

Chapter- I

Introduction

1.1 Background of the study

Nepal is one of the less developed countries in terms of relative scarcity of basic infrastructure and facilities such as road, drinking water, market facility, skill oriented and income generating activities, among others (MLD, 1997). It is also the land of indigenous groups (Bista, 1996). Each of them has their own individual languages, culture, customs and life style. Nepal is predominantly an agricultural country with nearly 74 % working population employed in agricultural sector (CBS, 2011), but contributing only 32% in GDP of the country and Nepal records per capita GDP of \$ 762 (Economic Survey, 2015). The 13th plan (2013-2016) states that as much as 23.8 % of the population remains below the poverty line.

In Nepal, like other developing countries, the status of women is not satisfactory. Nepal is patriarchal society- a women's life is strongly influenced by her father and husband- as reflected is the practice of patrimony residence, patriarchal descent, and by inheritance systems and family relations. Such patriarchal practices are further reinforced by the legal system.

Tharu women carry a triple burden in the society: as a production worker, Tharu women contribute directly to subsistence and income as a mother and wife Tharu women care for the children and the family member; as a community worker. They give all leisure time and labor to the society.

In a traditional Hindu society, there is a range of hierarchies. Women have to pay respect to their husbands and in- laws, and thus they are not supposed to put their views freely in from of their in-laws. Women are not supposed to attend public meetings and it is difficult for them to speak up and opposed men publicly. Their male counterpart dominates them. Therefore, many women do not feel comfortable to join the meeting. Even though they participate in the meeting, they sit in a separate place, usually at the back of the male members.

Women play a significant role in the development of the nation. Women in Nepal hold the multiple work responsibilities like reproduction, household works and employment, according to particular family and social structures they belongs to. Women suffer from discriminatory practices in opportunity for education, personal mobility in the process of skill development and independent decision making is highly restricted.

According to Gender equality and empowerment of women in Nepal (1997). There is long history of discrimination between male and female that existed worldwide, and can be found continuing more or less both in developed and developing countries. Continuation of discrimination has created a situation of exclusion or low participation of women, lower status and position in social, political, economic, and professional and legal aspects as compared with the male counterpart. This becomes a major challenge and critical issue in the contemporary context of development.

In the case of Nepal, the situation is not different as mentioned above. In socio-economic terms, men always feel superior to women, and men are regarded as bread earners, caretakers and heads of the family. Therefore, men try to maintain superiority to women. Women have to face violence and discrimination against to them in public as well as private spaces. As a result, women are limited in reproductive and productive roles within the household, which have no economic value added by the family as well as national level, in which women spend a lot of time and energy.

Women in Nepal find themselves in a vicious circle that drives the discrimination against their gender. Their generally low status means that most women are not given sufficient decision- making power to control their own access to resources such as information, services, money, etc. This restricted access to resources prevents women from developing their decision- making power. Their lack of decision- making power deprives them of the power to control access to resources, and restarts the cycle of low status and discrimination.

Recent researchable based on data from the 2011 census show that women's access to literacy, education and decision making roles, amongst other indicators, is below that of men, regardless of caste or ethnicity. Women in Nepal seem to be lagging behind

men in their access to property, credit, income earning opportunities, skill development, information and knowledge, educations and services such as healthcare, water, sanitation and justice.

The status of women in a multidimensional concept has many important indicators operating within it. They are concerned in the subject of decision-making power which is an important subject in the household sphere. In our country, the power of decision making in women is very much neglected. The household decision-making is one of the important indicators of the status of women. So, the economic, demographic and social factors directly affect women. Women's involvement in the market economy gives them greater power in terms of household decision making.

The present study is expected to explore the role of Tharu women in decision making in managing house policy. One of the objectives of the study is to analyze the relationship between decision making and women. It helps to get information regarding how the community people perceive to make participation of women in management policy and its importance. Women have equal right as male in constituent and low but Tharu women are not aware on right of education, job, political parties and using of right is very far thing. Tharu male discriminate to women to show superior then other in community. By this study NGOs and INGOs, governmental offices and community based organization need to make women empowerment plan in bottom level to secure women right in decision making process. That social problem of tharu community is needed to solve and this study finding will be guide to Tharu community for complete society and development of women.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Decision making is one of indicator of social status. The ability to make decision makes people powerful. It explains the women's status in terms of decision making in different aspects of household as well as other activities.

The Beijing Conference on Women (1995) has emphasized different aspects related to the productions of women and passed from of actions addressing twelve different critical area of concern as poverty, education, training, health decision making power, armed conflict and girl child economy, environmental violence, human rights, media

and advancement of women. But, they are still facing the problems of deprivation. They are deprived from their rights and responsibilities. Even their husband and family members are reluctant to attend to their voice.

As reported by the Census of 2011 women constitute more than half of the population of Nepal. But then they are still deprived of equal opportunities and they are backward in economic, social and legal aspects. One of the reasons of the low status of women is because of their lack of involvement in the economic activities outside the domestic sphere. In spite of significant contribution at home such as rising and caring of children, preparing food, managing household chores they also significantly contribute in making additional income by additional economic activities such as raising cattle, goats, working in field. Despite huge contribution in overall household activities and family management which is not less than their male counterpart, their decision making power in the household activities however is still limited.

For proper family management, participation of women as decision making partners appears to be critical because women are the primary users and actual managers of family environment. Women should have knowledge about sanitation and should have practices in their actual life, which really helps bring sustainable development and also helps to improve quality of life of the whole community.

Women in Nepal are not suffering from the lack of resources but from the lack of power to utilize available resources, lack of power to assert their rights. Females are suffering from exploitation and injustice. To empower women their problems of disadvantaged, deprived as well as social injustice and gender disparity in socio-economical as well as decision making process should be addressed and raise the status of female in the society. Policy and programs should be formulated and implemented these properly to omit the problems related to women.

Hence, the question arises that women are directly linked with family management. Therefore, it is essential to know the role of women in household decision making for family management and improvement quality of whole community. The major problems that will be identified for the purpose of the study are as follows.

-) What is the role of Tharu women in household activities as well as farm activities?

) Do they participate in decision making process?

1.3 Significance of the Study

There are various cast and ethnic groups in Nepal. Each ethnic group has their own traditions, cultures, mother tongue and we feelings. The major criterion used in identifying it as ethnic group is own mother tongue. The participation itself is an awareness building process. Participation brings the power and unites other communities. It is an active process, which brings the persons initiatives and asserts them.

Different kinds of organizations and institutions were taken for evidence or supplementary documents in the field of related topic. It is expected that this study would be more useful for government authorities and other NGOs, INGOs acting in the developmental field. It can provide them a guideline to construct the developmental policies for disadvantaged communities. It might be a useful document for those who are interested to know about the Decision making status of Tharu women. The result of the study will be beneficial to formulate the plan and policies of related area.

