

Sharad Acharya Research Methodology and Academic Writing***Conflict of Culture and Modernity in Nepal: Lessons from "Everyday Use"*
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This case study explores the conflict between modern and contemporary life in contemporary Nepal and compare it to the content of Alice Walker's *Everyday Use*. As Nepal undergoes rapid change, traditional values, family dynamics, and gender role struggle with new ideas and societal changes. This article use qualitative analysis to explore how this change affects people and community organizations in Nepal. The study explores the impact of change on traditional values, focusing on family structure, gender expectation, and the impact of international education, social outreach, and financial reporting. By analyzing Walker's narrative, the study highlights and provides theoretical insights into the parallel challenges of preserving cultural heritage and developing modern society. This exploration shows that both the Nepalese and Walker's actions challenge modern thinking. This comparison highlights the nature of cultural conflict and highlights the importance of understanding and responding to the challenges of cultural change. The study provides insight into how communities respond to the challenges of modernization while preserving traditional and cultural values.

Keywords: Traditional Values, Modernization, Cultural Conflict, Nepalese Society, Identity, Negotiation, Gender Roles, Social Cohesion, Cultural Heritage, Alice Walker, Literature and Society.

INTRODUCTION AND STUDY OBJECTIVES

The tension between tradition and modernity is a major issue in Nepal today and the rapid changes are also affecting Subedi. This conflict often manifests itself in family dynamics, gender roles and traditions and creates a link between culture and modernity (Acharya). Alice Walker's "Everyday Use" provides a literary framework for understanding cultural differences, with characters resolving conflicts between traditions and mocking new works (Whitsitt 443-459). This research paper explores the similarities and differences between Nepalese culture and Walker's narrative and shows the impact of all these traditions on people and the good interactions between them. This study has important implications for understanding cultural practices in societies undergoing rapid change like Nepal. By comparing the conflict in Nepal with Walker's narrative, this study offers a unique perspective on issues of cultural preservation and modernization. The findings can inform policy and cultural studies to improve cultural and social understanding, reduce the negative impacts of rapid change, and empower people to cope with these changes. Rapid reforms are occurring in Nepal, creating conflict between culture and

everyday life (Gellner). Traditional family structures, gender roles, and social norms are being disrupted by new ideas and practices influenced by global change and increased education and communication (Liechty). This conflict creates a complex and often contradictory situation in which individuals and communities struggle to reconcile their cultural heritage with social needs (Subedi). Understanding this conflict is crucial to building relationships and leadership, as any solution will not lead to misunderstandings and problems of interpersonal conflict (Tamang). Therefore, this study aims to explore the culture and traditions of Nepal by focusing on family structure, gender roles and customs.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Traditional Nepalese literature emphasizes that family, religion and community unity are central to Nepalese culture (Bista). Although the caste system has been abolished, it still affects relationships and marriages, indicating a long tradition (Gellner). Traditionally, gender roles have been defined as women working at home and men being the main businessmen, a trend supported by religious teachings and practices (Acharya).

Modernization documents changes in education, economic reforms, and media in Nepalese society (Liechty). The increase in education and working conditions, especially for women, is changing family and gender roles (Tamang). The proliferation of media and technology also plays a significant role in spreading these values today, influencing young people to be independent and successful (Pigg 491-513).

Alice Walker's *Everyday Uses* has been widely studied for its depiction of historical and personal conflict. Dee's desire to escape her rural upbringing and embrace a modern, cosmopolitan identity creates a chasm between her and her family. This story illustrates the complexity of cultural identity and the painful process of assimilation into a single heritage (Whitsitt 443-459). This analysis builds on these insights and seeks to better understand Nepalese culture and Walker's narrative. Despite extensive research on outcomes and reforms in Nepal, comparisons with representative data from similar conflicts remain limited. Most studies focus on the impact of modernity on health or cultural preservation. This study addresses this gap by connecting changes in Nepal to the context of 'modernity' and offers a unique perspective to discuss culture as the face of modernity.

RESEARCH METHODS

The qualitative research conducted a comparative study of Nepal's "everyday" culture and context. The archive includes a literature review of academic articles, books, and research on Nepali culture, as well as a detailed analysis of Walker's narrative. In both cases, the analysis

focuses on identifying conflicts and solutions, and how values and practices are defined and contested.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings suggest that both Nepalese society and Walker's narratives depict a critical struggle between culture and modernity. In Nepal, this conflict manifests itself in family expectations, marriage and gender practices, and culture, which is often linked to modern ideas. For example, marriage, which still exists in Nepal, is often controversial because young people choose marriage as a matter of personal choice and compromise. Women seeking higher education and employment may encounter resistance from family members who adhere to gender roles and fear losing social leadership and respect.

In "Everyday Use," Dee's pursuit of everyday life clashes with the cultural discourse reflected in her mother's and sister's different perspectives on themselves. The Family Quilt. Dee saw the carpets as antiques to be preserved and displayed, whereas her mother and Maggie saw them as objects of personal and family history. This conflict reflects the difference between the intellectual appreciation of heritage and culture, which reflects the wider challenges that arise from cultural change.

These similarities highlight the prevalence of cultural conflicts and the need for balance in modernization that respects traditional and modern values. The tension between accepting new opportunities and preserving heritage is the link between these different experiences and reflects the different struggles people have for identity and knowledge.

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

This study concludes that the conflict between culture and modernity in Nepal reflects the major themes in Alice Walker's book *Everyday Use*. Both themes highlight the difficulties of integrating heritage with modern people, and the importance of understanding and resolving these difficulties. The findings suggest that cultural preservation and adaptation are not mutually exclusive, but can coexist in dynamic and evolving landscapes. This understanding is essential to supporting unified and cultural reform in Nepal and beyond. The main findings suggest that reforms in Nepal have led to significant conflicts, similar to those described in Walker's narrative. These conflicts impact individual and collective identity, highlighting the difficulty of cultural change. Research suggests that both individual and communal experience are affected by the culture and modernity debate, exerting a significant influence on social and cultural leadership. The results of this study have relevance for policymakers, educators, and cultural practitioners. Understanding the nuances of cultural conflict can inform measures to promote integration and cultural preservation. Policies that support education and business while addressing traditional benefits can help mitigate the negative effects of rapid reform. Education

that promotes cultural awareness and critical thinking can enable people to cope more effectively with these changes.

Limitations and Directions for Future Research

This study is limited by its quality and comparative effectiveness. Focusing on Nepal and “modernization” may not reflect the diversity of experiences in other cultures experiencing similar changes. Furthermore, the reliance on secondary data from Nepalese social media may not reflect innovation. Future research could expand on this topic by integrating more data and exploring other data with similar themes. Future research should explore the long-term effects of cultural influences on social behaviour and health. Comparative studies with other elements of culture and literature could shed light on cultural and contemporary aspects. Examining the role of education, media, and technology in cultural change can provide a deeper understanding of innovation and the innovation process. Longitudinal studies that track changes over time can help identify patterns and strategies for developing and integrating communities.

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