

# CENTRE FOR HIMALAYAN STUDIES



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## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that **Persis Mukhia**, a registered Ph.D candidate of Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal, has completed writing her Ph.D Thesis on "**Trafficking of Women in Darjeeling Hills: A Sociological Study**".

Persis Mukhia has done this work under my supervision. In doing the work, she has fulfilled all the requirements of doing Ph.D as stipulated in the relevant provisions of the Ph.D Regulation, 2009.

This is also to certify that the candidate has incorporated all the suggestions made or given at the time of the Departmental Pre-Submission Seminar into the final body of the thesis. The thesis is her original work and she has worked hard for the completion of this work.

I am forwarding the thesis for necessary action.

11/3  
28/2/2022

(Dr. Ujjwal Bhui)

Supervisor

Professor  
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University of North Bengal



### Document Information

Analyzed document	Persis Mukhya_Centre for Himalayan Studies.pdf (0128805357)
Submitted	2022-02-25T06:26:00.0000000
Submitted by	University of North Bengal
Submitter email	nbuplg@nbu.ac.in
Similarity	0%
Analysis address	nbuplg@nbu.ac.in/analysis.arkundz.com

### Sources included in the report

Persis Mukhya  
28-02-2022

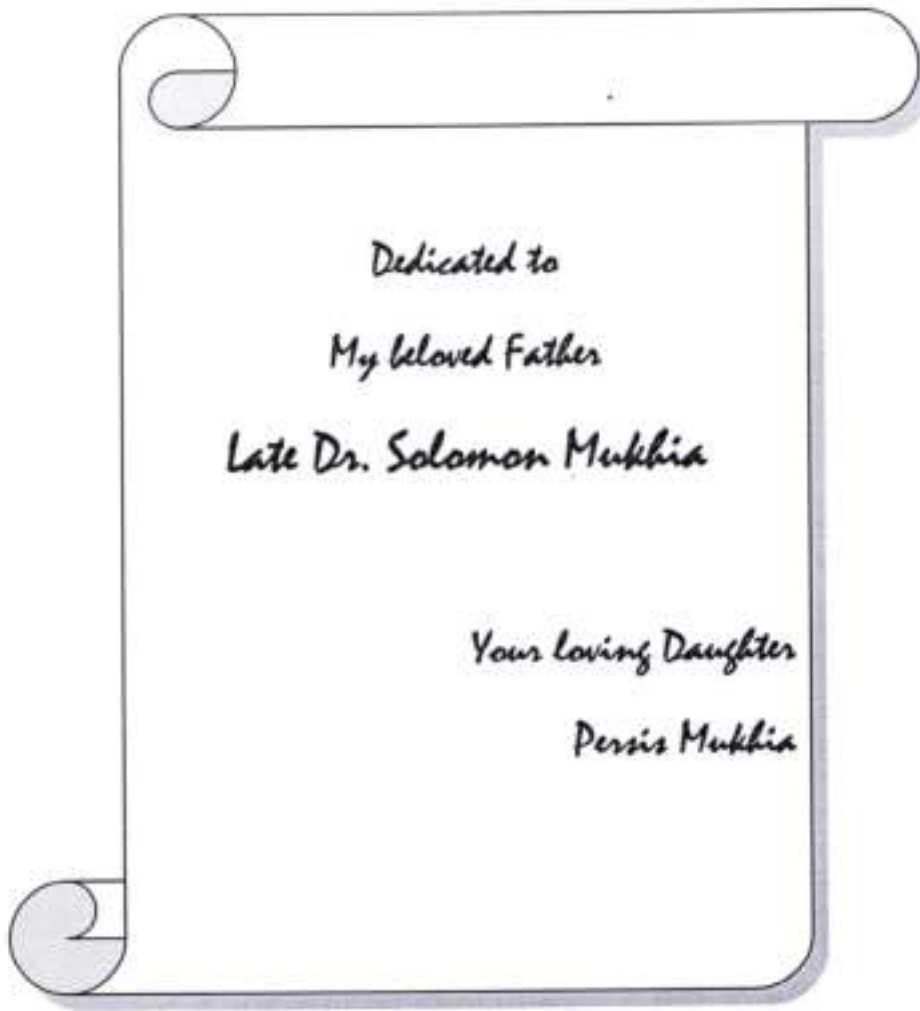
  
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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis entitled **“Trafficking of Women in Darjeeling Hills: A Sociological Study”** submitted by me for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of University of North Bengal is my original work. The thesis has not been submitted for any other degree of this University or any other University.

