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EDITORIAL

Institutionally speaking, the Central Department of Sociology and Anthropology has become fully adolescent but it is increasingly facing the challenge to collect a dozen of articles from the fastest growing population of the sociologists and anthropologists in one of the poorest conflict-ridden societies of South Asia. Whether we agree or disagree, we must realize openly that the generality of us are busy for beating our own drums and there has been very little or no concerted effort for giving the continuity to publish this Occasional Papers. The editorial board is not boastful for publishing the present volume replete with highly academic articles in sociology and anthropology of Nepal. But it has a sense of contentment for being successful in giving continuity for its publication with its modicum of effort. Unequivocally, giving continuity to such an activity is definitely better than staying indolently with hands folded and criticizing others with jaundiced eyes.

The present volume has been made possible by the contributions of a number of sociologists, anthropologists, and other scholars. Therefore, the editorial board acknowledges all the contributors of this volume of Occasional Papers. It contains articles written in the field of sociology, anthropology and social psychology. Professor R.R. Regmi has made analytical discussion on the issues of ethnicity and identity in Nepal. He has given emphasis on the participation to solve the ethnic problem in Nepal. Dr. Om Gurung has also presented an analytical discussion on the *Lagi-Lagitya* relations in Jumla district of the Karnali region. This article highlights the prominent features of inter-caste economic interdependency in Jumla, which is a long-term hereditary contractual labour relation. Mr. Laya Prasad Uprety has analyzed the non-economic benefits of the participatory action research as perceived by the researchers working with the adoption of adaptive and collaborative management approach on community forestry and members of the community forest user's group themselves. Mr. Binod Pokharel presents a longitudinal analysis on the changing pattern of forest consumption of Dhankuta district in eastern Nepal for the period of 10 years from 1991 to 2001. Ms Meena Poudel and

Mr. Youba Raj Luitel have critically analyzed gender advocacy with the adoption of social relation approach and the utilization of the framework of institutional analysis. They attempt to introduce the notion of advocacy in general and gender advocacy in particular. Dr. Samira Luitel has analyzed the position of *Dalit* women in caste system. She concludes that women of the *Dalit* communities are oppressed as women in their own society and also marginalised in all aspects of individual development. Mr. Man Bahadur Khatri has focused on the rituals and family shrines, which are associated with agriculture. The author has demonstrated the relationships among the landscape, rituals and the process of development. Mr. Jib Nath Prasai has critically analyzed the policy trends and development practices of rural water supply and sanitation activity. He also examines the roles of the beneficiaries to make the rural water supply and sanitation activity sustainable. Mr. Madhusudan Sharma Subedi's article is related with medical anthropology. The author has discussed the health -related issues, including the etiology of the diseases and the preventive and curative measures. Dr. Philip Tanner and Mr Dhirendra Parajuli have quantified peoples' participation and psychological empowerment. The article primarily focuses on the concept of psychological empowerment as a basis for future research into the multifaceted phenomena of empowerment theory. Dr. Niranjana Sharma has focused on various forms of corruption. He discussed the corruption as psychological issue. Mr. Hari Har Ghimire has described the NGO/INGO- centered approach in Nepal. Dr. Kishor Raj Pandey and other co-authors have discussed the health care practices of infant patients at Nepal Medical College. Professor Ganesh Man Gurung has expressed obituary note to Prof. Gopal Singh Nepali. Finally, Bishnu Prasad Dahal has reviewed the book "Ordering Sherpa Through their Rituals: Symbolic and Interpretive Perspective".

Prof. Dr. Rishikeshav Raj Regmi

Head of the Department

On behalf of

The Editorial Board.