This study also helps to identify the actual situation of Tharu women in decision making status of the study area and might be favorable for solving hidden issues like; unemployment, domination, education, health and so on.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to analyze the decision making status of Tharu women of MainapokharVDC, ward no.3, Badhaiya, Bardiya district, while the otherobjectives of this research have been:

-) To identify the role of Tharuwomen in decision making process in the study area.
-) To identify and analyze the socio-economic problem facing by Tharuwomen in the study area.

Chapter: - II

Literature Review

Review of the literature is a way to develop the idea about the research thoroughly. In a research, literature comprises an important part. It helps a researcher to acquire knowledge about the topic, hypothesizes the research, to set the Objectives and to design a research framework. For this study different available books, journals, previous research works, reports, articles, plan & policies, other published/unpublished documents related with the subject will be reviewed.

The United Nations (UN Report, 1980) has defined the status of women in the context of their access to acknowledge, economic resources and political power, as well as their personal autonomy in the process of decision making. When Nepalese women's status is analyzed in this light, the picture is generally bleak, in virtually every aspect of life; women were generally subordinate to men. In the last few decades, there has been growing acceptance of the gender focused approaches in several fields of the political and social systems. Despite its influence, gender concepts are not well understood and gender is often confused with sex. The relationship between men and women are marked, through the human civilization, by religious attitude, cultural bond, ethical values, social norms and psychological reliance. The meaning of their life as well as her roles and activities largely hinge upon the environment and their outlook of each other. Sometimes men dominates women and the vice versa. But the reality looks somewhere. One sex is necessary as the other if both of them should get their full meaning.

Nepal is one of the poor countries of the world, where about 60% of its population live below the poverty line of the total population, women constitute more than half. If the women are neglected then how will this country develop? Women have status, which is only secondary to that of men. For Nepali women, life is complex web of constraints, obligation and scarifies; many of which are determined from the day of her birth. Women have few options for survival other than getting married and producing male children (Dhakal and Sheikh, 1997)

A project on "The situation of women in Nepal" (USA/CEDA 1980), provides the first input to the planner and program implementation with substantive women specific data as well as policy recommendation. The aggregate data from this study depicts women's contribution heavily focused on farm and subsistence agricultural activities e.g. 86 percent of the domestic work times and 57 percent in subsistence agricultural activities. Total contribution of women to the household income remains at 50 percent as opposed to only 44 percent for males and 6 percent to the children between the ages of 10 to 14. Women participation in Hindu communities are largely confined to non-market domestic and subsistence production and display a much less significant role in major household decision making.

The status of women report series (31 January 2013) shows that women in the Terai were equally active in the economic sphere, albeit invisibly but that their activities were not reported as being economic. In fact, they were active in the household production system. E.g. in food processes and cooking for farm labor; post harvesting and storing of farm products; kitchen gardening, cooking food and village shop run by male members of the family. In addition, women performed domestic chores as unpaid labor, which is not reflected in any economic statistics. As distinction between activities outside and inside the household become clearer during the process of modernization as urbanization, women tend to be driven towards the household, being confined to reproductive and consumption activities. Such a "domestication of women" may cause in women's decision- making power inside the household.

Acharya and Bennett (1983) have also observed that women are primary supporter of the domestic and subsistence sector. The decision- making data shows women's major role in agricultural production both as laborers and as managers of the production process.

The relationship between women's economic participation and their input into household decision-making was investigated in seven village studies in Nepal. Two distinct cultural traditions were represented in the sample. Indo-Aryan / Hindu and Tibeto-Burman / Buddhist-Animist. The village economy is conceptualized in four concentric spheres:-

-) Household domestic work,
-) Household agricultural production activities.

-) Work in the local market economy,
-) Employment in the wider economy beyond the village.

Aggregate data revealed that women are responsible for 86%, 57%, 38% and 25% of the input into these 4 spheres, respectively. It was hypothesized that women's participation in the market, economic increase their status (defined in terms of household decision making), while confinement to none market subsistence production and domestic work reduces women's status.

Women in the more orthodox Hindu communities, who are largely confined to domestic and subsistence production, were found to play a less significant role in major household economic decisions than women in Tibeto-Burman communities where women participate in more actively in the market sector. Money earned in the market sector allows women to make a measureable contribution to household income, and thus appears to enhance the perception of women as equal partners. In addition, women's decision making input was found to be inversely related to the income status of the household. These results indicate that integrating women into the market economy is not only an efficient use of local resources, but also improves women's status and economic security.

According to Acharya and Bennett (1983), women's role in household decision making is affected directly and indirectly by economic. If a woman brings more dowries from her father's house, she has greater power in decision making. Similarly, social and demographic factors also influence the role of decision making. Small size of children implies higher economic participation and consequently greater decision making power for women.

Data shows that women from top economic stratum participate in outside income earning activities. No woman from high economic stratum works either in domestic or none organize sectors like sewing, cooking, cleaning etc. But for women from the bottom of economic strata, agricultural sector provide the largest number of working days. The study shows that women from the bottom strata spend 72 percent of their total working days in agricultural sector. Most of the women from low caste are wage laborers.

Nepalese women also play managerial role for decision making, i.e. farm management, resources allocation and domestic expenditure. There is variation between the communities regarding male/ female input in farm management decisions (Acharya and Benett: 1983)

In Nepal, women have very low participation in decision making process. In seventy percent of households, decisions related to internal and external matters are made by male members alone (Acharya: 1995) though females spend their time in household activities, they have less chance to decide for these activities. The concept of women in Development (WID) emerged in the early 1970's after the publication of Ester Boserup's book titled *The Role of Women in Economic Development* (1970). Boserup prepared the book on the basis of African agricultural system. Boserup presents these three assertions:

-) Women had economic contribution.
-) Women's economic contribution has been considered as individual, and not considered as a contribution to for the benefit of all.
-) The development process has advance impact on women due to irregular economic contribution.

This analysis of Boserup led to the emergence of the concept of "integration" and integration of Women in Development (WID). Its basic premise was that since women had been left out of development processes, integrating them into development would automatically ensure gender equity. WID approach proposed that there was contribution of women in economic activities but invisible in the developmental process and women the position of women in all spheres of life by the effects of development.

In the second half of the 1970's Women and Development (WAD) approach emerged in the field of women development sector. Women were involved in subsistence work self-sustained farming rather than market oriented activities. Although they were economically active in the society, they invest most of the time of their work comparing themselves with men; hence the question is recognition rather than integration. So, WAD approach focuses in the relationship between women and development process rather than integration of women in development process. In

other words, women have been important economic actors in their societies, and they do both inside and outside work for the maintenance of their livelihood. And more working hour of women invested on family maintenance, child bearing and rearing, taking care of old age parents and ailing members, livestock, etc, the activities which are not considered as economic activities proper. Case studies have shown that women had longer working hours as compared to men, but women's contribution did not get importance in the field of development. As a result, another approach, Gender and Development (GAD) evolved in the 1980's.

