PREFACE

The study focuses attention on peasant organization in Nepal. These following questions have been tried to be answered in the study. First, what is the role of peasantry in Polity ?; Second the nature of organizations in a developing society and third what are the impacts of land reform on the different social groups in Nepal ?. This has been done by looking in to the background of the Nepalese economy and polity in their historical setting and then by studying the composition and working of the peasant organization since its official recognition and conception to its growth as a political force along with its representation and later its de-enfranchisement in 1976. Besides, the study will help to answer questions like, what is the relationship between peasantry and rest of the society ?; when do these relations depict co-operation or conflict between peasantry and wider society ?

The study covers two zones, four district and eight village panchayats. Working of the organizational has been seen at national, district and village panchayat levels. At national and district levels, informations were collected through the content analysis of newspapers. At village panchayat level, 40 leaders of peasant organization were interviewed with the help of an interview guide which is given in appendix. The study covers three aspects (1) land reform(legislation); (2) relations with other organizations (mainly the state) and
(3) rural development.

Various sources have been used in the study for collecting the informations. These include the members of the central committees of permitted organizations, teachers and the students in the University, publications of the Home and Panchayat Ministry and the Ministry of Land Reform, Central Bureau of statistics, different books and articles published in different journals and planning commission. The study is significant from following points of view:

In the first place it is a study of peasants; in the second place it is a study of organizations; particularly the instrumental type of voluntary associations; thirdly Nepal provides a case of 'authoritarian political system' in which formation of associations can take place only with the help of state and finally it is a study on Nepal by a researcher from a neighbouring country. The study will be helpful in planning and conducting studies of significant questions in our neighbouring country through our own expertise.

The work is distributed in to five chapters. For a researcher from outside, the knowledge about the country and social situation is essential. This has been done in chapter first and second. The characteristics of the peasant organization at national and local levels have been seen in the third and fourth chapter respectively. The fifth chapter summarizes the finding of the study, methodological gains and the prospect