

Impact study on Re-Settlement and Livelihood Development Program for Abolished *Kamaiya*

(A Case Study of Rajapur Delta, Bardiya District)

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Recommendation

This is certify that the thesis entitled **Impact Study on Re-settlement and livelihood development programme on abolished Kamaiya: The Case of Rajapur Delta 11 VDC of Bardiya District**, has been prepared by Mr. Amar Gautam under my supervision in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development. I forward it with recommendation for approval.

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Carrying out thesis is often said to be an individual task, but as many would agree, it is not so. I would say it is a team work. Of course, it was me who traveled through the difficult terrain in the prevailing critical situation of the country. But, several people were involved to make my task enjoyably successful. People in the study area were with me heightening my spirit and supporting with every possible and ethical way. Now, I have come to the end of my task. At this moment, I would like to say that for me carrying out thesis was not only an academic activity but also an emotional one.

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Abstract

The Kamaiya system, which was the residue of the slave system, remains prevalent in the agricultural sector in Nepal. In particular, this system was found in some six districts of Terai of the mid and far Western Development Regions of Nepal. In July 17, 2000, Government of Nepal took a historical and bold stride by announcing complete liberation to all Kamaiyas from their age-old bondage relation. Thus the practice of bonded labour system has been declared illegal. The study on “Impact study on Re-Settlement and Livelihood Development Program for Abolished Kamaiya” was conducted in Rajapur Delta 11VDC of Bardiya district during the months of Sept-Oct of 2006.

The main objectives of the study were. To identify the housing and current settlement pattern of freed Kamaiya. To determine the Livelihood Development Program for these Kamaiyas. To assess the economic conditions (property, Wealth, income, occupation and the likes) of the Kamaiyas. To find out the recommendation for Poverty reduction and re-settlement of Kamaiya.

Both exploratory and descriptive research design were chosen for this study. Both primary and secondary data were collected through various sociological tools and techniques such as questionnaires, observation, focus group discussions. Randomly 116 Kamaiyas' households from 35 resettlement camps of 6 VDC of Rajapur delta was selected as sample. The data were analyzed using simple frequency table and cross tables. Computer software programme is used for data analysis.

From the study it was found that before liberation most of the Kamaiya families used to live in joint family but now they live in nuclear family. Before the liberation they were deprived from the educational opportunity but now they have started to send their children to school and even they go to the literacy classes. The accepted land to freed Kamaiyas is not as enough as it can sustain their life from its own agricultural products. Government has been providing funds in low interest rate to fulfill the required money for their income generating professions. In terms of agricultural input like fertilizer, improved seeds, pesticides, the adoptive level of freed Kamaiyas has not been encouraging. The government has been also providing funds under the Kamaiya Tatha Britti Bikash Kryakram and timber per family in order to construct house to ex-Kamaiyas receiving red card. The support providing to them is not sufficient to build houses according to their family size. Awareness of health and sanitation in Kamaiyas' family is now better then before.

After the liberation Kamaiyas of the study are in much better condition then in past. However, the conditions are not so much convincing. Without proper homework and planning Kamaiyas are still landless and jobless facing hands to mouth problem

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Abbreviations/Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
BASE	Backward Society Education acronyms
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CCS	Creation of Creative Society
CEDA	Center for Economic Development and Administration
CNAS	Center of Nepal and Asian Studies
DDC	District Development Committee
DLR	Department of Land Reform
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FWDR	Far Western Development Region
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEFONT	General Federation of Nepal Trade Unions
GOs	Government Organizations
ha	Hectare
HH	Household
HMG	His Majesty's Government
HURADC	Human Rights Awareness Social Development Center
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture development
ILO	International Labor Organization
INGO	International Non-governmental organizations
INSEC	Informal Sector Service center
KLP	Kamaiya livelihood Programme
KPUS	Kamaiya Pratha Unmulan Samaj
LRMP	Land Resource Mapping Project
LRO	Land Reform Office
LRS	Landless Rice Society
LWF	Lutheran World Service
MoL	Ministry of Labor
NEWAH	Nepal Water for Health
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NLA	National Labor Academy - Nepal
NNSWO	Nepal National Social Welfare Organization
NPC	National Planning Commission
PDDP	Participatory District Development Programme
RR	Resettlement and Rehabilitation
RRA	Rapid Rural Appraisal
RRN	Rural Reconstruction Nepal
UNICEF	United Nations International Children Emergency Fund
UN	United Nations
VDC	Village Development Committee
WFP	World Food Programme

Glossary

Andhinya	Share cropping (half-half)
Ailani	Barren land
Bataiya	Share Cropping
Begar	Unpaid Labour
Bigha	A certain Proportion of land (10 to 20 percent of the total land he cultivates) given to the <i>Kamaiya</i> to cultivate and consume whole production of that land in return of work done by him.
Bora	Terms of wage payment in kind, a <i>Bora</i> is equivalent to 75 kg. Paddy
Bhaisbar	Buffalo herder
Bukra	A residence (hut) provided by the landowner to his <i>Kamaiya</i> until and unless he works with the land owner.
Bukrahi	Female member of the family working to the landowner with her husband or any male member of the family
Charawa	Cattle herder
Chaukur/Chaumali	25 percent of the production
Dhur/Kattha	Land measurement unit (20 Kattha = 1 bigha, 20 Dhur = 1 Kattha)
Gaibar	Cattle Herder
Gothalo	Cattle herder
Hali	The tiller on wage mostly in permanent contract with the land owner
Haliya	A tiller on contract
Halo	The plough to cultivate land with the help of oxen
Harawa	The tiller on wage mostly in permanent contract with the landowner
Jamindar	Large Landlords
Kamaiya	Adult male member working to the landowner
Kamlahri	Female <i>Kamaiya</i> working to the landowner
Kattha	A measure of piece of land approximately 1/30 of a hectare
Khujni Mujuni	Process of negotiation between old <i>Kamaiya</i> and land lord to modify the existing terms and conditions.
Lichhavi	Name of an ancient dynasty of Nepal
Maghi	A great festival of the Tharu community. This day is a black day to the <i>Kamaiya</i> because during this <i>Maghi</i> buying and selling of <i>Kamaiyas</i> takes place as a goods in the labour market.
Maseura	The food given to a <i>Kamaiya</i> , (both food provided to him at his masters' kitchen and a definite amount of grain along with pulse, salt, oil etc given to him for fooding). In some places wage of the workers are also included on <i>Maseura</i>
Organi	Girls working at others' place
Naya Muluk	Berdia & Kailali
Parti Jagga	Fallow land
Sapati	Loan from relatives or moneylenders by a <i>Kamaiya</i>
Saunki	Loan borrowed by a <i>Kamaiya</i> from his master.

Tharu
Tikur

An ethnic group of plain land in Nepal
A 33 percent of production mainly which a *Kamaiya* is entitled to get in return of his work in that field from the beginning to the end (Land preparation for sowing to harvesting) i.e. a share cropper.