According to SajalBhattarai, "Women have always had lower status than men, but the extent of gap between the sexes varies across culture and time. In 1980, the United Nations summed up the burden of this inequality: women, who comprise half of the world's population, do two thirds of the world's work, earn one tenth of the world's income and own one hundredth of the world's poverty" (Bhattarai 2006:11). A lot of discussions have been made both at national and international level. Different approaches have evolved to address the problem of low or no participation of female in development processes. However, female status in economic, political, social professional and legal domain remain lower compared to that of males. But we have to accept that the status, position and participation of women in many aspects of development is in the process of change compared with the past, a little bit of participation has occurred that means the consequences of the past effort are occurring in the present scenario. But the comparison with the composition proportion of male and female is not in representing status. Therefore, for the equal status of women in every domain of development demands an effective effort from all the stakeholders of the society.

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Nepal 1991 by National Planning Commission and UNICEF explains the real situation of Nepalese women. In general, women have less access to income, wealth and modern avenues of employment, education and health facilities than men: suffer from higher rates of malnutrition and morbidity than men; especially in property and family matter. In the hill communities, women enjoy greater freedom in marriage and mobility and have greater decision making roles within the household, but suffer from overwork and poor physical and social infrastructures (UNICEF, 1990).

Activities of men and women differ geographically and regionally by caste and by society. Boserup(1970) identified African countries where women work to produce food crops for domestic subsistence and men work in production of cash crops for market sale. She further identified that in the developing countries, women are found to be engaged in income generating activities, explaining why the poorer the households greater the farm work and income generating activities.

Whitehead (1984) reported of conjugal contact with exchange of goods, services, income and labor between husband and wife in the households. The status of women in Nepal (1981) reported that women spend long working hours in relation to animal husbandry, crop productions, gathering firewood, food processing, walking long distance and child bearing activities. This statement might be supported if a meaning survey is conducted at the farm level during the peak agricultural season where women are found to work about 11 to 12 hours a day.

A research study conducted by Women's Development and Publication Center (WDRPC 1992) states that of the total population aged 10 years and above, the percent of inactive population was more among males, indicating more women in labor force. It was found that women spend about 11 hours a day, 75 percent of working time was spent on household chores like cattle grazing, collection of fuel/fodder, fetching water, cooking, bearing children, etc; 20 percent on farming and 5 percent on income generating activities. Hill women were found contributing more labor in farming than Terai women, which may be due to "special cultural differences of the population, constraints imposed by topography and level of socio –economic development including level of mechanization of existing different districts".

Discrimination on the basis of gender is still widespread in Nepal and it has a great impact on rural development. The productive role of women in agricultural management is not reflected in proper representation and decision making power. Neither in indigenous institutions, nor in externally sponsored institutions. Women are only involved in the informal sphere of day to day activities and decision making. These roles of men and women are to be understood.

In Nepal, more than 80% of the population lives in rural areas, and their lives depend on subsistence farming. Women farmers make up the majority of the total farming

labor force (57% versus 23%). women work for 10.8 hours a day and men work 7.5 hours in agriculture. Men and women are both involved in decision making in agriculture, whereby women make decisions in pre-planting, weeding and during harvesting and beyond. At household level, men dominate decision making and also at community level, men make policy decisions.

Nepalese agriculture is dominated by small-scale subsistence farming. The majority of households (66%) have less than one half of land on average. More than 40% have less than 0.5 half. The size of land holding is smaller in the Terai but much less productive in the hills and mountains. Hill agriculture has come to be primarily dependent on women due to male migration from the hills, leaving women, especially in small holder agriculture, also contribute substantially to agriculture, both in terms of labor input and decision making. Women also play a major role in livestock rising. Overall, women contribute 70% of labor and up to 26% of farm level decisions in the livestock sub sector. Care of livestock is primarily an activity of women. Only in the case of big herds in the mountain areas, which require seasonal in animal care and herding as hired labor while mainly women are hired for fodder collection.

In Nepal, the land and other assets of the households are inherited to sons, and women are not given personal property. Due to the lack of personal property, women do not have access to credit from bank and local moneylenders. Women have fewer opportunities for income earnings as most of them involve in traditional farming activities. These entire things put women in weaker bargaining position. So they are hesitant to participate in decision making forum, which ultimately limits their leadership.

In the Agricultural Perspective Plan (1997), it is clearly stated that the government wants to create an environment for equal participation of men and women in agricultural decision making process and give equal access to agricultural inputs such as credit, extension service, training programs. With more and more men leaving rural hilly areas in search of lucrative jobs in cities and foreign lands, women are left to cultivate the land and sustain their families. Women constitute the larger population of agricultural labor force.

Women occupy 51.5% of the total population of Nepal (CBS 2011). Though women are more in number than men, everywhere in Nepalese families and societies, we find gender discrimination. "NariPurushBarabari" is one of the most popular catchphrases in Nepal, which is frequently heard in radio and television, and appears even on the newspapers too. Several workshops/seminars are organized in order to create awareness among people with this slogan which is meant to treat men and women equally. But since a long time, male domination has become a culture and is deeply rooted in the Nepalese society. Moreover, women themselves also have never realized that men, in attaining several opportunities in life, are oppressing them. To understand the discrimination against women in education, we need to carry out some truths and facts that exist in the family, society, culture, school level education and higher education status in Nepal.

In the early 1990's, a direct correlation existed between the level of education and status. Educated women had access to relatively high status in the government and private service sectors, and they had a much higher status than uneducated women. This general trend was more applicable at the societal level than at the household level. Within the family, an educated woman did not necessarily hold a higher status than her uneducated counterpart. Also within the family, a woman's status, especially a daughter-in-law's status, was more closely tied to her husband's authority and to her parental family's wealth and status than anything else.

National statistics shows that female literacy rate is 57.4% whereas male literacy rate is 75.1%, and the national literacy is projected as 40 %. The enrollment of women in higher education is only 24.1%. Women's involvement in technical and vocational education is also lower than that of men. The literacy rate of women varies in rural and urban areas of Nepal. The rural literacy rate of remarks is 44.6% while 70.2 % in urban area (CBS 2011).

Satnam Kaur emphasizes on female decision making especially in the area of home and farm affairs among the rural families (Kaur, quoted in Mittal, 1987). She further emphasizes on education of women as an important factor in the matter of decision making process. She writes, "Educated women are better placed as compared to their illiterate counterpart."

The Terai women are far behind in every walk of life and then the mountain and hill women. Terai women are not allowed to talk move and join school or campus on their own. Dowry related crimes are very common in Terai. Most of Terai women are married in their teen ages. The average age of marriage for the Terai women is 15.6 years. Most of them depend upon their husbands and very few of them are independent economically. They are tortured too much if they give birth to daughter. Most of women are considered as machines of child production. They are not involved in decision making.

General laws of Nepal reflect Hindu patriarchal ideology. Most of the formal rules existing in Nepalese society are in favor of men. Son has the birthright to family property but for women either she should get married to gain the property from her husband or she should remain unmarried to be entitled a share of her ancestral property. Such laws make men always a breadwinner and the decision maker leaving women in bargaining position. Women are found to be more satisfied with their status in the family and in society, and are more likely to make family decision with her husband together or even on her own, and is less likely to consider or parents are parent-in-laws' opinion for childbearing decision.

