

**Traditional Occupation of Damai and Kami Community
(A case study of Daman VDC, Makawanpur District, Nepal)**

A Thesis

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In partial fulfillment of the Requirement for the
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Recommendation Letter

It is with great pleasure that I recommend the Thesis entitled, " Traditional Occupation of Damai and Kami Community ; A case study of Daman VDC of Makawanpur district", completed by **Chudamani Aryal** under my supervision in partial fulfillment of requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development. I therefore forward it with recommendation for approval.

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APPROVAL LETTER

This Thesis entitled "**Traditional Occupation of the Damai and Kami Community**": A case study in Daman V.D.C. of Makawanpur district" submitted by **Chudamani Aryal** has been accepted for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master Degree of Arts in Rural Development.

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Abstract

Development and Modernization are the processes of social change where by less developed societies acquire common characteristics to modern societies. Dalit people are occupation caste groups and they are fully dependent with other high caste. Their socio-economic condition is poorer than other castes/ ethnic groups because their traditional occupations are on the decline by the ready made goods. So, they are going to adopt alternative strategies to survive their life. In Nepalese society caste based discrimination prevailing in the social level is great challenge. Social and religious discrimination creates a great wall between the high caste and low caste and the low caste people can not cross the high wall. They are not allowed to follow some occupations followed by the high caste people. So, they are following their traditional occupation and tradition is like a tree they should 'as a leaf cling to it.

The study is 'The Traditional occupation of the Damai and Kami community' (A case study of Daman VDC, Makawanpur). It has been taken using primary data sources obtained from Damai and Kami settlement area of Daman VDC, Makwanpur district. The objective of this study is "To identity the traditional occupations in changing context related with Damai and Kami communities, social status, educational status and adaptation occupation to surviving on the study area.

Descriptive research design has been adopted for this study and other method of methodology techniques, research design, data collection and interview, sampling etc. are used. There are 73 households in Damai and Kami settlement area in Daman VDC. Among them 30 households are selected as sample size. To generate the primary data the structure questionnaire, interview, key informant, focus group discussion and observation are also limited in Daman VDC only Kami and Damai people.

Large number of Damai and Kami people in this study area surviving under food deficiency. The economic condition of Damai and Kami people are miserable

than other upper caste people. By the change of the time they can not germinate the layer of the society. They can not develop their traditional occupation because their society is replete with conservative thinking.

Traditionally, their economy had been mainly based on traditional occupation itself but it has changed to agriculture based livelihoods. At present, the livelihood strategy of Damai and Kami are primarily based on agriculture. They earn their livelihood by involving in agriculture as well as business and local agriculture wage labours. Their traditional occupation is only a supporting means of livelihood. Only those who are commercially involved in their traditional occupation accept it as their primary livelihood.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page No. |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Letter of Recommendation | |
| Approval Letter | |
| Acknowledgements | I |
| Abstract | II |
| Table of contents | III |
| List of Tables | IV |
| List of Figures | V |
| List of Maps | V |
| Acronyms | VI |

CHAPTER ONE

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1. Background | 1 |
| 1.2 Statement of the Problems | 6 |
| 1.3 Objectives of the Study | 7 |
| 1.4 Significance of the Study | 8 |
| 1.5 Limitation of the Study | 9 |
| 1.6 Organization of the study | 9 |

CHAPTER TWO

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Literature Review | 10-16 |
|--------------------------|--------------|

CHAPTER-THREE

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 3. Research Methodology | 17-18 |
| 3.1 Research Design | 17 |
| 3.2 Universe and Sampling | 17 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 3.3 Method of Data Collection | 17 |
| 3.3.1 Interview Schedule | 18 |
| 3.3.2. Interview with key Informants | 18 |
| 3.3.3. Observation | 18 |
| 3.3 Method of Data Analysis | 18 |

CHAPTER- FOUR

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Introduction of the Study Area | 21 -25 |
| 4.1 Study Area | 21 |
| 4.2 Population Composition | 24 |

