

JUVENILE CORRECTION HOMES IN NEPAL AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS



A Thesis

**Submitted to APF Command and Staff College,
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University,
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For Master Degree in Security, Development and Peace Studies**

Submitted by

Dipendra Kunwar

Eighth Batch (2079-2081)

Roll No: 28MSDPS40019

TU Regd. No: 16780-95

**APF Command and Staff College
Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu, Nepal**

May, 2024

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis entitled “**JUVENILE CORRECTION HOMES IN NEPAL AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS**” submitted to APF Command and Staff College is entirely my original work.

I have made due acknowledgments to all ideas and information cited and extracted from different sources in the course of preparing this research. The result of this research paper has not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or any other purpose. I assure you that no part of the content of this research paper has been published in any form before. I shall be solely responsible if any evidence is found against my research paper.

This thesis is being submitted to APF Command and Staff College, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University in partial fulfillment of Master Degree in Security, Development and Peace Studies.

.....

Dipendra Kunwar

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(May, 2024)



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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

This thesis entitles “**JUVENILE CORRECTION HOMES IN NEPAL AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS**” submitted by Mr. Dipendra Kunwar to APF Command and Staff College, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University in Partial Fulfillment of Master Degree in Security, Development and Peace Studies has been approved by the undersigned members of the Evaluation Committee.

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ABSTRACT

The study titled "Juvenile Correction Homes in Nepal and Their Effectiveness" critically examines the operational effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. These facilities are evaluated concerning their ability to rehabilitate and reintegrate young offenders into society. Although Nepal has been proactive in adopting international standards such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the practical implementation of these standards faces significant challenges. These challenges are primarily due to resource limitations and systemic inefficiencies. The primary aim of this study is to explore these challenges and provide insights that could lead to meaningful policy reforms and operational improvements within the juvenile correction system.

The primary objectives of this study are multifaceted. Firstly, it seeks to analyze the current status of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. Secondly, the study aims to identify the specific challenges that these homes face in effectively rehabilitating and reintegrating young offenders. These challenges range from infrastructural limitations and resource constraints to deficiencies in educational and vocational training programs. Finally, the study aims to enhance the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes.

This study employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating both qualitative and quantitative techniques to provide a comprehensive analysis. Data collection involved surveys and interviews with key stakeholders, including administrative officers of juvenile correction homes and the juveniles themselves. The study encompasses nine juvenile correction homes across the country, investigating various variables such as facility capacity, infrastructure quality, adherence to international and national legislation, and the efficacy of monitoring and oversight mechanisms. By combining different data sources and analytical methods, the study aims to present a well-rounded perspective on the operational status and challenges faced by juvenile correction homes in Nepal.

The study reveals several critical operational issues that significantly impair the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. Overcrowding emerges as a prominent problem, with many facilities operating beyond their intended capacity. This overpopulation not only complicates the provision of individualized care but also heightens security and health risks for the juveniles. Additionally, the educational and vocational training programs offered are found to be inadequate. These programs often fail to align with the juveniles' needs or the

demands of the labor market, thereby limiting their prospects for successful reintegration post-release. Moreover, there is a notable shortage of qualified staff and mental health professionals, which severely undermines the delivery of essential rehabilitative care and psychological support. The study also highlights gaps in compliance with both international standards and national legislation, further impacting the overall effectiveness of these correctional facilities.

The findings of this study underscore an urgent need for comprehensive policy reforms aimed at enhancing resource allocation and improving staff training and support systems within juvenile correction homes. These reforms are crucial to ensure that the juvenile correction system in Nepal not only meets its rehabilitative and reintegration objectives but also aligns more closely with international human rights standards. Addressing these challenges can significantly improve outcomes for young offenders, fostering a more effective and humane juvenile justice system. By focusing on these areas, Nepal can better support the successful reintegration of juvenile offenders into society, ultimately reducing recidivism and promoting a more just and equitable juvenile justice framework.

Key Words: Juvenile Correction, rehabilitation, reintegration, operational effectiveness, resource limitations, policy reforms

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LIST OF ACROYNAMS/ABBREVIATION

APF	Armed Police Force
CCH	Child Correction Home
INSEC	Informal Sector Service Center
KII	Key Informant Interview
SEE	Secondary Education Examination
UCEP	Underprivileged Children's Educational Programs
UN	United Nations
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
JVQ	Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire
MACR	Minimum age of Criminal Responsibility
SDQ	Strength ad Difficulties Questionnaire
CRIN	Child Right International Network
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
CBT	Cognitive Behavioral Theory

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCITON

1.1 Background of the Study

The criminal justice system varies across countries, particularly in how it addresses minor and adult offenders. Juvenile offenders, viewed as young and impressionable, were historically considered suitable candidates for a rehabilitation-focused approach. Early reformers, like Judge Ben Lindsey, criticized the criminal prosecution of youth as an "outrage against childhood," attributing their less culpable choices to youthful immaturity (Sintakala, 2013). Age serves as the key factor distinguishing minors from adults, with varying legal definitions across territories. The Beijing Rules advocate for setting the age of criminal responsibility at a level that considers emotional, mental, and intellectual maturity (Pillay, 2019). While the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 1989 defines children as below eighteen years, national laws, such as Nepal's Children's Act, set a different age threshold.

The justice system handling cases involving minors as accused, victims, or witnesses is known as the Juvenile Justice System. This system is characterized by rules, norms, and institutions tailored for children in contact with the justice system due to suspected law violations. Juveniles are not labeled as criminals but as delinquents or children in conflict with laws, emphasizing correction and treatment over incarceration (Scott & Steinberg, 2009).

Every year many children come in contact with the law due to their involvement in delinquent acts. These children are referred to as juvenile delinquents. According to the Nepalese Children's Act, 1992, 'juvenile' or 'children in conflict with the law' are those individuals below the age of 16 years, and according to the status of a child, ordinary criminal prosecution is carried out differently than adults and by the respective legal system. The concept of juvenile justice system is relatively new in Nepal, as it did not exist in Nepal before 1992. The Children's Act, 1992 provided provisions relating to the establishment and operation of Child Correction Home (CCH) or Bal Suhar Griha (Kafle & Dhakal, 2023).

In Nepal, the Juvenile Correction Home plays a pivotal role in the country's juvenile justice system, providing a specialized environment for the rehabilitation and reintegration of young offenders. Established in accordance with the Children's Act of 1992, this correctional facility is designed to cater specifically to juveniles in conflict with the law, offering an alternative to traditional criminal justice measures. Notably, the system was significantly influenced by international standards such as the UNCRC (Mainali, 2018). Despite challenges and the need for further implementation, Nepal boasts Nine correction homes established in Sanothimi, Bhaktpur and other places. The overarching objective of these correction homes is to provide juvenile delinquents with the necessary care, education, vocational training, and community programs essential for their comprehensive physical and mental development. By keeping juveniles separated from adult criminals and focusing on a reformatory approach rather than punitive measures, these correction homes contribute to fostering a conducive environment for the juveniles to reintegrate into society and assume constructive roles, aligning with the broader principles of juvenile justice (Khanal, 2021).

This thesis delves into the intricate dynamics of the juvenile justice system, with a particular focus on Nepal's Juvenile Correction Home. Anchored in the broader context of international standards, such as the UNCRC, and influenced by the Children's Act of 1992, this study critically examines the role and effectiveness of the correctional facilities designed for young offenders in Nepal. The institutional and legal framework surrounding juvenile justice, including the minimum age of criminal responsibility and the philosophy guiding the treatment of juvenile delinquents, was explored. By shedding light on the challenges and successes of the Juvenile Correction Home, this thesis aims to contribute valuable insights to the ongoing discourse on juvenile justice, emphasizing the importance of rehabilitation and reintegration for the holistic development of young individuals in conflict with the law (Sangroula, 2004).

1.1.1 Meaning of Juvenile Delinquent

The term "juvenile delinquent" encompasses the intersection of age and unlawful behavior, reflecting the legal categorization of young individuals who engage in prohibited activities. "Juvenile," derived from the Latin term "juvenis," denotes a young person who has not yet reached adulthood. Legally, a juvenile is often defined as an individual below a specified age, typically 18, who is treated differently by the criminal justice system than adults. The Beijing Rules and the UNCRC provide nuanced definitions, considering legal systems and age limits

(Abubakr, 2021). In India, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, identifies a juvenile as someone below eighteen years, while Nepal's Children's Act, 1992, defines a child as a minor below sixteen years. The term "delinquency," rooted in the Latin verb "delinquer," meaning "to commit," pertains to illegal actions committed by individuals under eighteen years of age, whether criminal or status offenses. Essentially, juvenile delinquency involves the commission of acts by young individuals that are deemed crimes and subject to prosecution in a criminal court, mirroring the consequences faced by adults for similar offenses (Mainali, 2018).

The minimum ages of criminal responsibility (MACR) vary widely, with countries like Antigua and Barbuda setting it at eight, while others, such as Argentina, have a minimum age of 16. Brazil officially designates 18 as the MACR, subjecting those under 18 to socio-educative measures. In contrast, Canada prohibits the conviction of individuals under 12 for offenses. Some countries, like Chile, set the MACR at 18 but allow for socio-educative measures from the age of 14 (Pillay, 2019). The United States has diverse state-level regulations, with 33 states lacking a minimum age and others ranging from seven to ten years. Uruguay, on the other hand, prohibits holding anyone under 18 criminally responsible but allows socio-educative measures from the age of 13. Venezuela permits penalties, including deprivation of liberty, from the age of 12 (CRIN, 2022).

1.1.2 Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency, as a legal term originating in 1899 with the enactment of the first Juvenile Delinquency code in Chicago, Illinois, strictly refers to the involvement of minors in illegal activities falling under a statutory age limit. According to the Beijing Rules, a juvenile delinquent is a young person alleged to have committed or found to have committed an offense. The U.S Department of Justice further characterizes juvenile delinquency cases as those involving violations of state laws or municipal ordinances by children or youth of juvenile court age, or conduct deemed seriously antisocial enough to interfere with the rights of others or jeopardize the welfare of the delinquent or the community. Various approaches, including the legal, social work, psychological, and sociological perspectives, have been employed to understand and address the widespread social and legal issue of juvenile delinquency, capturing the attention of individuals from diverse backgrounds and walks of life (Mainali, 2018).

1.1.3 Juvenile Justice

The concept of Juvenile Justice, specifically the formal adjudication of deviant children through a distinct process, emerged as a modern development in the late nineteenth century. Tracing its roots back to the English chancery court of the late medieval period, the juvenile justice system was built upon the doctrine of *parens patriae*, which held that the state, acting as a father, had the responsibility to rectify injustice and settle disputes involving children. This concept justified judicial intervention in family matters, especially those concerning children, and found broad adoption in American courts (Greenberg, 1985). As the urban poor and rootless children burgeoned in the early decades of the nineteenth century, cities in the Northeast established poor houses for adults and houses of refuge for children, influenced by the doctrine of *parens patriae*. The early formation of Juvenile Justice drew heavily from this doctrine, emphasizing equity law rather than criminal procedures. The history of Juvenile Justice reveals its primary objective to keep juvenile delinquents separate from adult offenders, with the state assuming responsibility for their care and rehabilitation under the doctrine of *parens patriae* (Sungi, 2008). This separation from the criminal justice system is grounded in the belief that juveniles lack the mental capacity to fully comprehend their actions and should be shielded from the potentially detrimental effects of punitive measures (Young et al., 2017). As a result, the establishment of juvenile courts, reform homes, and dedicated institutions within the police system reflects a commitment to a separate system aimed at the protection and rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents or children in conflict with the law.

1.1.4 Juvenile Correction Home

A Juvenile Correction Home is a specialized facility designed to house and rehabilitate young individuals who have engaged in delinquent behavior and come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Also known as juvenile detention centers, these correctional homes are distinct from adult prisons, emphasizing a rehabilitative rather than punitive approach. The primary goal of juvenile correction homes is to provide a structured environment for the physical, mental, and emotional development of juvenile offenders, promoting their rehabilitation and successful reintegration into society. Rehabilitation is a learning process that is likely to alter the offender's attitudes about both them and the institutions of society. In addition to increasing motivation to seek social approval and respect for others' rights, it also helps people develop more realistic perceptions of their place in society (Sanyal, 2022).

These facilities typically offer a range of programs and services tailored to address the unique needs of young offenders. Educational opportunities, vocational training, counseling, and various therapeutic interventions are commonly provided to help juveniles acquire essential life skills and address underlying issues contributing to their delinquent behavior (Hassan & Rosly, 2021).

Juvenile correction homes operate within the framework of juvenile justice systems, which recognize that young offenders should be treated differently from adults due to their developmental stage and potential for rehabilitation. The duration of stay in a correctional home is often determined by the severity of the offense and the individual needs of the juvenile. The overarching philosophy is to balance accountability for delinquent actions with a commitment to fostering positive change in the lives of young offenders (Woolard et al., 2005).

Efforts are made to ensure that juvenile correction homes adhere to international standards and guidelines, such as the UNCRC, which emphasizes the importance of providing a supportive and nurturing environment for juvenile offenders. The ultimate aim is to break the cycle of delinquency, guiding these young individuals toward responsible and law-abiding adulthood.

1.2 Legal Framework

Nepal was one of the first countries to sign the CRC on 26 January 1990. Following the ratification of the CRC (14 September 1990), the commitment of the Government was demonstrated when Nepal adopted its first ever juvenile law, the Children's Act, in 1992. This was a major step for the juvenile justice system in Nepal (Mainali, 2018).

1.2.1 International Legal Framework

The international legal framework regarding juvenile justice is primarily guided by several key instruments and principles established by international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and its specialized agencies. These instruments provide guidelines for the treatment of juveniles in conflict with the law, emphasizing principles of rehabilitation, reintegration, and the protection of their rights.

1.2.1.1 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

The CRC stands as a foundational document in international law, embodying a comprehensive framework for the protection of children's rights. Its significance lies in its recognition of children as rights-holders with distinct needs and vulnerabilities, particularly when encountering the justice system. Article 40 of the CRC delineates crucial principles guiding the treatment of children in conflict with the law, emphasizing their right to dignity and respect throughout legal proceedings. This includes measures to minimize the use of judicial processes and to prioritize alternatives to detention whenever feasible. Moreover, the CRC underscores the obligation to ensure that children deprived of liberty are treated in a manner consistent with their age and developmental stage, with an overarching goal of facilitating their reintegration into society as productive members (Sandberg, 2018).

