

THE INTER-PERSONAL BRAWL AND ITS IMPACT ON THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN: A STUDY OF BAIJNATH RURAL MUNICIPALITY, BANKE

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ABSTRACT

The study entitled The Inter-Personal Brawl and its Impact on the Overall Development of Women: A Study of Baijnath Rural Municipality, Banke was completed under the More than half of the population is covered by female even they remain cantered on their traditional roles like taking care of most household chores, fetching water, and fodder, bearing child and doing farm work. Women of Nepal have faced various problems which are centuries old, they suffer much oppression, suppression all over the rural areas. The present study is related with socio-economic status of women in Baijnath rural municipality of Banke district ward no.8. The objectives of this study were to assess the social and economic status of women of Baijnath rural municipality of Banke district. For this purpose the secondary and primary data were collected at first and after then these data were analysed and interpreted on the basis of descriptive as well as statistical way by using very simple statistical methods such as tables etc. the study had tried to seek the grassroots based status of women. This rural municipality is diversity in caste and ethnicity which is the root cause of discrimination between upper and lower caste and obstacle of development process. It is to be said that 'men and women are two wheels of the same cart' but not practiced in behaviours and always women are dominated by men in this rural municipality.

The education status of women in this rural municipality is found more satisfactory than the national literacy rate of women, which is found positive aspect of development process. Decision making plays a crucial role in daily household activities. Women has lead role in household activities like buying daily necessities, buying clothes, religious work, animal care and buying utensils, so it is found women are confined only in peripheries of the household chores with maximum working load comparatively than male.

Key Words: Socio-Economic Status, traditional roles, households chores, discrimination, Decision making

Introduction

Nepal is multi-ethnic, multicast, multicultural, multi-religious, multi-linguistic independent, democratic and a small landlocked with great natural beauty, abundant natural resources and a diverse agro climatic developing country with an area of 147181 sq km covered mainly with rural village. The kingdom of Nepal is bounded on the north by the Tibet autonomous region of People's Republic of china; on the east by Sikkim and West Bengal of India, on the south by Indian state of Bihar and Utter Pradesh and on the west by Utter Pradesh of Indian Union. The length of the country is 855 km east-west and breadth varies from 145-241 km north-south. It is divided in three Geographical regions (viz. Himalayan-range of 4847 to 8848 m; Mountain 305 to 4847 m and Terai-70 to 305 m range).

In Nepal, ecological region, Terai includes most of fertile land and forest of the country 40% of its land area is under cultivation but occupies only 23% of the total land area. This region is inhabited by 48.4% of the total population (Bhattachan, 2011). The Hill region is the melting point of the traditional Nepalese cultivation where the capital of

Nepal, Kathmandu valley is located. 17.2% of its land is under cultivation but occupies most of the part of the country 42% of total land area 44.3% of the total population are living in this region (Bhattachan, 2011). Similarly the mountain has highly rugged topography, which occupies 35% of its land area 4.4% of its land area is under cultivation and only 7.3% of the total population are living in this region (Gurung, 1999).

The country as a federal system has been divided seven province, 77 districts for administrative and development purpose. The east west orientation of the country is drained by three major rivers which influence population movement, socio-economic development and cultural pattern. The Koshi basin in the east is mostly inhabited by mongoloid peoples and Karnali basin in the west is inhabited by Caucasoid group. Cultural transition zone at the middle is represented by the Gandaki basin. This demarcation at present is arbitrary due to increasing movement of people. Agriculture is the mainstay of Nepal in income generating on about 80% of population depends on subsistence farming about 59% of countries GDP comes from agriculture, 66% labors directly involved in it. Similarly, agriculture contributes about 45% of total export (CBS, 2021).

The proportion of female in the total labour forces decreased after the age of 15 and over. About 57% if the total population at the age of 10 and over was economically active, 81% of the economically active population were engaged either as farmer or as fisherman (Bastola, 1993). It is obvious that women constitute more than half of the population of Nepal. The census shows that women exceed men by 23,521 by numbers. Most of them are living in rural areas and only a little part about 14% of the total population is in urban area (CBS, 2021).

The status of women is nutritionally, economically, socially, educationally inferior than men and maternal mortality rate is very high. Nepalese women are married early and overburdened with child care and rearing practices. women in Nepal are engaged in domestic child care and economic productive activities added it the burden of child bearing frequent and closely spaced pregnancies and labours intensive tasks, such as carrying water, collecting firewood, planting, harvesting, tending to household livestock, washing clothes, breast feeding and carrying young children and beside their domestic activities. They spend their long hours outside the home in gainful economic activities. Women as a group are generally poor, powerless and disadvantaged, due to deep rooted patriarchal values, low level of literacy and awareness. In term of food consumption, poor households are sustained in an average at just about serving levels but in case of women they are consuming somewhat less than equal share. Female baby generally gets less care feedings compare to male so the mortality rate of female baby is high.

