GURUNG CULTURE AS A PROSPECT OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN GHACHOK VILLAGE

(A Case Study of Ghachok Village of Kaski District)

A Thesis Submitted to The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

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Thanking everyone,

March, 2021.

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ABSTRACT

This thesis entitled "**Gurung Culture as a Prospect of Tourism Development in Ghachok Village**" intended to focus on the village tourism being practiced by the Gurung people in the Ghachok village of Kaski district. Gurung peoples are one of the indigenous populations mostly residing in the hill area since the historic times. For this study, the locality Ghachok village was chosen which is inhabited mainly by the Gurung people.

Rural tourism as a phenomenon is concerned with river, nature, environment, rural society and household. It represents conservation, life style, experience, adventure and above all benefit to the local people. The main objective of rural tourism includes tourists to plan a trip, immerse into the local community along with minimizing the eco-cultural impact. When an organized group of tourists reached Ghachok , the villagers descend down the village and welcome tourist with garlands, tika, and traditional Gurung musical bands. While music and dances are performed and traditional farewell songs are also sung when guests depart. The Village Tourism Committee distributes the guest into the different households having the facility of home stay. Guests are presented to different cultural programs such as Dohari song, Gantu dance and Krishna Charita dance in the premise of community Hall.

This study has been conducted to assess the impact of village tourism on local culture; for which changes that have occurred or occurring these days have also observed closely. On the other hand cultural revitalization is also directly connected to tourism. In this sense, even village tourism as modern institution plays vital role to promote and restore the root culture. So, basically this study aims to identify the impacts of globalization on the Gurung cultures and the role of village tourism to revitalize the traditional culture as a whole.

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