

Ramu Bishwakarma

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EDUCATION

Doctor in Philosophy (PhD), Sociology

Expected to graduate on 2009

University of Maryland, College Park

(Preliminary Dissertation Topic: *Child Health Challenges: Enchanted Rituals and Exclusionary State*) [Area of Specialization -- Demography and Development]

Master in Arts (MA), Sociology, GPA 4.0

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Graduated on 2006

(Thesis: *Social Exclusion of Oppressed (Dalit) Women in Nepal: An Exploratory Policy Analysis from the Intersectional Perspective of Caste and Gender*)

Master in Business Studies (MBA), GPA 3.5

Tribhuvan University, Nepal Commerce Campus, Nepal

Graduated on 2003

(Thesis: *Institutional Development Practices of International Development Organizations to their Community Based Partner Organizations: A Case Study of Heifer Nepal*)

Bachelor in Business Studies (BS), GPA 3.0

Tribhuvan University, Saraswoti Campus, Nepal

Graduated on 1999

WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching/Research Assistant, University of Maryland, College Park, *August 2006 – Present.*

- Lead weekly class discussion for sociology undergraduate course. Major topics covered during the discussion are – evolution stages of society, global inequality, globalization, and population and environmental change.

Summer Intern, Freedom House, Washington D.C., *June– August 2006.*

- Helped to manage operation and project grants.
- Learned how human rights and democracy programs are organized, operated and managed.

Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas. *August 2004 – May 2006.*

- Worked as a member of a research team which consisted with a total of eight interdisciplinary team members; and investigated whether or not discourse of intersectionality of class, race/ethnicity, age and gender was incorporated in social work journal articles published from 1990 to 2005.
- Served as a manager of this research team for fall 2005.

Education Intern, Heifer International, Little Rock, USA. *June-Aug. 2005.*

- Designed seminar papers on global food security, population/poverty, and environmental issues and solutions by incorporating Heifer's work (success stories) as a case.
- Conducted an impact evaluation/assessment of a literacy project - Values Based Literacy Program (VBLP) – implemented by Heifer International in Nepal.

Consultant, Asia South Pacific Program, Heifer International, Little Rock, USA, *Dec 20, 2004-Jan 06, 2005*

- Helped to develop Operation Policies and Procedures of Heifer International Vietnam Office.
- Trained nine Heifer Vietnam staffs on programmatic, administrative and financial, human resources and fundraising management skills.

Co-Director (Part-time), Education and Empowerment for Sustainable Development Nepal (EESD/N – Child education and income generation focused NGO), *Jan 2001- July 2004*

- Helped developed strategic plan of the organization for the first five year's operation.
- Planned, designed, and helped operate the EESD/N program activities in fields.
- Performed annual evaluations of EESD/N program and office evaluation.
- Helped manage EESD Nepal's annual budget, staffs hiring, and networking with other organizations for partnership.

Financial Officer, Heifer International, Nepal- Livestock and community development focused INGO. *July 2000-July 2004*

- Planned, developed, and monitored Country Office budget of Heifer Nepal (approx. \$1,000,000 per annum) and its partner organizations. Ensured accountability of the funds.
- Investigated, reviewed and assisted in approving new project proposals from the viewpoint of financial viability and feasibility. Performed annual financial assessment of Heifer Nepal and its partner organizations (PO). Helped POs to develop their institutional capacity.

Assistant Finance Officer, Heifer International, Nepal Program. *Dec 1999 - June 2001.*

- Performed day to day accounting tasks using automated accounting system.
- Administered salary and benefits, handled confidential contracts and agreements.
- Maintained filing and documentations, bills and receipts, and archiving the important documents.
- Ensured the smooth operation of program's and project's budget. Prepared the monthly, semi-annual, and annual financial reports of Heifer Nepal office operation and its projects.

Editor and Radio Program Presenter, Nepal. *May 1998-October 1999.*

- Edited "Pratibodh" bimonthly magazine and hosted a weekly radio advocacy program called "Nilo Aakash". Both, the magazine and radio program were commissioned to promote awareness against the caste discrimination.

