

**Role of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) in Peacebuilding in
Nepal**



A Dissertation

**Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of
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Doctor of Philosophy
In
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By

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

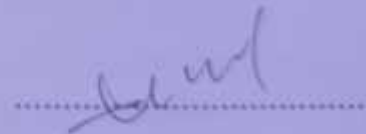
We certified that this dissertation entitled "Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal" was prepared by Mr. Surya Bahadur Adhikari under our guidance and supervision. We hereby, recommend this dissertation for final examination to the Research Committee of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in conflict, peace, and development studies.



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APPROVAL LETTER

This dissertation entitled "Role of United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) in Peacebuilding in Nepal" was submitted by Mr. Surya Bahadur Adhikari of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Conflict, Peace and Development Studies. I hereby, certify that the Research Committee of the Faculty has found this dissertation satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, it has been accepted for the degree.

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Date: 2081/10/03

Declaration

I hereby, declare that this dissertation entitled "Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal" submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Office of the Dean, Tribhuvan University has been completed as per the prescribed format of Tribhuvan University. This is my original work for the fulfillment of the requirement of the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) under the guidance and supervision of Associate Prof Dr. Tika Ram Gautam and Associate Prof Dr. Chiranjibi Acharya. The relevant and related resources and previous sources of ideas and information have been used which have been fully acknowledged and cited. No part of this dissertation can be presented or photocopied for the purpose of any other degree or award by any means. Opinions, views, and expressions in this dissertation are my personal perceptions and perspectives which are not official statements or indications of where I officially work. Thank You.



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ABSTRACT

This dissertation entitled *“Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal”* is an indispensable milestone in the literature on the role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal. UNMIN was a unique but locally led exemplary mission with a success story in a fast, focused, flexible, and fathomable fashion. Nepal had faced armed conflict for ten-plus years from 1996 to 2006 which made 17,886 people deceased, 8935 disabled, 1530 disappeared, and destroyed/damaged billions of rupees of private and public physical property. One informal and three formal negotiations were held between the CPN (Maoist) and the Government of Nepal at the national level but these negotiations were fragile, frail, and failed.

The 12 points agreement was signed on 22 Nov 2005 in New Delhi, India by the seven political alliances and CPN (Maoist); parties sent a joint request letter to seek UN support on 09 August 2006; conflicting parties signed CPA on 21 Nov 2006; and AMMAA on 08 December 2006 in witness UNSG personal envoy Mr. Ian Martin, whose office was established in Nepal according to the CPA spirit and joint letter of parties to seek UN support for the management of arms and armies including technical assistance to conduct the CA election.

The purpose of the UN as per its charter is to maintain international peace and security by bringing conflicting parties into a negotiated agreement either Chapter VI (six) consent, Chapter VII (seven) coercive action, or Chapter VIII (eight) regional arrangements. To apply this, the UN has diverse peace avenues and approaches, which are UN peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding. UN SCR adopted UNMIN as a political mission from 2007 to 2011 because UNMIN’s peacebuilding is the most appropriate and applicable approach to managing internal / intra-state conflict. The UN SG Kofi Annan, UNSG envoy Samuel Tamrat, and Lakhadar Brahimi visited Nepal before the CPA was signed to explore the root cause of the conflict. CPA and joint request letter to the UN were the mutual products of conflicting parties to re-establish peace in Nepal.

In response to the joint request of conflicting parties, the UN Security Council had unanimously approved UN SCR 1740/2007 to deploy UNMIN for an initial period of one year to implement key issues of CPA/AMMAA; to ceasefire monitor, management of arms/ armies; verification of combatants, demining works and support to conduct CA election in free, fair and fearless environment including protection of human rights. These mandates were deliberately

implemented by UNMIN, except integration and reintegration of combatants because this was the provision of the special committee under the interim constitution 2007AD. Due to the dissent role and request of the government, the principal portion of UNMIN exited in January 2011. But, UNMIN established a political Liaison Office (LO) to continue to monitoring the remaining tasks of the peace process. After the completion of national model of integration/reintegration as per interim constitution-2007, the promulgation of the new constitution in 2015, and successful periodic election for local, provincial, and federal in 2017 or implementation of the new constitution; the UN officially closed its LO in 2018, then, residual or rear components of UNMIN entirely exited from Nepal.

This dissertation has applied mixed methods in exploratory sequential in APA 7th format followed by the prescribed format of Tribhuvan University. The primary data were collected from surveys, interviews, and FGDs based on convenient sampling. The secondary data were amply collected from various sources. The simple SPSS analysis was conducted to calculate the mean value (2.69), median (2.63), mode (3), and standard deviation (.977) in order to analyze the UNMIN's performance.

The data shows standard deviation is less than the mean value or dispersion is clustered / grouped. After analyzing the content and statistical value of mean, median, and mode; this research found that 85% of respondents agreed or had positive confidence in the intermediary role of UNMIN's performance in managing a decade-long armed conflict and succeeded in sustaining peace and promoting prosperity through the international intermediary organization. However, few respondents argued that state actors/factors/agencies had also sympathetic/supportive roles in building peace e.g., seven political party policy for nonviolence; King's compromise; army leadership's flexible / tone down approach for combatant integration; civil society's pressure to prevent conflict; neighboring / friendly / UN veto power countries and bilateral/multilateral donor agencies' support should not be undermined. UNMIN's role in implementing UN SCR 1740/2007 mandate was stupendous action to build peace through consent, cooperation, collaboration, and corroboration to manage armed conflict in Nepal.

Nepal is now peaceful and its prosperity index is progressive. The researcher's assumption is reasonable, relevant, and rational because there is no significant difference between the researcher's assumption and role and the result after UNMIN performance in Nepal. Thus, the researcher proved that UNMIN had a principal role in resolving a decade-long armed conflict which eventually consolidated peace and created conducive condition/environment to mobilize funds, functions, and financial activities through developmental plans and projects. Peace is possible by peaceful means or pacific settlement of disputes through the consent of the conflicting parties. Prosperity is possible and progressive in peacetime. Public perception is positive or high if both peace and prosperity indicators are progressive during / after any kind of UN peace support operations like the role or performance of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviations	Meaning
AAA	After action achievement
AAR	After action review/after action report
AMMAA	Agreement on Monitoring of the Management of Arms and Armies
APF	Armed Police Force
A4P	Agenda for Peace
A4P+	Action for Peace and plus
ASCOPE	Area, Structure, Culture, Organization, People and Economy
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ASG	Assistant Secretary General
ATMA	Assessment Then Military Application
AU	African Union
BAC	Battle area clearance
BBB	Building Back Better / Basic Building Block
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BPOTC	Birendra Peacekeeping Operations Training Centre
BREXIT	Britain Exit
CAAFAG	Children associated with armed forces or armed groups
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CBU	Clusters Bomb Unit
CC	Civilian capabilities
CCD	Centre for Constitutional Dialogue
CDPA	Central Department of Public Administration
CIMIC	Civil military Cooperation
CIAA	Commission for the investigations of abuse and authority
CMLO	Civil Military Liaison Officer
CMS	Chief Mission Support
CMR	Civil military relations
COE	Contingent owned equipment

CONOPS	Concept of Operations
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CTG	Care Taker Government
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Disarmament
DIME	Diplomacy, Information, Military and Economics
DPET	Department of policy education and training
DMS	Director of Mission Support
DOS	Department of Support
DPA	Department of Political Affairs
DPI	Department of Public information
DPO	Department of Peace Operations
DPPA	Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
DPR	Department of public relation
DUF	Directive on use of force
EOD	Explosive Ordinance Disposal
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FC	Force Commander
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FTE	Field Training Event
GDP	Gross domestic product
HIPPO	High level independent panel on peace operations
HADR	Humanitarian assistance and disaster Response
HR	Human Rights
ICRC	International committee for Red Cross
IHL	International humanitarian Law
IEP	Institute for Economics and Peace
IFAD	International Fund for agricultural development
IGO	International government organizations
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International non-government organization

IOM	International organization for migration
ITS	Integrated training service
IMTC	Integrated Mission Training Service
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
JOC	Joint Operations Centre
JMCC	Joint monitoring coordination centre
JNAC	Joint Mission analysis cell
KII	Key Informants interview
LDC	Least development country
LPC	Local peace committee
LOAC	Law of armed conflict
MOFA	Ministry of foreign affairs
MONUSCO	UN Organization stabilization mission in the DR, Congo
MINUSCA	UN Multi-dimensional Mission in Centre African Republic
MINUSMA	United Nations Multi-dimensional mission in Mali
MOU	Memorandum of understanding
MO	Military observer
MSA	Mission subsistence allowance
MSC	Mission support centre
MSO	Military staff officer
NA	Nepali Army
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	Non-government organization
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NPTF	Nepal peace Trust fund
NPC	National planning commission
NTTP	Nepal transition to peace initiative
OHCHR	Office of High commissioner for Human Rights
OODA	Observe, orient, direct and act
OIOS	Office of internal oversight service
PBA	Peacebuilding architecture

PC	Police commissioner
PHADG	Peace, humanitarian assistance and democratic governance
PBC	Peace building commission
PBSO	Peace building support office
PBF	Peace building fund
PCRDR	post conflict reconstruction and development
POC	Protection of civilian
PP	peace prescription
PPI	positive peace index
PPP	peace, prosperity and perception / public private partnership
PBSP	peacebuilding for sustainable peace / prosperity
PMESSI	political, military, economy, social, and infrastructure
POC	protection of civilian
PRACTICE	Participation, rules of law, accountability, corruption control, transparency, inclusion, command, and ethics
PRIO	peace research institute, Oslo
PSO	peace support operations
PT	Physical terrain / Physical training
RP	returning point
RCPD	Regional centre for peace and disarmament
RCO	Resident coordinator
R2P	Responsibility to Protect
RNA	Royal Nepalese Army
RoE	Rules of engagement
RRR	Recruitment, retention and retirement
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SASS	Strategy and security skills
SG	Secretary General
SP	Starting point
SPA	Seven Parties Alliance
SRSR	Special representative of Secretary General

SSP	Self-sustaining peace
STE	Staff training event
SWOT	Strength, weakness, opportunity and threat
TP	Turning point
TRC	Truth and reconciliation commission
TTE	Tabletop Exercise
TWET	Tactical exercise without troops
UN	United Nations
UNAMI	United Nations assistance mission in Iraq
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDAF	United Nations Disaster Assistance Framework
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNAMID	United Nations Mission in Darfur
UNEF	United Nations Emergency Force
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim force in Lebanon
UN Habitat	United Nations for Human Settlement
UNISFA	United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei
UNICEF	United Nation Children's Emergency Fund
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UNMEM	United Nations Military experts in Mission
UNMIN	United Nations Mission in Nepal
UNMOGIP	United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
UNODA	United Nations office for disarmament Affairs
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
UNOE	United Nation Owned Equipment

UNOGIL	United Nations Observer Group in Lebanon
UNPFN	United Nations Peace fund for Nepal
UNSMIL	United Nations Support mission in Libya
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance mission in Somalia
UNV	United Nations Volunteer
UNYOM	United Nations observation Mission in Yemen
USPACOM	United States Pacific Command
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States agency for international development
USG	Under-secretary General
WBG	World Bank Group
WHATTIE	Water resource, Human resource, Agriculture, Tourism, Technology, Infrastructure and Environment
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WPS	Women, Peace and security
WVS	World value survey
WV	World Vision
WW	World War

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) was a special political mission to build peace in Nepal as a part of the United Nations (UN) political and peacebuilding approach to implement UN Security Council Resolution (SCR) or mission mandates. The principal purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security. Peace is the principal and perpetual passion for every human being which helps to promote prosperity. Peace and prosperity are emerging needs for all of us. However, this is tough to achieve due to the contemporary nature of dynamic conflict. Peace and prosperity are expected outcomes after UN peacekeeping or peacebuilding missions. Peace and prosperity are disrupted due to different dimensions of interstate or intrastate conflict in many conflict-torn countries for example Sudan, Somalia, and Rwanda. Nepal had also faced a decade-long intrastate armed conflict between government forces and the Maoist People's Liberation Army (PLA). People have often conceded that conflict is a continued phenomenon in the process of human civilization however conflict is to be managed or resolved by consent of parties or peaceful means of peace approaches (Pettigrew, 2013).

The UN has been deploying different kinds of peace operations in different locations based on need requirements through common country assessments or technical surveys to address/meet people's actual needs and manage different natures of conflict. The UN primarily provides three types of peace support operations (PSO). They are UN peacemaking, UN peacekeeping, and UN peacebuilding as per the UN charter. In addition, the UN team is present in more than 180 member states. The UN peacebuilding is a new idea but seems more pragmatic peace approach to prevent conflict and promote peace. UN peacebuilding missions are more in numbers than peacekeeping approaches in the present conflict context. UNMIN was deployed in Nepal which falls under the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) of the UN Secretariat. UNDP is based in the UN headquarter in New York, USA. The success of any UN peace operations is determined by Security Council Resolution (SCR) mandate implementation,

consent of conflicting parties, local ownership/support, and performance or outcome to prevent/contain/resolve conflict for the maintenance of peace and prosperity in the host country.

The UN peacebuilding is an emerging peace approach that prevents, contains, and controls conflict before, during, and after the conflict to build and promote peace and prosperity. Peace is a basic requirement for economic progress. Prosperity is not possible in less or least-developed economic progress in this globalized context. Peace and prosperity have a perpetual relationship however there is no single solution to promote peace and prosperity. Peace and prosperity are basic virtues of safety and security, democracy, liberty, justice, and equality. The majority of below-poverty lines and income inequality social stigmas can be early warning (EW) symptoms of conflict in a group or grid segment of society (Davis, 2006).

An absence of direct armed conflict or ceasefire agreement between parties is the starting point for promoting positive peace. Positive peace is the absence of structural violence and a prerequisite for prosperity. According to Galtung's (1960) viewpoint, peace is possible by peaceful means or consent. He further argues that peace is a state in which there is a stable safety and security situation or serene society; no ongoing conflict, no non-state armed group/s exist; and a high level of happiness/satisfaction prevails. Positive peace means not only the absence of violence, conflict, or war. A state's strong structural system, peace institutions, and infrastructures are pillars to sustain positive peace which can cope to the present or projected problem with resilience power, and peaceful means. The central idea of peace is to provide perfect security by coping with different natures of conflict to promote prosperity and development (Galtung, 1960).

Prosperity is affluent in principle and practical in terms of political, social, and economic well-being. Prosperity is a combination of personal income, hereditary income, and national income. So, prosperity is both an economic and social mixture. Prosperity is achieved after the reduction of poverty or penury through sustainable development. Peace and prosperity are perpetual plans, processes, procedures, and progress that provide integrated dividends to the people by reducing all forms of political, social, and economic poverty.

UNMIN peacebuilding performance makes or modifies public perception. Perception is a personal attitude, opinion, and behavior that are prepared in people's mindset after the

performance and outcomes of UNMIN peacebuilding work. Peace, prosperity, and perception are interlinked and expected results after UNMIN peace support operations. The progress in peace and prosperity is substantially supportive of preparing people's positive perceptions. The perception towards UNMIN is based on the peace support performance of UN peacebuilding activities and achievements. So peace, prosperity, and perception are parallel, interlinked, and associated outcomes of the UNMIN peacebuilding role in tumultuous situations. People's perception is positive in the presence of progressive outcomes in peace and prosperity levels (Fukumaya, 1995). According to the World Bank definition (2018), poverty is the economic status of people who are living on less than 1.25 dollars a day (World Bank, 2018). Likewise, trust is people's confidence and perception is an opinion and attitude of people towards UNMIN peace support activities. People's positive perception and trust in public, private, local, national, regional, international community, and international organizations is based on past and projected performance (Askvik et al., 2011).

To promote peace and prosperity, conflict is to be resolved by peaceful means however conflict is extant or emerges everywhere at any time in the world if it is not prevented carefully by the concerned parties and state authorities. Before conflict starts, the core cause of likely conflict has to be handled carefully by addressing its roots, reasons, and rationality. In the case of Nepal, conflict was originated by monarchy, poverty, underdevelopment, and weak governance (Muni, 2003). The conflict can be categorized into many but common causes of conflict can be dissatisfaction of state structure, lack of democracy, border dispute, economic inequality, poverty, ethnicity, injustice, social exclusion, and religious and resource-related conflict. Violence is not compulsory in conflict or social change. Non-violence civil resistance is the best way than the violent means of social change. Whatever the causes, conflict postpones patent progress of peace and prosperity.

