hindu and Buddha Religion respectively. On average their educational status, income status and landholding size are low but their family size is very high because their average family size is 7.26, which is higher than national average family size(5.44).

This is an exploratory and descriptive research study conducted among a total of 100 respondents from four community forests and these respondents were selected by adopting a systematic random sampling method. Research showed that because of lack of leadership quality and low educational attainment of the users, various issues relating to the –transparency, formation of the executive committee, distribution of the forest products and forest boundary.- These issues have adverse effects on relationship among the user members.

However, the users' groups were adopting various methods to manage the conflicts e.g. Compromise, negotiation, consensus, discussion and public auditing.. One of the conflict issues i.e. forest product distribution in Juke Saplange community forest has been resolved through Negotiation and compromise, which is the worth replicable to all community forests that are facing conflicts.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

AGDP	—	Agricultural Gross Domestic Product
BS	—	Bikram Sambat
CBS	—	Central Bureau of Statistics
CF	—	Community Forest
CFUG	—	Community Forest User Group
DDC	—	District Development Committee
DFO	—	District Forest Office
DOF	—	Department of Forest
EC	—	Executive Committee
FA	—	Forest Act
FAO	—	Food and Agricultural Origination
FUG	—	Forest User Groups
GO	—	Government Organization
HH	—	House Hold
HMG	—	His Majesty Government
i.e.	—	That is
ICIMOD	—	International Center for Integrated Mountain Development
JFM	—	Joint Forest Management
LFP	—	Livelihood and Forestry Programme
MOPE	—	Ministry of Population and Environment
MPFS	—	Master Plan for Forestry Sector
NACFP	—	Nepal Australia Community Forestry Project
NGO	—	Non-Government Organization
NPC	—	National Planning Commission
OP	—	Operational Plan
PRA	—	Participatory Rural Appraisal
UG	—	User Group
VDC	—	Village Development Committee