CHAPTER- FIVE

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Data Analysis and Presentation | 26-41 |
| 5.1 Demographic Characters | 26 |
| 5.1.1 Population structure of the Respondents | 26 |
| 5.1.2 Household Size and Family Structure of the Respondents | 27 |
| 5.1.3 Educational Status of the Respondents | 28 |
| 5.2 Economic Condition of the Respondents | 29 |
| 5.2.1 Land Ownership Pattern of the Respondents | 29 |
| 5.2.2 Livestock Rearing Pattern of the Respondents | 30 |
| 5.2.3 Occupational Structure of the Respondents | 30 |
| 5.2.4 Monthly Income of the Respondents | 32 |
| 5.2.5 Income and Expenditure Ratio of the Respondents | 33 |
| 5.2.6 Direction of Diversification | 34 |
| 5.2.7 Attitude Towards Traditional Profession | 34 |
| 5.2.8 The ways of Earning Living | 36 |
| 5.2.9 Bali System | 37 |
| 5.2.10 Social Status of Damai and Kami In the study area | 38 |
| 5.2.11 Economic Exploitation and Discrimination | 40 |

CHAPTER- SIX

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation | 42 - 45 |
| 6.1 Summary | 42 |
| 6.2 Conclusion | 43 |
| 6.3 Recommendation | 44 |
| Bibliography | 46-48 |
| Annex -I | 49-50 |

List of Tables

| S.N. | | Page no. |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| Table no.4.1 | Population Composition in Daman VDC | 24 |
| Table no.4.2 | Composition of the Households According to Ward no. | 24 |
| Table no. 4.3 | Distribution of Damai's and Kami's households | 25 |
| Table no. 5.1.1. | Population Structure of the Respondents | 26 |
| Table no.5.1.2 | Sampled Population and households size | 27 |
| Table no. 5.1.3 | Distribution of the Respondents by education | 28 |
| Table no. 5.2.1. | Land Ownership Pattern of the respondents | 29 |
| Table no.5.2.2. | Livestock Rearing Pattern of the respondents | 30 |
| Table no.5.2.3. | Occupational Structure of the Respondents | 31 |
| Table no.5.2.4. | Monthly Income Ratio of the Respondents | 32 |
| Table no. 5.2.5. | Income and Expenditure of the Respondents | 33 |
| Table no. 5.2.6. | Occupational Composition of Damai and Kami | 34 |
| Table no. 5.2.7. | Attitudes of Young in their Traditional Profession | 35 |
| Table no. 5.2.8 | The ways of earning of the Respondents | 36 |

List of Figures

| S.N. | | Page no. |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | Figure no. 1 | 27 |
| | Figure no. 2 | 29 |
| | Figure no. 3 | 31 |
| | Figure no. 4 | 32 |
| | Figure no. 5 | 33 |
| | Figure no. 6 | 35 |

List of Maps

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Map of the Makawanpur District | 19 |
| Map of the Study Area | 20 |

Acronyms

| | |
|---------|---|
| B.K. | Bishowkarmas |
| B.S. | Bikram Sambat |
| DDC | District Development Committee |
| DDP | District Development Profile |
| Dr. | Doctor |
| E. | East |
| HDR | Human Development Report |
| INSES | Informal Service Sector |
| ML. | Milliliter |
| MoLD | Ministry of Local Development |
| NARMSAP | Natural Resource Management Sector Assistance Programme |
| NDC | National Dalit Commission |
| NG | Government of Nepal |
| N. | North |
| Nov. | November |
| PAN | Population Association of Nepal. |
| PCL | Professional Certificate Level |
| Ph.D. | Doctor of Philosophy |
| SLC | School Living Certificate |
| T.U. | Tribhuvan University |
| USA | United State of America |
| V.D.C. | Village Development Committee |
| Vol. | Volume |
| WCAR | World Conference Against Racism |