According to Thomas and Kilmann (1974) conflict mode /management strategy or instrument is commonly known as the conflict cycle which is collaborating, competing, avoiding, accommodating, and compromising to resolve conflict. The compromising resolution in a win-win approach is a solid strategy of conflict management theory by mutual consent in the original agenda to sustain peace and security. Investing today in security, stability, and sustainability provides support to upgrade peace and prosperity for tomorrow. So, UNMIN's intrinsic

investment or approach is internationally accepted to resolve and manage conflict for the maintenance of global peace in the world (Thomas & Kilmann, 1974).

At first, the term UN was coined by former president of the United States of America (USA) Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was the 32nd president and presidential position for 12 years from 1933 to 1945 in the USA. UN officially came into existence after the UN charter was signed at the San Francisco conference by representatives of 50 countries on 26 June 1945. Poland was not present in the signing ceremony but later, Poland signed the charter before its proclamation. So, Poland is the 51st member state of the UN. These 51 members are known as founder member states of the UN (UN, 1987). The purpose of the UN as outlined in the charter is to maintain international peace and security; to develop friendly relations among nations; to cooperate internationally in solving international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems, and in promoting respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms; to be center for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends. The UN applies UN peacemaking, peacekeeping, or peacebuilding approach to achieve peace.

The term UN peacebuilding was first used by former 6th UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali in 1992 while addressing the Agenda for Peace in his speech. According to Kuhn (2012), the structure of the scientific revolution is socially accepted knowledge and practice due to the paradigm shift in different approaches in past peace practice (Kuhn, 1996). To meet the purpose of maintaining peace and promoting prosperity through the UN peacebuilding approach is a new paradigm in peace architecture and the approach of the UN system along with peacekeeping and peacemaking practice. The UN peacebuilding posture, presence, and performance are supportive of progressing peace and prosperity levels and also impact to shape positive perceptions of the UN. In Nepal too, UNMIN and UN agencies, funds, and programs (AFPs) had a key role in establishing a trusted and secure environment to establish peace and security. Peace and security always promote prosperity. The gradual progress or outcome in peace and prosperity level has supported the construction of positive national/local perceptions towards UNMIN in Nepal.

After Cold War, the number of intra-state conflicts increased which generally aspects or addressed by peacebuilding activities rather than peacemaking and peacekeeping. UN peacebuilding generally involves a long-term development process which can be before, during,

and after conflict to address the core causes of conflict and are aware to prevent the return or recurring of future conflict. According to the UN definition, UN peacebuilding is rather the continuum of strategy, processes, and activities aimed at sustaining peace over the long-term clear goals with focusing on reducing the likely chances of a relapsing conflict. This a border policy framework to strengthen and synergize peace by combining efforts of conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacebuilding, and peacekeeping to recover, reconstruct, and re-strengthen peace and prosperity (UN, 1987).

UNMIN peacebuilding is also the political process of developing self-supporting peace and security infrastructures and institutions to address conflict or war in Nepal. UN Peacebuilding can overlap with all spectrums of peace support activities to address root causes of conflict and other cross-cutting thematic issues of causes of conflict. The protection of own people and property always rests with the host government but sometimes a host country like Nepal is unable to do so. In such a situation, the UN provides peace support activities to maintain international peace and security as per the UN charter (Ruffini, 2017).

Peace is progressive or positive if the state can prevent or manage any nature of possible conflict. Possible conflict or ongoing conflict is likely a threat to peace. Conflict is disagreement or argument, clashes of ideas/interests, and incompatible goals and objectives between the parties. Conflict is broadly classified into two categories which are intra-state conflict and inter-state conflict. Conflict could be the product of the weak rule of law agencies in the 21st century (Coulon, 2018). So, chances and challenges of conflict exist everywhere at any time. Conflict resolution or management is inevitable to attain peace. Escalated conflict may demand civil-military relations and soldier's diplomacy in peace approaches (Williams, 1998). The soldiers support in building of civil-military relations (CMR) while working as peace workers in any conflicted member states of the UN which are also known as a substantive military power to manage conflict, especially through UN peacekeeping (Huntington, 1957) or the deployment of UN blue helmet/soldier is also known as face to face diplomacy for conflict management (Holmes, 2018).

Nepal is transforming from people's war towards positive peace; from autocracy to democracy; from exclusion to inclusive practice; and a unitary state system to a federal democratic

governance system. The Nepalese conflict management model seems domestically driven and supported by UNMIN, close neighbors, and other donor countries, at large (Einsiedel et al., 2012). From 1996-2006, Nepal's state structure system also faced armed conflict with the CPN Maoist which demanded round table conference, constituent assembly (CA) election, and restoration of full democracy which heralded intrastate armed conflict in Nepal. Nepal is a strong partner of the UN and its foreign policy and national interests are also guided by the UN Charter (Muni, 2016a).

According to the joint request of the Nepalese government and CPN Maoist, the meeting no. 5622 with 1740/2007 the UN Security Council Resolution was endorsed on January 23, 2007 to establish UNMIN mission as a political mission to implement key issues of a comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) and Agreement on monitoring and management of arms and armies (AMMAA) signed by government of Nepal and CPN Maoist to end 10 years armed conflict. The UNMIN peacebuilding architectures and activities have projects and programs on the ground to prevent future conflict and manage present conflict through coordination with UN AFPs to promote peace and prosperity (Zakrov & Hintjens, 2015).

The UN is the successor of the League of Nations (LoN) which was established after World War II in 1945 (Peter, 2019). The principal purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security; UN peace and security activities are commonly achieved through Chapter VI (six) or the consent of the parties. If parties do not have consent there can be coercive measures based on Chapter VII (seven). The UN charter has predicted regional arrangements based on chapter VIII (eight). Conflict prevention and peacemaking are done by contemporary diplomatic measures with aiming to bring hostile parties to a negotiated agreement (Pigman, 2012). Peace enforcement is done by using coercive action without the consent of the parties. UN Peacekeeping builds a barrier between warring parties which starts after a peace agreement to reinforce state security mechanisms to save and secure the environment. UNMIN Peacebuilding strengthened the capacity of state institutions, structures, and infrastructures in Nepal.

There were 59 UN peacekeeping operations in the past (Tardy & Ways, 2014). At present, there are 11 peacekeeping operations mainly in Asia and Africa with 4380 total fatalities as of 01 June 2024 according to the BPOTC information dashboard. Likewise, there were 39 UN

peacebuilding missions including UNMIN and 22 UN peacebuilding missions are on the ground at present. The UN peacebuilding mission is growing demand to manage conflict (Druckman & Deihl, 2013) because the UN is free, fair, and firm in its objectives to meet the challenges as per the purposes and principles of the UN charter (Findlay, 1995).

The Nepalese peace process was exemplary for the global community, which was able to manage conflict in a limited time. People's perceptions, opinions, and support are supreme in all democratic settings (Norris, 1999). Nepalese people's trust and perception of UN and UNMIN seem positive however trust is a term with many meanings (Williamson, 1993). Trust and perception are based on institutional performance rather than individual relations (Saunders & Lewiski, 2008, p.77). This dissertation finds out key UNMIN mandates, analyzes UNMIN's roles in building peace, and explores UNMIN peacebuilding results in connection to the promotion of peace, prosperity, and public perception in Nepal.

1.2 Conceptualizing Peace and Prosperity

Peace and prosperity are preferred desires for all of us. All 193 UN member states have agreed to meet the 2030 sustainable development goals which were already adopted by the United Nations for making peace and a prosperous planet. Nepal as a strong partner of the United Nations, Nepal has also adopted sustainable development goals to make the country more peaceful and prosperous based on democratic norms and values. Peace and prosperity is collective covet and desired aspirations from every corner of people. People deliberately dislike poverty however poverty is present everywhere. Poverty disturbs or destabilizes peace and security. People are also looking for such types of economic reform policy from the government so that they can standardize basic life support schemes like food, housing, clothing, and human rights as human dignity and development. Due to the intrastate conflict and another unprecedented pandemic, climate change and political instability have barred us from reaching the objectives. Nepal with the support of UNMIN has just managed the intra-state conflict and transformed this conflict into peace. Different sources have claimed different data however the Maoist and government armed conflict deceased 17,886 battle-related human hemorrhage/deaths including women and children in ten years of conflict (Fajardo, 2010).

There are many theories developed by different scholars regarding peace and prosperity. The most imminent scholar John Galtung has opined the widely accepted definition that peace is possible by peaceful means or peace pursues prosperity. Violence can be direct/personal and indirect/structural. He further explains that positive peace is the absence of indirect/structural violence and negative peace is the absence of direct/personal violence. Likewise, Simon Patten has proposed that prosperity theory pursues income status. So, merging peace and prosperity is meta-theory and can be assessed by the role of UNMIN including UN AFPs support in Nepal. According to the idea of Joshi and Wallensteen (2018) focus that quality peace can only be achieved by understanding and addressing the root causes of civil conflict; pragmatic practice of the peace process; and proactive implementation of UN purposes and principles through UN peacebuilding activities (Joshi & Wallensteen, 2018).

1.3 UN System and UNMIN Peacebuilding

The UN is the successor of the League of Nations. The ex. US President Woodro-Wilson proposed to establish the UN which could control and curtail all the potential threats and challenges perceived as a threat to humankind in the world. The UN was established after the Second World War on 24 October 1945 with the primary purpose of maintaining international peace and security. Every year, the 24 October is celebrated as UN Day (Trent & Schnur, 2018). The UN has its system or peace approaches to resolve disputes/conflict including a financing system for the maintenance of peace and security. The financing system for UN peace support operations is a collective responsibility of all UN member states. The UN has six principal organs. These organs are the General Assembly, Secretariat, Security Council, ECOSOC, Trusteeship Council, and International Court of Justice. According to Moore and Pubantz (2016), the primary responsibility of the UN is to maintain international peace and security; fraternize friendly relations among nations; and protect human rights; social and economic development, and disputes resolution by peaceful means. UN General Assembly has six committees; disarmament and International Security; Economic and Financial Commission; Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee; Special Political Decolonization Administrative and Budgetary Commission and Legal Committee to address the complex problems in the 21st century (Moore & Pubantz, 2016, pp. 36-77).

The UN Secretary-General is the office in charge of the UN Secretariat and is known as the chief administration officer (CAO) in the UN system. All the UN member states have one vote in the General Assembly election or have sovereign equality in the UN system. The UN encourages member states to settle their internal and external disputes by peaceful means without endangering peace, security, and justice. The UN charter provides authority to the UN for suspension or expulsion of member states for violation of the principles of the UN charter. But there have been no cases of such action since the establishment of the UN. The UN charter can also be amended by two-thirds of votes from UN member states in the GA including five permanent members. New member states of the UN can only be admitted after the GA approval after the recommendation of the Security Council.

The Security Council is the most powerful organ of the UN whose primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security. It has 15 members including five permanent veto members which are China, France, Russia, the UK, and the USA. Five permanent members have veto power. The ten non-permanent members are elected by GA and rotated every two-year term at the end of the term in September month. All member states are obligated to comply with SC decisions. This Security Council determines present and potential threats to the peace and security and/or an act of aggression and calls upon the conflicting parties to settle their dispute by peaceful means; impose economic sanctions, authorize the use of force, or recommend SC resolutions to restore international peace and security. The SC recommends GA for the appointment of SG including electing judges of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). The first SC resolution was S/RES/1/1946 for the establishing military staff committee (MSC) to plan UN military operations and assist in armament management, and the latest UN SC resolution is S/RES/2735/2024 about the Middle-East situation and Palestine problem as of 10 June 2024. In total, the UN had approved and adopted 2735 UN SCRs including S/RES/1740/2007 UNMIN mandates for the maintenance of peace in member states.

United Nations is conceptually established for collective international security to save the succeeding generation from the scourge of war/armed conflict (Wilson, 2014). The UN has the authority to deploy both DPPA and DPO missions to maintain international peace and security in conflict-torn countries based on the technical survey or exploratory survey report. DPO leads a peacekeeping mission and DPPA leads a political and peacebuilding mission. After the Cold War

or 1990, UN member states have been suffering from internal conflict and still struggling to seek peace and prosperity in the countries. UN charter authorizes to application of chapter six, chapter seven, and chapter eight. UN Chapter VI (six) refers to consent or peaceful settlement of disputes by peaceful means and UN Chapter VII (seven) is a coercive action if peace is threatened or breached by the acts of any aggression anywhere by any parties in the world. UN has also envisioned Chapter VIII (eight) to resolve conflict through regional arrangements. Regional arrangements are in practice in Africa with the support of the African Union for example UNAMID in Darfur, Sudan, and AMISOM in Somalia. A few regional organizations namely EU, AU, ASEAN, and SAARC have also been granted observer status in the UN General Assembly (Normand & Zaidi, 2008).

The DPPA is led by an under-secretary-general is architected by the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO). The PBC is composed of 31 member states which are selected from the General Assembly, the SC, and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) from the top financial contributions and top troops contributing countries. The PBC has partnerships with the World Bank (WB), AU, the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS), and other working partners. The General Assembly resolution A/RES/60/180 and the Security Council resolution S/RES/1645/2005 of 20 Dec 2015 mandated to PBC to bring all relevant actors to marshal resources and recommend post-conflict peacebuilding strategies and recovery; to focus on reconstruction and institutional capacity building efforts; to support integrated development works to lay paradigms of sustainable development; to recommend for the coordination with all relevant actors within and outside the UN for early recovery activities and long terms post conflict recovery works. Countries emerging from conflict are the basic criteria to be eligible to receive peacebuilding funds. PBF was established in 2005 and to date, more than 62 countries have received peacebuilding funds of nearly US\$1.47 billion from 2006 to 2020. In 2023 alone, the peacebuilding fund was \$202485203 for 36 countries which is smaller than the \$6.1billion peacekeeping budget for 11 peacekeeping missions in 2023. Nepal had received US \$1700 million PBF through UNMIN and UNAFPs for the reconstruction, rehabilitation, and reconciliation programs to consolidate peace in Nepal.

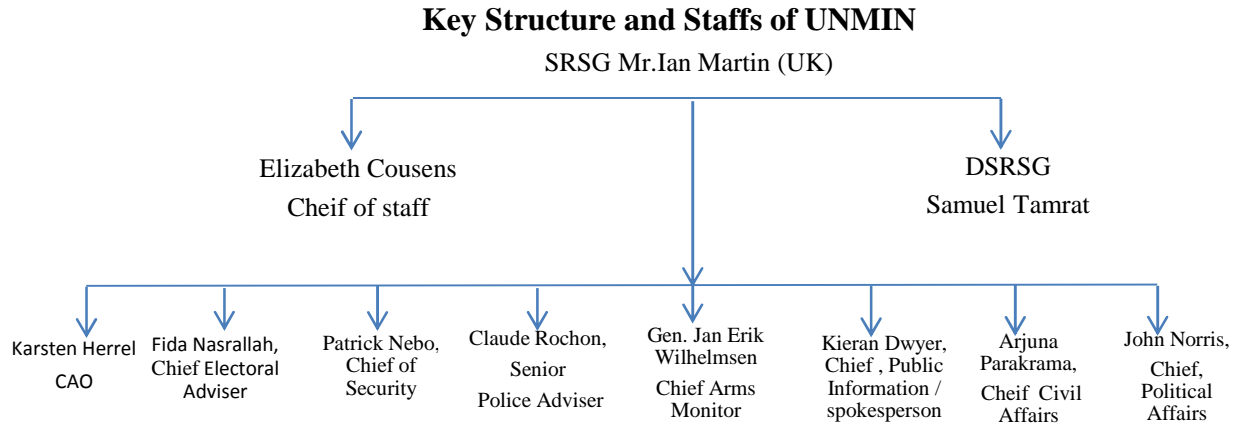
UNMIN peacebuilding is also peace architecture and activities of the UN system to maintain international peace and security in Nepal as the UN preamble urges its primary objective is to save

the succeeding generation from the scourge of war and conflict by maintaining international peace and security. The likely causes of conflict are often political, economic, social, and natural resources-related clashes and cleansing. Whatever the cause of conflict, there is no special or one-size-fits-all peace prescription to prevent conflict and maintain peace and security in conflict countries. It may vary from one state to another state based on the root causes of conflict.

