



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

## “Apportioning of Land for Economic Activities in Village Lucchhun, Himachal Pradesh”

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### Abstract

Agriculture plays a vital role in Indian economy. Over 58 percent of the rural households depend on agriculture as their principal means of livelihood. But the eastern and Northern states of India are suffering from basic problems related to agriculture like agricultural infrastructure, lack of communication facilities, low productivity, small size of landholdings etc. due to their physical settings. The problem is too serious in the state of Himachal Pradesh, where 93 percent of the population is directly dependent on agriculture and 90 percent of the total population is living in rural areas. The present paper will discuss how barter economy through kayari system helps people of village Lucchhun in tackling their day-to-day problems. Along with this, this paper will also help in understanding the apportioning of the village land and water among various social groups for economic purposes.

Keywords: Apportioning, Barter Economy, Economic Activities, Water Sources, Land Use Pattern.

### Introduction

In spite of significant amount of literature available on agriculture, it becomes difficult to bring out a definition of apportioning in clear terms, as its meaning varies from subject to subject. In very simple terms apportioning means “to divide up and share out”. According to political geography apportioning means “the act of distributing by allotting or apportioning, distribution according to a plan”, like the apportionment of seats in the House of Representatives is based on the relative population of each state. In population geography the meaning of apportioning is “to divide among or between people; to give to a number of people”. In the present study apportioning refers to the term which explains how land is utilized by a particular social group in the village. This will also explain how these social groups are using or apportioning their land for various agriculture and other uses.

### Study Area

The study was conducted in village Lucchhun which falls in tehsil Dehra Gopipur in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. The exact cartographic co-ordinates of village Lucchhun are 31.58°N 76.11°E. Village Lucchhun is in South direction from main city of Kangra. It covers an area of approximately 749 kanals. It has a population of 122 people according to census 2011. Agriculture is the main activity in the village apart from other occupations.

**Map: 01**  
**Location of Village Lucchhun**



Source: Internet

**Map: 02**  
**Google Image of the Village**



Source: Internet, Google Earth

## Objectives

The study aims:

- 1) To discuss how barter economy through kayari system helps people of village Lucchhun in tackling their day-to-day problems.
- 2) To understand the apportioning of the village land and water among various social groups for economic purposes.

## Data Base

The present study involves basically primary data. The primary data concerning social spaces, apportioning of land, kayari system, and irrigation have been collected at household level. Secondary data have also been used. This was related to procuring the village map. The location of village was taken from Google maps.

## Methodology

The data collected from various sources were sorted out, arranged, processed and then presented in tables. Various quantitative techniques are used for the analysis of data and cartographic techniques such as bar diagrams and pie charts are used to present the data in an easily understandable manner.

## Analysis and Discussion

### 1) Apportioning of Land and Water for Economic Activities

#### 1.1 Apportioning of Land among Various Groups of the Village

Village Lucchhun spreads over an area of 849 kanals. This land of village is distributed among 5 groups of the village. Out of this total land 440 kanals is used for agricultural purposes, 309 kanal is for grazing and rest 100 kanal is government land (shamlat), which is occupied by the peoples who have land adjacent to this land. This government land has no record as it is illegally occupied. According to the records village is spread over 749 kanals area. In the north side of the village there is a forest cover. This forest occupied small part of the village land which is 10 kanals, as it borders the grazing land.

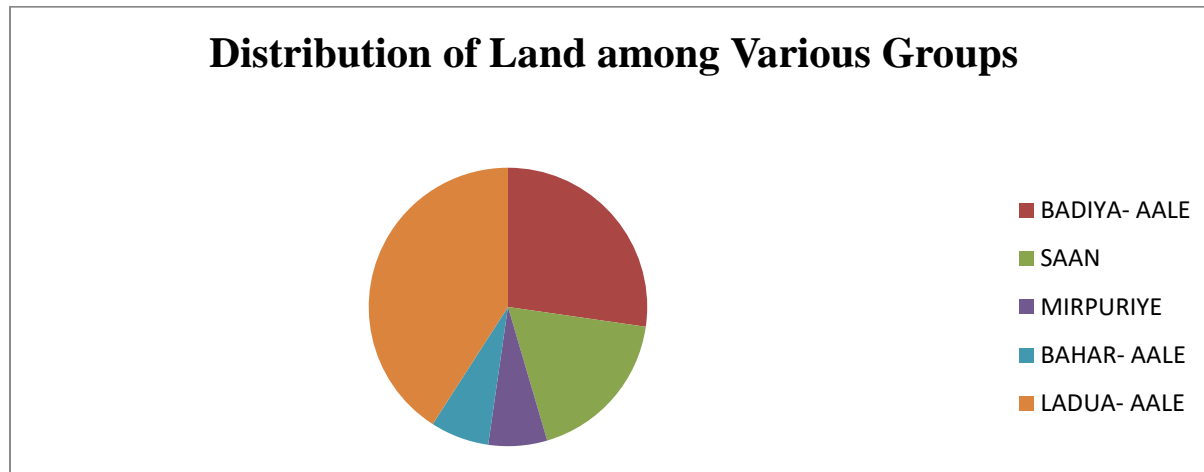
Ladua- Aale occupies largest part of the village total land i.e. 300 kanals, because they also have a large number of families in the village. On the other side Mirpuriye have smallest part of the village total land as it has only one family. Only Badiya-Aale in the village has all the land together at a place whether grazing or agricultural.

