

# A brief Overview about 'Dukuchhap (डुकुछाप) VDC', Lalitpur, Nepal

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## Intro

Dukuchhap Village lies on the South West of Lalitpur District. It is about 17 km from Kathmandu connected by graveled road. It will take about 1 hour drive from Kathmandu.



The village has terrain topography with steep slopes and plain river banks. The settlement is mainly in the top hills and slopes. The village lies at altitude ranging from 1300 m to 1450 m.

## Settlement

Dukuchhap VDC is composed of 6 small villages namely; Adhikarigaon, Babupakha, Danuwargaon, Dukuchhap, Kerabari and Tokalmath.

Different Ethnic Groups have their dominance in these villages like Chhetris in Adhikarigaon and Dukuchhap, Danuwars in Danuwargaon and Tamangs in Tokalmath.

## Ethnicity

Dukuchhap VDC is a composite of different ethnic groups and beliefs. Danuwars and Tamangs have occupied some villages by their dominance.

The tentative households according to ethnic population are:



<b>Ethnic Group</b>	<b>Approx No. of Households</b>
1. Danuwar	170
2. Chhetry	150
3. Tamang	110
4. Brahmin	7
5. Newar	3
6. Nepali (Damai)	3
7. Magar	3
8. Bishwo Karma (Blacksmith)	2

## Geographical Settings

Dukuchhap is one of the 41 villages in the Lalitpur district, and lies 13 kilometers southwest of the district. To the North of the village lie villages of Bungamati. To the south lie villages of Devichaur, to the east villages of Champi and to the west lies the Bagmati River and Chhaimale VDC of Kathmandu district.

## Existing Infrastructure

The village is connected with national grid electricity since last 3 years but only 50% of the total population is subscribing it. It has one primary and three secondary schools.

The village is connected with graveled road but there is no local transportation service. The Nearest bus bark is at Pharsidole Village which is about half an hour walk from the village. There is only one health post at Tokalmath Village rendering very little health service to the villages so the villages have to go to Hospitals in Capital City for their treatment.

Recently World Vision Nepal has completed construction of water supply system in the Village and also starting to construct toilets in Households. At present about 40% of Households have toilets.

## Economic Condition

Majority of villagers are farmers. Few young people are now working in the urban area too. Amongst others Danuwars have low economic profile as they are mostly dependant to farming only and large family size.

## Problems

The villagers are deprived with basic human needs. Following are some issues identified by study team:

### 1. **Indoor Air Pollution**

Most of the villagers are using traditional stove with tripod and some are also using three stone stoves which are producing high emission and consuming large amount of fuel wood.



### 2. **Lack of Fuel Wood**

The village has less forest area so villagers have to travel for about 3 hours to collect firewood. The collection of firewood is generally done by female adults and children.

### 3. **Sanitation**

Only about 40% of the households have toilets in their house and remaining goes to forest or riverbank for toileting. Besides the village lack proper household drainage system as well as communal drainage system.



### 4. **Education**

There is no high school in the VDC so students have to go to bungamati for their high school studies which is about 1 – 1.5 hour walk from the village. Due to this very few students complete their high school studies.

### 5. **Services**

The village lacks transportation, Communication, health and other necessary services. Although the village is connected with graveled road no local bus service is available. There is only one health post for population of more than 300 people which is equipped with minimum equipments and rendering little health service to villagers.

### **Probable Development Activities for development of Dukuchhap VDC**

- Promotion and dissemination of efficient and low emitting Improved Cook Stove and Solar Cookers to reduce Indoor Air Pollution and Firewood Consumption.
- Development of Low Cost Toilets and Construction in each Household.
- Establishment of Higher Secondary School in the VDC premise.
- Operation of Local Transportation Service and Community communication System.
- Awareness and Capacity Development Campaign.