The UNMIN peacebuilding efforts had collaborative support with the national government to empower democracy, good governance, sustainable development, human rights, and the rule of law by synergizing civil society, I/NGO community, and public-private- partnership model to build back better in post-conflict period. The UNMIN was in operation in Nepal from 2007 to 2011 aiming to build peace and prevent recurring and relapsing conflict in Nepal. According to the information dashboard of UNMIN to fulfill its mandate, The Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal, Ian Martin, is the head of UNMIN. Tamrat Samuel was the Deputy SRSG and Elizabeth Cousens was the Chief of Staff of UNMIN.

The senior management team of UNMIN includes General Jan Erik Wilhelmsen, Chief Arms monitor; Fida Nasrallah, chief electoral adviser; John Norris, chief of political affairs; Arjuna Parakrama, officer-in-charge of civil Affairs; Kieran Dwyer, chief of public information and outreach and spokesperson; Claude Rochon, senior UN police adviser; Patrick Nebo, chief of security; Karsten Herrel, chief administrative officer at UNMIN headquarter level. UNMIN's head office was located at Birendra International Convention Centre, Baneshwor, Kathmandu. UNMIN was also deployed at the regional level with appropriate structure/staff as well. UNMIN key structure and staffs were designed and developed to deliver the UN SCR mandate through observe, orient, direct and action approach to achieve mission mandates as below;

Figure 1.3



1.4 Statement of the Problem

Peace and security are global issues that have challenged the UN principles and purposes due to the dynamic nature of the conflict. Many UN member countries have been trying to resolve peace and security-related issues but hard to attain them. The major challenges of the UN is to manage global peace and security threats due to ongoing inter/intra state conflict, human rights violations, protection of civilians (POC), conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), women/youth, peace, and security (W/YPS), child protection, unprecedented pandemic disease, and climatic change and its causal effects in the social and natural environment. These accumulated causes have increased poverty and obstructed to promotion of prosperity. The UN is reformed and restructured to meet these challenges from time to time. The Brahimi Report 2000 and the high-level independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) recommended that properly resourced and equipped peace operators with clear, credible, and achievable mandates can only take preventive actions as robust peacekeeping forces with rapid deployment capability of troops/police and capable civilian components for the better peacekeeping. However, it is also insufficient to consolidate fragile peace and prosperity through robust peacekeeping and rapid deployment of peacekeepers. Post-conflict peacebuilding support is supplementary.

After 2005, the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) were established to support UN peacebuilding architecture

under the DPPA in UN system. The DPPA ensures peace and prevents conflict by bridging the gap before/during/after the conflict. The DPPA is led by the under-secretary-general (USG) and PBSO is headed by the assistant secretary general (ASG). PBSO is proactive in preventing likely conflict of the explosion of bombs and guns in the world by preventive diplomacy, mediation, negotiation, and other tools of preventing measures. Preventive diplomacy is the best available tool and applicable approach to prevent present and potential conflict under the framework of the UN peacebuilding system.

African and Middle Eastern UN member states have been facing different nodal and modal of conflict and striving for their synthesized synergy for sustainable and substantive peace, security, and prosperity. Nepal was also a conflict-ridden country in the past. The UN has the power of peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding (Howard, 2019). The UN peacekeeping mission demands diplomats, international civilian staff, and uniformed soldiers (military and police) due to its integrated structures. Soldiers are expensive resources due to the high cost of military armament and equipment. Such military equipment and military personnel have to be reimbursed by the UN as per the contingent owned equipment (COE) manual, contractual agreement in the memorandum of understanding (MOU), and standard rate of dry or wet lease reimbursement system to troops contributing countries (TCCs).

UN peacekeeping becomes expensive to the world community because the UN shares its cost with member states based on its regular budget estimation/expenditure. However, the selfless sacrifice and service of the soldiers are never undermined to maintain peace and security. The UN represents collective commitment through different peace support activities in pre/post-conflict environments. The level of economic progress, prosperity, and citizen satisfaction depends on the peace and security status of the country (Beswick & Jackson, 2015). People's perception and trust are the bedrock for UN peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding operations. This bedrock of trust perception is based on the performance and attributes of UN works (Greiling, 2007).

The postponement in the progress of peace and prosperity is common in civil conflict or conflict-torn countries. Different scholars have opined the definition of peace differently but its theme is almost similar. We should do a diagnosis/ analysis and prognosis/ prediction of the conflicting

situation to bring peace by peaceful means. Peace drivers are everyone, no matter where they live and what business they do in any corner of the world. But in practice, peace is not present everywhere and with everybody. Peace is facing problems from the same people who are always seeking permanent peace due to the cause of direct violence or indirect violence of the socio-structural system, injustice, and religion-caste-color and culturally based differences amongst the people. The lack of due respect for human rights and international humanitarian law has further deteriorated the justice system which weakens pillars of peace and prosperity. Women and youth empowerment is another problem that creates a gap in society so the participation of youth and women in decision-making processes and procedures is to be practical in principles and praxis.

Based on the UN charter, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) also reaffirms its faith in the purposes and principles of the charter of the UN and its desire to live in peace with all peoples and all governments. They seek to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area. They are resolved to unite their efforts for collective defense and the preservation of peace and security. Likewise, the primary objective of the EU is to promote peace and well-being of EU citizens. It further cares for the economic shares and economic shock, to work towards sustainable development and promoting quality and social justice. Peace, security, and justice can be achieved by peaceful means. The EU as a regional organization has global Regional Action for Security and Peace (GRASP) which is also monitors the peace and security situation in Europe.

The first and foremost purpose of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is to maintain and enhance peace, security, stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity, and social progress and further strengthen peace-oriented values in the region including others. According to the SAARC charter too, the member countries are desirous of promoting peace, stability, amity, and progress in the region through strict adherence to the principles of the UN charter and non-alignment particularly respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, national independence, non-use of the force and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and peaceful settlement of all disputes for the global stability.

Besides the UN and regional organizations, many UN member states have formulated their foreign policy to promote peace and security. The US foreign policy goal assumes to build and

sustain a more democratic, secure, and prosperous world for the benefit of the American people and the international community. So, their policy is proactive to promote peace, security, prosperity, and democracy in the world. Indian foreign policy also predicts to maintain international peace and security. Nepal's foreign policy has also enhanced the dignity of the nation by safeguarding sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence, and promoting economic well-being and prosperity Nepal. It also further aims to contribute to global peace, harmony, and security. Nepalese contribution to continuous peacekeeping operations is an example. The UN has a peaceful approach to economic sanctions and is controlled by the Belgian-based society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) code to bank transactions.

Nepal is a landlocked and least developed country with almost 29.1 million populations and lies between China and India. China is a veto power country in the UN and India is a growing economy in the world. Nepal wishes to graduate from less developing countries (LDC) to developing countries by 2022; a middle-income country by 2030 and a developed country by 2043. Permanent peace and prosperity are Nepalese people's wishes which are also written in the preamble of the new constitution-2015 and was promulgated in process of conflict management.

Conflict, violence, and war are mostly major hurdles for the actual advancement of peace and prosperity because of their destructive nature however many scholars argue that violence and conflict are necessary to change society. Due to the different opinions, thoughts, ideas, ideals, and perceptions about the social, political, and economic phenomena they might differ or develop distrust among a group of people. Then, peace is at risk in different parts of the UN member states where conflict arises or likely occurs due to incompatible interests between two or more groups. Security status was also unstable due to the complex causes, factors, and actors in the armed conflict period of Nepal which resulted in 42% poverty in 1995. Maoists had shown early signs of challenging previous political structures by waging armed conflict in February 1996 where they had mainly demanded a constituent assembly election to change the existing state structure system.

After signing the CPA in 2006, the Nepal government and Maoists sent a request letter to provide support to conduct the CA election and management of arms and armies of both sides.

To respond to the request of conflicting parties UN deployed UNMIN to respect the Nepalese people's desire for peace, prosperity, democracy, reconciliation, rehabilitation, and reintegration. The UNMIN had received mandates from six SC Resolutions S/RES/1740/2007, S/RES/1796/2007, S/RES/1825/2008, S/RES/1864/2009, S/RES/1879/2009 and S/RES/1909/2010 respectively. After the successful conduct of the constituent assembly election, confinement of Maoist combatants in cantonment, and registration and verification of combatants for reintegration and rehabilitation; UNMIN ceased its operations as per the government's request to exit and re/ integration as per the spirit of the interim constitution 2007 in Nepalese model. However, seventeen UN Agencies are resident and nine agencies are programming from a non-residential approach to provide peacebuilding support activities as a UN country team in Nepal.

There are 22 UN political and peacebuilding missions around the world at present. For example, the UN has been doing groundwork for a stable peace and political situation in Afghanistan since 2002. The UN special envoy in Myanmar is supporting to democratize the political process since 2018. The UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy has been supporting capacitating and confidence-building measures to prevent potential conflict in central Asia (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkestan, and Uzbekistan) since 2007. In Haiti, the UN peacebuilding mission is strengthening the government institutions; the UN verification mission in Colombia; and confidence-building measures in Cyprus. In the African continent, the UN political and peacebuilding missions have also been supporting conflict prevention in Great Lake Region since 2013; providing support for the political process in Libya since 2011; and promoting peace and reconciliation in Somalia since 2013. So, the UN DPPA or peacebuilding missions are diverse and generally long-term processes based on the requirements of conflict-torn countries.

In the Nepalese context, the UNMIN was a political mission however, its mandate was to verify combatants, monitor and manage arms and armies of conflicting parties, and support conducting free and fair CA elections including many cross-cutting roles for conflict management to build permanent peace and security in fast, focus and limited time through UNMIN peacebuilding approach. So, the research problem is to find UNSCR mandates of UNMIN, the key roles of UNMIN in building peace and explore peace / prosperity after the UNMIN demeanor in Nepal.

1.5 Research Questions

Research questions are a set of questionnaires that aim to seek systematically and scientifically analyzed answers to research problems. To explore and analyze the UNMIN peacebuilding roles in Nepal, the researcher's research questions are as follows;

- (a) What were the major mandates of UN SCR to UNMIN in Nepal?
- (b) What were the key roles of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal?
- (c) How did these roles of UNMIN contribute to build peace and prosperity in Nepal?

1.6 Research Objectives

The UN has multiple peace support operations (PSOs) and activities as a final resort to prevent or resolve conflict for the maintenance of international peace (Koop et al., 2015). The researcher's research objectives are as follows;

-) To examine major mandates of UNSCR to UNMIN while supporting conflicting parties and states in the context of Nepal.
-) To describe the key roles of UNMIN in building peace to resolve a decade-long armed conflict in the context of Nepal.
-) To explain the role of UNMIN in promoting peace, prosperity and perception position after UNMIN role in Nepal.

1.7 Significance and Scope of the Study

The role of UNMIN in peacebuilding is significant because of its peacebuilding activities, preventive diplomacy, political measures, and human rights-led approach with ample diplomatic postures/presence for conflict prevention/management in Nepal. The prevention of conflict is better than conflict resolution after conflict is broken (Welch, 2017). The UN has power and policy of preventive diplomacy through the Secretary General's special/personal envoy or political and peacebuilding mission. The maintenance of international peace and security through preventive diplomacy and UN peacebuilding techniques are the best tools available to manage/resolve intrastate conflict (Thakur, 2006). The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO from May 1948) and the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP from Jan 1949) are the oldest peacekeeping missions in the world.

These indicate that UN peacekeeping missions or milieu may go longer due to disagreements, incompatible goals and trust deficit of the parties (Luhmann, 1988). Public perception, national consent, and international concern are also demanding reality while managing conflict (Lewis & Weigert, 1985). Failed negotiation and mediation at the national level are also significant scopes in conflict management studies for lessons learned. So, this study has a unique scope due to the major political parties' alliance and national consent to contain or control conflict in Nepal.

This study provides new knowledge about the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal. It will give insight and knowledge of the major mandates of UNMIN from Security Council resolutions, and the role of UNMIN in building peace and ending 10 years of armed conflict in Nepal. This study will provide UN system knowledge for UN high-ranking officials, government officials, politicians, diplomats, and business entrepreneurs. Similarly, this study will be useful to the students/scholars, policymakers, planners, programmers, knowledge seekers/sharers, and future researchers of the peace/conflict management stream to understand how the UNMIN role was conducive and conclusive in the peace process of Nepal. Furthermore, it will identify critical challenges of UNMIN in peacebuilding works and suggest some recommendations for future UN peacebuilding activities. To conduct systematic and scientific research this dissertation is divided or organized into six major chapters as follows.

1.8 Organization of the Study

The organization of the study provides a chapter outline in a scientific research study which guides to understanding the sequence of the overall dissertation. Moreover, this is a roadmap of the dissertation which highlights how the researcher has developed chapters in research to reach the research objective to answer the research questions through scientific process and procedure. In this study, the research chapters are organized into six chapters; which are; chapter one introduction, chapter two literature review, chapter three research methodology, chapter four UNMIN mandates and peacebuilding in Nepal; chapter five role of UNMIN in building peace and prosperity in Nepal; and chapter six summary, conclusion and recommendation for future researcher.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

A literature review surveys synthesizes and summarizes the knowledge from prior research works to find the research gap. It further analyzes the gathered information to identify knowledge gaps in the existing body of knowledge. I read and reviewed all available books, journals, articles, UN information dashboard, UNMIN's reports, UN peacebuilding, UN peacekeeping works of literature, and case studies of conflict-torn countries. UNMIN was in operation with the spirit of fast and focused fashion to limit the impact of conflict through different forms and forum. After analyzing and reviewing all available literature from different sources, the researcher did not find the actual literature about the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal which successfully supported building peace by containing Maoist combatants in the cantonment, supporting to conducting the CA election, and including essential peacebuilding works.

Previous scholars did not sufficiently find/focus on the major mandates of UNMIN, the key roles of UNMIN in building peace, and the level of peace and prosperity matrix after UNMIN in Nepal. So, the major mandates of UNMIN from the Security Council resolution, the key role of UNMIN in peacebuilding, and the peace and prosperity index are still under-researched or partially missing. The researcher felt that this is a significant research gap regarding UNMIN's key peacebuilding role in building peace, prosperity, and perception. People's perception and trust towards any organization depends on the outcome of performance (Hardin, 2002). So, this research work would be a milestone in conflict, peace, and development studies which finds the fixed UN mandates of UNMIN; analyzes the real roles of UNMIN to build peace; and further explores the indicators of peace and prosperity. The researcher is confident that this has vital value and adds additional new knowledge to bridge the research gap of UNMIN in peacebuilding roles and results in Nepal.

2.2 UN Peacebuilding for Peace and Prosperity

The UN peacebuilding is one of the pragmatic peace architecture, approach, and activity along with peacemaking and peacekeeping in conflict and post-conflict environments. It is

supplementary support to the agenda for peace (A4P) to maintain peace, security, and ultimately prosperity. The insight and foresight of the UN peacebuilding is preventive diplomacy and conflict prevention to prevent present or potential conflict in a changing global context (Conning & Peter, 2019). Peace and prosperity are interlinked and interrelated expectations after UN peace support operations. These can only be achieved in the attainment of safety, security, democracy, justice, and economic growth. Sometimes, democratic peace is also a puzzle due to geopolitical geographical causes and causality (Rasler & Thompson, 2016). However, the basic infrastructures of peace and prosperity are defense, democracy, dialogue, diplomacy, and development. Peace and prosperity are the priority areas of every country. Nepal's foreign policy from expediency to pragmatism is spelled out in the present constitution of Nepal (Bhattarai, 2017). The preamble of the United States constitution also expresses about American end state that its perennial concern for peace, security, liberty, justice, protection, collective security, and promotion of people's welfare for prosperity. It symbolizes that security, justice, peace, and prosperity are also primary pillars of the United States of America (Singh, 2012). Interstate and intrastate or civil conflict creates a security conundrum in internal and international relations. UN provides planned support to manage inter/intra-state conflict. UN peace approaches in international relations have evolved to maintain international peace and security (Jackson & Sorensen, 2013).