**Table: 01**  
**Distribution of Land among Various Groups**

Groups	Agricultural Land(in Kanals)	Grazing and Waste Land(in Kanals)	Total Land(in Kanals)	%of Total Land
Badiya- Aale	120	80	200	26.7
Saan	80	70	150	20.0
Mirpuriye	30	19	49	6.6
Bahar- Aale	30	20	50	6.7
Ladua- Aale	180	120	300	40.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Primary Data

Figure: 01



Source: Primary Data

## 1.2 Apportioning of Water Resources among the Various Groups of the Village

In village Lucchhun there are only three water resources for domestic and non- domestic purposes and that are;-

- a) Boris
- b) Seasonal streams
- c) Government taps

### a) Boris

There are 2 Boris in the village one in the south and another in the north- east direction. Boris water is used by villagers only for drinking purposes. They use to go Boris for getting water in the morning and evening times daily. Badiya- Aale, Saan, Mirpuriye and Bahar-Aale are allowed to take water only from the Boris who is in south direction and Ladua- Aale are allowed to take water from the bori which is in north- east direction. But from few years badiya- Aale are also allowed to go Ladua- Aale Boris, as the distance of the Boris from Badiya- aale houses is less then Boris in south direction.

### b) Seasonal streams

There are 3 seasonal streams in the village but only 2 streams are used to take water for feeding animals. These streams are also divided among various groups. Badiya- Aale, Saan, Mirpuriye and Bahar- Aale are allowed to feed their animals from south stream and Ladua- aale are allowed to feed their animals from east stream.

### c) Government taps

For daily uses like washing clothes, bathing, feeding animals etc people use water supply of government. In village Lucchhun every family has their own government tapes. Government supply water daily group wise like on Monday to Badiya- Aale and Saan, on Tuesday Mirpuriye and Bahar- Aale and on Wednesday Ladua- Ale. This process stops in rainy season.

All this apportioning of land is done by government through the process of 'Istemal' in 1957-1958. But the apportioning of water resources is done by village groups to reduce the conflicts and burden on one part of the village.

### 1.3 Land Use Pattern of the Village

Land use means the various use of land by the people over the time period.

In village Lucchhun various social groups use land for 3 purposes i.e.

- i) Agricultural
- ii) Grazing
- iii) Forest

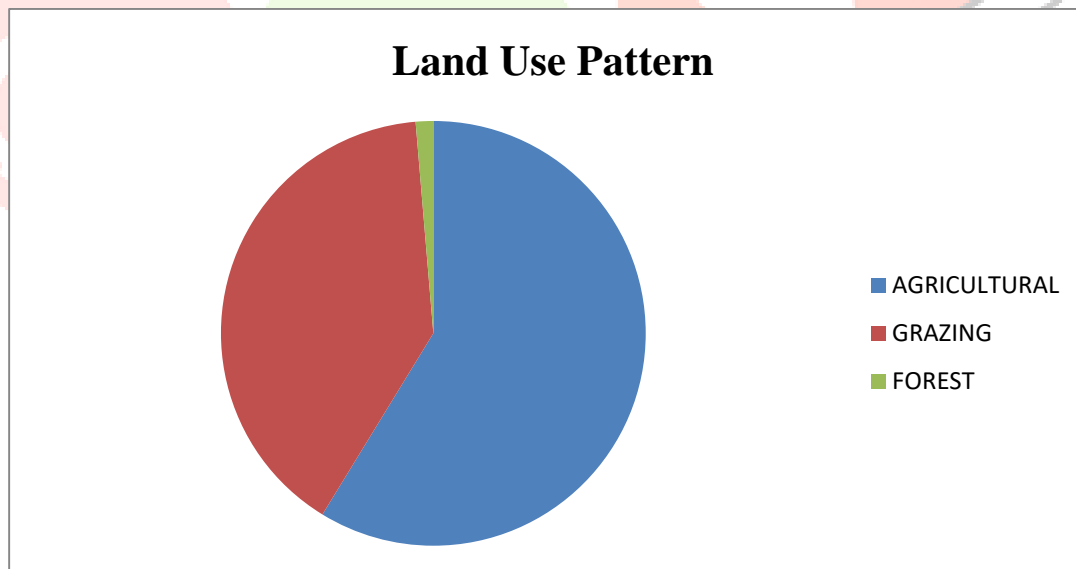
**Table: 02**

**Land Use Pattern of the Village**

Land Use	Total Land	% of Total Land
Agricultural	440	58.8
Grazing	299	39.9
Forest	10	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Primary Data

**Figure: 02**



Source: Primary Data

#### i) Agricultural land

More than half of the village land is covered by agriculture land use. It plays a vital role for the fulfillment of basic needs both for human and other living being. The total area under agriculture land use is 440 kanals.