Nepal's engagement with the CRC began with its signature in January 1990, followed by ratification in September of the same year, marking a significant commitment to the welfare and rights of children within its jurisdiction. Post-ratification, Nepal undertook substantial legislative reforms to align its national laws with the standards set by the CRC. One of the earliest and most significant legislative actions was the enactment of the Children's Act in 1992. This act was crucial for establishing a legal framework that specifically addressed the rights and protection of children. It included provisions for safeguarding children from physical and psychological abuse, exploitation, and neglect. Over the years, this Act has been amended and supplemented by other laws and regulations to enhance child protection and welfare, reflecting Nepal's ongoing commitment to fulfilling its obligations under the CRC.

1.2.1.2. United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules)

The Beijing Rules represent a landmark set of guidelines aimed at promoting fair and effective juvenile justice systems worldwide. They advocate for a holistic approach to addressing juvenile offending, emphasizing diversionary measures over punitive sanctions. Central to the Beijing Rules is the principle of proportionality, which underscores the importance of tailoring interventions to the individual circumstances and needs of juvenile offenders. Furthermore, these rules stress the importance of safeguarding the rights and well-being of young people involved in the justice system, including their access to education, counseling, and other support services. By prioritizing rehabilitation and reintegration, the

Beijing Rules seek to prevent recidivism and promote positive youth development. In Nepal, efforts to align national juvenile justice practices with the Beijing Rules have led to significant legal reforms and the development of specialized institutions, although challenges remain (Rai, 2021).

Nepal has taken proactive steps to incorporate the principles of the Beijing Rules into its juvenile justice system through legislative updates and the establishment of dedicated juvenile courts and detention facilities. These reforms are aimed at ensuring that juveniles are treated in a manner that is appropriate for their age and conducive to their reintegration into society. The Children's Act and other related legislation have been revised to better protect juvenile offenders, segregate them from adult offenders, and emphasize rehabilitation. The establishment of juvenile-specific institutions reflects a commitment to these principles, providing environments that are better suited to address the developmental needs of young offenders.

1.2.1.3 United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines)

The Riyadh Guidelines offer a comprehensive framework for preventing juvenile delinquency by addressing its root causes and risk factors. They recognize that effective prevention strategies require a multifaceted approach that engages various stakeholders, including governments, communities, families, and schools. Key components of the Riyadh Guidelines include early intervention programs, family support services, community-based initiatives, and educational interventions (Howell, 2009). By targeting social, economic, and cultural factors associated with juvenile delinquency, these guidelines seek to create supportive environments that foster positive youth development and reduce the likelihood of involvement in criminal behavior.

1.2.1.4 United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (the Havana Rules)

The Havana Rules establish comprehensive standards for the treatment of juveniles deprived of their liberty, whether in detention facilities or other settings. They emphasize the importance of upholding the rights and dignity of juvenile detainees, including their access to education, healthcare, and recreation. Additionally, the Havana Rules stress the need for individualized treatment and rehabilitation programs tailored to the specific needs and

circumstances of each juvenile offender. By promoting a rehabilitative rather than punitive approach, these rules aim to facilitate the reintegration of juvenile offenders into society while minimizing the risk of reoffending (Bhattarai, 2020).

1.2.1.5 Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict

This protocol constitutes a critical supplement to the CRC, offering additional protections for children involved in armed conflict. It prohibits the recruitment and use of children under the age of 18 in hostilities and mandates measures for their demobilization, rehabilitation, and reintegration into society. Furthermore, the protocol calls on states parties to adopt proactive measures to prevent the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, including through legislative, administrative, and educational initiatives. By safeguarding children from the harms of armed conflict and promoting their rehabilitation and reintegration, this protocol seeks to uphold their rights and ensure their well-being in situations of conflict and post-conflict recovery.

1.2.2 National Legal Framework

Soon after the ratification of the CRC in 1989, the Nepalese government demonstrated its commitment to safeguarding the rights and interests of children through the enactment of the Children's Act in 1992. However this legislation was also further amended to form a new children's act in 2018. This legislation aimed at ensuring the physical, mental, and intellectual development of children. The Act defines a child as a minor who has not completed the age of 18 years and outlines the establishment of Juvenile Reform Homes.

The Constitution of Nepal, 2015, was enhanced following the people's revolution, aiming to protect numerous human rights, including fundamental rights, and providing special protections and promotional provisions for the welfare of children. Article 44 of the constitution outlines various rights for children, such as the right to identity, education, health, care, sports, entertainment, and personality development. It also prohibits child labor, child marriage, abduction, and exploitation in any form, whether physical, mental, or sexual. Additionally, it ensures child-friendly justice and mandates special protection and facilities for vulnerable children, including orphans, disabled, conflict victims, and displaced children. Any violations of these rights are punishable by law, with victims entitled to compensation from perpetrators.

The Children Act of 2018 marks a significant step forward in Nepal's legal framework dedicated to protecting the rights and interests of children, including those involved in criminal activities. Originating from the Children Act of 1992, which primarily addressed the rights of children and those in conflict with the law, this legislation reflects the nation's commitment to the CRC. The Act defines a child as someone under the age of eighteen, encompassing special provisions for those accused of committing offences. These provisions include ensuring that children are communicated with in their preferred language and are provided with necessary support during investigations, especially considering their age and the nature of the alleged offences. The Act mandates a child-friendly approach, prohibiting the use of force during the process and facilitating counseling services tailored to the child's age and circumstances. Special emphasis is placed on the establishment of observation chambers for investigating cases involving children, ensuring their psychological well-being and protection, particularly for those accused of offences. Additionally, the Act outlines detailed procedures for diversion, trial, and punishment, taking into account the child's age and the gravity of the offence. Notably, it prohibits the use of handcuffs, solitary confinement, or detention in prisons for children below a certain age accused of committing offences. Moreover, the Act mandates the preparation of individual sociological and psychological study reports to inform legal proceedings, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the child's age, maturity, and circumstances. Furthermore, the Act addresses issues related to disqualification and recidivism, acknowledging the unique circumstances of children involved in legal matters. The Act also incorporates provisions from the Children's Regulation of 1994, outlining the roles and responsibilities of central and district child welfare boards and children's welfare officers. Through these comprehensive measures, the Children Act of 2018 aims to uphold children's rights, promote their welfare, and ensure their fair treatment within the legal system, considering their ages and the nature of the offences they are accused of.

The Juvenile Justice Execution (Procedure) Regulation, 2019, established by the Government of Nepal in accordance with Section 85 of the Children's Act, 2018, comprises forty-eight rules aimed at modernizing juvenile justice practices. These rules encompass crucial provisions concerning investigation, interrogation, and the legal proceedings involving minors. Rule 3 addresses the application of complaints, while Rule 4 outlines the procedures for police to take children into custody and subsequently hand them over to their parents or guardians. Rules 5 and 6 emphasize conducting interrogations in a child-friendly manner,

with questions posed gently and in an understandable language, ensuring the presence of a parent, guardian, or legal representative during interrogation in the absence of parents. Rule 7 specifies guidelines for police investigations involving children, emphasizing the need for a non-threatening environment, provision of information about the reason for arrest, and parental notification. Additionally, it mandates the availability of interpreters and the provision of medical check-ups after arrest. Rule 8 details the protocol for police interrogation, emphasizing the importance of soft questioning, limiting interrogation duration, and ensuring basic needs like water, food, and rest are met. It also encourages collaboration with local bodies, police, and social organizations. Rule 9 permits investigation officers or government attorneys to recommend diversion for minors accused of offences, while Rule 11 mandates separate charge sheets for cases involving both minors and adults. Other rules address the appointment and qualifications of child psychologists and social workers, collaboration in the juvenile bench, closed hearings for juvenile cases, protection of children's rights, and the timely disposition of cases. Furthermore, the regulation outlines the establishment of juvenile benches in each district court, comprising social workers and specialists alongside judges, ensuring a child-friendly environment and language during proceedings. The regulation also stipulates the adjudication of cases within one hundred twenty days of registration, with judgments encompassing analyses of evidence, social worker reports, legal pleadings, and alternative measures for corrective actions. Overall, these regulations reflect Nepal's commitment to modernizing and humanizing its juvenile justice system to safeguard the rights and welfare of children involved in legal proceedings.

Under the Muluki Criminal Code 2017, provisions outlined in Sections 10, 28, and 45 delineate the legal framework regarding the liability and punishment of children involved in crimes. Section 10 establishes that children under the age of 10 cannot be held liable for any criminal offenses. Section 28 holds accountable those who incite children to commit crimes. Section 45 outlines the punishment for children based on their age at the time of the offense: (1) Children under 10 are exempt from punishment. (2) For children aged 10 to 14, judicial authorities may recommend measures such as up to six months of imprisonment or placement in a reform home for up to one year, depending on the offense. (3) Children aged 14 to 16 may receive half the punishment imposed on adults. (4) Children aged 16 to 18 may receive two-third of the punishment imposed on adults. However, children under 16 cannot be imprisoned except in cases of grievous, heinous, or recidivist offenses. Additionally, the Criminal Offense (Determination of Punishment and Execution) Act 2017, Section 16,

mandates that the best interests of the child, the severity of the offense, and the child's personal circumstances should be considered when determining punishment for juveniles.

1.2.2.1 Children's Act, 2018

The Children's Act of 2018 serves as the cornerstone of Nepal's legal framework concerning children, including those in conflict with the law. Enshrined within this legislation are comprehensive provisions aimed at safeguarding the rights of children, particularly juvenile offenders. The Act emphasizes the principles of diversion, rehabilitation, and reintegration, recognizing that juvenile justice should prioritize the best interests of the child. It delineates procedures for handling cases involving juvenile offenders, outlining mechanisms for diversion from the formal justice system where appropriate. Moreover, the Act mandates the development and implementation of individualized rehabilitation plans tailored to the specific needs of juvenile offenders, ensuring their access to education, healthcare, and other essential services during and after the rehabilitation process.

1.2.2.2 National Child Policy, 2012

The National Child Policy of 2012 articulates Nepal's commitment to promoting the rights and well-being of all children, including those involved in the justice system. This policy provides a comprehensive framework for addressing various issues affecting children, such as juvenile delinquency, exploitation, and abuse. It outlines strategies and interventions aimed at preventing juvenile delinquency, protecting children from harm, and ensuring their access to essential services. Moreover, the policy underscores the importance of collaboration and coordination among government agencies, civil society organizations, and communities in addressing the needs of vulnerable children, including juvenile offenders. By prioritizing the best interests of the child and fostering multi-sectoral partnerships, the National Child Policy contributes to the development of a holistic approach to juvenile justice in Nepal.

1.2.2.3 National Plan of Action for Children, 2018-2028

The National Plan of Action for Children spanning from 2018 to 2028 lays out a strategic roadmap for advancing child rights and welfare in Nepal over a ten-year period. Within this plan, specific objectives and targets related to juvenile justice are delineated, reflecting Nepal's commitment to improving outcomes for juvenile offenders. These objectives include enhancing access to legal aid and support services for juvenile offenders, strengthening

rehabilitation and reintegration programs, and promoting coordination among relevant stakeholders. Additionally, the plan emphasizes the importance of evidence-based interventions and rigorous monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress towards achieving its goals. By adopting a long-term, strategic approach, the National Plan of Action for Children underscores Nepal's dedication to fostering positive outcomes for all children, including those in conflict with the law.

1.2.2.4 Child Protection (Local Level) Regulation, 2020

The Child Protection (Local Level) Regulation of 2020 aims to strengthen child protection measures at the local level, including those related to juvenile justice. These regulations provide guidelines for the establishment of child protection committees and mechanisms for reporting and responding to cases of child abuse, neglect, and exploitation. By empowering local governments to address child protection issues within their jurisdictions, the regulations promote community-based approaches to juvenile justice and enhance collaboration with relevant stakeholders. Moreover, the regulations underscore the importance of preventive measures and early intervention strategies to address the root causes of juvenile delinquency. By fostering partnerships between local governments, communities, and child protection agencies, the regulations contribute to the creation of a protective environment that promotes the rights and well-being of all children, including juvenile offenders.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The juvenile correction homes in Nepal represent a critical component of the country's juvenile justice system, aimed at rehabilitating young offenders. However, the effectiveness of these correctional facilities is a subject requiring in-depth investigation, especially after the recent incident where 35 people were injured in Sanothimi Bhaktapur District during the clash between juvenile detainees and security personnel (The Kathmandu Post, 2023). The statement of the problem revolves around understanding the current status, challenges, and potential avenues for enhancing the efficacy of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. Despite their crucial role, there is a lack of comprehensive analysis regarding the functioning and impact of these institutions. The study seeks to identify and evaluate existing challenges, ranging from infrastructural limitations and resource constraints to the adequacy of rehabilitation programs. Additionally, it aims to explore the socio-cultural context influencing the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. By examining the current status and

challenges, this research intends to provide valuable insights that can inform policy improvements and contribute to the development of strategies to make juvenile correction homes more effective in addressing the needs of young offenders and fostering their successful reintegration into society.

1.3 Research Questions

This research has been guided by the following research questions:

1.3.1 What is the current status of juvenile correction homes in Nepal?

1.3.2 What challenges do juvenile correction homes in Nepal face in effectively rehabilitating and reintegrating young offenders?

1.3.3 In what ways can the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal be improved?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were as follow:

1.4.1 To analyze current status of juvenile correction homes in Nepal.

1.4.2 To identify the challenges do juvenile correction homes in Nepal face in effectively rehabilitating and reintegrating young offenders.

1.4.3 To identify the ways the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal can be improved.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study is multifaceted, encompassing critical implications for policy enhancement, operational improvements, humanitarian impact, social well-being, international comparisons, academic contribution, and human rights advocacy. Firstly, the study's insights have the potential to inform policymakers and stakeholders about the current status and challenges faced by juvenile correction homes in Nepal. This knowledge, grounded in empirical evidence, can serve as a foundation for evidence-based policies and strategies aimed at enhancing the rehabilitation and reintegration outcomes for young offenders.

Secondly, a thorough examination of the challenges encountered by juvenile correction homes allows for targeted interventions and operational improvements. By addressing infrastructure shortcomings, refining staff training, and optimizing rehabilitation programs, the study contributes to enhancing the operational efficiency of these facilities, ensuring they are better equipped to cater to the unique needs of young offenders.

Moreover, the humanitarian impact of the study cannot be overstated. By focusing on effective rehabilitation and reintegration, the research endeavors to positively influence the lives of young offenders. This approach supports the fundamental principle that young individuals within the correction system deserve the necessary support and resources to break the cycle of delinquency and become productive members of society.

In the broader societal context, a more effective juvenile correction system contributes to social well-being. Successful rehabilitation diminishes the likelihood of reoffending, thereby promoting community safety and fostering a sense of social responsibility. The study, therefore, holds implications not only for the targeted population but for the overall welfare of the community.

Additionally, the study's findings can be valuable for international comparisons, providing insights into the challenges and solutions unique to the context of Nepal. Understanding the nuances of the juvenile correction system in this country can contribute to global discussions on best practices in juvenile justice and correctional systems.