Nepal was democratically in transitioned mode (Parajulee, 2000). The preamble of Nepal's Constitution 2015 has stressed assurance for sustainable peace, prosperity, democracy, development, and good governance to fulfill the people's aspirations through a federal democratic state structure. In addition, Nepal's constitution-2015 has envisioned 31 fundamental rights and 13 constitutional commissions which are watchdogs for protecting and promoting social-cultural solidarity, tolerance, harmony, human rights, and unity in diversity to ensure economic equality, prosperity, and social justice by eliminating inequality, exclusion, and discrimination to maintain quality peace (Shrestha, 2018). The interim Constitution 2007 had only five commissions Election Commission, the Public Service Commission, the Auditor General, the National Human Rights Commission, and the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (UNDP, 2009). Good governance, inclusion, participatory, and accountable institutions are fathomed to promote peace and prosperity (Cortright et al., 2017). Nepal's national interests are not only about safeguarding the sovereignty, territorial integrity,

independence, and nationality. Peace, security, prosperity, and economic well-being are also fundamental desires of the national interest which ensure to enhancement of the dignity of the foreign policy of Nepal (Muni, 2016b).

Peace and prosperity provision stabilizes safety and security service which promotes sustainable development. Sustainable development is possible through collective social/economic capital by investing in institutions and infrastructure development. Safety and security are possible through strong and inclusive security institutions. Peace and prosperity are not possible in the stage of incivility (Davis, 2006). UN has adopted sustainable development goals since 2015 which are designed by UN member states' substantive support to UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). These goals are also known as global goals and shared blueprints for peace and prosperity for the people on the planet and are intended to be achieved by 2030. It further prospects to end all forms of poverty; to protect the planet; and to ensure that all people would enjoy peace and prosperity. Peace, parity, and prosperity are primarily central challenges to attaining sustainable goals in stipulated time and space (Bhatia, 2016).

All UN member states have to be compliant with the UN agendas, actions, and activities by enduring collective efforts and endeavors to meet the prioritized SC resolutions. SDGs had set 17 interlinked global goals and 169 targets. Poverty purge is the first agenda to promote peace and prosperity. Peace, justice, and strong institutions are also one of the agenda for SDGs out of seventeen goals. Eradicating poverty (extreme/absolute) everywhere and building strong institutions for sustainable safety and security are proactive procedures and practical pathways for peace. The practical measurement of a country's poverty profile is informative to promote peace and prosperity (Chhetry, 2004).

The SDGs have five principal pillars which are people, planet, peace, prosperity, and partnership. It means that people can attain peace and prosperity through strong partnerships on the planet. Peace and prosperity reduce poverty and prevent risks of potential conflict. UN SDGs are contributing constructive roles to reduce poverty and hunger including social developmental goals (Khemka & Kumar, 2021). Equality is frequently seen as a myth due to disparity and division in development in rural and urban destiny. Disparity should be deconstructed or discontinued to make it parity and equality which may minimize the chances of conflict (Gautam, 2018).

According to the World Bank (2018), peace and prosperity include a high degree of happiness, inner tranquility, and economic well-being. Happiness gives satisfaction; inner tranquility gives mental peace; and economic well-being gives material peace. Peace and prosperity depend on sustainable economic development including good governance, democracy, and political stability. Conflict either interstate or intrastate effects directly disturbs, damages, and destroys the governance system. The government distributes resources for defense purposes rather than developmental activities during the conflict period. Security is at the top priority and first to peacebuilding (World Bank, 2018).

Johan Galtung (1996c), a renowned Norwegian sociologist and recognized as a father of peace study has opined that there are two types of peace. Negative peace is the absence of direct violence or fear of violence. Positive peace is the absence of structural violence which is the presence of the attitudes, institutions, and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies to promote people's wish to attain peace and prosperity. Structural violence occurs due to a lack of social justice, inequality, inclusion and institutions, and social exclusion. This is mute and invisible violence but kills the people slowly and silently. To attain positive peace, the root cause of conflict is to be permanently addressed. Positive peace strictly seeks coordinated support from conflicting parties to find sustainable solutions. Positive peace is articulated by attitudes, structures, and institutions (ASI). Peace is measured or assessed by peace indicators. Peace index is a measurement of effectiveness and resilience capability to absorb, adopt, and act to recover from social, political, economic, and pandemic shocks. The pillars of positive peace are good governance, equality, free flow of information, good relations with neighbours, human capital, tolerance, low corruption, and a sound business environment. The prescription of conflict can be recommended after diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment therapy. Peace is possible by peaceful means in developed and civilized cultures (Galtung, 1996c).

Nepalese people voted for permanent peace in the constituent assembly and its subsequent election to bring the conflicting parties into a peace settlement (Pokhrel & Rana, 2013). Negative peace is false peace and still fears group violence. The presence of UN peacekeepers means a state of negative peace. The uniformed peacekeepers are in the middle of the conflicting parties in conventional forms. Negative peace refers to direct or personal violence and kills people directly and visibly. Violence is action by use of force or power threatening to cause injury, or

physical damage like death, sexual assault, rape, and beating (Morrison, 1999). Peace agreements and UN peacekeeping forces are metaphors for negative peace which supports making more void/ absence of organized violence. Positive peace, peacebuilding, and entropy are interlinked with each other. Most of the conflict cases are occurred due to group/groups identifying another group's negative interaction or expectation or negative trust. Negative peace can be transformed into positive peace but needs careful and constructive handling by the parties (Galtung, 1996c).

Nepal had experienced both negative and positive peace. Negative peace occurred during conflict and positive peace was felt after the process of a comprehensive peace agreement or CPA. Peace and prosperity have a strong relationship and it has a close nexus with defense, democracy, justice, prosperity, poverty, and perception. Peace and prosperity are the primary parts and parcels of a happy, healthy, and wealthy society. Civil society groups have also roles in the conflict and peacebuilding process in Nepal (Dahal, 2006a).

The armed conflict situation was convulsory and mayhem in Nepal (Gautam, 2018). Conflict is catastrophic but constantly challenges to change the civilization. The armed conflict dynamics are not closely similar but it was crucial and critical in condition (Dahal, 2004). The initial point of conflict departure in Nepal started from forty points (40) demands. At that time, constitutional monarchy exercised autocracy and the poverty line was high. Nepal was ranked in the second poorest country in the world. Nepal's enduring poverty was due to conflict by non-poverty barriers of armed conflict (Shah, 2015b).

United People's Front later Maoists submitted their forty points (40) demand to Prime Minister (PM) Sher Bahadur Deuba on 4 Feb 1996. Maoists were further forced to fulfill their demand no later than 17 Feb 1996 with a warning if no positive indication was seen they would be forced to adopt the path of armed conflict against the state. Maoists started armed conflict four days earlier than the given deadline by attacking Rukum, Rolpa, and Sindhuli police posts on 13 February 1996 and continued till 21 Nov 2006. The conflict brought crisis, complexity, conundrum, and violence in Nepal. Conflict resolution is a proper pursuit of peace, parity, and prosperity (Bhatia, 2016). Rebuilding Nepal from the Maoist mayhem and mega earthquake in 2015 was challenging to build back a better Nepal (Gautam, 2015). The ten-year armed conflicts brought

numerous deaths, disappearances, displacements, and damages/destruction of public/private property and infrastructures (Bhandari, 2015).

Conflict is a disagreement between two or more parties. Conflict can be constructive and destructive. Conflict is caused by confluences which can be exclusion, injustice, inequality, discrimination, poverty, and human rights violations. In Maoist view, Maoist combatants fought for inequality which is the highway of prosperity (Serry, 2019). Contemporary conflict in the world can be caused by power, politics, identity, territory, ethnicity, resources, and religion-based clashes or crises (Ramsbolhm et al., 2011). To cope with conflict, the country has homeostasis and resilience power. Afghanistan had a politically power-based conflict and Africa had mainly ethnic or resource-based conflict. Israel and Palestine's problem is territorial conflict, and Rwanda's genocide is an example of ethnic conflict. Sri Lanka is an example of ethnic identity-based conflict. Nepal faced a restructuring of the state system conflict. So, conflict has different roots and dynamics in different countries (Orjuela, 2008).

Conflict mediation and negotiation are bargaining initiatives to bring bullets into the ballot box. In the case of Nepal's conflict, the Maoist party was unhappy with the feudal political structure, monarchy, inequality and injustice, discrimination, and poverty. To end monarchy and socio-economic change, Maoists claimed that they waged a people's war for democracy in Nepal (Khanal, 2001). Almost after 11 years of conflict, Nepalese armed conflict was twisted towards transformation after 12 12-point understanding and the comprehensive peace agreement between the government and Maoists. Maoist movement in different modus for negotiation phases symbolized their wish for peace (Thapa, 2003). Intermediaries are parties whose role is to conduct information exchange and problem-solving. Intermediaries may interact, induce, and identify choices, options, and opportunities for settlements (Bruce & Kriesberg, 2008).

National/international intermediaries tried to transform Nepalese armed conflict but they were unable. Intermediaries have the power to intervene in the conflict to influence or facilitate peaceful settlements but they do not take any side to the conflicting parties. Intermediaries can be judges, arbitrators, government officials, representatives of national/international government organizations (N/IGO), and even private citizens to transform conflict into positive peace in international conflict (Princeton, 1992).

Nepal government and Maoists had jointly requested the United Nations to provide support to implement key aspects of a comprehensive peace agreement especially monitoring, integration, and rehabilitation of Maoist combatants and the constitution-making process. UN OHCHR had already initiated a peacemaking/peacebuilding process through the human rights approach to manage/soften existing security challenges to preserve peace and security in Nepal (Bhattarai & Wagle, 2010).

2.2.1 Peace

Peace refers to a peaceful community, country, and the world. Every community and country has certitude on peace. Peace is an agreement to end violent conflict. Peace is consensus and trust between two or more parties however it becomes a complex phenomenon. Peace is nonviolence, the presence of equal justice, and the meaningful absence of conflict/war (Gandhi, 1950). Global people are associated with different religious theism like Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist in the world. Religious institutions can also be drivers for positive and permanent peace through customs, beliefs, values, and norms because religious practice pursues peace (Friedman, 2018). Global peace and prosperity can be achieved through a long-term vision, a peace plan, and a predictable process. There is a long journey to attain strong democracy, peace, and prosperity (Hutchcraft, 2018). Lessons from history, present challenges, and projected prospects of peace plans is a path for future prosperity (Verma, 2009).

Different avenues and approaches to the philosophical point of peace are developed to acquaint with its conceptual understanding and empirical analysis. Peace is troubled by different types of violence. Direct, structural, and cultural violence are primary in conflict practice (Galtung, 1990b). Peace is achievable through strong democracy, institutions, infrastructure, and gender equity. Peace can be categorized into many types. Different types of peace are advocated by various peace scholars namely positive peace, negative peace, liberal democratic peace, institutional peace, constitutional peace, capitalistic peace, and republican peace. Democratic peace is based on liberty; institutional peace depends on performance; constitutional peace ensures the rule of law; capitalistic peace rests on a free market economy; public peace is based on social harmony; and republic peace trusts on public property. Peace has several concepts of character-wise. A few names are quality peace, just peace, precarious peace, conditional peace, and victor peace; impose peace, hybrid peace, and cold peace (Sakwa, 2013). Emanuel Kant

expresses his view that democratic peace theory promotes nonviolence, progress, and prosperity, through security, development, and promotion of human rights. A political party's popular legacy depends on human rights, peace, and progress (Caranty, 2017).

According to the dictionary definition, peace is pax in Latin stem which means pact, promise, and agreement to end violence, conflict, or war. A peace pact or accord is a purposive and comprehensive agreement to end violence, conflict, and war to promote peace. Peace has multiple meanings and definitions. Peace has numerous domains mainly political, economic, and social spheres but other sub-domains can be considered about the condition of ongoing conflict, the status of safety and security situation, development, democracy, human rights, happiness, satisfaction, social inclusion, and gender parity. Peace is attainable through justice and good governance. Good governance can prevent conflict, through countering corruption, maintaining strong security institutions, accountability, rule of law, and democracy. Peace by peaceful means is a pacific strategy that quickly develops economic growth and prosperity (Galtung, 1996c).

Candy (2008) explains Gautam Buddha's perspective that peace is non-violence, happiness, and people's supreme welfare (Candy, 2008). Peace is essential indeed at home, in community, city, country, region, and world for entire men and women. Peace is always better than violence, conflict, and war. Peace is a highly preferable and desirable goal in the globe in the present context of the contemporary world however conflict is a continuum of human character. Many countries have formed peace societies like the New York Peace Society, London Peace Society, French Peace Society, and Nepal peacebuilding initiatives or country/community-based peace societies to advocate peace and partnership to prevent conflict and war from the lowest level possible at the local level / national level. Nepalese civil society advocated/assisted for democratic and sustainable peace for the protection of people's supremacy and sovereignty in transitional Nepal. Civil society can play a significant role in sustainable peace and security (Paneru, 2015). Nepalese civil society also played a pivotal role in participating in the 19-day people's mass movement to change the political structure for permanent peace and democracy in April 2006 (Basnet, 2022). Civil society in an uncivil society is ineffective. Civil society had also a supportive role as alternative peace policy advocacy to implement the peace agreements in Nepal (Shah, 2008a).

The world has celebrated every 21 September as International Peace Day since 1981 which is anomalously approved by the UN General Assembly resolution for the global people's dedication to world peace and wishes for the absence of conflict or war in the world. The Nobel Peace Prize is the most well-respected and prestigious award given by the Norwegian Nobel Committee in the name of Alfred Nobel, a Swedish industrialist for those who have done the best work for the contribution of global peace and security. The notable Nobel Peace Prize winners are five UN staff and seven UN entities for peace support contributions (Khatri, 2012). For example, UNHCR in 1954 and 1981; Dag Hammarskjold in 1961; UNICEF in 1965; ILO in 1969; UN peacekeeping force in 1988; United Nations and Kofi Annan in 2001; and the World Food Program won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020 what UN wants in future and beyond too (United Nations, 2020). These laureates of Nobel Peace Prizes showed evidence that former/present UN officials and UN AFPs are also key drivers in maintaining international peace and security in the world. The Nobel Peace Prize is an honor for peace work (Bobi, 2015).

According to Johan Galtung (1996c), founder and pioneer scholar of peace and research institute Oslo (PRIO) opined that causes of conflict can be cascaded and triangular link with opposite attitudes, behavior, and contradiction in their perception. Then, violence is subjected to direct violence, structural violence, and cultural violence. Direct violence is fatal and directly results in death, destruction, and damage; cultural violence is not easily visible. It excludes and discriminates the societal members from societal activities and oppresses people who revolt against the issues which leads to negative peace. Cultural violence attempts to legitimize violent acts and activities through deep-rooted structural form. Structural violence is a demand for the restructuring of state governance system which can be feudalistic to autocratic or feudalistic to democratic or vice versa in the state governing system. Structural violence can range from micro-meso-macro-mega level. Micro refers individual level; meso is the group level; macro is the community or government level; and mega is the regional and international level of violence (Galtung, 1996c).

As Johan Galtung categorized negative peace is direct violence. Positive peace is structural violence or the absence of direct violence. Culture of peace education is just peace and non-violence including to the children of the world. UN General Assembly A/53/243 on 13 September 1999 adopted a culture of peace resolution through peace education and nonviolence

in coherent concept (Galtung, 1983a). Its lead agency is the United Nations Education, science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It entails eight action areas which are education, equality, solidarity, sustainability, participation, respect for human rights, and maintenance of international peace and security (UN Capstone Doctrine, 2008).

A positive peace culture can raise their voice and choices by peaceful means. A negative peace environment may resort to violent conflict to fulfil their demands. Peace can be permanent if peace and security institutions, infrastructure, and instruments are copiously capacitated accordingly to cope with projected violence and conflict. Both interstate and intrastate conflicts weaken the rule of law structures/ infrastructures and peace and security institutions. Nepal was in turmoil towards strengthening democratic and inclusive political institutions and infrastructures for multicultural society during the armed conflict period (Lawoti, 2005).