Women with a higher status are more likely to think that one child is enough for a family and are less likely to want another child. If the child bearing cost is expected to be high, a woman is less likely to have another child, while the cost of childbearing for a woman seems higher if she works as an enterprise employee. However, the result shows that there are significant regional differences.

The lack of systematic information on women's decision making power has been much debated. The United Nations Fourth Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), as follows: Women Contribute to development not only through remunerated work but also through a great deal of unremunerated work. On the other hand, women participate in production of goods and services for the market and household consumption, in agriculture, food production or family enterprises. On the other hand, women still also perform the great majority of unremunerated domestic work and community work, such as caring for children and older persons, preparing food for the family, protecting the environment and providing voluntary assistance to vulnerable and disadvantage individuals and group this work is often not measured in

quantitative terms and is not valued in national accounts. Women's contribution to development is seriously underestimated and thus its social recognition is limited. The full visibility of the type, extent and distribution of this unremunerated work will also contribute to a better sharing of responsibilities.

In conclusion, the review of literature reveals that women are still behind men and they have been mostly confined within the boundaries of the household. Participation in implementation of plan without any stake in decision making has made the women vulnerable. So, the aspiration and interest of women should be taken into account during the formulation of rules and regulations and women's voice should be heard in every decision making forum. Though it is not possible to change the inherited social norms and structure at once. Since the support of men is the prime factor in improving gender relations, it is necessary to change the social norms and perception towards women. Benefiting women and improving gender equality in the long run requires a complete gender mainstreaming throughout the policy and implementing structures and mechanisms process originated empowerment approach and capacity building of women is necessary to increase the bargaining power of women.

CHAPTER-III

Research Methodology

3.1 Rationale for the Selection of Study Area

The present study has been carried out at the Mainapokhar VDC ward no. 3 of Bardiya district is selected for the present study area. The VDC is situated in a strategic location where there is Sorahawa VDC in east, Kalika VDC in West, Jamuni VDC in south Motipur VDC in North side. Although the method of agriculture in this VDC is traditional, the emergence of different agencies and institutions have brought about change in the farming and agricultural system. Mainapokhar ward no-3 is selected as the study area for this research of following reasons.

-) The majority of that area is indigenous Tharu people, even different types of castes and peoples are living together.
-) Mainapokhar VDC is selected as the study area for the research because it is the familiar area of researcher due to which it may be easy for researcher in different socio-cultural circumstances.

3.2 Research Design

This study has description analytical in nature. It attempts to describe this impact of gender mainstreaming in household decision making in different socio- economic fields like job, education, purchasing and selling, agriculture, livestock, marriage, land owner, fund mobilization, household leadership, and family planning.

3.3 Nature and Sources of Data

Obviously, two types of data have been used in the study i.e. Primary and Secondary data. Primary data have been collected from the field with the help of field observation, interview and case study whereas secondary data have been collected from published and unpublished sources such as books, articles, reports, websites/internet and different kinds of related organizations, institutions, governmental & nongovernmental offices and VDCs.

3.4 Universe and Sample Size

The universe of this study is the whole women population of Ward No. 3 of MainapokharVDC. 50 out of 100 households' women have been selected as individual respondents using proportionate stratified sampling from Ward No. 3 of the MainapokharVDC. The key informants of this study are the women of age group 20 to 60 years.

3.5 Data Collection Tools and Technique

3.5.1 Interview Schedule

Interview method has been used during fieldwork, which included person to person interview with 50 women respondents of MainapokharVDC Ward No. 3 of Bardiya district. This method has almost help in research, as the subjective conversation with women respondents gave significant insights into the status of women in the VDC. Reliable information can be collected through this method.

3.5.2 Case Study

This qualitative research tool for detailed investigation is a tool to research that facilitates exploration of a phenomenon within its context using a variety of data sources. This ensures that the issue is not explored through one lens, but rather a variety of lenses, which allows for multiple facets of the phenomenon to be revealed and understood. (Baker, 1999). Defines case studies as specific method of social research which focuses on events or groups a particular case try to figure out why a certain situation prevails or how a case succeeded. Similarly, in my study women of different age group from (20-60) was taken as a case study, which helps to deep study about the related risk behavior how they prone to it. As (Yin, 1989) proposes, case studies are appropriate when the research question to be addressed asks how and why. Which means that a case study often seeks an explanation, as an experiment?

In this study among the 50 respondents of MainapokharVDC Ward No. 3, women's status of decisions making in land ownership, goods purchasing, goods selling, marriage, vaccination, occupation with others is selected. It is effective to find the women's status in every field.

3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedure

Data analysis is important section of research project. All the collected data have been transcribed into excel texts to ease the data analysis the data has been analyzed by using simple and suitable mathematical and statistical tool like tabulation, Percentage, frequency and other graphical presentation have been employed as analytical tools.

3.7 Limitation of the Study

The study is very specific and limited to the people of MainapokharVDC, ward no. 3 Badhaiya, so the conclusion drawn from the study is conclusive. The study has been tried to identify their Decision Making status of Tharu women. Along with this, study is representing the whole social and economic status of Tharu women and also socio-economic settings of the target area.

The study area of this research far from the Municipality city Gulariya and nearer to SorahawaVDC of Bardiya district. The design of this study field visit, data collection, data analysis and finding. This study main source of data is household survey and there are only the married women are taken as the respondent.

CHAPTER-IV

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE STUDY AREA

This chapter deals with the socio-economic characteristics of the population study. In any kind of research, it is very important to look at the different socio-economic and demographic characteristics such as caste, age, sex, marriage, education and occupation as indicators of the entire population. These characteristics influence the level of participation of women in household decision making, which is why it becomes necessary to do a detailed study of them. The implication of considering the different indicators as mentioned above is to make this study more inclusive and as accurate as possible and that can lead to a more assertive generalization of the situation based on the study.

4.1 Households Survey by MainapokharV.D.C. Ward No.-3

For the study of population, a sampling method of random Sampling proportion of two random sampling was used in which units were selected with varying probabilities in proportion to some measure of the size of the sampling units. 50 out of the 101 Tharu households of MainapokharVDC ward no.3, 50 Tharu households were selected through Random Sampling method for the study.

Table 4.1

Tharu Households Survey by Ward no. 3 in MainapokharVDC

Name of Village	Total no. of TharuHHs	No. of Surveyed HHs	Surveyed HHs in %	Remarks
Badhaiya	100	50	50%	
Total	100	50	50%	

VDC, Profile, 2016

4.2 Age Information of Population

This section includes study area population with a variety of age groups. In a family, people of various age groups take up different roles as part of the family. So it becomes very important to look at the age groups of study area population.