Women's earning are substantially lower than men because of the house hold division of labours which assigns domestic work mostly to women due to lack of awareness, cultural and social customs also limit female participation to work outside the home. There are substantial pressure with respect to health, education, mobility and job entry, which keep women in lower wage works. Socio economic status of women even though rising is still low in Nepal. They still lack adequate access to employment, income, education, health care nutrition and still require development despite impressive, legislative and constitutional provision favouring there equal right to work, employment and education. The gender gap in term of their economic opportunities and participation in public life and decision making exists in the society. In America and western countries, women are free and equal to men (UN, 1995).

Human resource the presence of the in-charge was looked into, as s/he was crucial for delivery of quality essential health care services from that facility. The situation of

sub health posts which are the first contact point for basic services from institutional perspective was better with all positions. In conflict-affected areas and project personnel were reluctant to undertake field travel, because of vulnerability to intimidation in the form of interrogation, abduction and even life from insurgents as well as the security personnel. Fear of being caught in crossfire and budgetary constraint. Consequently, supervisory activities had become confined only to safe and accessible areas from where returning back to headquarter was possible on the same day.

The outreach clinics have an important role to play to improve the availability and access to essential health care services at the community level. There was a feeling of general fear, isolation and lack of support among the community level service providers. In-charge of the health facilities of many remote areas were on deputation to the district head quarter, necessitating the VHWs and MCHWs to provide services at the facility; leaving them with very little time for community work like running the outreach program or supervision. In none of the conflict affected districts, the monthly target for out-reach clinics was met. The lack of support and leadership due to dissolution of local government had also contributed to the above stalemate.

The health worker in all conflict affected districts were instructed by the insurgents to be on standby to provide treatment to their cadres, abducted to provide services, forced to attend mass meetings and indoctrination programs, made to express their views regarding the armed conflict in public gatherings and compelled to pay levy to insurgents. Everybody pays, almost all government health employees have been donating but most are hesitant to express it.

The lenses of structural violence and human rights violations are used as a prism to view the overall impact of the armed conflict on women and children with particular reference to their psychological, social and economic status. She focuses on women and children as being specific targets of gender-based violence and conflict recruiting respectively. It is found through her intensive research that women suffer from sexual harassment at the hands of both parties the Maoists as well as the security forces. She also talks about the forceful recruitment of children as child soldiers by both parties to the conflict and the cataclysmic effect this has on their future, and indeed that of Nepali society.

The breakdown of governance in the state of Nepal and how that has mainly affected women and children for that she traces the transfer of political power and the outcomes of failed political processes as entailing arduous consequences for women and children. As citizens, the failure of governance to reach the populations, especially in the rural areas, has led to drastically deteriorated law and order situations in Nepal. In the rural areas, displacement has occurred across the board, with people fleeing their homes, belongings and livelihoods. Forced migration creates its own set of problems and stories other districts of Nepal are documented to show the psychological, physical and emotional trauma that these victims have endured.

The Impact of conflict on women also includes a section on the participation of stakeholder in aiding post-conflict and social conflict reconstruction and development. Through his research builds a narrative for the least advantaged sections of contemporary Nepali society so that their concerns are institutionalized into programs relating to conflict transformation and peace building process.

Objectives

These objectives are as follows.

- To examine the politico-economic condition of women in the study area.
- To examine the role of women in decision making process.

- To examine the influence of conflict in women's economic status in the study area.

Research Methodology

The study was specially designed to describe the status of women. It was based on the descriptive research design in order to fulfilment the specific objective of the study, the analysis is mainly based on primary data basically, the variable such as: social and economic condition, family background, residential background and their present and past status have been identified and described to light on the status of women in Baijnath rural municipality ward no.8 are among the total 10166 population of 100 sample population for this study qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

Discussion

This study deals with the demographic characteristics of the respondents. It deals with economic characteristics of respondents and last part is devoted to describe the women's role in decision making process of the respondents.

Economic Activities of the Tharu women

The life of Tharu women is dominated in comparison to their male counterpart in Nepal. Tharu women's status in the society result continuous lag in opportunities in education, training, employment, health public life access to economic rights etc. although Tharu women are very active in household and field works, they have assigned very less status to men. But we see just reverse in the case of Rana Tharus. That is Rana Tharus maintain a female dominant society. Household activities are not considered as economic activities. Tharu women are restricted into their domestic and subsistence activities.

