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## Peasantry, Politics and Peasant Movements in Nepal

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## Abstract:

In Nepal, like in most other countries, history of political movements, the 'left', in particular, and the peasant's movements are complementary to each other; in the absence of understanding of one, understanding of another remains partial. However, peasantry and peasant movements have remained as one of the least studies areas by social scientists.

In my paper, explaining a case of Chintang uprising, a popular peasant revolt of 1970s in eastern hill of Nepal that saw a frightful killing of many insurgents and cruel suppression of the movement, I will make an effort to locate a popular peasant movement in a historical context in order to understand its intrinsic relationship with contemporary political-economic processes.

Chintang Bidroha, having its own nuances, has had long lasting consequences; less in improving peasant's conditions, but more in terms of consolidating political power by the left political parties. My paper illustrates that the political parties, left in particular, would organize local peasants around the issues of exploitative relationships between landlords and peasants and plays in the local contradictions. Once a local insurgency is scaled up, political parties eagerly claim the credit; and, link up with larger political movement and agenda. Political parties thus utilize and also deviate the peasant movements towards their political strategy.



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