Table 4.2
Age Information of Population

Age Group	Male	Female	Total	Percent
0-4	7	8	15	6.91
5-9	15	12	27	12.44
10-14	17	9	26	11.98
15-19	12	8	20	9.21
20-24	6	8	14	6.45
25-29	19	15	34	15.66
30-34	11	12	23	10.59
35-39	8	9	17	7.83
40-44	6	5	11	5.06
45-49	7	4	11	5.06
50-54	3	2	5	2.30
55-59	7	5	12	5.52
60-64	1	1	2	0.92
Total	120	98	217	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 4.2 elicits the complete picture of sample selected 50 households member age group. 6.91 percent(0-4) age group, 12.44 percent (5-9) age group, 11.98 percent (10-14) age group, 9.21 percent (15-19) age group, 6.45percent(20-24) age group, 15.66 percent (25-29) age group, 10.59 percent (30-34) age group, 7.83 percent (35-39) age group, 5.06 percent (40-44) age group, 5.06 (45-49) age group, 2.30 percent (50-54) age group, 5.52 percent (55-59) age group and 0.92 percent (60-64) age group.

In this table show age group information of study area population and there age group determine different kinds of role and responsibility in family just like 5-20 age groups peoples main occupation is study thus in this 15-25 age group population are participate in household work with study. In the same way 26-55 age group population are participate in agriculture activity, wage labor, service and business and 56-64 age group population main responsibility is house and child care.

4.3 Households Size

Household's size is the total number of kinship members living together and sharing on the same table.

Table 4.3
Frequency of Household Members of Badhaiya Village.

No. of Family Member	No. of Household	Percent	Remarks
Having 3 members	12	24	
Having 4 members	15	30	
Having 5 members	17	34	
Having 6 Members	6	12	
Total	50	100	

Source: Field Survey, 2017

This study included 4 types of family structure according to household member out of 50 survey household the above table indicates having 3 members families 24 percent, having 4 members' families 30 percent, having 5 members family 34 percent and having 6 member families is 12 percent with maximum family size of 4 members and 5 members as shown in the table 4.2.

4.4 Type of Family Structure

The sample households selected for this study include nuclear and joint family. Nuclear family is identified as the family which is formed of father, mother and their unmarried children; joint family is identified as the family which is formed by a union of three generation. i.e. grandparents, father, mother, children, uncle, aunt and cousins.

Table 4.4
Type of Family Structure

Family Type	Frequency	Percentage
Nuclear	34	68
Joint	16	32
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

This study includes two types of family structure Nuclear and joint. Out of 50 survey households, 68 percent, i.e. 34 families are nuclear families, and the rest 32 percent, i.e. 16 households, are joint families, as shown in table 4.3.

4.5 Age Composition of Respondents

This study includes respondents with a variety of age groups. In a family, people of various age groups take up different roles as part of the family. So it becomes very important to look at the age groups of all respondent.

Table 4.5
Women involvement in interview by Age Group

Age Group	Frequency	Percentage
20-29	20	40
30-39	18	36
40-49	9	18
50-59	3	6
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

As shown in this table 4.5, the maximum numbers of respondents' age group are 20-29 years and the minimum numbers of respondents' age group are 50 -59 years, shown in table 4.5.

4.6 Job Status of Women Respondents

As is the condition of Nepal, the condition of representation of women taking up jobs is low. Same in MainapokharVDC ward no. 3. Data show a bleak picture in the status of women respondents in terms of earning jobs other than household works. Women considered working in household work and they are not capable to work in outside job which is count in value or price but household job is free of cost. Due to reason women have not knowledge in outside development and world. Tharu women have not access in social and governmental facility.

Table 4.6
Job Status of Women Respondents

Job Status	Frequency	Percentage
Service	3	6
Wage Labor work	3	6
Business	4	8
Agriculture/Household Work	40	80
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

According to the table, only 6 percent (3 out of 50) respondent women is in job, 6 percent (3 out of 50) respondent women are in labor work, 8 percent (4 out of 50) respondent women are in business and 80 percent (40 out of 50) women are involved in agriculture or household work not involved any kind of job, as shown in table 4.6.

4.7 Detail Information of Education, Occupation and Marital Status of Sample Population

In this section detail information of education, occupation and marital status of sample population includes mainly three components seeking education status, occupation status and marital status of study area.

Table 4.7
Detail Information of Education, Occupation and Marital Status of Sample Population

S.N.	Education Status								Total
	Literate				Illiterate				
	Male	%	Female	%	Male	%	Female	%	
1	84	40.97	66	32.19	25	12.19	30	14.63	205
Not access to school below 4 years children									12
Particular		Occupation Status							Total
Agriculture	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		98
	45		45.91		53		54.08		
Business	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		7
	3		42.85		4		57.14		
Service	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		13
	10		76.92		3		23.07		
Study	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		74
	41		55.40		33		44.59		
Wage Labor	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		13
	9		69.23		4		30.76		
Total									205
Marital Status									
Married	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		122
	61		50		61		50		
Unmarried	Male		Percent		Female		Percent		95
	53		55.78		42		44.21		

Source: Field Survey, 2017

The above table shows that out of 50 sampled household 40.97 percent male found to be literate, 32.19 percent female found to be literate, 12.19 percent male found to be illiterate, 14.63 percent female found to be illiterate and below 4 years 12 children has not access to school in the study area. Thus female population is found to be more illiterate as compared to male population in the study area.

In the same way out of 50 sampled household 45.91 percent male have adopted main occupation in agriculture, 54.08 percent female engaged in agriculture, 42.85 percent male in business, 57.14 percent female in business, 76.92 percent male in service, 23.07 percent female in service, 55.40 percent male in study, 44.59 percent female in study, 69.23 percent male wage labor and 30.76 percent women have engaged in wage labor in the study area.

In the study area out of 50 sampled household 50 percent male, 50 percent female has married 55.78 percent male unmarried and 44.21 percent women has unmarried found in the study area.

4.8 Respondent's Education Status.

It is rightly said that in a home if a women is educated, the whole house will be educated. The national statistics shows that women's literacy rate is only 57.4 percent while that of men is 75.1 percent (CBS 2011). In case of the field of present study, the situation of women's education is also very low.

Table 4.8
Respondent's Education Status

Education	Frequency	Percentage
+2 intermediate level	3	6
10 class (SLC)	4	8
Primary level	21	42
Illiterate	22	44
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

As per table 4.8 shows, in the current field of study, 6 percent (3 out of 50) women passed +2 or intermediate level, 8 percent (4 out of 50) women passed SLC, 42 percent (21 out of 50) women literate (primary level) and 44 percent (22 out of 50) are illiterate as shown in the table.

CHAPTER - V

THARU WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING

This chapter analysis the extent of women's participation within the households with special emphasis on their decision making power in relation to their male counterparts. It includes data and information collected from women respondents of the present study. In analyzing the role of women as household decision maker. Every attempt has been made to cover all relevant aspects that reflect women's decision making power in different matters within the household and outside. These said matters are divided in three different divisions, namely:

-) General decision: Education (children school selection), use means of family planning, take care for treatment and deliver baby.
-) Economic decision: Land owner, purchase and selling livestock and its products and Health management.
-) Social decision: Causes of low decision making status of respondent and Respondent suggest show to improve decision making status of Tharu women.