Table 1

		<i>Economic Activity of Population</i>				Total	Percent
S.N	Description	Population					
		Male	%	Female	%		
1.	Active	3513	74.76	4060	74.26	7573	74.49
2.	Inactive	1186	25.23	1407	25.73	2593	25.50
Total		4699	100	5467	100	10166	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

According to the table, about 74.49% of the total populations over 10 year of age were active. Similarly, only 25.50% were economically passive in the study area.

Problems of the Women

Most of the household of this rural municipality are below poverty line so their male usually goes to earn money in India and other foreign country. At least one male of each household has gone, outside the country that is why, working load of women is increasing. Less education of women and poor health status they should face a critical problem like economic, decision making and even some times being pestered by other male.

Socio-demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Occupation is considered as the main source of income it represents the economic status of people. Agriculture and animal husbandry is the main occupation of the Tharus of the present rural municipality.

Caste and Ethnicity of Respondents

Nepal is a multicast and multilingual nation as well. It is heterogeneous in its ethnic composition. In the study area, there were also many ethnic groups such as Brahmin,

Tharu, Chhetri, Thakuri, Magar, Kami, Sunar, Damai. All these ethnic groups were included in the sample.

Table 2

Caste and Ethnicity of Respondent

S.N.	Caste/ Ethnicity	Respondent	Percent
1.	Brahmin	32	32
2.	Tharu	32	32
3.	Chhetri	25	25
4.	Thakuri	2	2
5.	Magar	2	2
6.	Kami, Sunar, damai	7	7
	Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

The highest percent were Brahmin and Tharu which consist 32/32 percent of the respondents. Chhetri respondents were 25%. Similarly, Thakuri, Magar, Sunar and Damai were 2/2 Percent and Kami were 3% of total respondents.

Educational Situation

Education is the sign of development. Educated female can provide better lifestyle. Education is that elements which equips women with the tool to solve her problems in life and helps her to live in better life. Education is therefore essential for the rural women in measure as well as in a form that they need to become more productive and worthier citizen of the country.

Table 3

Educational Situation of Female

S.N.	Education	Respondents	Percent
1.	Illiterate	42	42
2.	Literate (read & write only)	20	20
3.	Below SLC	27	27
4.	SLC	5	5
5.	Intermediate level	6	6
	Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

According to the above table, 58% respondents were literate and 42% women were illiterate. Among the literate 20% respondents were literate they could read and write only, 27% respondents were under SLC. Similarly, SLC level respondents were 5%, Intermediate level respondents were 6% and Bachelor level and above respondents were not found. Hence, the literacy rate in this rural municipality is comparatively higher than that of the average Nepalese.

Marriage Age of Respondents

Marital status is also a social indicator for understanding the socio-economic status of women. Early marriage system has been one of the important characteristics of Nepal. Marital status changes the women's status. It also changes the women's role and increases the duties and work load of the women.

Table 4

Marriage age of respondents

S.N.	Marriage Age	Respondents	Percent
1.	11-15	25	31.3
2.	16-20	40	50
3.	21-24	11	13.7
4.	25 +	4	5
	Total	80*	100

* 20 respondents were unmarried

Source: Field Survey, 2025

According to the above table, 80 respondents were married and only 20 respondents were unmarried. Among the married respondents most 50% married respondents were engaged in their marriage in (16-20) age, only at least 5% respondents got marry in above 25 years of age group and 13.8% of total respondents got marry 20-24 age group. About 81% of total married respondents got married before 20 years of age. Here it can be said that marital status have been changing. The women's role and increase the duties and work load of the women

Economic Characteristics of the Respondents

To analyze the data, occupation was divided in to six categories. Among them only four types of occupied respondents were found. They were agriculture, office, labors and business. In rural Nepalese society, main occupation of the women was household activities, but their contribution are not confined within the household activities alone they perform agricultural work, office, labours and business as well.

Occupation of Respondents

Tharus are engaged in income activities like mall business which includes Retail or small shop and selling of vegetables in the local market, carpentry, service, livestock raising, tailoring, wage labor, household works and others. The table shows the occupational pattern of sample household.

Table 5

Distribution of Respondents by Occupation

S.N.	Occupation	Respondents	Percent
1.	Household work and Agriculture	79	79
2.	Household work and Office	4	4
3.	Household work and Labour	7	7
4.	Household work and business	10	10
	Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above table 5, maximum 79% of the total respondents were engaged in household work as well as their agricultural works. There were 10% of the respondents involved in household work and business. Similarly, 7% of the total respondents were found to engaged in labour and household work and left 4 of the respondents were found to be engaged in household work and office.