Searching for peace and security is a crucial challenge in conflict-torn societies/ countries (Galtung & Jacobsen, 2000). Conflict and violence are never people's wishes. An agenda for peace is always pertinent to the planet (Ghali, 1995). Conflict seems unavoidable in the process of social/structural change but the attainment of peace is only possible by peaceful means and peacebuilding process of development and civilization (Galtung, 1996c). According to Thucydides' concept, conflict relies on reason and rational. Any community or country can have a conflict between emerging and emerging classes of society. Conflict comes from reason, cause, and social struggle between ruling and oppressing class (Lebow, 2020). Conflict can cause harm to cultural and societal structures. Peace and security can finally be maintained by UN peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding approaches in any conflict-torn country. UNMIN peacebuilding is the best approach to making sustainable safety and security in the post-conflict society to promote permanent peace and prosperity in Nepal (Thakur, 2006).

The democratic peace theory and sustainable peace theory have widely discoursed theories in peace and prosperity study. Democratic peace theory trusts that it reduces the risk of political violence because democracy is more peaceful and tolerable than other forms of political system. The conflict is the absence between two democratic nations. The two conceptual ideas about democratic peace are dyadic and monadic. The dyadic means democracies do not fight with other democracies and monadic means democracies are more peaceful comparatively than autocracy and feudality. The liberal democratic paradigm posits that peace is based on free

market policy. Peacebuilding constructs a political structure to transform conflict from violence to sustainable peace (Dayton & Kriesberg, 2009). Democracy has democratic culture, ethics, norms, values, principles, and perceptions which promote peaceful societies. Democratic peace theory postulates that democracy generally hesitates to fight with another democracy. Democracy properly and perpetually promotes peace and prosperity. Democracy itself prevents conflict because of its paradigm of nonviolence with another democracy (Rasler & Thompson, 2016).

Capitalist peace theory is critical peace theory but one of the Patten of various peace theories in international relations (IR). It advocates that open market or free market-oriented economy in which capitalist organization produces profit and reduce poverty. Nepal has to be proceeding from poverty to prosperity for economic progress (Jain, 1981). Poverty reduction promotes personal property and public prosperity. This prosperity pacifies internal and external safety and security situations (Schneider, 2022)

The peace evolution in international relations (IR) is puzzling (Goertz et al., 2016). In IR, peace is categorized into realist, idealist, structuralist, and post-structuralist theory. The realist theory is realistic; idealist theory is ideals, norms, and values, structuralist theory is Patten of social arrangement of state; and post-structuralist theory is the best practice of global socio-economic theory and structure how is possible to promote peace and prosperity (Griffiths, 1992). UNMIN peacebuilding as a conflict treatment tools are associated with conflict prevention, conflict management, and complementary and conflict transformation approaches for resolving Nepalese armed conflict.

The present UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres visited Nepal in 2023 and advised the Nepalese stakeholders to address the needs of victims; the Supreme Court's ruling; and meet international standards for the promise/provision of justice to sustain peace (Giri, 2023). Nepal is on the procedural path of conflict transformation and transitional justice phase from people's war to the peacebuilding process (Price & Titulaer, 2013). Transitional justice is addressed through Truth and Reconciliation Commission or Centre (TRC) by meeting the criterion of national, regional, and international humanitarian and human rights standards and practices. The fledged full-fledged participation of women in strengthening peace and security preserves peace and promotes prosperity (Kolas, 2017). So, justice is peace. According to Dennys (2014) military

perspective, peace means the absence of violent armed conflict. Military men and women participate in violent conflict to preserve, protect, and promote peace, security, and prosperity. In other words, military men/women are involved in war and conflict to maintain peace, security, and development as per the state's legal framework. Due to the internal insurgency, the Nepali army was also deployed to stabilize the security situation by following the doctrine of defense, diplomacy, and development in Nepal. Military intervention sometimes is imperative too if events/incidents threaten to peace and security (Dennys, 2014, pp. 84-100). According to the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS), UN peace activities/mission have security threats and challenges from armed conflict, terrorism, crime, civil unrest, and hazards or natural disasters while maintaining peace and security in conflict-torn countries. Military leadership is an essential skill and performance to deal with conflict complexity (D'Écor, 1980). Adhikari (2022) argued that military leadership is an integrated part of the peace process before or after the peace agreement. Military peacekeepers and peacebuilders prepare their personnel's brains, eyes, and ears (BEEs) to envisage, encourage, and enable pre-emptive conflict in the process of designing the concept of operations (CONOPS) to achieve UN mandate (Adhikari, 2022a).

Hazards are also horrible and unpredictable events that may jeopardize the peace and security situation. Safety is a protection against accidental events; security is a protection against intentional damages; threat is persons or things that cause harm; vulnerability is a weakness that makes more susceptible to harm; and risk is the likelihood and impact of a threat occurring as a result of vulnerabilities. To manage safety and security, UN member states may manage security forces including the army, navy, air force, coastguard, police, armed police, or security alliance with regional organizations or international organizations. The UN is an international organization for collective security as a last resort for maintaining international peace and security situation (Wilson, 2014).

Nepal has an army, police, armed police, and a national investigation department. The armed police force was established in 2001 for counter-insurgency operations through security sector reform, streamlining, and solidification (Dhungana, 2007). In common practice, the police and the armed police forces are dedicated to managing the rule of law, civil unrest, and crimes. Military and armed police forces are dedicated to border security, protection of VIP/ VVIP,

counter-terrorism, armed conflict, and external threats against the independence, sovereignty, and overall core/national interests of Nepal. The primary purpose of military force (army, navy, and air force) is to protect, promote, and preserve peace and security for prosperity. Unified Nepalese security forces had also met the Maoist challenges and many clashes openly faced while maintaining peace and security to stabilize the security situation in Nepal (Mehta, 2005).

According to the United Nations Human Settlement Program (UN-HABITAT), peace and security are all about education, arts, science, and culture. Peace is broader than an absence of conflict and war. It is living together with many societal differences while further bettering respect for justice, human rights, and peaceful coexistence. Peace is the revenue of life, the most precious possession of humanity, and more than the end of armed conflict. Peace is the deep-rooted commitment to the principle of liberty, justice, equality, and solidarity among all human beings. Peace is also a harmonious partnership for humankind, and establishing a culture of peace will prevent conflict in the future. Peace signifies to the ending of all hostilities. A permanent end of conflict/war is a prerequisite for perpetual peace, democracy, and prosperity (Kant, 2010).

According to the UN, peace means dignity and political-economic-social well-being. Peace is to be perpetual and permanent on the planet through the collaboration of people's efforts, political will, and partnership. UN objectives and proposes are to maintain international peace and security. The UN to the date can prevent third world war by keeping the balance of multi-polarized powers and uses of preventive diplomacy and the UN peacebuilding approach. The preamble of UN charter univocally stressed to promote peace and security for the development and prosperous planet. According to the UN charter; the purposes, principles, and pragmatic procedures are pre-existing practices of peace architecture. Peace can be achieved through three approaches which are UN peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding (Mingst et al., 2022).

After reviewing different definitions from diverse scholars, the researcher defines peace is justice and security. Peace is a stable political, economic, and security situation; satisfaction in public service delivery, democracy, happiness, justice, press freedom, inclusion, strong peace and security infrastructures/ institutions, absence of non-state armed groups, absence of ongoing conflict, and public accepted scientific structure of the state. Satisfaction in service delivery supports the promotion of peace and prosperity. The public has 70.1% satisfaction with public

service delivery in Nepal after the finding of data analysis of 12872 respondents in 43 districts (Pokharel, 2019). It indicates that service delivery is supporting to stabilize peace but peace is possible without violent conflict in any nature of conflict-torn countries. Peace can only be achieved through peaceful means. UN has UN peacekeeping, UN peacemaking, and UN peacebuilding support operations. These different peace approaches are applied to manage or mitigate the impact of conflict based on the dynamic nature of conflict which is briefly discussed in subsequent pages.

UN peacekeeping is a tool and technique designed by the UN Security Council to sustain international peace and security which supports to sustain peace after a ceasefire agreement in conflict or war where peacekeepers and blue helmets are deployed in the field. Peacekeeping is a soldier's diplomacy in another term (Coulon, 2016). In addition, it is face-to-face diplomacy by soldiers a blue helmets (Holmes, 2018). Peacekeeping host countries are normally failed, frail, or fragile. Fighting may have been temporarily halted or ended and a peace agreement is implemented by peacekeepers. Over the past years, peacekeeping evolved from a military model of observing cease-fires and, maintaining separation of forces after inter-state wars by incorporating an integrated model of many elements i.e. military, police, and civilian who all have been working together to assist in laying the paradigm stone for sustainable peace. Present-day peacekeepers are integrated due to the nature of multidimensional peace operations (UN Capstone Doctrine, 2008).

Peacekeepers are mixed of uniformed military, police, and civilian personnel. The UN has a collective responsibility to protect (R2P) for the promotion of peace and security. Conflicting countries can receive support to protect civilians and communities to move forward from conflict to peace. At present, more than 95% of peacekeeping missions have the protection of civilian (POC) mandate. Peacekeepers are provided by member states in dry and wet lease systems where the UN reimburses as per standardized contingent-owned equipment and memorandum of understanding (COE/MOU) rate of reimbursement. The fatality case of peacekeepers in UN peacekeeping operations since 1948 is 4380 personnel in 75 years of UN peace support operations as of 31 May 2024. It indicates that every year 60 peacekeepers have been sacrificing their lives for the noble cause of global peace and security on average. The statistics showed that

the maximum number of fatalities occurred in UNIFIL, MINUSMA, UNAMID, and MONUSCO (Coning & Peter, 2019).

Out of a total of 4380 deceased peacekeepers, 73 personnel were Nepalese peacekeepers who have sacrificed their lives for global peace and 68 personnel are disabled. Researcher, I have three years plus empirical peacekeeping experience in MINUSTAH, UNAMID, and MINUSCA which are also examples of internal/external conflict. As former Secretary General Kofi Annan said peacekeeping is not the soldiers' job but only soldiers can do the peacekeeping job. Peace is a requirement for all of us in twenty-first century (Annan, 2014). The military soldiers are a substantive source of democracy, peace and prosperity. They do service and sacrifice for the sublime cause of peace within the democratic framework of military organization (Adhikari, 2015). Global peace and prosperity is purposeful through civil-military relations to fit for future missions. The UN Secretary-General is also known as the chief administrative officer in the UN system. Soldiers and states are similar in the politics of civil-military relations (Huntington, 1957). According to the UN peacekeeping operations fact sheet as of 31 March 2024, the present peacekeeping personnel are 71417 where troops/military are 53549; police 6280; experts 1047; staff officers 1643; UN civil staff 7792 and UNV are 1106 staff. To date, the death tolls of peacekeepers is 4380, and the peacekeeping budget in 2024 is US 6.1 Billion dollars.

Jonsson and Hall (2005) express that UN peacemaking is a measure of euphemistic endeavours, efforts, actions, and attempts to bring hostile parties into a negotiated agreement as envisioned in UN Chapter VI the Pacific Settlements of disputes by peaceful means. The UN Peacemaking can be done through negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and conciliation. The level of negotiation is generally track-I diplomacy/government level but track II / citizens and multi-track diplomacy can also be applied for conflict resolution. Diplomacy is the idea of communicating, interacting, maintaining contact, and negotiating with groups, states, and other international actors to prevent or resolve conflict. This is the precise essence of diplomacy in conflict management (Jonsson & Hall, 2005, pp. 25-30). The UN Secretary-General by request of the Security Council or the General Assembly or SG's initiative can establish good office to facilitate the resolution of the conflict. Peacemakers may also be UN envoys, governments and groups of state, regional organizations, the UN, INGO/NGO, and any other prominent personality for aiding peace (Goodhand, 2006). In Nepal, former Secretary General Kofi Anan's envoy established a good

office in 2002 for groundwork purposes. It softened the political impasse through negotiation and mediation through an innovative approach. A total time of sixteen years was spent by the UN and UNMIN to build peace in Nepal (Brubaker & Upadhya, 2021).

Peace enforcement is the use of more military force than the normal peacekeeping force to bring peace in armed conflict through the use of coercive means where combatants from conflicting parties are not willing to compromise for a ceasefire. It requires the Security Council's authorization to apply a range of measures including the use of military force and economic sanctions to restore international peace and security. If peace is under threat; breach of the peace; or an act of aggression as per Chapter VII (seven) coercive actions are taken to maintain peace. The Security Council can also utilize regional organizations as peace enforcement actors as per the provisions of Charter VIII (eight) where deemed appropriate. An example of Chapter VIII mission are African Union United Nations Hybrid Operations in Darfur (UNAMID) which was in operation since July 2007 and closed in Dec 2020 (Mingst et al., 2022).

As per Galtung's (1969) perspective, the UN peace tool has a triangular shape which is UN peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding. UN peacebuilding has trilateral linkage and nexus with each other approaches (Galtung, 1969). UN peacebuilding is the mid-term to long-term process to re-establish, restructure, and rebuild the strong state structure and institutions to build back better peace and security to avoid a relapsing chance of conflict. UN peacebuilding also includes restructuring to the transformation of the old political, economic, and social systems and fully addressing the underlying root cause of conflict. UN peacebuilding bridges between divided societies for example peacebuilding in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (Kaufman et al., 2006).

In another term, UN peacebuilding is a measure aimed at reducing the risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict, by strengthening national capacities to manage conflict and laying the foundation stone for sustainable peace and security. UN Peacebuilding as a multidimensional process covers key security issues in post-conflict peacebuilding. Security dimension supports DDR for ex-combatants, mine action including management of arms and ammunitions. The political dimension includes political dialogue, activities and administrative authorities, structures, good governance, democracy, and human rights. The socio-economic dimension activities are repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons;

reconstruction of infrastructure and public service delivery points/ports; development of health and; public private partnership for trade and investment for economic development. Security governance for good governance is a priority in post-conflict UN peacebuilding (Bryden & Hanggi, 2005).

UN Conflict prevention is done by using preventive diplomacy, good offices, mediation, and providing technical support. UN uses these tools to bring peace by sending personal/special envoys; personal representatives and special advisors of SG and may be mandated for special political missions in the field by the Security Council. UN peacebuilding covered a wide range of activities aiming to support countries emerging from conflict and reducing the risk of recurring into conflict. The obstacles and obstructions are there but UN peacebuilding laid the paradigm for sustainable peace, security, and prosperity (Castillo, 2017).

As Schirch (2013) said UN peacebuilding like UNMIN peacebuilding approach contains a wide range of effective efforts by multiple actors i.e. national government, civil society, and community level, international community including the UN to address immediate impacts and root causes of conflict before, during and aftermath of conflict. Participatory UN peacebuilding planning and programs provide support for human security (Schirch, 2013, p.7). So, people feel free from fears, wants, wishes, and disgraces. Understanding conflict context cooperates to compromise conflict transformation (Uperti, 2009a). The UN peacebuilding architecture is comprised of a peace-building commission, peacebuilding fund, and peacebuilding support office. MacGinty (2017) gives; his insight knowledge that the UN peacebuilding support office provides strategic advice and policy guidance to the peacebuilding commission to manage peacebuilding funds. It serves as a focal point for coordinating UN agencies, funds, and programs in the field through peace efforts and endeavors. UN peacebuilding is a problem-solving tool and technique (MacGinty, 2017, pp. 9-36).

UN peacebuilding is a newly emerging practice in UN peace operations. UN Peacebuilding is a long-term UN process and activities generally operationalized before, during, and after the conflict which restructures or reinforces the state structure or infrastructures. UN peacebuilding is re-structural work to lay the foundation of infrastructure by addressing the root causes of conflict which solidify and strengthen national capacities and avoid relapsing into conflict. Scholars Galtung and Hoivik (1971) have stressed peacebuilding is for conflict prevention/

resolution/ transformation by analysing in-depth / insight causes of structural violence, power sharing, and peacebuilding pedagogies. UN peacebuilding is a multidimensional effort that addresses and accommodates cross-cutting thematic causes of conflict including underlying root reasons of conflict. UN peacebuilding can be a tailor-made style based on situational scenarios of conflict. It may include election support, human rights, good governance, SSR/DDR, child protection, and poverty reduction to solidify self-sustaining peace and security. So that conflict cannot be relapsed in the future and the country will have the resilience power to address such conflict (Galtung & Hoivik, 1971). Different regional organizations have their strategy for building peace and peacebuilding frameworks.