The above process is used to measure the degree of input by the household member/women in each stage of the decision-making process. As this study shows, women have a stronger hold on the household activity while they have weaker hold on decision making process. By birth Tharu male have right of control in everything.

5.1 Tharu Women Participation in children's school selection.

Table 5.1
Tharu Women participation in children school selection.

S.N.	Particular	Women Decision		Male Decision		Male / Female both decision		Total	Percent
		No	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
1	Children School selection	4	8	18	36	28	56	50	100

Source: Field Survey Report 2017.

As shown in table 5.1 that 8 percent (4 out of 50) respondent said Tharu woman took decision to send, chose of school (Government or Private) 36 percent (18 out of 50) respondent said tharu man took decision to send, chose of school (Government or Private) and 56 percent (28 out of 50) respondent said tharu man and women both took decision for send, chose of school (Government or Private) of their children.

Above mentioned table clearly shows that tharu women involvement in children's government or private school selection process is very few. They cannot take decision for their children or very few women can do. But Tharu male involvement and take decision in every step of children's education process.

Tharu women have not taken decision on their children's school for education. Male took the decision for their children's every step of education. Even Tharu male took decision of children education without consultation of their children. In this village most of people are illiterate among them majority of female. Most of women are illiterate and they have not good opportunity in education. So they have not more idea on importance on education. Women unaware on their children education and upper subject. Most of girls study in government school which decides by male. But boys has good opportunity in education and also boys opportunity in private school is high whereas girls opportunity in private school is low even studying in private school is very few than boys. Boys got chance to study in private school and also out of home in city where good education facility available. They study expensive and good market demanded subject. But girls not opportunity to go outside for study and can study expensive subject.

5.2 Tharu Woman Participation in Use of Family Planning means.

Table: 5.2
Tharu Women Decision in Using of Family Planning Means

S.N.	Particular	No.	Percent
1	Female	14	28
2	Male	4	8
3	Male/ Female Both	18	36
3	Not use	14	28
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey Report 2017.

As shown table 5.2, 28 percent (14 out of 50) respondent said women decide for using the family planning means, 8 percent (4 out of 50) respondent said male decide for using family planning means, 36 percent (18 out of 50) respondent said male and female both decide for using the family planning means and 28 percent (14 out of 50) respondent they do not use family planning means.

Family planning means using is difficult work or without using family planning means sex can make difficult to women health. Like that difficult work are given the responsibility to women and reason family planning means using 28 percent woman decide for using family planning means that is comparatively good role in decision making process whereas only 8 percent male decide for using family planning means which is low. The data result shows Tharu Women have good status in decision making process of use family planning and children born. Family planning is major and difficult work and need to perform role male and female together but Tharu women only follow the difficulty. But in positive thing Tharu women have good place in decision making of children born and planning. They aware on importance and benefit of family planning and get support by male counterpart.

5.3 Tharu Women Participation in Delivery case.

Table: 5.3
Tharu Women Participation in Decision Making of Baby Delivery.

S.N.	Particular	No.	Percent
1	Female	21	42
2	Male	5	10
3	Male and Female joint	21	42
4	Father and Mother-in- law	3	6
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey Report 2017

As shown table 5.3, 42 percent (21 out of 50) respondent said tharu women took decision in baby delivery home or hospital, 10 percent (5 out of 50) respondent said male took decision in baby delivery home or hospital, 42 percent (21 out of 50) respondent said male and female jointly took decision in baby delivery home or

hospital. And 6 percent (3 out of 50) respondent said other likes a mother-in-law father-in-law took decision in baby delivery home or hospital.

5.4 Tharu Women's Participation in Land Ownership.

Table: 5.4
Tharu women's Land Ownership.

S.N	Particular	No.	Percent
1	Female	8	16
2	Male	42	84
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey Report 2017

As shown in table 5.4 shows that 16 percent (8 out of 50) respondent said they have ownership in household property they have own land bank balance and livestock and 84 percent (42 out of 50) respondent said tharu male have ownership in household property and they took decision land owning.

In Nepali property owning system is male have right of birth to get property or transfer but women have not birth right. In case of land owning by Tharu women is very less and they could not take decision in owning of land. They have not role in decision making process of land purchasing whereas male have taken decision of land owning and purchasing is high no. The data shows that Tharu woman have not good decision making status in land or property purchasing, selling and owning. Tharu male totally control on family property as per birthright system. Due to lack of owning in land property of tharu women they have to depend on male. Male control every financial activity himself and they can do what they want to do. But women cannot do any financial activity with self-decision or without support of male. Due to not control of female in property or land women always dominate, discriminate, and miss behave by male. They live in very torture and to fulfill of every need they need to ask money with male. They also cannot get fund from banking agencies to start business. Sowomen have less involve in business activity like shop operation, industry operation and other business.

5.5 Livestock Management

Both men and women do play some important roles in livestock management. Income generating from agriculture is not sufficient and enough to service their family. So Tharu women do play very vital role for livestock management to give support in the family expenditure. It can be considered as an integral part of agriculture. Every household have different kinds of tempt animals such as goat, pig duck, chicken, pigeon, swan cow, buffalo, ox and so on. For the income generating they sell above mentioned animals along with their products like milk, ghee, butter, curd, etc. Men and women both take part in the livestock farming such as men do care and herding while mainly women collect the grass and fodder, clean shed, feed the cattle and milk them. These are the major responsibilities of the livestock rising. Men as well as women both go to the market of dairy for selling livestock products to get money. Thus Tharu women contribute in generating the income and manage it in proper way.

This section deals with decision making role in farm management on various components such as livestock purchase and sale, sale of livestock products and its management.

5.5.1 Tharu Women Participate in Selling and Purchasing Livestock.

Table:-5.5.1
Tharu Women involve in Purchasing Livestock.

S.N.	Particular	Female		Male		Female and Male		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Ox, Buffalo, Goat, Sheep	5	10	31	62	14	28	50	100

Source: Field Survey Report 2017

Tables 5.5.1 elicits the complete picture of tharu women decision in purchasing livestock for agricultural activity like ox, buffalo and fulfill family consumption or financial support goat and sheep. 10 percent respondent said tharu women took decision in purchasing livestock, 62 percent respondent said tharu male took decision in purchasing livestock and 28 percent respondent tharu male and female jointly took decision in purchasing livestock.

Table:-5.5.2
Tharu Women involve in Selling livestock and its products.

S.N.	Particular	Female		Male		Female and Male		Not selling livestock and its products	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Ox, Buffalo, Goat, Sheep	7	14	14	28	14	28	15	30

Source: Field Survey Report 2017

Table 5.5.2 reveals the complete picture of tharu women decision in selling livestock and its products to fulfill need and get income. 14 percent respondent said tharu women took decision in things selling livestock and its products, 28 percent respondent said tharu male took decision in selling livestock and its products, 28 percent respondent tharu male and female jointly took decision in selling livestock and its products and 30 percent respondent said not selling livestock and its products.