Academically, the study adds to the body of knowledge on juvenile justice and correctional systems. Researchers, scholars, and academics can use the findings as a basis for further studies and discussions, advancing the understanding of juvenile justice reforms.

Lastly, the study holds potential for human rights advocacy. By shedding light on the current status and challenges, it contributes to advocating for the fair and humane treatment of young offenders within the juvenile correction system. The research has the potential to influence discourse surrounding human rights principles and practices in the context of juvenile justice. In essence, the significance of this study extends beyond its immediate scope, reaching into various spheres that collectively contribute to positive change and progress in juvenile correction homes in Nepal.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

Among the Nine juvenile correction homes in Nepal only administrative officers of only Six Juvenile correction homes were visited based on the accessibility and due to the lack of time to visit all the Juvenile home during short period of time.

Similarly, out of the Six juvenile correction homes, from One juvenile correction home which is in Sanothimi, Bhaktapur District survey was conducted among the juvenile, and special focus was given to its rehabilitation program while briefly acknowledging the rehabilitation program of each Juvenile correction home.

The thesis was more focused on current challenges of Juvenile correction home from the perspective of administrative, rehabilitation and reintegration of the Juvenile.

1.7 Organization of the Chapter

The thesis is systematically organized into five distinct chapters, each serving a specific purpose within the broader framework of exploring the operational effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. Here's a detailed elaboration of each chapter's organization:

Chapter I: Introduction

This opening chapter sets the stage for the entire thesis by introducing the topic, stating the problem, and defining the research questions and objectives. It provides a brief overview of the context surrounding juvenile correction homes in Nepal, highlighting the significance of rehabilitation and reintegration practices. The introduction also outlines the scope of the study, its significance, and the expected contributions to the field of juvenile justice.

Chapter II: Review of Literature

The second chapter presents a comprehensive literature review that contextualizes the research within existing scholarly work. It examines previous studies, theories, and frameworks related to juvenile correction systems, rehabilitation methods, and the challenges faced by such institutions globally and specifically in Nepal. This chapter synthesizes the current knowledge and identifies gaps that the research aims to address, thereby justifying the necessity of the study.

Chapter III: Research Methodology

In the third chapter, the research design and methods used to collect and analyze data are meticulously detailed. It describes the mixed-methods approach, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative techniques to offer a robust analysis. This chapter outlines the selection of study sites, the sampling methods, data collection instruments (such as surveys, interviews, and observations), and the procedures used for data analysis. Ethical considerations related to research involving juveniles are also discussed to ensure transparency and adherence to ethical standards.

Chapter IV: Findings and Discussion

The fourth chapter presents the core findings of the research. It methodically details the data gathered from the juvenile correction homes and analyzes it in line with the research questions and objectives. This chapter discusses the state of infrastructure, capacity issues, quality of care, and the effectiveness of educational and vocational training programs. It also examines the level of compliance with national and international legal standards and evaluates the efficiency of oversight mechanisms. The discussion integrates these findings with the theoretical frameworks and literature reviewed earlier to draw meaningful insights and implications.

Chapter V: Conclusion and Recommendation

The final chapter summarizes the study's findings and offers conclusions based on the analysis conducted in the previous chapters. It reflects on the implications of the findings for policymakers, practitioners, and the juvenile justice system as a whole. Recommendations for future research, policy reforms, and practical interventions are provided to address the identified challenges. The chapter concludes with a reflection on the limitations of the study and suggestions for how future research could build upon the findings of this thesis.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Theoretical Review

The theory that best suits the rehabilitation from the Juvenile correction home is further elaborated as a Rehabilitative theory. Based on this theory this thesis examines who various intervention program are conducted by Juvenile correction home.

2.1.1 Rehabilitative Theory

Rehabilitative theory in the context of juvenile correction homes emphasizes a more holistic and individualized approach to dealing with young offenders. Instead of focusing solely on punishment, this theory aims to address the underlying reasons for criminal behavior and to equip juveniles with the tools and skills needed for a successful reintegration into society (Samuri et al., 2013).

Educational Programs

Education is a cornerstone of rehabilitative efforts in juvenile correction facilities. These programs can vary from formal schooling that helps juveniles keep up with their education while incarcerated, to more tailored educational offerings that might include special education services, literacy classes, and personal development courses (Christian, 2022). The goal is to ensure that upon release, these young individuals are not educationally disadvantaged, thereby reducing one of the key stressors that might lead them back to criminal behavior.

Vocational Training

Vocational training is aimed at providing juveniles with practical skills that can lead to employment opportunities after their release. These programs might include carpentry, automotive repair, computer skills, culinary arts, and other trade skills. By providing these skills, correction homes not only improve the employment prospects of juveniles but also enhance their self-esteem and self-efficacy, which are critical components of successful societal reintegration (Hassan & Rosly, 2021).

Psychological Counseling

Many juveniles in correction homes come from troubled backgrounds that may include family dysfunction, abuse, neglect, or mental health issues. Psychological counseling aims to address these deep-seated emotional and psychological issues through individual or group therapy. Therapies might include cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), trauma-informed care, and other therapeutic modalities that help individuals process their experiences and develop healthier coping mechanisms (Snehil & Sagar, 2020).

Social Skills Training

Often, juveniles lack the necessary social skills to navigate complex social situations. Training in this area can include anger management, conflict resolution, communication skills, and empathy development. These skills are essential for healthy interactions and can greatly improve a juvenile's ability to reintegrate into their family dynamics, educational settings, and ultimately, into society (Gundersen, 2010).

Family Involvement

Family involvement can be critical, as family dynamics often play a significant role in the behaviors that lead to incarceration. Family therapy and parental training might be part of the rehabilitation process, aiming to improve family relationships and dynamics to support the juvenile's return to the community (Mwangangi, 2019).

Aftercare and Follow-Up

Rehabilitation doesn't end at the release from a correction facility. Effective programs include aftercare planning that involves follow-up with community services and probation officers to ensure that the juvenile continues to receive the support needed to avoid reoffending. This might include ongoing counseling, help with job placement, and continued education.

Implementing these rehabilitative interventions requires a coordinated effort among educators, counselors, social workers, and correctional staff, all working together to create a supportive and comprehensive environment that addresses the varied needs of juvenile offenders. This approach not only helps in reducing recidivism but also supports the broader goal of helping these young individuals become productive, responsible members of society.

2.2 Empirical Review

2.2.1 International Context

Jaggi and Kliewer (2020) found that across facility type, increased attachment to facility schools, but not grades, predicted increased gainful activity (attending school and/or working), less self-reported delinquency, and lower recidivism in the community. Path models showed that gainful activity during Months 1 through 6 was related to stay in community, but not to self-reported behavior in Months 7 through 12. Results indicate that incarceration is an environment that shapes future behavior, but also highlight differences between behavioral and system responses. Facility school experiences might be an important locus of intervention (Jäggi & Kliewer, 2020).

Hassan and Rosly (2020) Vocational education and training play a crucial role in rehabilitating young offenders in juvenile approved schools, equipping them with technical skills and employment opportunities that significantly reduce the risk of reoffending and enhance their chances of successful social reintegration. This study explores the benefits of such programs through qualitative interviews with 16 young offenders, both male and female, from two juvenile approved schools in Malaysia. The findings highlight four main benefits of vocational education: positive adjustment, rehabilitative effects, smooth transition to society, and improved self-esteem. Young offenders recognize these benefits as instrumental in reducing reoffending and improving their reintegration into the community. The study's implications suggest that evaluating and improving vocational education programs and policies in juvenile approved schools can further enhance their effectiveness.

Samuri et al. (2013) found that the rehabilitation theory is the most suitable for child offenders, as it focuses on individual rehabilitation, considering education, societal integration, and reformation of criminal behavior. The provisions on 'approved school' and 'community services' reflect this approach, potentially preventing future criminal activities among child offenders. This study highlighted Malaysia's lag in integrating rehabilitative values into Act 611, emphasizing the urgent need to expedite the placement of specific legislative provisions regarding community service within the act.

Inderbitzin (2012) stated that Juvenile correctional facilities are generally considered a less harmful environment for serious delinquents than adult prisons but a much more severe sanction than alternative community programs or treatment would be. Studies have shown

that juveniles in confinement face similar deprivations and many of the same pains of imprisonment as adult prisoners, but the more pressing threat to adolescent inmates is to their psychological well-being rather than their physical health. New research on adolescent brain development is garnering attention and raising questions about the culpability and punishment of juvenile offenders, even as public opinion increasingly supports rehabilitation and a social-welfare oriented juvenile justice system. By listening to incarcerated youth and their caretakers, investigating the conditions of confinement, and continually evaluating programs and outcomes, researchers are positioned to play a crucial role in shaping the future of juvenile justice and correctional facilities (Inderbitzin, 2012).

Arad (2006) found that all the investigated types of violence and abuse were present in all three types of correctional facilities, though 'low-level' acts of violence were more prevalent than 'severe' violence. At the same time, the findings also pointed to a different picture of violence and abuse in each type of facility and for each gender. The findings highlighted the problem of violence and abuse by peers and staff in correctional facilities for juveniles. At the same time, the differential pictures obtained suggested that intervention programmes must have both a general component and a component tailored to the facilities in which they are carried out (Davidson-Arad & Golan, 2007).

Sanyal (2022) found that independent variables determined the success of the rehabilitation process of the subjects, (a) age and sex of the adult offender and the juveniles (b) pattern of offence; (c) length of stay in the correctional institutions, (d) educational and marital status; (e) attitude of the family; and (f) his or her acceptance of the rehabilitation programmes while in confinement. As a result, certain dependent variables, such as 1, his or her perception of himself or herself and society, 2, emotional intelligence, and 3, the individual's personality profile, indicate the strengths and limitations of the two groups in the rehabilitation process (Sanyal, 2022).

2.2.2 National Context

Paudel (2023) examined the Juvenile Correctional Center in Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, Sano Thimi, on August 22, discussions were held with police officials and inmates, shedding light on a prisoner's death on August 3 and subsequent events. Following the death of Kamal Basnet, 221 individuals 'escaped' on August 20, vandalizing the center, citing neglect. The center, designed for 110, currently houses 297 individuals, with overcrowding issues and a

disproportionate number of boys facing rape charges. Challenges include insufficient physical structures, understaffed education from class 5 to 10, and violations of human rights. Inmates reported neglect in career development and healthcare, dysfunctional restroom facilities, and limited health supplies. Despite recruitment efforts, only three female and one male teacher are employed. The administration's alleged failure to address dietary and health needs contributes to deteriorating conditions. Treatment vouchers issued to clinics may be refused, causing delays, and critical cases are transported to external hospitals only after securing necessary funds from the patient's family. Underprivileged Children's Educational Programs (UCEP) Nepal manages an educational program for underprivileged children, but significant challenges persist, including overcrowding and inadequate facilities at the correctional center (Paudel, 2023).

Kafle and Dhakal (2023) stated that the juvenile justice system identifies youth in conflict with the law as different from the adult criminal population. The Correctional and re-integrative approach forms the basis of a good juvenile justice system. The rationale for such interventions remains to identify risk factors and protective factors for delinquency. History of victimization has been recognized as one of the risk factors for juvenile delinquency. Of the participants (N=149), 93.96 % reported at least 1 victimization and 79.19% reported lifetime exposure to 3 or more different types of victimization. Total score in Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ) was a significant predictor for Hyperactivity, Emotional Problems, Peer Problems, and Total Difficulty Score of Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ). These findings point toward the need to further study these aspects of delinquency in the Nepalese context (Kafle & Dhakal, 2023).

2.3 Research Gap

Jaggi and Kliewer (2020) emphasized the importance of attachment to facility schools for positive outcomes, but there is a gap in understanding effects in Nepal, which this thesis addresses through a mixed-methods approach. Inderbitzin (2012) highlighted psychological challenges in correctional facilities, yet their impact in Nepal remains unexplored which this thesis tries to explore. Paudel (2023) provided insights into challenges like overcrowding and inadequate facilities in a single Juvenile correction home, whereas this thesis broadens the scope to 6 Juvenile correction home for a comprehensive evaluation. Sanyal (2022) identified factors influencing rehabilitation success, and this thesis builds on this by collecting detailed data on these factors. Thus, this thesis fills these gaps by aligning its objectives and

methodology with the identified research needs, contributing to a more effective juvenile correction system in Nepal.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present work was based on both primary and secondary sources of data. For the study of the concerned subject, descriptive method was chosen. The collection technique for the study was based primary and secondary data. The research purpose is an explanatory and descriptive which has done by employing mixed research design. Secondary data, documents and records, non-written records was used to develop research. The research paper is more inductive after applying mentioned methods.

3.1 Research Design

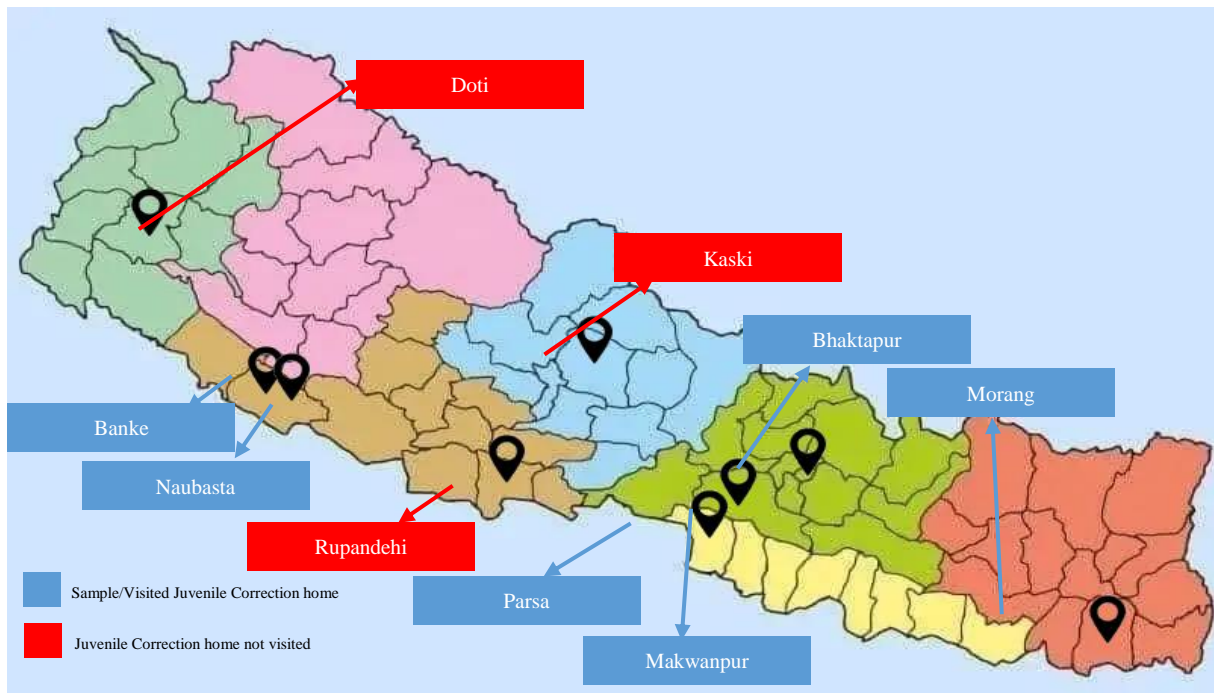
The nature of this research was descriptive and analytical. It is descriptive because available information was described. At the same time, it is analytical as the information originate from various sources was synchronized and analyzed properly. The overall research work is conducted through collection of secondary data. Mixed approach for the data collection was done.