According to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization charter, peace and well-being are their people's priority. It was established on 4 Apr 1949 for collective defense to safeguard civilization, liberty, stability, and the rule of law. NATO has a role of collective defense which promotes peace in peace operations (Godwin, 1998). NATO has fixed and full faith in UN principles, purposes, and UN peace support operations to promote peace and security. NATO has 30 members from Europe and North America including three permanent members of the UN Security Council i.e. USA, UK, and France. All members of NATO have also similar speculations, perceptions, and perspectives for peace and prosperity through principles, pedagogies, and proactive processes either regional or UN peace support operations activities and approaches to maintain peace and security. Peace is the foundation for prosperity. Prosperity is impossible without economic development and growth (Johnston, 2017).

European Union (EU) is a regional organization established for economic cooperation in 1993. It has 27 member countries from Europe. The UK is the permanent five of the UN Security Council which had exited from the EU after the Brexit agreement in 2020 (Fabbrini, 2020). According to the charter of the EU, its purpose is to promote peace, protect values, and prosper the well-being of its European citizens. So, peace and well-being are the primary agenda of the EU charter. In addition, the EU has cross-cutting themes and values for peace and well-being which are democracy, equality, freedom, rule of law, human dignity, and human rights (Kube, 2019). Peace is prosperity through the economic lens (Lacono, 2011). Peace is always interlinked with plentiful cross-cutting issues. The EU received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012 for its contribution to promoting peace and democracy in Europe. EU charter and its peace

priority in principle and practice show the significance of peace and prosperity. EU as an intermediary organization in Europe and beyond had also a role in promoting peace and security by providing support to manage armed conflict in Nepal (Olsen, 2020).

European Union and military conflict management model is to define the conflict, evaluate the environment, and achieve success mandate (Rodt, 2014). The European Commission has had diplomatic relations with Nepal since 1975. EU had roles in strengthening democracy and development for lasting peace through UNMIN peacebuilding approaches in Nepal. They provide poverty reduction and education funds so that it can connect conflict countries with the international community through the strategy of the European Commission strategic framework 2007-2013. EU had provided a foreign aid package of EUR 70 million in 2002-2006 for Nepal. Amongst that money, EUR 56 million for poverty reduction, EUR 10 million for democracy, and EUR 4 million for integration into the international community. European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) had further financed EUR 5.1 million for 35 community awareness projects in conflict mitigation campaigns including human rights education through radio and TV programs. So, foreign financial funds were supplementary support to pursue sustainable steps towards peace and security like Nepal emerging from conflict (Hachhethu, 2009).

The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is another regional organization, founded on 08 Aug 1967 with 10 member countries which includes Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. According to the ASEAN charter, they are united by common desire and collective will to live in lasting peace. The ASEAN members are committed to adhering to the principles of democracy, the rule of law, good governance, and the protection of human rights to meet the purpose of peace, security, and stability, and strengthening peace-oriented ideals, initiatives, and interests in the region. In sum, ASEAN's motto is to prioritize peace at the start and prosperity at last their heart for regional safety, stability, and security. Regional sympathy and moral support were the strong sources of finalizing the peace process in Nepal (Mahbubni & Sng, 2020).

SAARC stands for South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation. It was established in 1985. The SAARC member countries are India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, and Afghanistan. Nepal's zone of peace proposal in world was also motivated theme

to promote peace as a member of SAARC (Khand, 1988). SAARC charter stresses that the member countries are desirous of promoting peace and stability in the region with strict adherence to the principles of the UN charter, coexistence, and peaceful settlement of disputes. The role of SAARC as regionalism eyes monitor the regional conflict and may advise policy and polity personnel which assisted in resolving identified conflict in the region as early as possible (Ahmed & Bhatnagar, 2008). SAARC's perspective towards peace is also in line with the UN charter to achieve peace by peaceful means. Peace is possible through regionalism and regional arrangement by stabilizing the safety and security situation in the region (Ahmed, 2013).

The Organization of African Union (AU) was founded in May 2001 in Addis Ababa and launched in 2002. AU has 55 member states from Africa and its headquarters is in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This union is determined to manage the multifaceted challenges in Africa, especially social, political, and economic problems. According to the AU charter, it has 33 articles. Article number three is about the objectives of the union. The main objectives of the AU are to achieve unity and solidarity; to defend sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence; to accelerate socio-political-economic integration; promote and defend common interest; to respect the UN charter and universal human rights; to promote peace, security, and stability; promote democracy and good governance; promote sustainable development; promote prosperity; and build a partnership with an international organization to promote health. Likewise article four talks about peaceful coexisting principles of AU (Badejo, 2008). These principles mainly explained sovereign equality among member states; establishment of a common defense policy for the African continent; peaceful resolution of conflict; peaceful co-existence and balanced economic development. AU has the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Fund, and the African Investment Bank. So, the holistic aim of the AU is to address security threats, peace promotion peace, and good governance for sustainable development in Africa (Makinda et al., 2014).

Peace is freedom from fear and violence. Peace is a cordial relationship between two or more conflicting parties. Peace is not individual property but peace is shared prosperity for all. The public administrative perspective is that peace is the most demanding wish of the public from birth to death or womb to tomb. Quality peace comes from corruption control and good governance in public administrative view. Good governance supports peace and social security (Samaddar, 2015). So, even after their death, family and their loved ones wish the deceased one

to rest in eternal peace (RIP). Peace is needed indeed after death too. Peace can be divided into many other forms individual and community peace; internal and external peace; inner and outer peace; stable and unstable peace; national-regional-international peace; negative, neutral, and positive peace; and material and mental peace. Peace has different perspectives and perceptions over different disciplinary theories. The UN peace principles and purposes are conflated with the democratic peace theory for the maintenance of international peace and security, peaceful coexistence; harmonized relations among nations, and respect for human rights. Human rights and humanitarian assistance are always central in conflict for the conversion of conflict into peace (Sangroula, 2005).

The purpose of peace is to strengthen safety, security, stability, sustainability, and prosperity. Peace has many props and pathways but peace is interdependent with many associated factors. The basic categories of peace are positive and negative peace; however, it has three perspectives i.e. situational peace is contextual; relational peace is social web; and ideational peace is social ideals. Positive peace is a global wish and want but tough to seal it. Peace is an inevitable benchmark to reduce poverty and promote prosperity, democracy, and sustainable development. Democracy supports sustainable peace and development (Hussain & Dubey, 2014).

Peace means the peaceful co-existence of all human beings with harmony and human rights. Peace and justice are interlinked and cannot be sustained without each other. Peace can be threatened by collective causes of conflicts and its effects can be seen in different forms of violence. Poverty, terrorism, climate change, crime, civil unrest, cyber-attacks, covid-19 pandemic, and unforeseen, unprecedented, and projected pandemic problems on the planet which possesses principal threats to peace and prosperity. Nepal has cultural similarities and people-to-people relationships with India since long ago (Shukla, 2006). For sustainable and permanent peace, Nepal has to maintain close and cordial relations with India (Rae, 2021). This may be support for the regional stability and security (Dwivedi, 2009). It is also necessary for the protection and promotion of the Nepalese national interest (Rana, 2013). Internal consent between parties and external relations with neighbors is also essential through diplomacy for peace, security, and prosperity (Kurbalija, 2006). Peace is not possible in conflict but possible in consent however there is no single solution/resolution to establish permanent peace and prosperity (Tolba, 2001).

As (Galtung, 1996c) has expressed in his academic experience positive peace is a kind of permanent peace where direct violence is absent. Positive peace refers to peaceful acts, kindness, or good verbal words that cultivate positive and peaceful communities by uniting body, mind, and soul (BMS). Positive peace should fill the gap of negative peace. The ultimate aim of positive peace is for peaceful co-existence and mutual respect to promote peace and prosperity. It involves peace education, nonviolence peace culture, and sustainable resolution for the dispute settlements. Positive peace pursues the existing laws, culture, norms, and values of the society to promote peace and harmony. This culture of peace education assures justice, good governance, and the rule of law by supporting different actions, activities, and aspects of society. Negative peace is direct violence and conflict that does not stand by strong structures and institutions to promote sustainable peace (Galtung, 1996c).

In sum, peace is a stable status of social safety and security situation in a country, region, and world. Nepal has a vision of 2030 for a peaceful and prosperous nation (Sharma et al., 2012). Peace has direct threats from war, violence, conflict, terrorism, civil unrest, crime, and non-state armed groups. The absence of democracy, poverty, injustice, inequality, exclusion pandemic, the humiliation of human rights, and natural hazards are indirect threats to peace and security. Managing both direct and indirect threats to peace demands nuance in understanding about causes of conflict and holistic solutions for making peaceful societies. Peace provides a safe, secure, and stable environment that ensures peace and prosperity through economic growth, international investment, and sustainable developmental projects and programs. Peace and prosperity prefer the presence of democratic peace, justice, human rights, harmony, solidarity, and security. Positive peace, prosperity, and stable politics stabilize/satisfy human society (Mueller, 2018).

The Institute of Economics and Peace suggests that there are multiple factors associated with peace and prosperity. So, peace depends on different pillars. These pillars are good governance; a sound business environment; equitable distribution of resources; acceptance of the rights of others; good relations with neighbours; free flow of information; the right level of education; and no corruption. Peace is preventive diplomacy, power sharing, and good governance which are instruments to manage conflict (Sriram, 2008).

As GPI stressed the principal domains of peace indicators are the level of safety and security of society, the extent of internal/external conflict, and armed groups. Besides, democracy is also a peace indicator to promote peace and prosperity (Helperin, 2005). Quality peace is to be a continuum but based on the situational, ideational, and relational between conflicting parties (Davenport, 2018). Most of the Nordic countries are more peaceful with which Iceland ranked first and Afghanistan is the least peaceful country followed by Yemen, Syria, and South Sudan in the world. According to the Global Peace Index Report 2023, Nepal's peace position is gradually promoted in the post-UNMIN peacebuilding context. The peace rank of Nepal was 107th in 2009; 113rd in 2011; 91st in 2013; 61st in 2015; 99th in 2017; 81st in 2019; 85th in 2021 and 79th in 2023 amongst the 163 countries in the world.

The researcher's operational definition of peace is that peace is a stable safety and security situation where there are not security threats and no presence of armed groups and armed conflict. Peace is the absence of armed groups, internal/external armed conflict, structural violence, and the presence of justice, human rights, the rule of law, and good governance at the local/national/regional/ international level. Peace is possible by peaceful means and/or consent from conflicting parties.

2.2.2 Prosperity

The Latin word prosperity means to succeed in the singular sense. In a general perspective, prosperity is economic well-being or economic success/strong strength. Economic prosperity standardizes living standards and livelihoods (Mishra, 2017). In boarder sense, prosperity covers many things. Prosperity is the power of holistic happiness and satisfaction in the political, economic, and social settings of a country. The paradigm principle of prosperity is to make a free trade/market approach (Lehmann, 2013). This is to be done without government intervention in a competitive and connectivity fashion in the international market to secure skills and education necessary for the provision of productive goods and services in low cost in a predictable policy framework (Taylor, 2013).

Prosperity means ending every kind of poverty, especially wealth, health, and education. Prosperity prevents conflict and preserves peace. Prosperity is unattainable without peace, democracy, stability, safety and security. The pyramid of prosperity has eight pillars which are energy, economy, integrity, system, sympathy, sincerity, self-reliance, and impartiality (Allen,

2017). Persson and Besley focus on three pillars of prosperity which are infrastructures and institutions; democratic governance; and low tax and high income (Persson & Besley, 2011).

Different scholars have defined prosperity in different descriptions however defining prosperity is duly difficult due to its vague conceptual content, contextual confusion, and conundrum in common construct for uniform understanding to the commoners. The pursuit of prosperity is given by a generous God due to his kindness and blessing (Cripe, 2011). War, peace, and prosperity are also noticed in the name of God in the world (Iyigun, 2015). A systematic and equal rule of law is a real path to peace and prosperity (Damor, 2018). It is to be redefined in a modern context and varied version of modern prosperity perception (Cassiers, 2015). Prosperity includes a wide range of activities, approaches, and achievements. Prosperity has voluminous theories that are collectively drawn to determine the closest definition of prosperity for shared understanding. Prosperity is a shared status of economic, social, political, and cultural well-being of Nepalese people. Adam Smith said that prosperity is the collective wealth of a nation but this seems a conventional characteristic. A long-term economic policy is considered as economic principle of prosperity. It has managed low taxes, no trade barriers, and an unbiased legal system. Today's investment is prosperity for tomorrow (Murphy et al., 2019).

The modern definition of prosperity emphasizes the holistic well-being of lives and livelihoods in the social, economic, political, and cultural clusters including many other crosscutting thematic issues. Three domains of prosperity are inclusive societies, open economics, and empowered people. Judicial well-being is also a referral for prosperity. Peace and prosperity is not possible in violence, conflict, and uncivil society (Davis, 2006).

KC & Bhattarai (2018) argue that Nepalese prosperity is possible through the pursuit of transit diplomacy. Nepal is at the transit point or can be an economic bridge between India and China. Nepal has a good option to apply an economic transit point policy through transit diplomacy to promote Nepalese prosperity because of its advantageous location between two Asian economic giants, India and china. So, this idea of the economic bridge for the context of Nepal is one of the propositions amongst many others to achieve prosperity in Nepal. Prosperity can be achieved through the different domains of diplomacy especially transit diplomacy in Nepal (K.C. & Bhattarai, 2018). Like transit diplomacy, tourism also earns foreign money which reduces poverty and assists in national development and prosperity (Holden, 2013).

Prosperity is a poverty-less society. To make incremental progress in prosperity, poverty is to be reduced or minimized. The dimensions of poverty cover income, health, education, and living standards. Income refers to personal and national income; health refers to nutrition and child mortality. Education includes years of schooling and school attendance. Living standard is related to cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, and assets. The poverty rate declined from 42% to 21% after the peace process if \$1.90 is the supposed baseline of poverty in Nepal. Poverty and the income gap are problems for peace and prosperity in Nepal (Kumar, 2019).

According to the World Bank (2018), poverty is a pronounced deprivation of well-being. Poverty is measured by comparing individual income and consumption with some defined threshold below which they are considered poor. The well-being is the capability to function well to run lives and livelihoods in a standardized living style. In society, people have to have excellent command over basic life support commodities and resources. Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon however is largely measured by monetary terms. Without the alleviation of different forms of poverty, there is no possibility for peace and prosperity (World Bank, 2018).

Prosperity does matter to individual social status, living standards, and lives and livelihoods. A higher income means a better quality of living and a lower income means a poor quality of living from a conventional economic viewpoint. The prosperity principle is sometimes paradoxical and is not pragmatic in terms of the collection of profound wealth which may not be the single symbol of prosperous status and satisfaction of the individual. Prosperity is a puzzling problem in principle and practice. It specifically promotes peace, security, and development. Prosperity is not possible without economic growth (Jackson, 2017).

The conventional development of prosperity did not care characteristics of the natural environment. So, the development is well-balanced with social, cultural, economic and especially environmental aspects. The environment-friendly development through the essential contribution of nature is sustainable development which is not only for the present generation but also for future generations. Today's prosperity foundation is envisioned for future generations for tomorrow and togetherness. There can be multiple variables and pillars to measure the prosperity level. It is hard to pin down however the satisfaction and happiness level in social, economic, political, cultural, and religious rights can be the broader baseline blocks for

measurement. Political stability and political economy are primary drivers for sustainable peace and prosperity (Mueller, 2018).

According to Patten's theory of prosperity, it consists of two major parts; the first one is individual income as determined by existing conditions. Personal income rests on pay and allowances, profits, interests, and rents. The second one is hereditary income by hereditary source. He further focused on how income is inevitable for prosperity determined by personal income and hereditary income. Personal income is regarded as an economic point of view and hereditary income is a sociological practice of another outlook. In sum, prosperity is determined by economic and sociological combinations by which individual income is determined. Horizontal inequality is the prosperity gap between individuals and households. Vertical inequality is the economic gap between different ethnic, linguistic, and religious groups of society. The economic power purchasing gap between citizens to citizens can cause conflict which damages existing peace and prosperity and extra effort needs to be made. Prosperity is the collective hereditary property and individual income (Patten, 2018).