*Persis Mukhia*  
(Persis Mukhia)  
Date: *28.02.2022*



*Dedicated to*

*My beloved Father*

*Late Dr. Solomon Mukhia*

*Your loving Daughter*

*Persis Mukhia*

## Preface

Human trafficking, condemned to be a major violation of human rights by international conventions, is one of the largest crime activities in the world. As a fast-growing activity of trans-national criminal organizations, human trafficking has drawn the attention of researchers as well as policy makers in recent times. Traffickers deceive children, women and men primarily from low socio-economic sections of the society, forcing them into exploitative situations from time to time. As victims of human trafficking are robbed of their dignity, they find it immensely challenging to get back into the mainstream life after being rescued. Discrimination and prejudice faced on a regular basis make it difficult for these victims to get acceptance in their societies. India has garnered world attention for having high rates of human trafficking over the years. Against this backdrop, it seemed pragmatic to conduct research as a sociological study on human trafficking, precisely women trafficking in Darjeeling hills of West Bengal.

The study intends to broaden the scope of human trafficking research undertaken in India, particularly in West Bengal. The primary focus of the study has been on the myriad factors driving women trafficking in Darjeeling Hills, the diverse social and economic backgrounds of the victims, and the association to a heightened risk of being trafficked. The different chapters of the report emphasize the multiple layers of human trafficking in India, exploring evidence of the same in Darjeeling Hills, with a particular focus on vulnerabilities and public discourse associated with sociological perspective. It is expected that the complexity of human trafficking would be well understood from the presentation of findings of the research, laying the foundation for a shift in policies associated with this pressing concern. It is further expected that experts from multi-disciplinary fields would come forward with their perspectives for discussing how a positive change can be brought about in the society pertaining to human trafficking at the earliest.

## Acknowledgement

I express my heartfelt gratitude to the Centre for Himalayan Studies of North Bengal University, Darjeeling District, West Bengal for giving me the opportunity to work on my thesis titled 'Trafficking of Women in Darjeeling Hills: A Sociological Study'.

I would like to acknowledge my sincere gratitude to my respected supervisor Dr. Ujjwal Bhui, Director and Professor of Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal for his support, guidance, during my research work. I am indebted to him for his valuable suggestions, academic inspirations and constant encouragement in completing this research work.

I express my sincere gratitude to Prof. S.K. Rahim Mondal, Prof. Ranagadhār Sahu, Prof. Maitreyee Choudhury, Prof. Karubaki Datta, Prof. Swatahsiddha Sarkar, Dr. Binayak Sundas and Sri Adwitya Thapa of Centre for Himalayan Studies, NBU, for their valuable suggestions and inspiration during my research work.

I am very much obliged to all the respondents/victims of trafficking for their generous co-operation in providing me with valuable information.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the members of various Non-Governmental Organizations who helped me in my research work by providing me information needed for my research work. Mr. Nirnay John Chettri, Mrs. Yuden Bhutia, Mr. Govind Pradhan, Mr. Ashim Rai, Mr. Nelson Karthak, Mr. Amos Tshering, Mrs. Niruta Sherpa, Mr. Raju Nepali, Ms. Margret Horo, Ms. Hasina Kharbhih, Sr. Subeshna Thapa, Mr. Prabhat Pathak, Mr. Shekhar Saha, Mr. and Mrs. Bhim Bahadur, Ms. Sharu Koirala, Mr. Govinda Ghimirey. I also like to thank Sister Sangeeta Rai and Sister Shanta Baraily from Kalimpong District Hospital for providing the information regarding various cases along with Father Stanley Sj from Darjeeling.

I also would like to thank all the Police officials SI Dawa Sherpa of Kalimpong PS, SI Siksha Singh Sarki of Siliguri PS, SI Rohita Lama of Darjeeling PS, OC Sujit Lama of Mirik PS, SI Suraj Thapa of Kurseong PS, CI Sarita Pariyar of Siliguri PS who took out time from their busy schedules to provide me with information for my research study. I would also extend my heartfelt thanks to the Darjeeling Railway Police officer ASI Kishore Kumar Sarkar, ASI Dibyendu Chakraborty and Inspector Biplab Majumder of New Jalpaiguri Railway Station, ASI Dhruv Lama of Siliguri Railway Station.

I would like to thank my church (UCNI) Kalimpong, Pastor Tom. S. Molommu, Pastor Bijay Rai, Pastor H.D. Subba, Elder Eno Panlook and all the members of the congregation for their constant prayers and support.

I extend my ever indebted gratefulness to the Principals of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj, former Fr. Cherian Padiyara Sj, Fr. Joe Victor Sj and present Fr. Dr. Lalit Tirkey Sj and everyone for their support and encouragement for my research.

I am thankful to Prof. Gangotri Chakraborty, Department of Law, NBU; Prof. Sanchari Roy Mukherjee former Dean, ACL NBU; Dr. Bidhan Golay (former Teacher of CHS) and presently teaching in Sikkim University for their encouragement.

I am thankful to the Staffs of Central Library NBU, Documentation Cell of Centre for Himalayan Studies and Centre for Women Studies, NBU, who provided me with books, journals and information for the present research work.