3.2 Study Area

There are Nine juvenile correction home in Eight districts of Nepal i.e. Morang, Parsa, Makawanpur, Bhaktapur, Kaski, Rupandehi, Banke, and Doti. Among them Six districts were taken as sample Juvenile Correction Home i.e. Morang, Parsa, Makwanpur, Bhaktapur and Banke.

Figure 1

Location of the 9 Juvenile Correction Home in Nepal



Source: Adapted and modified from Map Archives, Nepal, 2020

3.3 Nature and Sources of Data

Researcher collected the primary data through the use of open-ended questionnaire among administrative officer of the Juvenile homes. Similarly, close-ended questionnaire was conducted among the children of Juvenile Correction homes at Sanothimi, Bhaktapur.

Further, the data was collected from secondary sources such as available data. This research analytically and critically examined to have reach reasonable conclusion.

3.4 Techniques and Tools of Data Collection

For this study on the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal, a mixed-methods approach was employed, integrating both qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques to provide a comprehensive analysis.

3.4.1 Surveys

Structured questionnaires with both open-ended and close-ended questions were administered to juvenile offenders and administrative officers across six juvenile correction homes. The surveys aimed to gather quantitative data on various aspects such as the facilities' capacity, educational programs, vocational training, healthcare services, and perceived effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts.

3.4.2 Interviews

In-depth interviews were conducted with key stakeholders, including administrative officers, juvenile correction home staff, and select juveniles. These interviews provided qualitative insights into the challenges faced by the correction homes, the effectiveness of existing programs, and personal experiences of the juveniles. Key Informant Interviews (KII) were particularly useful in obtaining detailed information from individuals with extensive knowledge of the juvenile justice system.

3.4.3 Observations

Direct observations were made during visits to the correction homes. This allowed the researcher to assess the physical infrastructure, observe daily routines, and evaluate the interaction between staff and juveniles. Observations provided contextual understanding and corroborated information obtained through surveys and interviews.

3.4.4 Document Analysis

Secondary data were collected through the review of existing documents, reports, and records from the juvenile correction homes, the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens and other relevant organizations. This included analyzing policy documents, rehabilitation program records, and previous studies related to juvenile justice in Nepal.

3.5 Data Analysis

The data collected for this study on the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal were analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the findings.

3.5.1 Quantitative Data Analysis

The survey data collected from juvenile offenders were analyzed using descriptive statistics. This included calculating frequencies and percentages, and identify patterns related to the capacity, educational programs, vocational training, healthcare services, and perceived effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts.

3.5.2 Qualitative Data Analysis

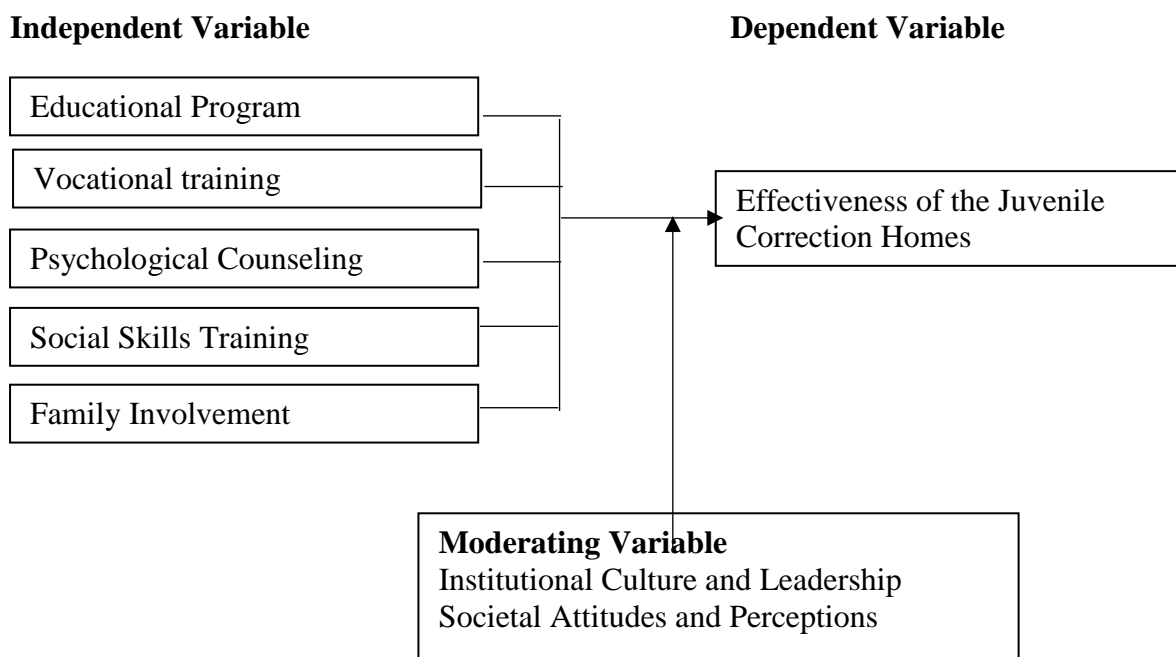
The qualitative data obtained from interviews, focus group discussions, and open-ended survey responses were analyzed using thematic analysis. This process involved coding the data to identify recurring themes and patterns. The themes were then grouped into broader categories to provide insights into the challenges faced by correction homes, the effectiveness of existing programs. Further, document analysis and observational notes were subjected to content analysis to systematically interpret the context and meaning of the textual and visual data.

3.6 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework of the study is shown in the figure 2 below:

Figure 2

Conceptual Framework of the research



Source: Developed by the Author, based on Rehabilitative Theory

3.7 Ethical Consideration

In conducting this research on the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal, ethical considerations are paramount to ensure the dignity, rights, and well-being of all participants. Following the APA 7th edition guidelines, informed consent was obtained from all participants, including juveniles and administrative officers, ensuring they were fully aware of the study's purpose, procedures, risks, and benefits. Confidentiality and anonymity were strictly maintained to protect the identities of the participants and their personal information. These considerations were integral to maintaining the integrity of the research and upholding the highest ethical standards throughout the study.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter the findings of the thesis work are discussed simultaneously rather than separating them in the separate section.

4.2 Current Status of the Juvenile correction homes

There are a total 9 Juvenile correction homes in Nepal (Figure 2). Nepal had adopted the policy of establishing 1 Juvenile correction home in each province. However, government has not been able to achieve the goal of establishing Juvenile Correction home in each province. The province wise Juvenile Correction home in Nepal is listed in table below:

Table 1

Current status of Juvenile Correction homes in Nepal

Province	Number of Juvenile Correction Home	Districts
Koshi	1	Morang
Madhesh Province	1	Parsa
Bagmati Province	2	Bhaktapur, Makwanpur
Gandaki Province	1	Kaski
Lumbini Province	3	Rupandehi Bank
Karnali Province	0	0
Sudurpaschim Province	1	Doti

Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, 2024

Currently, there are nine juvenile correction homes distributed unevenly across the provinces: Koshi Province has one in Morang, Madhesh Province has one in Parsa, Bagmati Province houses two in Bhaktapur and Makwanpur, Gandaki Province has one in Kaski, Lumbini Province has three in Kapilvastu, while Sudurpaschim Province has one in Doti. Notably, Karnali Province does not have any juvenile correction homes, highlighting a significant gap

in the availability of such facilities and indicating a disparity in the implementation of the policy across the regions.

4.2.1 Capacity

The capacity of the Juvenile correction home is given in the table 2

Table 2

Juvenile correction home and their capacity in Nepal.

S.N	Juvenile Correction Home	Capacity (person)	Total Number of Juvenile	Ratio (Total Number of Juvenile to Total Capacity)
1	Bhaktapur	110	256	2.33
2	Morang	55	233	4.24
3	Kaski	55	106	1.93
4	Banke	55	260	4.73
5	Naubasta Banke	350	120	0.34
6	Parsa	65	117	1.80
7	Rupandehi	50	84	1.68
8	Doti	25	46	1.84
9	Makwanpur	70	64	0.91

Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, 2024

The data provided a picture of the state of juvenile correction homes across various districts in Nepal, revealing widespread issues of overcrowding and strained capacity. The juvenile correction homes in Nepal display a wide range of capacity utilization, with some facilities experiencing severe overcrowding while others are underutilized. The Bhaktapur home, designed for 110 juveniles, is currently housing 256, resulting in a ratio of 2.33 times its intended capacity (Table 2). Even more crowded are the homes in Morang and Banke, with ratios of 4.24 and 4.73, respectively, far exceeding their capacities of 55 each. In stark contrast, the Naubasta Banke home, with the highest capacity of 350, has only 120 juveniles, giving a ratio of 0.34, indicating significant underutilization. Other homes like Kaski, Parsa, Rupandehi, and Doti show ratios ranging from 1.68 to 1.93, suggesting they are near or slightly above capacity. Makwanpur stands out with a capacity for 70 juveniles but hosts only 64, reflected by a ratio of 0.91, indicating it is below its full capacity. This variability

underscores the challenges in evenly distributing and managing juvenile populations across these correctional facilities in Nepal.

4.2.2 Types of Offenses

The inmates in the center face a wide range of charges, including rape, killings, drugs, robbery, theft, attempted murder, human trafficking, kidnapping, child marriage, reckless driving causing injury, among others. Respondent 2 stated that the children ranging from various petty crimes to heinous crime along with the substance issues are being sheltered within the same premises of Juvenile correction home. This was also stated by all Respondent during the interview.

4.2.3 Educational and Training Programs

Each Juvenile correction home has put forth an effort to provide an educational program. The Juvenile correction home, which did not have the capacity to establish a school had also provided an opportunity for the Juveniles to prepare and appear for their exams. A vast difference was observed in the Juvenile correction home operated by the government of Nepal and UCEP. In the case of the juvenile correction home run by the government there has not been any facilities to provide education.

In Sanothimi, Bhaktpur, Juveniles residing in the Reform Home are afforded the privilege of receiving both academic education and vocational training, alongside participation in various extracurricular activities. The center offers education from class 5 to class 10. However, there are limited teachers employed within the facility, indicating potential challenges in providing comprehensive educational opportunities to the inmate population. The lack of additional recruitment for teachers despite requests from the administration further exacerbates this issue. While education plays a significant role in shaping attitudes, some juveniles perceive the academic classes as merely fulfilling a formal requirement, with only one class per day, dubbing it as "time-pass." Despite feeling compelled to attend these classes, they have no alternative but to remain until 4 pm following their regular academic sessions, after which they engage in recreational activities. Vocational training is offered primarily to juveniles scheduled for release within six months, with the possibility of extending it to other interested individuals if space permits. However, due to age restrictions, advanced training is limited to basic skills unless one possesses a citizenship certificate. Extracurricular activities mirror those described by the staff.

The number of juveniles from Sanothimi, Bhaktapur Juvenile Correction Home appearing for the Secondary Education Examination (SEE) has varied significantly over the past five years.

Table 3

SEE appeared Juvenile from Sanothimi Juvenile Correction Home

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2076	25	6	31
2077	18	2	20
2078	11	2	13
2079	4	4	8
2080	21	2	23

Source: Bhaktapur Juvenile Correction Home, 2024

In 2076, a relatively high number of students—31 in total—appeared for the exam, with 25 boys and 6 girls. This number declined in 2077, where only 20 juveniles took the exam, including 18 boys and a notably smaller number of 2 girls. The downward trend continued into 2078, with the total dropping to 13, comprising 11 boys and 2 girls. The year 2079 saw the lowest participation, with an equal gender distribution: 4 boys and 4 girls, totaling just 8 juveniles. However, in 2080, there was a significant rebound in participation, particularly among boys, with 21 boys and only 2 girls taking the exam, totaling 23 juveniles. This fluctuation highlights challenges and changing dynamics in educational engagement among juveniles in the correctional facility over the observed period.

Sanothimi Juvenile correction has been providing various vocation training program. The total number of participants in the various training is show in the table 4.

Table 4*Training Provided*

S.N.	Training	Participate number
1	Plumbing	59
2	Mobile repairing	19
3	Welding	65
4	House wiring	98
5	Driving	11
6	Tailoring	11
7	Motorcycle repairing	41
8	Automobile	8
9	Bakery	19
10	Making a keyring	80
11	Garland making (mala)	28
12	Shoe making	69
13	JCB Operator	10
14	Pote making	57
15	Soap making	40
16	Cook training	8
17	Printing press	30
18	Hair cutting	15
19	Ghumto making	23
20	Shuttering Carpenter	40
	Total	731

Source. Bhaktapur Juvenile Correction home, 2024

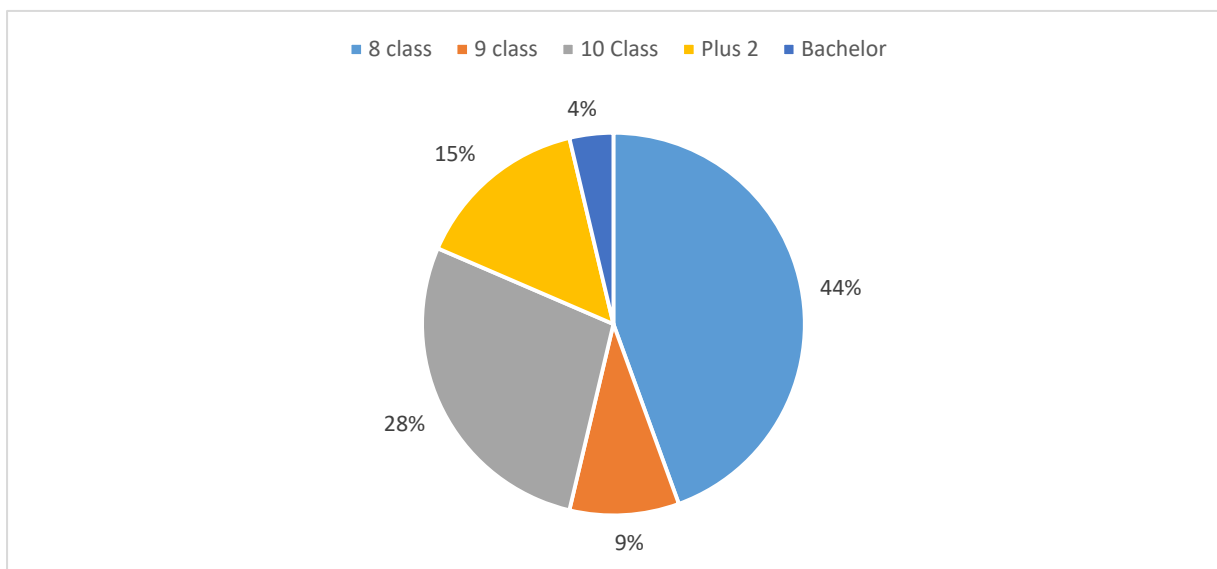
At Bhaktapur Juvenile Correction Home till 2024, a variety of vocational training programs were offered to the juveniles, attracting a total of 731 participants across 20 different courses. The most popular training was in house wiring, drawing 98 participants, followed closely by shoe making with 69 participants, and welding, which attracted 65 individuals. Plumbing and making a keyring were also highly attended, with 59 and 80 participants respectively. In

contrast, some courses had significantly lower enrollment, such as driving, tailoring, and cook training, each with only 11, 11 and 8 participants respectively. The diversity in training opportunities ranged from technical skills like mobile and motorcycle repairing, which saw 19 and 41 participants respectively, to creative and artisan skills such as soap making, pote making, and ghumto making, which drew 40, 57, and 23 participants respectively. This varied curriculum is designed to equip the juveniles with practical skills that can aid their reintegration into society.