According to the UN-HABITAT, prosperity is a social construct that materializes in the realm of human action. It deliberately and consciously builds on the condition prevailing in a city at any time and desires its size or location. Sustainable development goals (SDGs) are the global goals for sustainable towns and cities with broader consent action to end poverty, zero hunger, and inequality by ensuring that people can enjoy justice, peace, prosperity, political/human rights/humanitarian laws inclusively by 2030. UN has adopted 17 sustainable goals, 169 targets, and 231 indicators which can primarily protect the planet sustainably. The first sustainable development goal is to end poverty. Poverty reduction, conflict prevention, peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights are the basic doctrines of prosperity. So, prosperity is the ending of all forms of poverty on the planet. Prosperity is also an economic element of national power. Diplomacy, information, military, and economy (DIME) are the elements of national power that are essential to powerful and prosperous countries. Economic power brings peace post a conflict security system (Lornez, 1999).

Prosperity can only be achieved by ending all forms of poverty eradication, and alleviation of inequality, exclusion, discrimination, and deprivation. Identical issues like social, cultural, ethnic, linguistic, and religious conflict can create a problem in local/provincial/national level

peace and security situations. E-governance/ election/ human rights/governance without a government for a peaceful and egalitarian society is now a new modus for prosperity. The political leaders promise peace and prosperity through their election campaign, political commitment, and party's manifesto. People cast their vote for the parties based on public/personal perception towards permanent thought of political economy through economic prosperity paradoxes, patterns, and portals to ensure gaining permanent prosperity. Successful societies and a peaceful culture are to be the political economy of prosperity (Murphy, 2020).

An economic school of thought perceives that prosperity is per capita income and gross national income which determines the purchasing power parity of individual/country which can only determine individual and country prosperity. Prosperity is the amount of material wealth of an individual/country/region/globe and is normally measured in GDP/per capita income and by other indicators. According to Cassiers (2015) explanation and she emphasizes that man-made material wealth is not only prosperity. So, it should be redefined further in-depth and nuance. Prosperity is not the only presence of poverty. Prosperity is a trans-disciplinary subject that links with political, economic, social, and cultural compacts in conflict or compromise. Prosperity provides happiness and satisfaction on both the internal and external sides. Material peace or external peace is different than mental/internal peace. Prosperity requires perseverance and courage from the political leaders and concerned stakeholders. So, prosperity is to be redefined by merging multi-dimensional well-being in the principal phenomenon of socio-economic-political domains (Cassiers, 2015).

Asian Development Bank shares its standpoint that gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) is also an indispensable idea and initiative for the promotion of peace and prosperity. GESI also entails women's empowerment through the selected sectors in Nepal. It has helped the domain of prosperity by incorporating agriculture and natural resource management, rural development, transport, hygiene, water, and sanitation including a conflict-sensitive approach (Asian Development Bank, 2021).

According to the National Planning Commission (NPC) report of Nepal, It has planned/envisioned speedy economic development, good governance, and citizens' happiness/satisfaction to pave the country's path for more prosperous from the least developed country to a developing country in 2022; and to middle-income country in 2030 and prosperous

country in 2043 by long/medium/short term national plan. It has focused on a three-phase roadmap to achieve prosperity. A country can fail if political power is not primarily put into effect in a planned way to end poverty and promote people's prosperity (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012). The NPC of Nepal foresees three phases of prosperity and aims to achieve them by 2030 which are as follows;

The first stage is to create the foundation of prosperity and happiness to attain SDG strengthening to resilience of society in economic social and physical infrastructure. The second stage is speedily achieving the indicators of prosperity and happiness in a five-year plan after the fifteen plan or 10 10-year plan for high economic growth with aiming to middle-income country by 2030. The third stage is sustainability. Sustainability is managed by maintaining among the indicators of prosperity and happiness. Two five-year plans will be implementing the stage for social justice, double-digit economic growth, and a self-resilient economy, an independent and prosperous country. Nepal's long-term vision is a prosperous Nepal and happy Nepali which is written in a five-year plan for 2019-2024 (Human Development Report, 2020).

According to agricultural scholars, prosperity is a paradox for agricultural workers however agriculture is the main food source for everyone. The farm workers are always fragile and economically vulnerable in Nepal like in other countries (Marin, 2011). More than seventy percent of the Nepalese people depend on agriculture for their basic livelihoods however they are always economically weak. Farmer's heart is happy and peaceful if bed and butter are ready at the hearth to satisfy their hunger. To gain long-term economic prosperity, agricultural sectors should be modernized and apply the modern model of mass production of food items to be prosperous (World Bank Report, 2018a).

After the successful transformation of a decade-long armed conflict, Nepal has paved the path of peace and prosperity with the resilience power to forgive and forget the turmoil and trauma of history. Nepal has transferred from a feudalistic to a federal democratic governance system. Democracy is part of prosperity. Different social, political, and economic pundits opined that the federal governance system is the best democracy available for the decentralization of government power and authority for equal development in rural and urban cities. Strongly capacitated institutions and solid infrastructure investment can continue to advance toward peace and security in Nepal. However, it is still confusing to understand development and democracy

which is supposed to be first. Democracy, diplomacy, and development (D3) values are ideal paradigms for peace and prosperity (Lekvall, 2013).

For comprehensive understanding of the prosperity phenomenon requires theory; theory requires abstraction; and abstraction requires simplification and sequential order of reality. The key pioneer of paradigm shift theory, Kuhn (1996) stressed how science and development make the structure of scientific revolution which is pre-science, normal science, crisis, and revolution (Kuhn, 1996). The evolution and revolution of the peace and security approach are also changing paradigms. The prescience of peacemaking and peacekeeping are old apparatuses. Robust peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and protection of civilian approaches are emerging approaches for making lasting peace and promoting prosperity in modern and post-modern conflict dynamics (Annan, 2014).

The UN Peacebuilding is perpetually promoting peace and prosperity since its origin through conflict prevention and preventive diplomacy. Peace and prosperity have polymorphous powers and can be merged as a meta-theory. Meta theory is world common views about economic, social, and political phenomena in a mathematical manner. The paradigm assumption of peace promotes prosperity. Peace and prosperity are never possible without sustainable development. Peace is permanently possible if the state follows principal pathways for peace to the shifting of an inclusive and integrated approach by addressing the underlying root causes of conflict. The UN peacebuilding is an empirical notion in terms of a new concept which is a practical and permanent approach to achieving peace through conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, and post-conflict peacebuilding and reconciliation. UNMIN peacebuilding practical peace support structure as a scientific solution to shifting conflict into peace (Hung, 2017).

The proposition of peace and prosperity principally and practically is purposeful to meet the billions of people's wishes, , aspirations, and deepest desires in the planet. Poverty and inequality support and supplement civil unrest, crime, violence, potential conflict, and fragile states. So overall political, social, and economic development plays central roles in preventing conflict. All states have primary responsibility to prevent conflict but states may ask for other partner's support from the regional/international community. Foreign aid and support from partners help harness institutional instruments and infrastructure. Extra support is essential for fostering collaboration/corroboration in interstate / intrastate conflict prevention to promote peace and

prosperity. The UN Peacebuilding paradigm is impactful in implementing sustainable peace in diverse and divided societies (Galtung & Jacobsen, 2000).

UNESCO country strategy of Nepal (2018-2021), the UN entity UNESCO Kathmandu office which was established in 1988 believes that building peace is to be in the minds of men and women. Its areas of work are scientific education, science, culture, communication, and information. UNESCO is also an advocacy agency that peace education is for all and supports to provide scientific skills and knowledge to understand human terrain. With aims to build peace by promoting a sub-sector of prosperity in gender-based violence (GBV), and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) to empower women in Nepal (UNESCO report, 2018).

Rebuilding education for peace, development, and prosperity was helpful to understand differently the nature and criticality of conflict (Pherali, 2022). Investing in peace and prosperity means stable security and progressive development (Picciotto & Wearing, 2013). The Birendra Peace Operations Training Centre (BPOTC) is a peacekeeping training institution for uniform future military peacekeepers in Nepal. Tribhuvan University (TU) has the Department of Conflict, peace and Development Studies (CPDS) for public students/scholars for the academic purpose of enlightening the dynamics of conflict resolution, international relations, development, and human rights for perpetual peace and prosperity. Peace education if we start from school will contribute more peace for society. A peaceful society supports human rights, humanitarian law, hospitality,, and a harmonious spirit (Swain & Das, 2020). UN General Assembly had already approved to establishment United Nations University (UNU) in 1972, located in Japan with diplomatic status aiming to research to resolve global issues relating to human development. The UN has reformed its management process to address multiple problems in the 21st century through the multidimensional approach to peace research and education (Franda, 2006). Peace education is a principle to hate war, to love peace, and practical to prevent conflict (Galtung, 1983a).

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in 2000 adopted the Women, peace, and Security (WPS) agenda with the inclusion of women-related policies, protocols, practices, and participation in decision-making procedures related to peace and security (Shepherd, 2021a). Then, the subsequent Security Council resolution 2250 in 2015 anonymously adopted the youth, peace, and security agenda. The youth population is generally known under 24 years however, different

concepts and understandings exist in different countries. Nepal defines the age range of 16 to 40 years as youth. The meaningful participation of the youth population is heuristically maximized to manage conflict and promote peace and security. The youth, peace, security, and inclusion approach of the UN promotes peace, security, and prosperity (Berents, 2020).

Nepal ended a decade-long armed conflict on 21 November 2006 after signing a comprehensive peace agreement (CPA). Peace agreement envisions and ensures to promotion of human rights and the constitution (Bell, 2000). A new constitution was promulgated in 2015 after lots of discussion and decisions by members of CA. This new constitution replaced the interim constitution of 2007 which had replaced the 1990 constitutional monarchy and abolished the 240 years monarchical regime. Nepal was converted from a monarchy or feudal into a federal democratic republic. The political restructuring of the state has played a pivotal role in promoting peace, human security, and prosperity in Nepal (Bhattarai & Upreti, 2020).

The preamble of the new Constitution 2015 stresses that people's peace and prosperity have been placed as a top priority. Public participation in the decision-making process, people's positive perception, and partnership for peace and prosperity are the primary resources for economic development and good governance. Nepal has a three-tiered governance system i.e. federal, seven provincial, and 753 local level bodies including six(6) metropolitans, eleven(11) sub-metropolitans, two hundred seventy-six (276) municipalities, four hundred sixty(460) rural municipalities. Different commissions are made and addressed the marginalized issues like Dalit, Janajati, Muslim, women, and backward communities in the new constitution (Kharel, 2015).

Peace and prosperity are meaningfully imperative for sustainable development and peaceful societies. Equal and easy access to justice is a vital requirement to build effective and inclusive institutions in all forms. Good governance is fundamentally freedom from fear, conflict, and violence and avails of sound and strong institutions for peace by building effective and accountable institutions. Peace, prosperity, rule of law, safety, and security, both civil and political rights; international humanitarian and human rights laws and transparency are interlinked in democracy, development, and security. Democracy is a well-accepted ideal for the promotion of peace, prosperity, and sustainable development (Hussain & Dubey, 2014).

Prosperity is a combination of many actors, factors, and indicators. There is no single benchmark and indicators to identify the level of prosperity of any country. According to the London-based

Legatum Institute of Prosperity Index report (2021), there are at least 12 multiple indicators to measure prosperity. These 12 indicators are safety and security; personal freedom, good governance, social capital, investment environment, enterprise conditions, infrastructure and market access, economic quality, living conditions, health, education, and natural environment. Statistics show that after successful settlements of a decade-long armed conflict by substantive support of UNMIN and UN entities, Nepalese prosperity rank is positively promoted. Peace promotes development, security, and prosperity (Christopher, 1997).

According to the Global Prosperity Index Report, Nepal is ranked 110th position of prosperity out of 167 countries in the world in the year 2023 (Global Prosperity Index Report, 2023). Nepal has progressed in safety and security status, personal freedom, and good governance compared to conflict and post-conflict situations. There is still room to improve in sustainable development goals, agendas, tasks, and targets. Nepal's prosperity rank is ahead of Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan; and behind than Lanka and India in 2023. South Sudan is the least prosperous country in 2023 in the world. The prerequisite to attain prosperity is a proper path of peace, security, and development. According to the Legatum Prosperity 2023 index report, the prosperity rank was 128th in 2009; 131st in 2011; 122nd in 2013; 116th in 2015 and 2017; 114th in 2019 and 2021; and now 110th in 2023 amongst 167 countries. The prosperity rank of Nepal has gradually grown since 2009 after the UNMIN peacebuilding role for the management of armed conflict in Nepal.

The operational definition of prosperity is; that prosperity is based on personal/hereditary and national income. Personal prosperity level depends on the existing income condition and is supported by hereditary income. As Patten's prosperity theory; the researcher operationalizes both types of income (personal income/parental income and national income) including poverty reduction, happiness index, and corruption control, and excludes health, education, and HDI.

2.2.3 Perception

Perception is a positive outcome after the promotion of peace and prosperity through UNMIN peacebuilding performance. Public judgment, attitude, and opinion/evaluation is individual and institutional or UNMIN performance. Perception is a cognitive process to receive, organize, identify, and interpret information to understand philosophical perception (Fish, 2010).

According to the Oxford Dictionary definition, perception is derived from the Latin word, “perception” which means gathering or receiving information through sensory organs. In simple term terms, perception can be made from different sensory organs like seeing, smelling, sounding, tasting, touching, and visual perception (Bloomer, 1990). So, perception is the socio-cognitive process of perceiving individual and institutional attitudes, opinions and behavior, and present and past performance. Peace and prosperity perception depends on performance, well-being, and development free from illusion, ignorance, emotions, and certainty about institutional trust (Marozzi, 2014).

After the management of armed conflict with the support of UNMIN peacebuilding, the peace and prosperity in Nepal is slowly improving and the public perception towards UNMIN seems positive. Public perception is a psychological state of trust and confidence given people's personal opinions. It refers to confidence, honesty, and willingness which depend on individual and institutional performance to achieve intended goals/ objectives (Askvik et al., 2011). Perception marks institutional performance, well-being, and economic development. There are generalized and particularized types of perception. Generalized perception is based on performance and particularized perception is based on familial relations, ideas, and philosophy (Putnam, 1993).

Kramer & Cook (2004) suggest that there are three forms of trust which are namely calculus-based trust, relational trust, and institutional trust. Calculus-based trust intends to seek financial dividends through cost-benefit analysis; relational trust is the result of repeated meetings, interaction, and service exchange. An institutional trust refers to a national or international organization's competency, capacity, and confidentiality to provide public service delivery for clients, especially in risky situations or uncertain circumstances. People's trust in the UNMIN organization seems somewhat positive because of its effort to maintain peace and security (Kramer & Cook, 2004).

Public trust and perception is based on proficiency and performance (Askvik et al., 2011). Public perception in private, public, and international organizations rests on leadership, staff, clients, character, competence, and commitment in unquestioning confidence and comfort. Confidence and perception are familiar with upcoming problems and alternatives (Luhmann, 1988). Common public perception in UNMIN is not based on individual identity but it is based on

professional performance. Perception, trust, and confidence are relentlessly based on the mandate implementation performance of UN and UNMIN however the measuring yardstick for UN success and failure is hard and technical. But public perception and trust are typically true and transparent too (Ban, 2014).

There are different determinants of perception towards the phenomenon. People receive, recognize, and reconstruct their perception of UNMIN activities or operations. Perception shapes people's hearts and minds based on experience, earned trust, and present performance appraisal by their leadership and staff. Perception is not given. It is earned. Perception is the confidence and bedrock of national, regional, and international organizations. Information processing of perception links with performance (Lord & Maher, 2005).