Regarding the materials purchasing and selling tharu women decision is very low especially valuable things like land and ornament purchasing and selling decision authority of tharu women is very poor whereas tharu male decision role is very high or every selling and purchasing decision is done by tharu male and another word cash handling authority of tharu man is good than tharu women. The full power and authority of selling and purchasing of things is control by male. Women involve in rearing and producing process of things. They cannot sell or purchase whatever they like as per their desire. They need to support to get any needed things of husband or male counterpart. Due to reason women have less involvement in financial things. The data shows tharu women status in selling and purchasing activity decision in community is not satisfactory.

5.6 Decision Making Role in Health

5.6 Decision Making Role in Health

In this section decision making in health aspect includes mainly seeking treatment of the family members.

Table 5.6
Decision making Role in Health Management

Activities	Decision Maker						Total	
	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Both	Percent	No.	Percent
Seeking treatment	9	18	8	16	33	66	50	100

Sources: Field Survey Report 2017

The above table shows that 66 percent men and women (Both) have the highest score in the decision making role regarding seeking treatment activities. While very few only 16 Percent women have least decision making role in concerning field. On the other hand 18percent men effort in the decision making role in seeking treatment. Thus the above table shows that men and women equal status in making decision for seeking treatment on the family members as compared to women.

5.7 Cause of Low Decision Making Status of Respondents

The researcher asked some questions to know opinion of the respondents about the main reason of Tharu women's backwardness of their status the collected data from the study area is analysis with their reports.

Table: 5.7
Distribution of Decision Making of their Low Status

S.N.	Causes	No. of respondent	Percent
1	Lack of education	37	74
2	Patriarchal society		
3	Lack of awareness	3	6
4	Lack of education/ Patriarchal society	1	2
5	Lack of education/ Lack of awareness	9	18
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

In the study area, the higher percentage 74 of respondents reported that the main cause of Tharu women's low Decision making status is the lack of education, 6 percent of respondents said that lack of awareness is the cause of their low status, 2 percent said lack of education and Patriarchal society, and 18percent said lack of education and awareness is the cause of their low decision making status.

5.8 Suggestion to Improve the Decision Making Status of Tharu Women

The researcher asked some questions to know opinion of the respondents about the main reason of Tharu women's backwardness of their status and how to improve their status the collected data from the study area is analysis with their reports.

Table 5.8
Distribution of Sampled Respondents by Suggest to Improve their Status

S.N.	Suggestion	No. of respondent	Percent
1	Promote the education	25	50
2	Equal opportunity right	4	8
3	Priority in job opportunity	4	8
4	Skill Promotion	7	14
5	Promote the education/ Skill Promotion	8	16
6	Equal opportunity right/ Skill Promotion	2	4
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey Report, 2017

In the study area, the research asked the question to the respondents "What do you suggest to improve your decision making status? 50 percent respondents answered that more invest in women education for Tharu women to develop their status. 8 percent respondents said that equal property right should be provided for women to develop their status. 8 percent said that giving priority in job opportunity, 14 percent said that skill promotion should provide for to develop their status, 16 percent respondent said that promote education and skill promotion and 4 percent respondent said that equal opportunity right and skill promotion suggestions for improve decision making status of Tharu women.

CHAPTER-VI

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the summary of the findings generated from the data analysis and interpretation, conclusion and a few pragmatic recommendations have also been included.

6.1 Summary

The entire analysis focuses upon the decision making status of women in term of their educational status, property ownership, occupational status and household decision making.

MainapokharVDC of Bardiya district is selected as a study area which lies 30 kilometers east of Gulariya Municipality. The majority of that area is indigenous Tharu people highest population. This study covers only 50 households of the Tharu community as the sample size. These households are picked up from only ward Three based upon heavily populated Tharu households. Finally from selected household one married Tharu women of age group 20-60 years are selected for generating the information.

This study is based on descriptive as well as analytical technique. Both primary as well as secondary data have been used for the study. Primary data have been collected from the field survey through various techniques. Such as structured questionnaire, interview with key informants and case study method. The secondary data have been collected from different sources of government and nongovernment organizations such as reports of MainapokharVDCoffice, DDC profile of Bardiya, CBS,TharuKalyankarni Office, websites and various published and unpublished literatures.

Tharu are one of the indigenous ethnic groups of Nepal. Tharus are rich in cultural heritage and have their own custom and dress. Their ornaments have a unique style and have handicrafts of their own style which are prevalent in domestic use. There are two types of family, i.e. nuclear and joint are found in the study area. Among them 32 percent households are found to joint which 68 percent household are nuclear. The

educational status of the Tharu women in the study area is found to be not so poor. 50 out of 100 households 56 percent of them are found to be literate and 44 percent are illiterate. 8 percent women decided to be a child school selection, 36 percent male are decided to be children school selection and highest 56 percent male and female joint decided to be a children school selection found in the study area.

Concerning the occupation pattern of sample population of the study area. 80 percent of them are found to be engaged in agriculture, 6 percent in service, 8 percent in business and 6 percent in wage labor. Majority of households of the study area hold land up to 10 Kattha and the households having more than 3 bigha. The Tharu who have less than 1 bigha they cultivate other land in adhiya basis. Most of the Tharus in present VDC cultivate other land in adhiya. Only 16 percent women have land ownership in small size and 84 percent male land ownership found in the study area.

Women participation in the decision making is not satisfactory as compared to men in the health management. Out of 50 sampled respondents 16 percent women decided to take care for treatment family member and 42 percent women decided to where is baby delivery. Whereas 28 percent women decided to use family planning means, 8 percent male, 36 percent male and female both decided and 28 percent women not uses family planning means. Due to lack of knowledge, lack of awareness low economic status and old mentality they belief on superstition in this modern era.

Women have the low decision making power regarding livestock purchasing 10 percent women, 62 percent men decided to livestock purchasing and 28 percent male and female both decided to purchasing livestock. Regarding to livestock selling 14 percent women, 28 percent men, 28 percent men and women both decided and not engaged selling livestock 30 percent found in the study area.

6.2 Conclusion

Through this study, it is known that Tharu women have multidimensional role and responsibilities in their families. Their work burden is higher but most of their time in spent in their household activities. Then they should spend more time in agriculture which is not counted as income generating works. They work only for the purpose of

family use. The literacy rate of Tharu women is moderating but they are not well educated and higher education status of women is very low. They are deprived from acquiring the higher education due to the various social, personal, economic factors which are directly related them is not getting outside job. Therefore, only a few numbers of Tharu women are engaged in outside jobs.

Only few Tharu women have land ownership house ownership, bank and other financial institutions like women saving groups, sahakarietc deposit and most Tharu women have livestock as their own property. But very few women have property rights. Due to lack of higher education most of the Tharu women have to work more in agriculture but have a comparatively less decision making power than the male counterparts. The Tharu women have high decision making power in few activities, but the decision making role of men is superior in most of the variables. Only few activities have equal contribution of men and women in household decision making. The major factors responsible for this phenomenon are the tradition. Male dominated culture and lack of education.