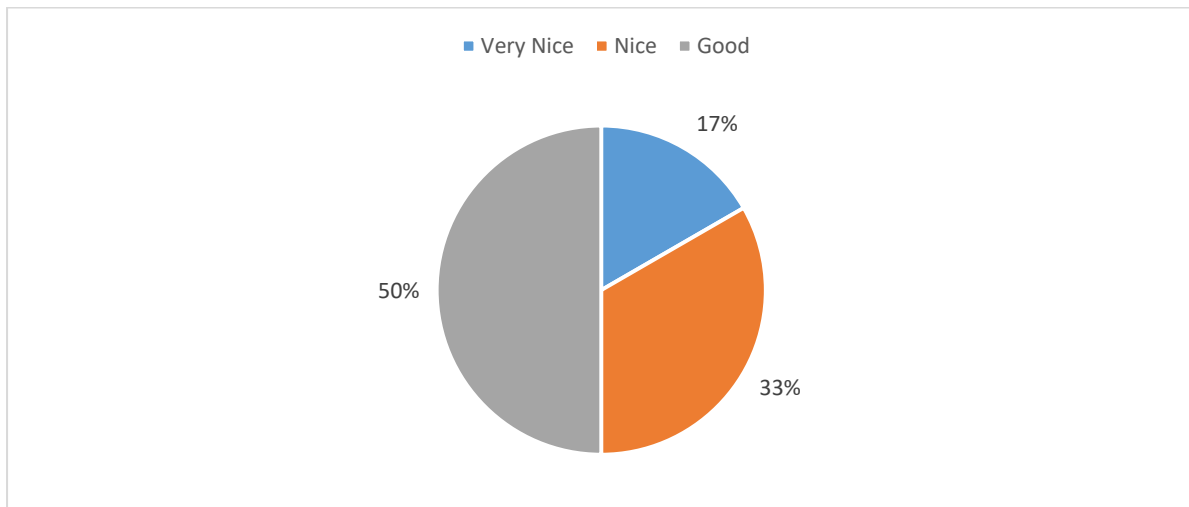
Similarly, from the questionnaire survey following results were found

Figure 3

Educational background of the juvenile offender participated in the survey



The data illustrates the educational background of juvenile offenders within the correctional system in Nepal, revealing a diverse range of educational attainment levels. A significant portion of juvenile offenders are enrolled in or have completed the 8th and 10th grades, suggesting a concentration of individuals at the middle and secondary school levels. However, there is a noticeable drop-off in representation at the 9th grade level. Additionally, a smaller but notable number of juvenile offenders are pursuing higher education opportunities beyond grade 10, with some enrolled in Plus 2 or Bachelor's programs. Understanding the educational profile of juvenile offenders can inform targeted interventions aimed at addressing underlying risk factors, promoting positive youth development, and reducing recidivism rates by providing appropriate educational support and opportunities for rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

Figure 4*Perception of the level of education provided*

The provided data delineates the educational achievements of individuals within the correctional system, categorized by varying levels of education attainment. Notably, a portion of the population is classified under the "Very Nice" category, comprising 9 individuals. This suggests that a minority within the correctional system have achieved a commendable level of education, reflecting a positive aspect amidst challenging circumstances. The larger group falls under the "Nice" and "Good" categories, encompassing 18 and 27 individuals respectively, indicating a broader representation of individuals with satisfactory to above-average educational backgrounds. Understanding the educational spectrum within the correctional system is pivotal for designing tailored rehabilitation programs that cater to diverse academic needs and aspirations. By leveraging these insights, stakeholders can foster educational opportunities and support systems aimed at empowering individuals to overcome barriers, break cycles of recidivism, and ultimately reintegrate successfully into society.

Similarly it was found that the Juvenile correction home operated by UCEP has provided enough reading materials for the juvenile to broaden their knowledge. It was further evident from the responses of the Juvenile respondent.

4.2.4 Healthcare and Human Rights Concerns

Inmates have raised concerns about the violation of their human rights within the facility, particularly regarding healthcare. Reports indicate inadequate attention to diet, mental development, and healthcare needs. Respondent 2 stated for any health issues, Juveniles were

taken to the nearest hospital, in this case it was 2 blocks from the Juvenile correction home. However, Respondent 3 found that it difficult due to lack of dedicated health care personnel within the premises of Juvenile correction home.

Respondent 6 stated that

there is the presence of children with substance abuse and it often poses a serious challenges to the other children as well. However, lack of segregation and proper treatment mechanism has made it difficult to rehabilitate the children.... Further there has been challenges of Psychological consultant, as there are only 1 psychological consultant and hence make it difficult for proper guidance for the children.

Respondent 6 highlights critical issues in the rehabilitation and care environment within the juvenile correction system, specifically pointing out the challenges posed by children with substance abuse issues. The view was supported by other respondents as well. The lack of segregation and a proper treatment mechanism for these children not only hampers their own rehabilitation but also poses serious challenges to the safety and stability of other children within the facility. This situation is compounded by insufficient psychological support, with only one psychological consultant available. This severe understaffing makes it difficult to provide adequate guidance and mental health support to the juveniles, many of whom may require individualized attention to address their complex needs effectively. The implications of such deficiencies are significant, potentially affecting the overall success of rehabilitation efforts and the mental well-being of all juveniles in the correction home.

4.2.5 Division of the Role

Juvenile Correction home comes under the supervision of Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. However, there has been duplication of roles within various ministry and stakeholder. It also comes under the authority of Ministry of Home Affairs, as it is responsible for the daily rations and other amenities along with the provision to provide necessary security. Similarly, District Administration office and Municipality/Rural Municipality is also responsible for various activities, which leads to lack of clear role among the stakeholders.

4.2.6 External Support

There are Nine juvenile correction home which are managed by UCEP and Government of Nepal. UCEP Nepal manages an educational program for underprivileged children within the correctional center, providing additional educational opportunities to supplement the existing curriculum. According to Respondent 8, the concept of Juvenile correction home in Nepal began when Nepal signed CRC and requested organization who had been working for the welfare of the Juvenile within the prison system of Nepal. Among them UCEP was assigned with the responsibility of establishing Juvenile correction home. In 2058 BS first juvenile correction home was established in Sanothimi with 1 Juvenile and the number gradually increased. As per the testimony of respondent 9, during his stay in the Juvenile correction home there were only few juveniles which grew throughout the years of his stay.

4.2.7 Age Group of the Juvenile

For better understanding of age groups of the juvenile offenders are categorically analyzed in the table 5.

Table 5

Age wise group of the Juvenile Offenders

Juvenile Correction Home	Upto 16 years	16-17 years	17 – 18 years	Above 18 years	Total
Bhaktapur	26	28	112	90	256
Morang	40	28	54	111	233
Kaski	17	21	32	36	106
Banke	35	46	117	62	260
Naubasta Banke	-	-	-	120	120
Parsa	16	24	29	48	117
Rupandehi	18	12	38	16	84
Doti	13	7	5	21	46
Makwanpur	-	-	-	-	64

Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, 2024

The data on juvenile offenders across various correction homes in Nepal reveals a complex age distribution and incidence of substance use among this population. The Bhaktapur Correction Home houses 256 juveniles, predominantly aged between 17-18 and above 18 years, with both younger age groups up to 16 and 16-17 years also present. Similarly, Morang Correction Home accommodates 233 juveniles, with a majority over 18 years old. Kaski Correction Home, hosting a total of 106 juveniles, also reflects a higher number of older juveniles, particularly those above 18 years. Banke Correction Home reports one of the highest totals at 260, with a significant concentration in the 17-18 year age group. Naubasta Banke stands out by only reporting on juveniles above 18 years, totaling 120. In Parsa, the distribution is slightly more even across age groups with a total of 117 juveniles, while Rupandehi Correction Home has a moderate count of 84, with a substantial number in the 17-18 year bracket. Doti Correction Home, with 46 juveniles, and Makwanpur, reporting a total of 64, do not provide detailed breakdowns by age or substance use. Overall, these figures highlight the varying distributions of juvenile offenders by age, with a notable number of facilities reporting significant populations of older juveniles, and varying reports of substance use across the homes.

4.2.8 Compliance with International Standards and National Legislation

Juvenile correctional facilities must adhere to international standards, including the United Nations CRC and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).

International standards set forth by the United Nations CRC and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, known as the Nelson Mandela Rules, provide comprehensive guidelines aimed at ensuring the humane treatment and rehabilitation of detainees, including juveniles.

United Nations CRC

The CRC is a key instrument that outlines the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of children. Ratified by almost every country, the CRC emphasizes several principles crucial to juvenile justice:

- Article 37: Ensures that no child is subjected to torture, cruel treatment, or punishment. It stipulates that the arrest, detention, or imprisonment of a child shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period.

- Article 39: Focuses on the recovery and reintegration of children who have been subjected to exploitation, abuse, or are recovering from armed conflict or incarceration. The CRC mandates that these processes occur in an environment that fosters the health, self-respect, and dignity of the child.

Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules)

These rules provide guidelines for the treatment of all prisoners in a manner that preserves human dignity:

- Rule 1: Asserts the inherent dignity and value as human beings of all prisoners.
- Rule 5: Recommends that the safety and security measures in prisons should not be used as pretexts for imposing unnecessary suffering, hardship, or restriction to prisoners.
- Rule 58 and Rule 60: Specifically address the needs of prisoners of different categories, emphasizing that measures catering to their health and development needs are vital, especially for juveniles. They suggest segregation from adults and the accommodation of children in separate facilities where they can receive education and vocational training.

National legislation, such as juvenile justice laws and regulations, provide the legal framework for the operation and management of juvenile correctional facilities. These laws outline the rights and responsibilities of juveniles in conflict with the law, the procedures for their adjudication and sentencing, and the standards for their treatment and rehabilitation while in custody. Compliance with national legislation ensures that juvenile offenders are afforded due process, fair treatment, and access to services and programs that promote their rehabilitation and well-being.

International standards and national legislation emphasize a child-centered approach to juvenile justice, recognizing the unique vulnerabilities, developmental needs, and capacities of children in conflict with the law. This approach prioritizes the best interests of the child, promotes their participation in decision-making processes, and seeks to minimize the use of incarceration through diversion and alternative measures whenever possible.

Compliance with international standards and national legislation ensures the implementation of procedural safeguards throughout the juvenile justice process, including the right to legal representation, the presumption of innocence, the right to a fair trial, and protection from

arbitrary detention and excessive punishment. These safeguards are essential for safeguarding the rights and ensuring the fair treatment of juvenile offenders within the criminal justice system.

4.2.9 Monitoring and Oversight

Aftercare and monitoring are vital components of the rehabilitation program, extending support to juveniles even after their release. Follow-up efforts are made to monitor their integration into society, providing additional support and intervention when necessary. This ongoing support helps address any challenges that arise post-release and ensures that juveniles continue to have access to resources that can aid in their successful reintegration. Monitoring also provides valuable feedback for the effectiveness of the rehabilitation programs, helping to identify areas of success and those needing improvement.

Monitoring and oversight of juvenile correction facilities are crucial for ensuring adherence to both national laws and international human rights standards. Key organizations involved include the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), which investigates rights violations and conducts facility inspections; the Ministry of Women, Children & Senior Citizen, which oversees child-focused rehabilitation programs; and the Ministry of Home Affairs, responsible for the administrative and security aspects of these facilities. Internationally, UNICEF plays a significant role, advocating for children's rights, providing staff training, and supporting programs that enhance the well-being and rights of detained children. Together, these entities work to ensure that juvenile correction facilities not only detain but also rehabilitate young offenders, facilitating their successful reintegration into society while upholding their fundamental rights and addressing their developmental needs.

4.2.10 Recreational Activities

Recreational activities form an essential part of the rehabilitation program, offering juveniles opportunities to engage in sports, arts, and other creative endeavors. These activities are not only ways to pass time but are critical for mental and emotional health. They provide outlets for stress, allow juveniles to explore new interests, and help in developing skills such as teamwork, discipline, and creativity. Engaging in sports and arts can significantly boost self-esteem and provide a sense of accomplishment and joy, which are important for the psychological development of young individuals.

4.2.10 Future Plans

Recently establishment of the Juvenile correction home in the Naubasta Banke is a step to address the challenges of age wise segregation. The Juvenile of age above 18 are to be sent to Naubasta Banke. Similarly, there has been plans to establish Makwanpur Juvenile correction for sheltering the children with issues of substance use. This initiative will address the challenges of segregation. Respondent 7 elaborated the future plans of the Ministry of Women, children and social welfare of developing a juvenile directives to address the current challenges.

4.3 Rehabilitation and Re-integration program

Each juvenile offender has unique needs, backgrounds, and circumstances that contribute to their delinquent behavior. Quality rehabilitation programs start with comprehensive assessments to identify these individual needs and develop tailored treatment plans. These plans should address educational deficits, mental health issues, substance abuse problems, and social skills development, among other factors.

