

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM AT
BOUDHANATH AREA, KATHMANDU**

**A Thesis Submitted to
The Central Department of Rural Development,
Tribhuvan University,
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of the Master of Arts (M.A.)
In
Rural Development**

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Recommendation Letter

The thesis entitled **SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM AT BOUDHANATH AREA, KATHMANDU** has been prepared by **Mr. Rishab Kuikel** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for the final evaluation and approval.

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Approval Letter

The thesis entitled **SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM AT BOUDHANATH AREA, KATHMANDU** submitted by **Mr. Rishab Kuikel** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been approved by the evaluation committee.

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled **SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM AT BOUDHANATH AREA, KATHMANDU** submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of writing this thesis. The result of this thesis have not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purpose. I assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

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I must appreciate the kind help of all my friends during the preparation of this thesis.

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Abstract

Tourism refers to the temporary, short-term movement of people to destination outside the places where they normally live and work, and their activities during the stay at these destinations. The objective of this study is to assess the employment generation through tourism at Boudhanath area. The specific objectives are to examine the tourism status in the study area and to analyze the socio-economic impacts of tourism in Boudhanath area. This study is based on descriptive as well as explorative research designs. This study is based on primary as well as secondary sources of data. The secondary data was collected from tourism related institutions. 45 samples have been selected from different tourism related employers and organizations through purposive sampling method.

The growth of tourism in Boudhanath area can be witnessed by increasing numbers of tourist arrivals and gaining of its popularity among outsiders for its typical cultural heritage. Boudhanath Stupa (or Bodnath Stupa) is the largest stupa in Nepal and the holiest Tibetan Buddhist temple, outside the Tibet. It is the center of Tibetan culture in Kathmandu and rich in Buddhist symbolism. Tourism sector is not only a major source of earning foreign currency but its contribution to create employment opportunities is also important. For this, Nepal disposes excellent circumstances for the development of active international tourism, including holiday pleasure, trekking, mountaineering, rafting, religion, official, sport tourism and so on. Income from international tourism plays a vital role in the national economy of the country.

According to the local people, all the people of Boudhanath area engaged in tourism. Generally local people of Boudhanath area were engaged in tourism business like hotel, café, souvenir shop, curio shop etc. They do these businesses for self employment with the purpose of earning money. This study has been focused on impacts of tourism in Boudhanath area. Although this area is rich in its cultural heritage, there is lack of parking facility, water supply and repairing and maintenance of historical monuments, well-managed public toilets, dust bins, restaurants and lodges with modern facilities, recreational facilities etc. These are essential for the tourist and tourism business.

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