

Case story on Chhaupadi

Case No. 5: Staying in Chhau Goth: Weaken in Study

Some adolescent girls in all three districts (Jumla, Mugu and Kalikot) still stay in chhau goth during their menstruation period despite their education and exposure. When Sita Maya (Mugu) was asked about the reason, she said, " I have to stay in goth as there is temple inside home (Thhan) and if we touch it during menstruation then it is considered as sin and god gets angry. When god gets angry, then we have to face many negative consequences like death of domestic animal, members of home felt sick, priest would get problem etc." She further said, "Now we are allowed to go to school but have to be aware about 'thhan' on the way and scare touching male teachers. If we touch them, then we become 'paapi' and would go to hell after death. So during that time I try to skip school and there is difficulty in reading and doing homework as well, as there is no light in the shed where we stay." This evidence showed that women remain weak in studies than males and their interest of going school also decreases as they feel discrimination on those days. This tradition has not been changed in such a way that it has rooted in depth in their mind and culture of the society.