4.3.1 Educational and Vocational Program

Access to quality education is fundamental for the rehabilitation and future prospects of juvenile offenders. Rehabilitation programs should offer educational opportunities that meet the diverse needs and abilities of the youth population. This may include formal schooling, vocational training, life skills development, and career counseling to equip juveniles with the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and independent living.

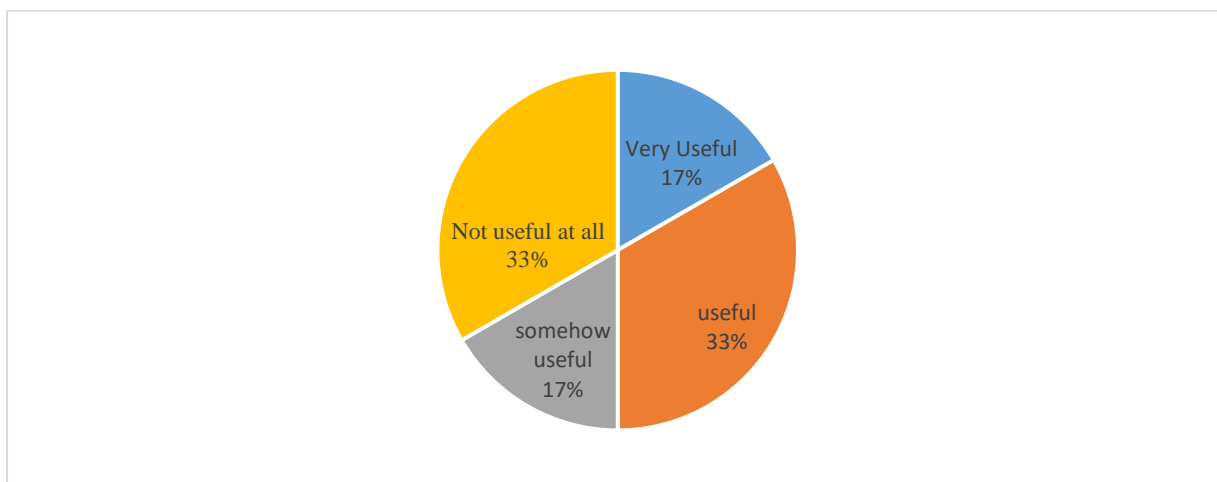
The rehabilitation program for juvenile delinquents in Nepal places significant emphasis on education and vocational training. Education serves as a foundational component, ensuring that juveniles continue their formal schooling while in detention. This continuous educational engagement is crucial for keeping them on a path comparable to their peers outside the facility. Additionally, vocational training is provided to equip them with practical skills that can lead to employment opportunities upon their release. Training often includes a variety of trades such as carpentry, tailoring, and electrical work, which are selected based on their relevance to the job market and the interests of the juveniles. These programs aim to enhance the juveniles' employability and self-sufficiency, fostering a sense of purpose and direction.

Access to education and employment opportunities is essential for the successful reintegration of juvenile offenders into society. Rehabilitation programs within correctional facilities should offer academic and vocational training, as well as job placement assistance and support services to help juveniles acquire the skills and qualifications needed for employment and self-sufficiency upon release. There were numerous training provided by the UCEP, which aimed at enriching the skills of the juvenile and make them easier to reintegrate in the society with skills that they gain during their rehabilitation process. Respondent had stated that they were able to gain the training such as printing press and shoes making. However there were individual who had stated that they had not participated in any kind of training questioning future usefulness. Based on the responses regarding the usefulness of the training following responses were gained.

A total of 54 individuals were asked on the usefulness of the vocation training they were provided at Bhaktapur Correction home and their response in the figure 5.

Figure 5

Response of Participant at Bhaktapur correction home on usefulness of training for future



The data provided outlines the perceived usefulness of training programs within the correctional system for future reintegration efforts. Notably, a portion of individuals classify these programs as "Very Useful," with 9 respondents endorsing their efficacy. This suggests that these training initiatives hold significant promise in equipping individuals with valuable skills and resources essential for successful reintegration into society post-incarceration. Additionally, a larger group considers the training as "useful" (18 individuals), further emphasizing their potential in facilitating positive outcomes during the reintegration process.

However, it's crucial to note that a subset of respondents regards the training as "somehow useful" (9 individuals), hinting at a nuanced perception of its effectiveness. Conversely, an equal number of respondents perceive the training as "Not useful at all" (18 individuals), indicating a need for improvement or reconsideration of the training content, delivery methods, or relevance to the individuals' needs and aspirations. Understanding these varied perspectives is pivotal for refining training initiatives within the correctional system, ensuring they effectively equip individuals with the necessary skills, knowledge, and support systems crucial for their successful reintegration into society, ultimately promoting rehabilitation and reducing recidivism rates.

4.3.2 Psychological Counseling

Many juvenile offenders have experienced trauma, abuse, or other adverse life events that contribute to their delinquent behavior. Counseling and therapy services, including individual and group sessions, play a critical role in addressing these underlying issues, promoting emotional healing, and teaching coping strategies. Mental health professionals should be available to provide assessments, diagnosis, and evidence-based interventions to support the psychological well-being of juvenile offenders.

Psychological counseling and social support are integral to the rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents, addressing the complex emotional, behavioral, and mental health issues they may face. Counseling services are provided to help juveniles cope with the stress of incarceration and any underlying psychological issues that may contribute to delinquent behavior. Socialization programs also play a crucial role, aiming to improve interpersonal skills and promote positive social interactions. These programs help juveniles develop critical communication skills and build healthy relationships, which are essential for their successful reintegration into society.

Substance abuse is a prevalent issue among juvenile offenders and can exacerbate delinquent behavior. Quality rehabilitation programs incorporate substance abuse prevention, education, and treatment services to address these issues effectively. This may include counseling, support groups, detoxification programs, and relapse prevention strategies tailored to the unique needs of each individual.

4.3.3 Social Skills training

Social skills training is typically delivered through both formal sessions and informal activities integrated into daily routines. The curriculum might include role-playing exercises, group discussions, and team-building activities that simulate real-life scenarios juveniles are likely to encounter upon release. Additionally, social skills are reinforced through participation in sports, cultural programs, and other group activities that promote cooperation and mutual respect.

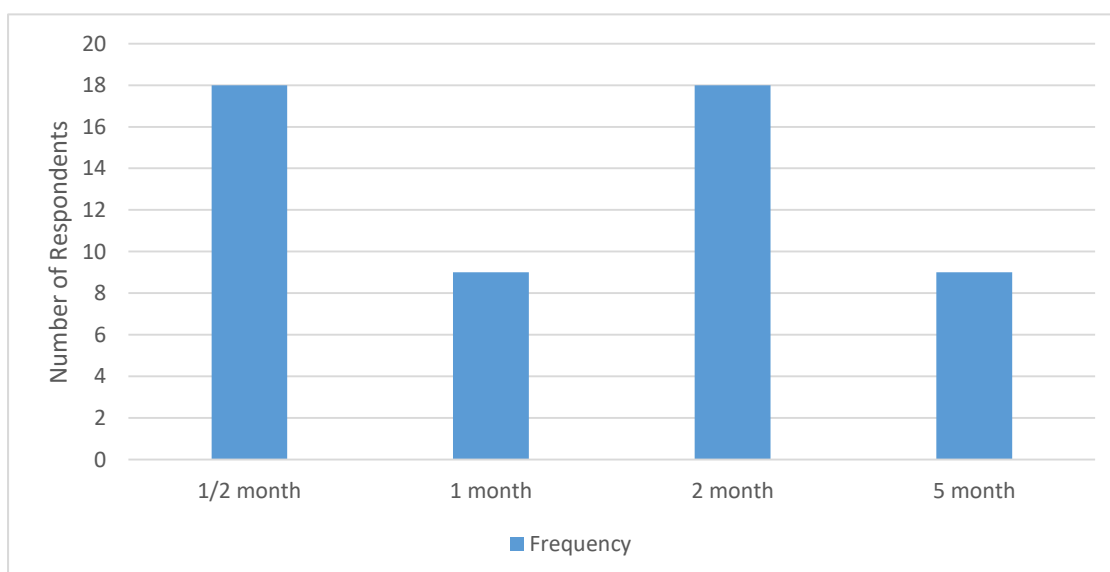
4.3.4 Family Involvement

The involvement of families and communities is essential for the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders. Quality rehabilitation programs engage families in treatment planning, counseling sessions, and support services to strengthen family bonds, improve communication, and address underlying family issues that may contribute to delinquency. Community-based programs and partnerships with local organizations provide additional support and resources for juvenile offenders transitioning back into society.

In Bhaktapur Correction home, 54 respondent were asked how frequently their family visit them and their response is shown in the figure 6.

Figure 6

Frequency of Family visit to the Juvenile center at Bhaktapur



The figure 6 shows that Notably, a significant proportion of respondents report family visits occurring every 1/2 month, with 18 individuals endorsing this frequency. This suggests a proactive approach by the correctional home in fostering regular contact between juveniles and their families, facilitating ongoing communication and support crucial for successful reintegration. Additionally, a sizable number of respondents indicate family visits scheduled monthly (9 individuals), providing consistent opportunities for familial engagement and relationship-building. However, a considerable portion of respondents report less frequent visits occurring every 2 months (18 individuals) or even less frequently at intervals of 5 months (9 individuals). While these intervals may still facilitate family contact, they may not offer the same level of consistent support and connection necessary for effective reintegration. Understanding the importance of family bonds in the rehabilitation process, correctional homes may consider adjusting visitation policies to ensure more frequent and meaningful interactions, ultimately enhancing juveniles' prospects for successful reintegration into society post-incarceration.

Respondent 3 further stated that Family were supportive for the training program conducted by the Juvenile Correction home. In some instances family of the Juvenile purchase the product that they had produced and even assist for the procurement of the required goods.

4.3.5 After care and follow up

Successful reintegration into society requires ongoing support and monitoring after release from the correctional facility. Quality rehabilitation programs provide aftercare services, including transitional housing, employment assistance, continued counseling, and mentorship programs, to support juvenile offenders in maintaining positive behavioral changes and avoiding future involvement in the criminal justice system. However, it was found there has been few instances of after care and follow up.

4.3.6 Reintegration into Society

Reintegration into society is a critical aspect of the rehabilitation process for juvenile offenders. It involves providing support, resources, and opportunities to help individuals successfully transition from the juvenile justice system back into their communities.

Reintegration efforts often begin during incarceration, with the provision of social support services aimed at addressing the underlying factors contributing to delinquent behavior. This

may include counseling, mentoring, family therapy, and peer support groups to help juveniles develop positive relationships, communication skills, and coping strategies.

Securing stable housing and meeting basic needs such as food, clothing, and healthcare are fundamental for successful reintegration. Reentry programs should provide assistance with housing placement, access to healthcare services, and support for obtaining identification documents, public benefits, and other essential resources needed for independent living.

Rebuilding family relationships and reconnecting with the community are key components of reintegration. Rehabilitation programs should involve families and communities in the reentry process, facilitating communication, conflict resolution, and support networks to help juveniles reintegrate into their social networks and establish positive connections within their communities. Juvenile correction home allows frequent visit from the family members to facilitate this process. Based on the response on the interval of the visit following graph is developed.

Restorative justice approaches focus on repairing harm, addressing the needs of victims, and promoting accountability and healing for all parties involved. Reintegration efforts may include restorative justice practices such as victim-offender mediation, community service, and restitution, which provide opportunities for juveniles to take responsibility for their actions, make amends, and rebuild trust within their communities.

Reintegration is an ongoing process that requires continued support and monitoring to ensure successful outcomes. Aftercare services should be provided to juveniles upon release, including case management, counseling, mentoring, and access to community-based programs and services that promote positive behavior, address criminogenic risk factors, and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

4.4 Challenges of Juvenile Correction Homes

Juvenile correction homes in Nepal face several challenges in effectively rehabilitating and reintegrating young offenders into society. Based on the both field visit of the challenges of juvenile correction homes are categorically analyzed in the table

Table 6*Challenges of Juvenile Correction home in Nepal*

	Morang	Parsa	Makwanpur	Bhaktapur	Banke	Banke (Naubasta)
Overcrowding (Capacity)	Severe	Very severe	Little Severe	Severe	Very Severe	Not Severe
Inadequate Infrastructure (Buildings, space)	Little Severe	Very Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Not Severe
Limited Access to Mental Health Services (Availability of Pscyocounselor)	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe
Shortages of Basic Supplies and Resources	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe
Lack of Qualified Staff	Little Severe	Severe	Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe
Inadequate Education and Skill Development	Not Severe	Severe	Severe	Not Severe	Not Severe	Severe
Stigmatization and Discrimination	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe
Lack of Family and Community Support	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe	Little Severe
Inadequate Aftercare Services	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe
Lack of Community- Based Alternatives	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe

Source: Field Visit, 2024

The table outlining the challenges faced by juvenile correction homes in Nepal reveals significant issues across various dimensions. Overcrowding is particularly acute in Parsa and Banke, categorized as "very severe," indicating extreme congestion and strain on resources, while Naubasta Banke is notably "not severe," suggesting better capacity management. In terms of infrastructure, most facilities, including Morang, Makwanpur, Bhaktapur, and Banke, face "little severe" issues, except Parsa, which experiences "very severe" inadequacies. Access to mental health services is consistently "little severe" across all locations, highlighting a widespread deficiency in psychological support. Similarly, there is a "little severe" shortage of basic supplies and resources in all centers, pointing to systemic resource limitations. The lack of qualified staff is "severe" in Parsa and Makwanpur, impacting operational effectiveness, while other facilities face "little severe" shortages. Educational and skill development opportunities are "severe" in Parsa, Makwanpur, and Naubasta Banke, underscoring critical gaps in rehabilitative efforts. Stigmatization and discrimination issues are "little severe" across the board, reflecting societal challenges that impede the reintegration of juveniles. Family and community support is also "little severe" in all centers, indicating the need for stronger community ties and support systems. Aftercare services are universally "severe," signifying a major gap in post-release support, which is essential for successful reintegration. Lastly, the lack of community-based alternatives is "severe" across all facilities, underscoring the urgent need for more community-oriented interventions and support mechanisms to address juvenile delinquency effectively.

4.4.1 Overcrowding

Overcrowding in juvenile correction facilities is a significant challenge that can exacerbate existing problems related to resource allocation and individualized care. When facilities operate beyond their capacity, it becomes difficult to provide adequate attention to each juvenile, manage health and safety standards, and conduct effective rehabilitation programs. This not only affects the well-being of the juveniles but also strains the staff and the infrastructure of the correction facilities. For instance, the Bhaktapur juvenile correction home, with a capacity for 110 individuals, houses 256 juveniles, indicating a severe case of overcrowding with a ratio of 2.33 times its intended capacity. Similarly, facilities in Morang and Banke are also experiencing extreme overcrowding, with ratios of 4.24 and 4.73, respectively. Such overcrowding not only strains the available resources, including access to educational and vocational training programs, but also complicates the management of health

and safety, increasing the risk of conflict and disease transmission among the juveniles. This environment severely hampers efforts towards effective rehabilitation and underscores the urgent need for policy and infrastructure improvements to address these issues adequately.