Last but not the least, I would heartily thank my mother Dr. Indira Mukhia, and my sister Sharmin Mukhia for their endless support throughout my research work.

*Persis Mukhia*  
28.02.2022  
**Persis Mukhia**

## Abbreviations

ACJM	Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate
AHTU	Anti-Human Trafficking Unit
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AJWS	American Jewish World Service
ASI	Assistant Sub- Inspector
ATC	Ant Trafficking Cell
ATN	Anti-Trafficking Network
BDO	Block Development Office
BDT	Bangladesh Taka
BPL	Below Poverty Level
BSA	Bal Suraksha Abhiyan
CASA	Current Account and Savings Account
CI	Circle Inspector
CID	Crime Investigation Department
CINI	Child in Need Institute
CSE	Commercial Sexual Exploitation
CSW	Commercial Sex Worker
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
DAPCU	District Aids Prevention and Control Unit.
DAT	Drivers Against Trafficking
DCRB	District Crime Record Bureau
DIC	Drop -in-Centre
DM	District Magistrate
DMWSC	Darjeeling Mary Ward Social Centre
FC	Female Condom



FCRA	Foreign Centre Regulation Act
F.I.R	First Information Report
FSW	Flying Sex Workers
GAATW	Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women
GDNS	Gorkha Dukh Niwarak Samelan
GFF	Glenn Family Foundation
GJM	Gorkha Janmukti Morcha
GNLF	Gorkha National Liberation Front
GRP	Government Railway Police
GRPF	Government Railway Protection Force
GTA	Gorkha Territorial Administration
HIR	Home Investigation Report
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HSWS	Hill Social Welfare Society
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
ICIC	Impulse Case Info Centre
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IJM	International Justice Mission
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Indian Penal Code
IR	Indian Railways
ITPA	Immoral Traffic Prevention Act
KUKWS	Kanchanjunga Udhar Kendra Welfare Society
KNFD	Katihar North Front Division.
LPG	Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization

LTTE	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
MARG	Mankind in Action for Rural Growth
MCA	Missing Child Alert
MED	Ministry of Economic Development
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoLHR	Ministry of Labour and Human Resources
MWCSW	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NBU	North Bengal University
NCRB	National Crime Records Bureau
NEAC	National Environment Awareness Campaign
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NLEP	National Leprosy Eradication Programme
NPO	Non-Profit Organization
OBC	Other Backward Classes
POCSO	Protection of Children against Sexual Offence Act
PSHTA	Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act
RCH	Reproductive and Child Health
RPF	Railway Protection Force
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SATC	Students Against Trafficking Club
SC	Schedule Caste
SHG	Self Help Group
SP	Superintendent of Police
SSB	Seema Sashastra Bal
ST	Schedule Tribe

STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
SUMI	Scottish Universities' Mission Institution
TA	Travel Allowances
TI	Target Intervention
UGMOR	Union Government Ministry of Railways
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAT	Villagers Against Trafficking
WBCPCR	West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights
WBSACS	West Bengal State Aids Prevention and Control Society
WBSC	West Bengal Swarojgar Corporation Ltd.
YATC	Youth Against Trafficking Club