## ii) Grazing land

Under this category the village Lucchhun has less portion of land, these land are useful for rearing the domestic animals. The total land under this classification is 39.9% of the total land of the village.

## iii) Forest land

The forests are owned by government and it does the work of fencing in the north side of the village. On the border of forest and village there is forest cover on 10 kanals of village land. These forests provide greenery to the village and wood also. There are various trees which are cut by villagers for domestic use and these trees are Khair, Sheesam, Kaamal, Amla, Sareenh, Taman etc. and little variety of plant are also available

**Map: 03**  
**Land Use Pattern of Village Lucchhun**



Source: Google Earth

## 2) Local Produce and Intra Village Exchange

As it is known to all of us that Himachal Pradesh is a rural state of India, where 80% people live in villages, these villages don't have the basic required infrastructure or facilities such as hospital, market etc. Government is doing a lot of efforts to improve their living standard but not up to mark. Due to its hilly topography too much money, hard work and attention is required.

Village Lucchhun is in district Kangra which is developed in all fields as compare to other districts of Himachal Pradesh. Village Lucchhun is a small village, where people are living their lives traditionally. The village lack transport infrastructure, market facility etc. the nearby market Bankhandi is 3 kms away from main village. Transport system has little improvement due to the government but the problem of market is still there. There is only one shop in the village which provides pulses and other small things to the village people. Except this there is no other shop or system in the village which can fulfill the daily basic needs of the villagers. Village is suffering from this problem from many years. From that time villagers are fulfilling

their basic daily needs like vegetables, fruits, milk etc from kayari or from each other. This system of village makes life easy in all groups and this system is maintaining their unity as everyone has to depend upon each other.

**Table: 03**  
**Crops Cultivated in Village**

Kharif Crops	Rabi Crops
Wheat	Maize
Mustard	Sesame
Gram	

Source: Primary Data

## 2.1 What is Kayari?

**Kayari** is a local word which means **small field**. In village Lucchhun each and every group have small-small fields in front of their house. These fields have an area of 3 to 6 Marley. The villagers carry out agriculture activities in these fields; this agriculture is dependent on irrigation. These fields require lot of hard work and attention due to its hilly topography. Villagers use to grow vegetables and fruits in these fields. These vegetables and fruits fulfill all the daily needs of the villagers and reduce their reliability on market.

## 2.2 Basic Commodities Grown in Kayari's or Local Produce

Villagers made this Kayari system to fulfill their daily needs and to reduce the demand for market. There are 3 main season in the area and same for the cultivation of basic commodities in village Kayari's. In Kharif season villagers grow onions, radish, coriander, turnips, spinach, garlic etc. In Rabi season they grow chili, cucumber, ladyfinger, brinje etc and during rainy season they grow tomato, pumpkin, bottle gourd etc. beside these they also grow fruits like plum, lichi, mango, guava, lemon, orange, papaya, pears, jaamun, date, loquat and a citrus galgal according to the season.

**Table: 04**  
**Basic Commodities Grown in Kayari's**

Kharif Season Commodities	Rabi season Commodities	Autumn Season Commodities
Onions	Chilli	Tomato
Raddish	Cucumber	Bottle Gourd
Cotton	Ladyfinger	Pumpkin
Coriander	Brinje	Mango
Turnips	Plum	Jamun
Pears	Lichi	
Guava	Lemon	
Orange	Date	
Papaya	Luquat	

Source: Primary Data

### 2.3 Intra- Village Exchange

In village Lucchhun villagers are not only cultivating these Kayari's for their own use but they also use to exchange these items with each other. This is the main process which is responsible for maintaining their unity as they are dependent on each other. They exchange all vegetables like pumpkin, radish, coriander, bottle gourd, ladyfinger, brinjele etc without any money and same system is for the fruits. All these groups grow different variety of vegetables therefore they get variety in their own village and for this no one has to pay each other. Same is the condition with fruits, every group has variety of fruits and when they exchange them they get variety.

Besides vegetables and fruits only milk is a basic commodity for which one has to pay to other if someone wants it for a month or more than this time but the price of the milk is same in all village groups. Except one family each and every group has livestock and they get milk from it.

### Conclusion

The present research paper on the apportioning of land and land for economic activities and on the barter economy through kayari system in village Lucchhun was conducted through primary and secondary data. From the above discussion we can say that apportioning of land and water resources in the village is systematically managed or planned and due to this apportioning of land and water there is fewer burdens on every part of the village. Further it can be said that village Lucchhun has a barter economy and due to the exchange system they had made their life comfortable. By looking at their exchange system we can say that villagers have made a market in their own village, which is priceless. This Kayari system is really helpful not only in fulfilling basic needs of the villagers but in making their unity also.

### Suggestions

From the present study on village Lucchhun's barter economy and apportioning of land and water resources, many problems of this village have been observed and to solve these problems there are some suggestions which are as follows:-

- 1) There is a strong need to improve the transportation system of the village.
- 2) Some work should be done to provide irrigation facility in the village.
- 3) There is also a need of market facility to the village as the people have to travel Bankhandi, only nearby market which is three kilometers far, to buy goods of even daily needs.



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