Overcrowded facilities have limited space for living quarters, educational activities, recreational areas, and counseling sessions. This lack of space can hinder the provision of essential services and programs for rehabilitation. Respondent 2 stated that due to the overcrowding the Juvenile correction home was not able to run classes and the Juvenile who want to study are also not provided with the opportunity for further study.

Overcrowding increases the risk of health and safety hazards for both staff and inmates. Close proximity among individuals can facilitate the spread of infectious diseases, exacerbate mental health issues, and lead to conflicts and violence within the facility. In the case of Birgunj Juvenile Correction home it was observed that in each room there were 8-12 Juvenile staying while the capacity was only 4-6 of each room.

Overcrowded conditions can contribute to heightened stress, tension, and frustration among inmates, leading to behavioral problems, disciplinary incidents, and conflicts among peers and with staff. This can further compromise the effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts.

4.4.2 Inadequate Infrastructure

Many juvenile correction homes lack the necessary infrastructure to support a conducive rehabilitation environment. This includes inadequate educational facilities, limited space for vocational training, and insufficient recreational areas. The physical environment of these facilities often does not meet the standards required for effective rehabilitation, which can affect the morale and motivation of the juveniles.

In addition to overcrowding, juvenile correction homes in Nepal often grapple with inadequate infrastructure. Respondent 2 criticized the infrastructure and stated

The current building that the juvenile correction home is located was established for different purpose. First it was established for the purpose of oldage home, but later converted to Juvenile correction home. It does not have required infrastructure for the Juvenile correction home. The building does not have open spaces and juveniles are forced to stay within a limited area.

Limited access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene supplies can pose health risks and undermine the well-being of inmates. Inadequate sanitation facilities may also violate human rights standards and compromise dignity and privacy.

Many correctional facilities lack sufficient educational materials, books, computers, and recreational resources to support the intellectual and emotional development of juvenile offenders. Limited access to educational and recreational activities can impede rehabilitation and skill-building efforts.

Facilities may lack the necessary equipment, tools, and space to provide vocational training programs for inmates. Vocational training is essential for equipping juvenile offenders with practical skills and competencies for employment and reintegration into society. In the case of Nepal, majority of the Juvenile home runned by the government of Nepal lacked any form of vocation training facilities.

Correctional staff may also face challenges due to inadequate infrastructure, including lack of staff accommodation, rest areas, and administrative offices. Poor staff facilities can impact morale, productivity, and the quality of services provided to inmates. There were less number of staff in each juvenile correction home. The respondent from the Birgunj stated that the staffs had to stay within the fear of possible attack from the youth within the Correction home, as the staff office and the security guard room was within the Juvenile correction home.

4.4.3 Limited Access to Mental Health Services

Many juvenile offenders have underlying mental health issues that require specialized treatment and support. However, limited resources and funding often result in inadequate access to mental health services within correctional facilities. Shortages of mental health professionals, therapeutic interventions, and psychiatric medications can hinder the identification and treatment of mental health disorders among juvenile offenders, exacerbating their behavioral and emotional challenges.

4.4.4 Shortages of Basic Supplies and Resources

Many juvenile correction facilities face significant constraints in terms of resources, which can affect the quality and breadth of services offered. Limited funding can lead to shortages in educational materials, inadequate vocational training equipment, and insufficient medical

supplies. These resource limitations can severely restrict the ability of facilities to provide comprehensive rehabilitation services and meet the diverse needs of the juveniles. Limited funding may result in shortages of basic supplies and resources essential for the daily functioning of juvenile correctional facilities. This includes shortages of food, clothing, bedding, hygiene products, medical supplies, educational materials, and recreational equipment. Shortages of essential supplies compromise the health, safety, and well-being of juvenile offenders, as well as the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs.

Limited resources may constrain investments in staff training and professional development initiatives within juvenile correction homes. Staff training is crucial for enhancing the knowledge, skills, and competencies of personnel in areas such as juvenile justice, trauma-informed care, conflict resolution, and cultural competency. Without adequate training opportunities, staff may struggle to meet the complex needs of juvenile offenders and provide high-quality care and support.

4.4.5 Lack of Qualified Staff

Many juvenile correctional facilities in Nepal face a shortage of qualified personnel, including teachers, counselors, social workers, psychologists, and healthcare professionals. This shortage may be due to budget constraints, limited recruitment efforts, or difficulties in retaining qualified staff. The shortage of qualified staff can undermine the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs within juvenile correction homes. Without sufficient personnel, it becomes challenging to provide comprehensive educational, vocational, counseling, and therapeutic services tailored to the needs of juvenile offenders.

Even when staff are available, they may lack the necessary training and expertise to address the complex needs of young offenders effectively. For example, teachers may not have training in special education or trauma-informed teaching practices, while counselors may lack training in evidence-based therapeutic interventions.

The lack of qualified staff can contribute to high turnover rates within juvenile correctional facilities. Staff turnover not only disrupts the continuity of care and support for juvenile offenders but also incurs additional costs associated with recruitment, training, and supervision of new personnel. A shortage of qualified staff often results in increased workloads and burnout among existing personnel. Overworked staff may struggle to provide

adequate supervision, support, and attention to the individual needs of juvenile offenders, leading to gaps in service delivery and compromised outcomes.

For example as per the respondent from the Sanothimi Juvenile correction home, there is only 1 psychology counselor for the whole juvenile correction home with 136 youth currently within the facility. This has led to challenges in providing the necessary support for the reintegration.

4.4.6 Inadequate Education and Skill Development

Many juvenile correction homes in Nepal lack sufficient educational resources, qualified teachers, and structured learning environments. This limitation hinders young offenders' access to quality education, which is crucial for their intellectual development, future employment prospects, and social reintegration. Without adequate educational programs, young offenders may struggle to acquire essential academic skills and knowledge. Low educational achievement can perpetuate cycles of disadvantage and increase the likelihood of future involvement in criminal activities, as individuals may lack the qualifications and competencies necessary to pursue lawful employment and contribute positively to society.

In addition to formal education, vocational training programs are essential for equipping young offenders with practical skills and competencies for employment and independent living. However, many juvenile correction homes in Nepal lack adequate vocational training facilities, resources, and qualified instructors to offer comprehensive vocational training programs. Respondent from the Makwanpur stated that they were not able to run any vocation programs due to lack of proper budget. The respondent further stated that the parents even sent bamboos to the correction home where the student learn to make goods from it.

Inadequate education and skill development programs undermine the rehabilitation efforts of juvenile correction homes by failing to address the underlying factors contributing to delinquent behavior. Education is not only a protective factor against criminal involvement but also a pathway to personal growth, self-improvement, and positive social integration

4.4.7 Stigmatization and Discrimination

Juvenile offenders often face negative attitudes, stereotypes, and societal stigma due to their involvement in criminal activities. There is a widespread perception that individuals who have been in conflict with the law are inherently dangerous, morally deficient, or irredeemable, leading to their marginalization and social exclusion. Respondent from the Sanothimi even emphasized that due to lack of any counseling service it has been a major challenges as the society where the offenders is reintegrated, there are also the victims of the crime conducted by the young offender.

Similarly, stigmatization and discrimination may lead to rejection and alienation from family members, particularly if they fear association with a juvenile offender may bring shame or dishonor to the family. This lack of familial support can exacerbate feelings of isolation, loneliness, and despair among juvenile offenders, hindering their rehabilitation and reintegration efforts.

Stigmatization and discrimination may also manifest in educational settings, where juvenile offenders may face barriers to enrollment, bullying, or by peers and teachers. This hostile school environment can undermine their educational attainment, self-esteem, and aspirations for the future, impeding their successful reintegration into mainstream society. To remedy it Juvenile correction home had registered a different school name as well.

4.4.8 Lack of Family and Community Support

Many juvenile offenders come from dysfunctional or fractured family backgrounds characterized by poverty, substance abuse, domestic violence, or parental neglect. These adverse family dynamics contribute to the delinquent behavior of young offenders and undermine their sense of belonging, stability, and support within the family unit. Some juvenile offenders experience rejection or alienation from their families due to the stigma associated with criminal behavior or the perceived shame and embarrassment it brings to the family. This lack of familial support exacerbates feelings of isolation, abandonment, and low self-worth among juvenile offenders, making it challenging for them to reintegrate into family life post-release.

In addition to family rejection, juvenile offenders may face stigma and discrimination from the broader community, including neighbors, peers, teachers, and employers. This social

stigma can lead to social exclusion, ostracization, and barriers to participation in community activities, exacerbating feelings of alienation and marginalization among juvenile offenders.

The absence of comprehensive reintegration support services further compounds the challenges faced by juvenile offenders in Nepal. Limited access to counseling, mentoring, vocational training, housing assistance, and employment programs undermines their ability to transition successfully from the correctional facility back into the community.

4.4.9 Inadequate Aftercare Services

Many juvenile correctional facilities in Nepal lack any form of aftercare programs to support juvenile offenders as they transition back into their communities after release. Without proper support and guidance during this critical period, juvenile offenders struggle to adjust to life outside the correctional facility and face challenges in accessing essential services and resources. The lack of any support from the government after their release from the correction home impacts them for the future.

4.4.10 Lack of Community-Based Alternatives

While reintegration planning is part of the rehabilitation process, there are significant challenges in effectively preparing juveniles for their return to society. These challenges can include a lack of community support, stigma associated with being a former inmate, and difficulties in securing employment or continuing education. Effective reintegration is crucial for reducing recidivism, yet many juveniles face obstacles that hinder their successful return to the community.

Juvenile justice systems in Nepal often rely heavily on incarceration as the primary response to juvenile delinquency. This approach may not be the most effective or appropriate response for all young offenders, particularly those whose offenses are non-violent or low-level. Overreliance on incarceration can exacerbate issues such as overcrowding in correctional facilities, increase the risk of reoffending, and hinder efforts to address the underlying causes of delinquent behavior. Despite growing recognition of the importance of community-based alternatives to incarceration, such as diversion programs, restorative justice initiatives, and community service opportunities, these alternatives are often underdeveloped or lacking in Nepal. Limited availability of community-based programs and services means that young

offenders may have few alternatives to incarceration, particularly in rural or underserved areas.

4.5 Effectiveness of the Rehabilitation Correction Program of Nepal

The juvenile justice system in Nepal, especially in the context of juvenile correction homes, reflects a commitment to international and national legal standards aimed at the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders. Nepal's early adoption of the United Nations CRC and the subsequent implementation of the Children's Act in 1992 underline the country's dedication to upholding the rights of children within the legal system, with a focus on rehabilitation over punishment. This is further supported by adherence to international frameworks such as the Beijing Rules, the Riyadh Guidelines, and the Havana Rules, which collectively emphasize a rehabilitative approach, prioritizing education, psychological care, and social reintegration.

However, despite these robust legal frameworks, the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal in achieving successful rehabilitation and reintegration is hindered by several practical challenges. These include severe overcrowding, as seen with facilities operating well beyond their capacity, which not only complicates the provision of individual care but also exacerbates health and safety risks. Additionally, there is a significant lack of mental health support, with facilities often having insufficient psychological consultants to meet the needs of juveniles, many of whom require specialized care due to issues such as substance abuse.

The provision of educational and vocational training within these homes is a positive step towards equipping juveniles with skills necessary for societal reintegration. However, the impact of these programs is lessened by the overcrowded conditions and the limited scope of these training programs, which do not always match the needs or potentials of the juveniles. Moreover, the physical infrastructure of many correction homes, often repurposed from other uses and lacking in necessary facilities, further detracts from the overall rehabilitative environment.

Respondent 8 provided his experience during the Juvenile correction home. He stated that

Juvenile correction home provided me with the opportunity to gain skills and complete his secondary and higher secondary education.... I was involved and interacted with the Juvenile correction home officer which provided me with valuable

knowledge and skills which are essential for current endeavor. I took part in a training and based on which I am currently able to secure the job.

Ultimately, while Nepal's legal commitments provide a solid framework for juvenile justice, the actual conditions within juvenile correction homes suggest a gap between policy and practice. Addressing issues such as overcrowding, enhancing mental health services, expanding and tailoring educational and vocational programs, and improving facility infrastructures are critical steps needed to enhance the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. These improvements are essential not only for the welfare of the juveniles but for the broader goal of reducing recidivism and successfully reintegrating these individuals into society.

The reintegration of juveniles following their rehabilitation is a crucial aspect of the juvenile justice system. Delinquent youth are still members of society, albeit temporarily deviated, and thus should remain connected to it. It is imperative that they do not become isolated from society during their time in reform homes. Programs such as family meetings, family therapy, and community initiatives should be facilitated by the reform homes to foster a sense of belonging for the juveniles within society and vice versa. For the effective rehabilitation of the juvenile various measures are identified which are discussed.

4.5.1 Investment in Infrastructure and Resources

Adequate funding and resources are essential to improve the physical infrastructure and living conditions of juvenile correction homes in Nepal. This includes renovating existing facilities to meet safety and sanitation standards, expanding capacity to accommodate the growing population of juvenile offenders, and providing essential amenities such as clean water, nutritious food, and medical care. Additionally, investments should be made in educational materials, vocational training equipment, recreational facilities, and mental health services to support the holistic development and rehabilitation of young offenders.

4.5.2 Staff Training and Development

Staff members working in juvenile correction homes require specialized training and ongoing professional development to effectively support the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. Training programs should cover topics such as trauma-informed care, adolescent psychology, conflict resolution, cultural sensitivity, and effective communication skills. Furthermore,

opportunities for career advancement, mentorship, and peer support should be provided to enhance staff morale, retention, and job satisfaction.

4.5.3 Implementation of Evidence-Based Programs

Evidence-based rehabilitation programs have been shown to be effective in reducing recidivism and promoting positive outcomes for juvenile offenders. These programs should be tailored to address the specific needs and risk factors of each individual, incorporating elements such as cognitive-behavioral therapy, substance abuse treatment, academic support, life skills training, and family therapy. Regular evaluation and adaptation of programs based on research findings and best practices are essential to ensure their effectiveness and relevance.

4.5.4 Individualized Treatment Plans

Juvenile correction homes should develop individualized treatment plans for each juvenile offender based on comprehensive assessments of their strengths, needs, and risk factors. These plans should be multidisciplinary and collaborative, involving input from educators, counselors, social workers, mental health professionals, and family members. By addressing underlying issues such as family dysfunction, trauma, substance abuse, and educational deficits, individualized treatment plans can help juvenile offenders overcome barriers to success and achieve positive outcomes.