Women participation in the decision making is satisfactory as compared to men in the case of use of family planning means and decision making of where baby delivery home or hospital but comparatively less decision making power than the male just like children school selection, land ownership, purchasing and selling livestock's and its products and decision making of take care or treatment of the family member.

Thus, it can be concluded that the decision making status of tharu women is low.

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Case Study I

FularaniTharu, resident of Badhaiya, Bardiya was married at the age of 16 when she was still could not understand about marriage. Her parents married her off without her consent, as it is usually the case in rural households, when proposal for marriage came from a well off family. Her family consisted of her mother-in- law, her husband (KriparamTharu) and herself. With the birth of a daughter (Muna) a year later, her family became bigger with four members and waiting of birth of son they give 6 daughters.

Kriparam wanted a son after the daughter, thinking that the 6th children would grow up together FulraniTharu was also positive about her husband's decision. But their dream of having a son could not be fulfilled another 14 years. After that long wait, Kriparam married another woman thinking that Fulrani would never give birth to a son. His second wife gave birth to a son and a daughter. The relationship between Kriparam and Fulrani could no longer stay in the same house, and she moved to her parental home. At her parental home, her elder brother is mentally challenged. As Fulrani's husband had married a second wife, her parents thought that she would face financial difficulties in her life. So they wished to bequeath their family property to her.

At Kriparam home, his second wife did not help him in household works, and she started showing hostile manners. Kriparam realized his mistake and went to Fulrani's maternal home to bring her home. He promised to her that he would never give her any psychological torture and he should help her in executing household tasks. Fularani meanwhile, the different institutions and groups existing in the village also congratulated Fularani for coming back to home and suggested to Kriparam for acting as a more responsible and thoughtful husband.

Now, Fularani makes decisions in several activities related to household, and Kriparamalso consent to her decisions. Despite not giving birth to a male child, Kriparam does not make an issue about that. As she is financially strong, her status in the family has raised up, and her decision making power in the family become stronger.

Case Study II

Women and Men are considered two part of single quoin. To become a complete quoin need to two parts. Same for complete and successful happy married life male and female equal involvement is essential. Same happen in one family in study area respondent. SangitaTharu, resident of Badhaiya, Bardiya got married at the age of 19 when she was passed SLC when she knows about marriage. Her parents married her with her consent, when proposal for marriage came from a well a medium family. She met with the man who is proposing for marry. She and boys both discuss on marriage and tried to understand both feelings. Sangita takes decision self and involve in every household and out of household decision making process. Her husband BishnuTharu understands her and he supports every step of Sangita. Sangita has given birth of one girl child and her husband gives her thank you for become farther of girl's child. He supports her to caretaker of their child.

Bishnu involve his wife Sangita in every decision making process like family matter, purchasing, selling, farm activity, household and out of household work. They discuss on their plan and problem so that they easily complete the work with satisfaction. They also discuss on family problem for better solution. If problem arise they did not blame each other but sit together and discuss for best alternative solution. Bishnu support his wife to involve in outside work like things purchasing and selling, participate in public program. He encourages his wife to join higher education.

Now, Sangita and Bishnus' family is model family in village. In their family there is never misunderstanding happen. They appreciate and respect each other feeling because they get married after become mature, with understanding and both are educated also. Sangita and Bishnus' family teach to community for happy life need to respect women feeling and education of women is must. For successful and happy life women involvement in decision making process is essential for social development.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Decision Making Status of Tharu Women
A Case Study of MainapokharVDC, 3 Bardiya
Central Department of Sociology
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

Date.....

1. Name: _____

Age.....

V.D.C.....

Ward:

District

2. Marital Status:

a. Married [] b. Unmarried[] c. Widow []

3. Detail information of your family.

S.N	Name	Sex	Age (Years)	Education	Occupation	Marital Status
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						

4. Family Type:

a. Nuclear [] b. Joint []

5. Your Education:

a. Illiterate []

b. Literate: [] i. Primary education []

ii. S.L.C.[]

iii. +2 []

iv. Higher Education []

6. Husband's Education:

a. Illiterate []

b. Literate: [] i. Primary education []

ii. S.L.C.[]

iii. +2 []

iv. Higher Education []

7. Who make the decision for children's school selection?

a. Father[] b. Mother [] c. Both[] d. Other[]

8. Who studied in Government school?

a. Son [] b. Daughter[] c. Both []

9. Who studied in private school?

a. Son [] b. Daughter[] c. Both[]

10. Do you have land?

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a. Health center [] b. Private clinic [] c. Dhami/Jhakri (Guruwa) []

21. Who decides to take care for treatment?

a. Self [] b. Husband [] c. Both [] d. Others []

22. Do you use means of family planning?

a. Yes [] b. No []

If yes, who decided to use means of family planning?

a. Self [] b. Husband [] c. Both [] d. Others []

23. Where did you deliver your first baby?

a. Home [] b. Hospital []

24. Who made this decision?

a. Self [] b. Husband [] c. Both [] d. Others []

25. What is your main source of income?

a. Agriculture [] b. Business [] c. Service [] d. Labor []
e. Other []

26. Where do you keep money?

a. Home [] b. Bank [] c. corporative []

27. Who make the decision for keeping money?

a. Self [] b. Husband [] c. Both [] d. Others []

28. What are the main causes to make low decision making status of women in the Tharu community?

a. Lack of education [] b. Patriarchal society [] c. Lack of awareness []

29. What do you suggest to improve decision making status of women in Tharu community?

a. Promote the education [] b. Equal property right [] c. Priority in job opportunity []
d. Skill promotion [] f. Others []

Check List for Case study

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

1. Main source of income

.....

2. Land ownership

.....

3. Does woman right in property is good or not?

.....

4. Do you know legal right of women in property?

.....

5. Tharu Women Involvement in decision of Goods Purchasing.

Type	Decisions Making person			
	Self	Head of Household	Husband	Other
Food Item				
Cloth				
Daily using materials				
Cattle				
Ornament				
Land				
Medicine				
Other				

6. Tharu Women Involvement in decision of Goods Selling.

Type	Decisions Making person			
	Self	Head of	Husband	Other

		Household		
Food Item				
Vegetable				
Cattle				
Ornament				
Land				
Other				

7. Do you use family planning means?

.....

8. Who use the family planning means?

.....

9. Who take the decision for family planning means use or not?

.....

10. Who take the decision for children vaccination?

.....

11. Does single women are in your community or not?

.....

12. Do single women wear white cloth?

.....

13. Is it good to wear white cloth for single women?

.....

14. Who take decision for financial transaction in your family?

.....

15. How did you do your marriage?

.....

16. Who make the decision for marriage is good?

.....

17. Do you involve in any organization or group?

.....

18. What kinds of organization or group?

.....

19. Which position do you involve?

.....

20. Do you become candidate of any political party or group or organization?

.....

21. Does good to women make decision for household subject?

.....

22. Does women get to make decision for self like study, employee or marriage?

.....

23. What need to do for improvement of women condition?

a)

b).....

Map of MainapokharVDC

Source: Backward Society Education (BASE) Social Mapping, 2016