Respondents View about Taking Loan

Women's social, education and cultural condition always affected by their economic status. If they have more sufficient money they can participate in every social program which lead them to upward their lifestyle. So to meet to take loan from different social intuitions i.e. bank, communities saving institutions and relatives as well.

Sources of Loan

Economy is that thing, which can perform most of the work accruing in the human life. In the study area the researcher found different task performed by wealth.

Table 6

Sources of Loan

S.N.	Source	Respondents	Percent
1.	Relatives	28	30.43
2.	Banks	63	68.48
3.	Others	1	1.09
	Total	92*	100

Note: * 92 of the sampled household were taking loan

Source: Field Survey, 2025

Above table shows that, most of the respondents 68.48% were taking loan includes some commercial banks, community based organizations etc. Similarly, 28% of the total sampled household were taking loans from their relatives and rest 1.09% of the total sampled household were taking loan from other sector business, friends etc. The study area the purpose of taking loan has being categorized in different sector i.e. treatment, house expenditure and others. Here other includes education, business etc.

Role of Women in Decision Making Process

Generally, involvement in family decision making process indicates one's higher or equal status in the family. Status of women is also religiously higher in Nepal, especially in higher caste Hindu Families. But it is only in theory or it can be said that it is true to some extent, when they are in status of daughter. When they enter in the status role of daughter in-law, their status is very low. In their role of daughter or daughter in-law, women are not accepting as a decision maker outside the kitchen except animal care and some farm activities. When, particularly at their old age, performing the role of mother in-law, she can take part in decision making process.

Table 7

Women's Role in Decision Making Process

S.N	Particular	Male%	Female%	House consult%	Total%
1.	Buy Daily Necessities	8	75	17	100
2.	Buying Clothes	6	48	46	100
3.	Religious work	4	62	34	100
4.	Treatment	13	7	80	100
5.	Agriculture work	18	5	77	100
6.	Saving	4	3	93	100
7.	Taking Loan	3	1	96	100
8.	Utilization of saving	4	0	96	100
9.	Animal care	8	66	26	100
10.	Income Activities	2	0	98	100
11.	Buy utensils	1	85	14	100
12.	Face social meeting	84	6	10	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

Above table shows that women have good authority in decision making process. In this case about 90% respondents are doing with house consult. Most of women have involved in kitchen related or household chores i.e. buy daily necessities, buying clothes, animal care, religious work, buying utensils etc. On the other hand most of the male have involved in decision making of some important issues i.e. treatment, agriculture work, saving. Taking loans, utilization of saving, income activities etc. But in some cases

women who are earning widens or respected from the husband and in all cases they are earning their livelihood themselves. They are the main earner of the family. There are not active male members in their family. They have to make all decisions related to their life.

Root Causes of the Brawl

This section of the report seeks to analyse the root causes of the armed conflict through the lens of structural violence and human rights violations with the aid of illustrative case studies and quantitative data. Please note that the list on the issues of structural violence is not exhaustive and not mutually exclusive.

Conflict is inherent in all societies and arises when two or more groups believe their interests are incompatible. 'Conflict' is not however, interchangeable with 'violence'. Non-violent resolution is possible when individuals and groups have trust in their governing structures, society and institutions to manage incompatible interests. Conflict becomes a problem when this trust and respective conflict management capacities are absent and conflicting parties choose instead to resort to the use of force to secure their goals. Violent conflict is the subject of this topic guide. The guide provides an overview of key topics ranging from the causes, dynamics and impacts of conflict to options for interventions to prevent manage and respond to conflict.