Assistant in Fundraising Department, Action Aid, Nepal. *Nov 1997-March 1998.*

- Translated letters written by donor supported children, forwarded them to the donors, and assisted in other day to day fundraising activities.
- Wrote success stories of the sponsored children and dispatch them to the donors.

MAJOR PAPER PRESENTATIONS AND SUBMISSIONS

- *Engaging Diversity: An Exploratory Analysis of an Intersectional Active-Learning (IRAL) Research Team.* (with Zajicek et al.). Paper submitted to Social Force Journal. Feb 08, 2007.
- *Beyond One-Dimensional Policy Frameworks: A Practical Guide for an Intersectional Policy Analysis* (with Zajicek et al.). Journal of International Policy and Development. United Kingdom. Submitted on *December 30, 2006.*
- *World Poverty Forum.* United Nations, New York. *November 26-28, 2006.*
- *Advancing an Intersectional Analysis of Development Policies: A Case Study of the Nepal's 10th Development Plan.* Mid South Sociological Association, Louisiana. Paper presented on *October 26-28, 2006.*
- *Using Interdisciplinary Research Teams to Evaluate the Integration of an Intersectional Perspective in Care-giving Research in the Journal of Social Work –* Paper submitted for presentation to American Sociological Association (ASA), *Sept 15, 2006*
- *Social Exclusion: Issues and Perspective: A Case of Nepal –* Paper presented in American Humanistic Society, Tampa, Florida. *October 26-28, 2005.*
- *Importance of Social Support Network for Homeless Women and Men in USA –* Presented in Seven Hill Homeless Center. Fayetteville, Arkansas. *September 28, 2005.*
- *Social Exclusion of Dalit Women in Nepal: An Analysis of Intersectional Perspective of Caste, Gender and Income.* Presented in Research in Progress Seminar for Public Policy PhD Program, University of Arkansas. Fayetteville, *March 20, 2005.*

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

- *Inclusion of Dalit Men and Women in the Constitutional Assembly.* The Spotlight Weekly, published on June 9, 06.
- *Redressing Dalit Women's Exclusion: An Imperative Agenda for the New Constitution.* Published on The Telegraph Weekly on May 27, 2006.
- *Intersectionality: A New Perspective Address Social Oppression in Nepal.* Published in Development Nepal, *January 1, 2006.*
- *Analysis of Effectiveness of Values Based Literacy Program (VBLP) in Nepal.* A Case Study of Heifer Nepal. Heifer International. Little Rock. *August 2004.*
- Various articles/essays on empowerment of oppressed communities published in various Nepali national magazines and newspapers: (*Yuva-Manch* - fortnightly, *Pratibodh* - Bi-monthly, and *Nepal* weekly). 1997-2004.

HONORS/AWARDS

- World Lobby Day: *Bread for the World* To participate in Bread for the World's national lobby day to campaign to increase the international

- development grant of US government. Washington D.C. June 13, 2006.
- Graduate School Travel Grants: To present paper in AHS conference in Tampa, Florida, October 2005.
University of Arkansas
- Research/Evaluation Grants: To evaluate/assess Values Based Literacy Program (VBLP-adult literacy) in Nepal, August 2005.
Heifer International
- Ambassador of Goodwill: Honored by State of Arkansas, USA, April, 2005.
University of Arkansas
- Various Cash and kind prizes: Securing highest score in class throughout grade I to X, (except VI and VII), Thorga, Gulmi, Nepal, from 1980 to 1990.
Thorga Primary School, Ridi Secondary

SKILLS

Languages: Fluent in Nepali, Proficient in English and Hindi, and Spanish (in progress).

Computer: Office Applications, PowerPoint Presentations, Project monitoring and evaluation database, Spreadsheet, WebCT, SPSS, STATA, SAS, and GIS. I am comfortable with STATA package in particular.

MEMBERSHIPS

Member: United Nations Association of the United States, Washington D.C.

Member: American Sociological Association (ASA); American Population Association (PAA).

Founder member: Education and Empowerment for Sustainable Development Nepal (EESD/N)

Member: Dalitinfo International Network, Canada

Member: Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)-USA; University of Arkansas Alumni, Arkansas