## GLOSSARY

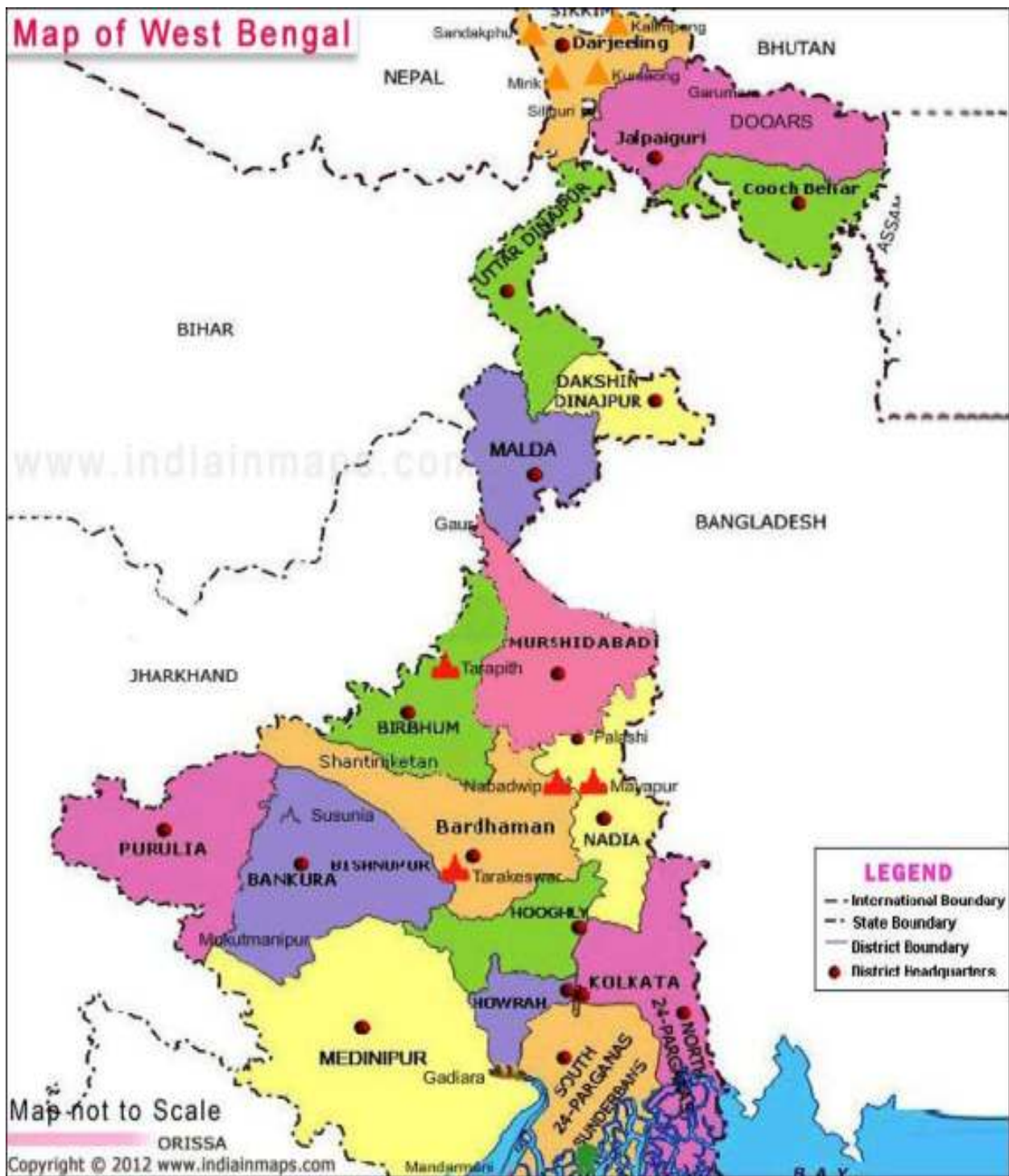
Babu	Client
Bacha bazi	A practice of exploiting young boys for social and sexual entertainment.
Bakshis	Tips
Bhabi	Sister-in-law (In Hindi)
Bhowju	Sister-in-law (In Nepali)
Breaking period	Where a victim is tortured physically and mentally so that finally she gives up.
Chachee	Uncle's wife (In Hindi)
Chachu	Uncle (In Hindi)
Chema	Mother's younger sister (In Nepali)
Chor ko Shor	A practice where a girl is returned home after three days after her elopement
Dal	Pulses
Dalal	Agent or broker of corruption. (In Hindi)
Daju	Elder brother (In Nepali)
Dhara	A small flowing stream
Drayangs	Bhutanese karaoke bars.
Dakshina	Sacrificial fees
Dorji	Thunderbolt
Jalee	Fake/illegal
Kalee	Virgin
Khajur	Jaggery
Kothi	Brothel
Ling	Place
Maiti Ghar	Mother's home
Majburee	Out of compulsion
Pukka	Concrete

Ranna	To cook
Rongs	Lepchas
Sabji	Vegetables
Sasural	In-laws home
Sindoor	Vermillion

## LIST OF TABLES

Sl. No.	TITLE OF TABLES	Page No.
1.	Basic Elements of Trafficking as designed by UNODC	8
2	Number of Women and Children missing (State wise)	20
3	List of NGOs and the Resource Persons contacted for Interview	65
4	Activities on Trafficking by HSWS	75
5	Unique factors/causes of women trafficking given by various NGOs	93
6	Common factors leading to women trafficking given by various NGOs	94
7	Cases Rescued by Police From Trafficking (2011-2017)	118
8	Data collected from DCRB, Darjeeling, 2016	123
9	Data collected from DCRB, Darjeeling,2017	124
10	Data collected from DCRB, Darjeeling, 2018	125
11	Age at which the Respondents were trafficked	210
12	Present Marital Status of the Respondents	211
13	Ethnic Group membership of the Respondents	211
14	Social categories of the Respondents	212
15	Religion of the Respondents	212
16	Educational qualification of the Respondents	212
17	Place from where the Respondents were trafficked	213
18	Places (Destination points) from where Respondents were rescued	213

# Map of West Bengal





a darjeelingpolice.com map



# KALIMPONG DISTRICT , WEST BENGAL

Prepared By : Geoinformatics & Remote Sensing Cell, Department of Science and Technology and Biotechnology, Government of West Bengal