Conflict of the Socio Economic Factors

There is increasing recognition that it is the nature of inequality, rather than the extent of inequality, that determines the likelihood of violent conflict. Research has found that inequalities that align with cultural, ethnic or religious identities ('horizontal inequalities') are more likely to result in violence. This is especially the case when there are multidimensional horizontal Inequalities' where culturally defined groups experience multiple forms of exclusion from Political, economic, social, security, justice, and cultural realms. Often these forms of inequality, exclusion and marginalisation interact and compound one another: unequal access to land and natural resources, for example, may result from the lack of access to power and decision making. A strong sense of collective injustice, due to actual or perceived exclusion based on social or cultural identity, can increase a group feeling of alienation from the wider society. This may lead to animosity and resentment. Over time, such tensions can foster group mobilisation and fuel violent conflict. It is not only the relatively deprived who may instigate violence, however, but also the privileged who fear losing power and benefits. Government responses are important in determining whether dissatisfaction turns violent. If the state reacts harshly to non-violent protests, as opposed to seeking to address exclusion, then the chances of violent conflict are more likely. Exclusion and inequality as a cause of conflict may be connected to the breakdown of the social contract, discussed under political and institutional factors. This thesis argues community must address the horizontal inequalities that cause many violent conflicts. The example of Baijnath Rural Municipality ward no. 8 Gurdayarpur village Barghar system illustrate steps community can take to rectify horizontal inequalities in post-conflict environments, providing long term conflict resolution. For further discussion and resources, the underlying causes of conflicting the social exclusion guide.

Poverty and Conflict Factors

Conflict and poverty are clearly a disport portion ate number of conflicts take place in poor community. The direction of causality has been debated, however. Most research contends that Poverty, in itself, is rarely a direct cause of conflict; yet it is evident that conflict exacerbates Poverty see the impact of conflict. Most authors now contend that it is relative deprivation, rather than poverty per se, that makes violent conflict more likely. Poverty may contribute to or sustain conflict through its association with perceived

injustices and forms of exclusion between groups see the inequality, exclusion and marginalisation. In some specific contexts, there is evidence that extreme poverty has provided the motivation for effective recruitment and mobilisation of the masses. What is the nature of links between conflict and poverty. What are the implications of academic debate for policy and future research? This paper provides an overview of the literature on chronic poverty and conflict. Traditionally the concepts of chronic poverty and violent conflict have been treated as separate spheres. It is argued that poverty and conflict are linked. Violent conflict is not a side issue and needs to be better understood in order to achieve development goals. Households in Conflict How does armed conflict impact on households and how do they respond to and cope with it person this paper examines the direct and indirect effects of conflicts and shows that the indirect effects are channelled through markets, political institutions and social networks. Until there is more research on the fundamental processes linking armed civil conflict and household welfare, it will be difficult to develop effective policies for preventing and resolving conflicts.

Resource and Environmental Factors Conflict

Regardless of the beliefs, ideologies and grievances involved, all armed conflicts must be funded. Such funding often comes from illicit sources and activities. Economic relations may become coercive during armed conflict and peacetime economic activities maybe looted by belligerents. Illicit trade in commodities next section on resource exploitation during conflicts can reinforce other causes of conflict, including state weakness and lack of accountability. While many conflicts are clearly motivated by political or social issues, others are mainly economically motivated. Some conflicts start due to political and social motives but are prolonged due to economic motivations greed, which creates disincentives for peace. It is unclear whether groups continue fighting due to the original political reasons due to the income generated from war-related illicit drug trade. These complexities have led recent authors to challenge the simplistic greed versus grievance framework as both elements are often found in conflict situations.

This article analyses has to conflicts and peace efforts in several Baijnath rural municipality ward no. 8 women revealing the crucial role played by economics. The pursuit of rational economic goals by conflict participants is often a major factor behind the continuation of violence that otherwise seems illogical. People at all level of society can profit from conflict to the extent that peace seems unattractive or violence may offer a degree of economic security that is preferable to the uncertain prospects of peace. Conflict can only be tackled by taking into account the non-political functions of violence and the economic benefits it can bring.

Conclusions

More than half of the population is covered by female even; they remain centered on their traditional roles like taking care of most household chores, fetching water, and fodder, bearing child and doing farm work. Women of Nepal have faced various problems which are centuries old, they suffer much oppression, suppression all over the rural areas. The present study is related with the Inter-Personal Brawl and its Impact on the Overall Development of Women: A Study of Baijnath Rural Municipality, Banke. This study is on socio-economic condition of women, following conclusion are stressed on the basis findings. This rural municipality is diversity in caste and ethnicity which is the root cause of discrimination between upper and lower caste and obstacle of development process. It is to be said that men and women are two wheels of the same cart but not practiced in behaviors and always women are dominated by men in this rural municipality.

There is no doubt that education is the back bone of the overall development of the country. When women are educated they can face every problems easily, which occurs in their daily life. When a single woman is educated then the good civilization starts in her family. The education status of women in this rural municipality is found more satisfactory than the national literacy rate of women, which is found positive aspect of development process. Decision making plays a crucial role in daily household activities. Women has lead role in household activities like buying daily necessities, buying clothes, religious work, animal care and buying utensils, so it is found women are confined only in peripheries of the household chores with maximum working load comparatively than male.

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