4.5.5 Promotion of Family and Community Involvement

Family and community involvement is crucial to the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders. Correctional facilities should actively engage families in the treatment process through regular communication, family counseling sessions, and parenting education programs. Additionally, community-based organizations, religious institutions, and volunteer groups can provide valuable support networks and opportunities for positive social connections outside of the correctional setting.

4.5.6 Expansion of Community-Based Alternatives

Community-based alternatives to incarceration offer more effective and humane responses to juvenile delinquency than traditional punitive measures. Diversion programs, restorative justice initiatives, and community service projects provide opportunities for juvenile

offenders to take responsibility for their actions, make amends to victims, and contribute positively to their communities. By diverting young offenders from the criminal justice system and addressing the root causes of their behavior, community-based alternatives can promote rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, and strengthen community safety.

4.5.7 Monitoring and Evaluation

Robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are essential to assess the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes and rehabilitation programs. Key performance indicators, such as recidivism rates, educational attainment, employment outcomes, and mental health indicators, should be regularly tracked and analyzed to identify areas for improvement and inform evidence-based decision-making. Additionally, feedback from stakeholders, including juvenile offenders, families, staff members, and community members, should be solicited and integrated into program planning and implementation processes.

4.5.8 Collaboration with Stakeholders

Collaboration and partnerships with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community leaders, and other stakeholders are critical to the success of juvenile correctional efforts. By working together, stakeholders can leverage their respective expertise, resources, and networks to address the complex needs of juvenile offenders comprehensively. Collaborative efforts should focus on coordination of services, sharing of best practices, advocacy for policy reforms, and development of innovative solutions to enhance the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes and promote positive outcomes for young offenders.

4.5.9 Legal and Policy Reforms

Legal and policy reforms are necessary to create an enabling environment for effective juvenile correction and rehabilitation in Nepal. This may involve amending legislation to prioritize rehabilitation and diversion over punishment, developing comprehensive juvenile justice policies and guidelines, and ensuring compliance with international standards and human rights principles. Additionally, reforms should aim to promote the use of evidence-based practices, strengthen protections for juvenile offenders, and address systemic issues such as overcrowding, discrimination, and disparities in access to justice.

4.5.10 Public Awareness and Education

Public awareness campaigns and educational initiatives play a vital role in challenging stigma, reducing discrimination, and promoting positive attitudes towards juvenile offenders. By raising awareness about the root causes of juvenile delinquency, highlighting success stories of rehabilitation and reintegration, and debunking myths and stereotypes, these efforts can help foster a more supportive and inclusive society. Moreover, education and advocacy efforts should emphasize the importance of investing in the rehabilitation and well-being of young offenders as a means of promoting public safety, social justice, and human rights.

4.5.11 Segregation of Substance Use Juvenile

Segregation of juveniles with substance abuse issues is crucial for providing targeted treatment and preventing negative influences on other inmates. This approach involves creating specialized sections within juvenile correction homes dedicated to substance abuse recovery, where affected juveniles can receive appropriate medical treatment, counseling, and rehabilitation programs tailored to their specific needs. This segregation not only aids in more effective rehabilitation but also protects other juveniles from potential substance abuse contagion and ensures a safer and more supportive environment for all.

4.5.12 Age Groups Wise and Crime Based Segregation

Implementing age and crime-based segregation within juvenile correction facilities can significantly improve rehabilitation efforts. This strategy involves grouping juveniles according to their age and the nature of their offenses, facilitating tailored educational and rehabilitation programs that are age-appropriate and sensitive to the severity of their crimes. Such segregation can help in creating a more structured and effective rehabilitative environment, reducing conflicts, and ensuring that younger or less severe offenders are not influenced by older or more hardened individuals.

4.5.13 Division of Role Under Single Ministry

Currently, the oversight and management of juvenile correction homes in Nepal are fragmented across multiple ministries and departments, leading to inefficiencies and a lack of coherent strategy. Consolidating these responsibilities under a single ministry can streamline operations, improve accountability, and enhance the quality of services provided. This

ministry would oversee all aspects of juvenile justice, from policy formulation and funding to implementation and monitoring, ensuring a unified approach to juvenile corrections across the country.

4.5.14 Development of Juvenile Correction Home Directives

The development of specific directives for the operation and management of juvenile correction homes is essential for standardizing practices across the nation. These directives should encompass detailed guidelines on the administration of facilities, staff training, inmate care, educational and vocational training programs, and health and psychological services. The directives should also include stringent compliance and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that all homes adhere to national and international standards.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Summary

The introductory chapter of the thesis sets the context for the juvenile justice system in Nepal, defining key concepts like 'juvenile delinquent' and outlining the evolution of juvenile justice both globally and within Nepal. It elaborates on the purpose of the study, presenting the problem statement and the research objectives which aim to assess the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes in addressing the needs of young offenders. This chapter underscores the importance of the study by linking it to broader social and legal concerns and sets out the research questions that guide the investigation.

In the literature review, the thesis examines various theoretical frameworks related to juvenile rehabilitation, with a specific focus on rehabilitative theory. It reviews both national and international studies to contextualize the challenges and practices within juvenile correction homes. This chapter critically identifies gaps in the existing literature, particularly in the application and success of rehabilitative methods in the Nepalese context, and suggests the need for localized research to fill these gaps.

This chapter details the methodology employed to explore the effectiveness of juvenile correction homes. It describes the descriptive and analytical research designs used, the areas studied, and the nature of both primary and secondary data sources. The methodology is designed to ensure a comprehensive analysis that supports the thesis's objectives, focusing on qualitative data gathered from multiple juvenile correction homes across Nepal.

The findings chapter is crucial as it presents detailed analysis based on the data collected. It highlights the current status of juvenile correction homes, revealing issues such as severe overcrowding, infrastructural deficits, and non-compliance with international standards. The chapter discusses the challenges faced by these institutions, including inadequate facilities, limited educational and vocational training, and insufficient mental health support. Recommendations are offered to improve the conditions and operations of juvenile correction homes, suggesting more robust infrastructure, better staff training, and implementation of evidence-based rehabilitative programs.

The thesis effectively highlights the deficiencies within the juvenile correction homes in Nepal, pointing out the urgent need for reforms. The findings indicate that while the intentions behind the juvenile correction system are aligned with rehabilitative principles, practical challenges severely limit their effectiveness. The study calls for a comprehensive approach to reform that includes improving physical infrastructures, enriching educational and vocational programs, enhancing access to mental health services, and ensuring that these homes operate under standards that respect the rights and needs of the juveniles. These improvements are crucial for transforming the juvenile correction system into a truly rehabilitative framework that supports the reintegration of young offenders into society.

5.2 Conclusions

The thesis on "Juvenile Correction Home in Nepal" provides a critical examination of the current state and effectiveness of juvenile correction facilities in Nepal. It highlights significant challenges such as overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, and limited educational and mental health services, which impede the rehabilitation and successful reintegration of young offenders into society. Despite these challenges, the thesis identifies potential avenues for improvement, advocating for a more rehabilitative approach aligned with international standards.

Conclusively, the findings underscore the necessity for systemic reforms across juvenile correction homes in Nepal. These reforms should focus on enhancing physical infrastructures, expanding educational and vocational training opportunities, improving access to mental health care, and ensuring compliance with national and international legal standards. By addressing these critical issues, Nepal can better fulfill the rehabilitative goals of its juvenile justice system, ultimately aiding in the social reintegration of juveniles and contributing to a safer, more just society.

This thesis not only sheds light on the pressing issues within the juvenile correction system but also serves as a call to action for policymakers, stakeholders, and the community at large to invest in and reform these crucial institutions. The successful implementation of its recommendations could lead to profound improvements in the lives of many young individuals and the overall health of the justice system in Nepal.

5.3 Implication

The implications of the study on "Juvenile Correction Home in Nepal" are significant for various stakeholders, including the government, juvenile correction homes, and future researchers. Here are the key implications outlined in points:

For the Government:

- The government should consider revising existing policies and legislation to ensure that juvenile correction homes are in compliance with international standards and best practices in juvenile justice.
- Allocate increased funding to improve the infrastructure of juvenile correction homes, including facilities for education, vocational training, and healthcare.
- Establish robust mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation to ensure that juvenile correction homes adhere to the laws and policies and are effectively implementing rehabilitation programs.
- Promote and support community-based alternatives to incarceration, such as diversion programs and restorative justice, to reduce reliance on institutionalization and support the reintegration of juveniles into society.

For Juvenile Correction Homes:

- Implement comprehensive training programs for staff, focusing on rehabilitative care, mental health support, and crisis management to improve the care and rehabilitation provided to juveniles.
- Develop and implement evidence-based rehabilitation programs tailored to the needs of juveniles, including educational programs, vocational training, and psychological counseling.
- Foster partnerships with educational institutions, healthcare providers, and community organizations to provide a holistic rehabilitation experience for juveniles.
- Upgrade facilities to provide a safe, healthy, and conducive environment for the physical and mental well-being of juveniles.

For Further Researchers:

- Conduct longitudinal studies to track the outcomes of juveniles post-release and assess the long-term effectiveness of rehabilitation programs implemented in juvenile correction homes.
- Perform comparative studies between different juvenile correction homes within Nepal or between Nepal and other countries to identify best practices and innovative approaches to juvenile rehabilitation.
- Evaluate the impact of specific interventions and reforms implemented in juvenile correction homes to determine their efficacy in improving the rehabilitation and reintegration of juveniles.
- Investigate specific challenges such as mental health issues, substance abuse, and the impact of social stigma on the rehabilitation process, providing deeper insights and targeted recommendations.

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APPENDIX I**List of Respondents**

Respondent Number	Position	Location
1	Administrative Officer	Morang
2	Administrative Officer	Birgunj
3	Administrative Officer	Makwanpur
4	Administrative Officer	Banke
5	Administrative Officer	Banke, Naubasta
6	Administrative Officer	Bhaktapur
7	Officer	Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen
8	Rehabilitated Person	Bhaktapur

APPENDIX II

Questionnaire Administrative Officer

Introduction:

- a. Can you provide an overview of the current state of juvenile correction homes in Nepal?
- b. What is the primary mission and objective of your juvenile correction home?

Challenges and Problems:

- a. What are the major challenges or problems faced by juvenile correction homes in Nepal?
- b. Are there specific issues that are unique to the Nepalese context in managing juvenile offenders?
- c. How do resource limitations impact the rehabilitation programs for juvenile offenders?

Rehabilitation Programs:

- a. Can you discuss the rehabilitation programs currently implemented in your correction home?
- b. What types of educational and vocational training opportunities are provided to juvenile offenders?
- c. How effective have these rehabilitation programs been in reintegrating juveniles into society?

Staffing and Training:

- a. What kind of training and qualifications do the staff at the juvenile correction home have?
- b. Are there any challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified staff?

Legal Framework:

- a. How does the legal framework in Nepal support or hinder the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders?
- b. Are there any proposed legislative changes that could enhance the juvenile justice system?

Collaboration and Community Engagement:

- a. How do you collaborate with other stakeholders, such as government agencies, NGOs, and community organizations?
- b. What role does community engagement play in the rehabilitation process of juvenile offenders?

Success Stories and Best Practices:

- a. Can you share some success stories of juveniles who have successfully reintegrated into society after completing their sentences?

b. Are there any best practices from your correction home that could be replicated in other facilities?

Preventive Measures:

a. What preventive measures are in place to address the root causes of juvenile delinquency in Nepal?

b. How can communities and families be involved in preventing juvenile offenses?

Technology and Innovation:

a. Are there any technological advancements or innovative approaches being utilized in your correction home for better outcomes?

b. How do you ensure that juvenile offenders have access to technology in a way that promotes their rehabilitation?

Future Prospects:

a. What are your expectations for the future of juvenile correction homes in Nepal?

b. How can the government and society contribute to improving the prospects of juvenile offenders?

APPENDIX III

Questionnaire for Juveniles

बालक/बालिकाको नाम:

उमेर:

प्रश्नहरू

१. तपाईं बाल सुधार गृहमा कहिले प्रवेश गर्नुभयो ?
२. तपाईं दैनिक रूपमा के कस्ता क्रियाकलापहरू गर्नुहुन्छ ?
३. के तपाईं विद्यालयमा पढ्नुहुन्छ, यदि हो भने कति कक्षामा पढ्नुहुन्छ र पढाई कस्तो छ ?
४. बाल सुधार गृह भित्र लाइब्रेरीको व्यवस्था छ ? यदि छ भने तपाईंले लाइब्रेरीमा पढ्न पाउनुभएको छ कि छैन एवं पुस्तकहरू पर्याप्त मात्रामा छन् कि छैनन् ?
५. तपाईंले बाल सुधार गृहमा रहेर केहि सिपहरू लिन पाउनुभएको छ यदि छ भने कस्तो खालको सिपहरू लिनभएको छ उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।
६. तपाईंले आफ्नो परिवारलाई भेटघाट गर्न पाउनु भएको छ कि छैन यदि छ भने कतिको अन्तरालमा भेटघाट गर्नुहुन्छ ?
७. तपाईंले सुधार गृहमा खेलकुदहरू खेल पाउनु भएको छ कि छैन यदि छ भने कस्तो खालको खेलकुदमा सहभागिता जनाउनु भएको छ ?
८. तपाईंले सुधार गृहमा अन्य क्रियाकलापहरू जस्तै योग, ध्यान, संगित, चित्रकला लगायतका गतिविधिहरूमा सहभागिता जनाउनु भएको छ कि छैन यदि छ भने के कस्ता क्रियाकलापहरूमा संलग्न हुनुभएको छ ?
९. केहि सुझावहरू.....

APPENDIX IV

Questionnaire for KII of Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen

1. What is the main role of Ministry of Children and Women on Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Correction home?
2. This ministry is looking after the Juvenile correction home, however there has been found some duplication in the case of who is currently looking at what? For example Home ministry is looking for the security and Ration of the juvenile, CDO is providing the necessary support?
3. We also found that there is a challenges in a clear defined law/SOP/act to govern Juvenile correction home, has there been any new steps taken by the ministry?
4. In the field visit of Juvenile correction home under both government and UCEP, we found the UCEP is managing the juvenile correction home in more easier and are having a positive output, what are the major challenges that the government is facing to manage the juvenile correction home?
5. In your view, what are the challenges that Ministry of Children and Women is facing to manage the Juvenile correction home?
6. What are the current program of Ministry of Children and Women are adopting to mitigate the current challenges?
7. Please provide your feedback on how could it be properly managed? (either making a new legislation, putting it under the Home Ministry or running all the Juvenile correction home under UCEP)