All UN member states have signed the UN charter which shows the symbolic confidence and trust in the UN. Nepalese people's perception is perceived by the purposes, principles, peace pedagogies, practices, and performance of peacekeepers, peacebuilders, and peacemakers savvy skills. Foreign policy and national interest are formulated based on the UN charter in all member countries of the UN. UN established/opened the Food and Agriculture Association (FAO) office in 1951 in Nepal. FAO was the first UN entity in Nepal. More than dozens of UN agencies, funds, and programs partnering with the government of Nepal support to peace and sustainable development in Nepal (Aldrige, 2009).

Perception is innate rather than learned in representative and familial perspectives of observation which comes through solely from sensory knowledge (Jackson, 1977). The successful implementation of the UNMIN mandate has shaped positive attitudes, opinions, and perceptions of Nepalese people. Such skilful performance to disarm, demobilize, and containment of combatants in the cantonment supported to strengthening of peace, security, and development in a post-conflict environment. Perception is a particular prediction about likely public behaviour and performance. Occasionally, perception and misperception are mismatched or perception perhaps, is provisional or unable to predict the projected phenomenon (Jervis, 2017).

People's perception of UNMIN was initially blurred and controversial. Its work especially during the time of verification seemed prejudice or was in favour of the CPN (M) and the early departure of UNMIN without some unfinished works of re/integration and reconciliation. But in the latter phase, the successful verification of Maoist combatants and integration of ex-

combatants into the Nepal army and volunteer re-integration from combatants into civilians was a unique and local model in the history of the armed conflict. The unverified combatants are reintegrated into society due to their incompetency to meet the standard criteria set by UNMIN. This landmark success of UNMIN had a positive impact on public perception (Bhandari, 2015).

This performance publicly promoted a positive perception towards the UNMIN and UN entities in Nepal as if people's trust and perception depend on performance. UNMIN perception is based on UN success or outcomes for substantive and sustainable support to build peace. UNMIN's radio communication strategy was also a social cognitive process to provide updated peace progress to construct people's perceptions. Command, control, communication, and cyber (C4) are the critical factors for success in any UN peace support operations (Eurich, 2010).

Nepal has requested the UN and received UNMIN as special political mission support to end ten years of armed conflict. If nations fail, frail, or fragile to maintain peace and security that may threaten to regional and international peace and security. The UN has the responsibility to maintain international peace and security through Security Council resolutions. UNMIN had a special mandate according to the Security Council resolutions 1740/2007 to assist the Nepalese peace process which was a technical, tailored, and focused mission for a limited duration to transform conflict into sustainable peace in Nepal (Jha, 2012).

The critical tasks of UNMIN were the reintegration of Maoist combatants into society, the combatants into the Nepali army, and the successful conduction of a constituent assembly (CA) election in a free and fair manner to make a new constitution which would be supposed to supersede or replace the interim constitution 2007. The new constitution was able to abolish absolute monarchy to establish full democracy in Nepal. To do so, the 12-point understanding between seven political alliances and CPN Maoists was the cornerstone. The comprehensive peace agreement was the basic paradigm accord of the Nepalese peace process. UNMIN had successfully implemented the major tasks given by the comprehensive peace agreement which persistently made positive public perception towards UNMIN peacebuilding in Nepal (Pyakural et al., 2010).

People's perception towards UNMIN seems agreed /positive because of the successful transformation of a 10-year armed conflict into a peaceful environment. People had a fear of violence and conflict due to unintended death and battle-related deaths and casualties. According

to the estimated data, more than 17886 civilians were deceased and many more disappeared/were disabled due to the incompatible ideology and reluctance to support the armed groups (Uprteti, 2010c). The conflict had left many social and political wounds and wrongs. Transitional justice is important for those victims who are still looking for justice. Politics and justice may not match with each other while ensuring justice through justice agency. Justice demands procedural investigation and evidence and the justice provider or receiver then accepts final introspection based on evidence (Selim, 2016).

Violation of human rights refers to any act except serious human rights violations committed in contravention of Nepali laws, international human rights laws, and humanitarian laws. Serious violations of human rights are serious crimes which may include inhuman torture, genocides, war crimes, and extrajudicial killings during armed conflict. Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was established in 2071 BS to settle the remaining violations of human rights and serious violations of human rights including similar cases however it is still unresolved due to creating clear consent between political parties, especially conflicting parties, and victims. However, both warring parties agreed to fire ceasefire and came to the negotiation table with the UN mediation/support. The UNMIN achieved sustainable results because the Maoist party also agreed to compromise and join the political mainstream. Derailed peace and security were maintained. Development works were restarted and advanced. The justice process and procedure are made more systematic. Peace and security structures and infrastructures were re-established, repaired, reconstructed, and revitalized; the rule of law was re-established, the human rights commission was activated, and many additional commissions were established in Nepal. Women's participation was ensured in all areas of work in the social transformation phase in post-conflict. So, these crucial works helped the UNMIN to win public confidence (Yadav, 2016).

Perception is representative through realized information and recognized performance. The distinction between mediate and intermediate objects of visual perception is always a mental and representative theory of perception (Jackson, 1977). There are two theories of perception. The first one is bottom and the second one is top-down perception. The bottom-up is direct perception or the structuralized approach where information is pieced together until the bigger picture arrives. The prior assumption is verified through sense in bottom-up theory. Top-down

perception theory is conceptually-driven processing. Top-down perception is influenced by existing beliefs, experience, experimental evidence, and future expectations. The Nepalese people are the perceiver of peace and prosperity of UNMIN contribution. People's perception is to be assessed through top-down or bottom-up theory of perception. Perception is solidified through sensory proposed assumption in the process of prospect and retrospect procedure.

Gibson's (2013) direct perception theory focuses on people purely perceiving things through their senses or believing what they see with their eyes. Gregory's (2009) indirect perception theory of perception advocates that sensory information is not sufficient so knowledge, experience, past achievements, assumptions, and cognitive processes have to determine people's perception. Both theories can also be used through a mixed model approach to estimate the exact level of Nepalese people's perception of UNMIN performance. Nepalese people have a positive perception of the UNMIN peacebuilding support mission due to its unique success in a short and specified period for the complicated peace process in Nepal. Perception is based on past performance and future projections. Perception and performance are reciprocal (Gibson & Gregory, 2005).

The support performance of UNMIN peacebuilding is supported to promote and preserve peace, security, and prosperity. Many impactful and impressive lessons are learned from Nepal for conflict-torn countries. Perception is constructed after visible, reliable, and expected results of how UNMIN has performed peace support operations. Our common agenda is peace (United Nations, 2021) but others' agendas can be compromised in a modified manner and can be seated at the negotiation table for the final management of conflict. Conflict can also be addressed/achieved through effective peace education. Perception is also an indicator to promote peace and prosperity. It plays the right role in paving positive patterns of people's thoughts where UNMIN peacebuilding was present on the ground (Gordon, 2004). Performance can be managed through need assessment which supports building trust and confidence. UNMIN performance can construct, create, and convert negative perception into positive perception. So, organizational performance is paramount for public perception. People's perceptions of power, prosperity, and progress may have different views (Miebye, 2009).

A personal's position or identity is not the principal causality for the determination of perception (Greiling, 2007). Organizational perception is determined by organizational outcome or

performance (Saunders & Lewiski, 2010). The role of UNMIN peacebuilding in Nepal was unique and representative in the world due to its SCR mandate implementation within the short and stipulated period to contain the Maoist combatant / Nepal army which supported building of peace and prosperity in Nepal. People's public perception, trust, and trustworthiness towards individual/institution or UN organizations depend on their past, present, and projected professional performance in risky situations (Hardin, 2002). Public perception in public, political, and international organization is principally/practically based on individual or institutional / organizational performance (Gupta, 2021).

So, the researcher's operational definition of perception is; that perception is judged from top-down or bottom-up viewpoints which is always based on the past, present, and projected performance of individuals, institutions, or international organizations like UN and UNMIN.

2.3 UN Peace Pathways

The UN provides different paths of peace support activities to strengthen solidify and capacitate national institutions to empower peace and security. The UNMIN had central roles to prevent conflict through diplomatic action/ preventive diplomacy or intermediary role to build peace, security, and prosperity through peacebuilding architectures and activities in Nepal which resulted in the reintegration of Maoists into the military and the rehabilitation of combatants into society. Economic reintegration is part of DDR but it is cash-based program for combatant management for their livelihoods (Subedi, 2014). UN has multidimensional peace avenues and approaches which is basically UN peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding architectures.

2.3.1 UN Peacemaking

Peacemaking is a UN peace approach within the peace policy framework which pursues perpetual peace by bringing hostile parties to a negotiated agreement to settle their differences and adversaries by diplomatic means, methods, and modus (Kant, 2010). Peacemaking is the UN's diplomatic actions and efforts to end the conflict through mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and arbitration. Peacemaking enforces bringing conflicting parties into a negotiated agreement as envisioned in the UN Charter in Chapter VI or pacific settlements of disputes, chapter VII coercive action, and Chapter VIII regional arrangement through regional organizations (Wallenstein & Bjurner, 2014). Article 33 of the UN charter specifies that

mediation and negotiation are peaceful interventions to end violent conflict. Likewise, articles 41 and 42 of the UN charter authorize partial or complete sanction, blockade, and peace enforcement to restore peace and security. The different hurdles and obstacles are observed in different missions to obtain peace through peacemaking and peacekeeping. Rwanda's genocide in 1994 resulted in 800,000 Tutsi (15% minority) deaths due to Hutu's (85%) ethnic cleansing campaign to politically opponent people in 100 days. This has provided new opportunities to enhance/enrich peacekeeping capacity and protection of civilian mandate. It has further forced us to review the retrenched peace approaches; redefine roles and reaffirm the responsibilities of UN action for future peace operations (Otnnu & Doyle, 1996).

Peacemakers have been making peace through peaceful settlements of disputes since 1945 on the planet (Maill, 2020). The UN Peacemaking can be a coercive measure or use of force with Security Council resolution but without the consent of the conflicting parties and host country. The UN peacemaking and peacekeeping have challenges in understanding the geology, geography; dynamics of disputes, differences; and direct violence and knowing how to better prevent, manage, and resolve such complex conflicts The UN peacekeeping mission is a traditional military model evolving from intergroup or interstate conflict/war. But in this 21st century, the UN is more proactive than peacekeeping (Franda, 2016). The conventional peacekeeping framework is fractured due to the changed dynamics of conflict in volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous situations (Fushes et al., 2018). Many actors may be involved in conflict dynamics as proxy instruments in national and international relations. International actors, regional actors, national actors, public and private citizens, and individuals may also have conflicts of interest, initiative, and ownership for the continuation or containment of conflict. The UN peacemaking has to be fast, focused, flexible, and timely fashion in alignment with UN rules, roles, and regulations to provide real resolution of conflict (Zartman, 1997).

In the context of Nepal's peacemaking efforts, UN SG visited and talked with stakeholders in March 2001; late King Birendra Shah, late PM Girija P. Koirala, and foreign minister Chakra Bastola for his individual effort / institutional initiative for peace through the UN approach to bring the parties into negotiation table to end armed conflict in Nepal. SG Kofi Annan had also offered/established his Good office in September 2002 as an extra effort to make peace by sending Thailand's permanent representative of the UN on an exploratory mission into Nepal.

Then, UN DPA informed Indian permanent representative Vijay Nambiar to appoint an SG special representative for his good offices but he reverted days later to the DPPA purpose/plan. Then, the UN tacitly changed its strategy and sent mid-level political affairs officer Samuel Tamrat to start silently fostering relationships with key stakeholders of Nepal and Neighbours/region (Brubaker & Upadhyaya, 2021). Then, Lakshadhar Brahimi also visited and talked with the king, political party leader, and high-level government officials from 10-15 July 2005 as part of SG's effort to find a peaceful resolution to the armed conflict in Nepal. Subsequently, the 12-point understanding was signed in India between seven political parties and Maoists in Nov 2005 and a comprehensive peace agreement was signed in Nepal in November 2006 as a foundation of the Nepalese peacemaking process. UN peacemaking prefers, prioritizes, and pursues either UN peacekeeping or peacebuilding paths based on the nature of conflict to strengthen peace, security, and democracy for prosperity (DiCarlo, 2022). Rosemary DiCarlo is currently head of the DPPA from 1st May 2018 till date. UN has challenges in maintaining peace and security agenda, especially in Africa and Asia (Nagar, 2022).

After the CPA in Nepal, the Nepal government and Maoists requested the UN to provide to manage arms and armies and support to conduct the CA election (Upreti, 2010a). Then, the UN deployed the UNMIN office in January 2007 with mandated tasks and ceased its active operations in 2011 (Strachan, 2009). After the cessation of its active operations, the UN DPPA put in place the political liaison office in the UN House in Kathmandu, Nepal. The successful promulgation of new constitution was done by ex-president Ram Baran Yadav on 20 September 2015. Three tiers of the first periodic federal, provincial, and local elections were successfully held in 2017 which provided people's representatives at the federal, provincial, and local levels. The political liaison office had closed its office on 07 September 2018. The overall period of the UN support mission can be counted from 2002 to 2018 or 16 years of UN efforts to monitor, manage, and resolve the overall peace process. Other remaining peacebuilding supports for human rights / humanitarian, good governance, developmental projects/plans, and transitional justice are now automatically transferred to the UN country team, in Nepal (Martin, 2012).

2.3.2 UN Peacekeeping

The Department of UN Peacekeeping Operations was established in 1992; now renamed DPO it is responsible for managing all peacekeeping operations. UN peacekeeping is a familiar

traditional peace support operation amongst the other three peace and security approaches. The UN Security Council has a primary mantle to maintain international peace and security through consent, coercive action, and regional arrangements. UN peacekeeping is one of the most effective tools for peace support operations under the charter of chapter VI, chapter VII, and chapter VIII of the UN charter (Sharma, 2010). Multidimensional peacekeeping is a practice with focuses on failed or frail states like MINUSMA in Mali and MINUSCA in the Central African Republic. The hybrid peacekeeping is a mixture of regional and UN peacekeeping forces like in UNAMID (Nagar, 2020). UN peacekeeping is the deployment of different member states' peacekeepers (military, police, and civilian) in the field to monitor, observe, and report cease-fire accords and clash/conflict conditions to preserve peace and security. The UN may manage regional arrangements through regional organizations to maintain international peace and security if the regional organization wishes to maintain peace and security in the region as per article number 52 of chapter VIII(eight) of the UN charter which is stated in the UN handbook of peace operations (Koop et al., 2015).

Peacekeeping is a global partnership program including a financial contribution of member states in which TCC/PCC promises to provide troops or policies for potential or existing peacekeeping missions. This is an action undertaken to preserve peace and promote prosperity in fragile or ongoing conflict countries. Peace enforcement is a coercive action undertaken with the authorization of the United Nations Security Council to maintain or restore international peace and security in situations where the Security Council has determined the existence of a threat to the peace and breach of the peace or act of aggression. UN Peace operations is principal tools to manage conflict and protect civilians since UN establishment (Bellamy et al., 2010). Present-day peacekeeping mandate has the power to prevent further conflict protection of civilians, and promotion of peace and security (Howard, 2019). Nepal is the first TCC/PCC contributors in the world with 6247 troops including 394 both police/armed police including niche capabilities or specific logistic supports like medical and engineers at present. Till today, more than 149890 Nepalese peacekeepers personnel have already participated in 44 different UN peacekeeping missions in the world. In total, 73 peacekeepers have sacrificed their lives and 68 are disabled out of a total of 4380 fatalities for the global peacekeeping cause. Every day of 29th May is the celebration of the UN International Day of Peacekeepers in remembrance of the first peacekeeping mission, the UNTSO Security Council Resolution (50/1948). Peacekeeping has

assessed the annual budget which is to be approved by the fifth committee of the UN General Assembly or Advisory Committee on the Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). The UN peacekeeping budget is \$6.1 for 2023/2024 for twelve peacekeeping missions across the globe. The UN peacekeeping annual budget cycle runs from 1 July to 30 June. The SC has had sensitive security responsibilities and roles since the World War to today in managing armed conflict (Malone, 2006).

The UN peacekeeping mission can be established with the consent of the conflicting parties and the authority of the Security Council resolution. The proper process starts with a security situation report from the UN country team to the USG of the DPO then followed by the Secretary-General through the UN systematic chain of command. Then, the Secretary-General reviews the situation and conducts a briefing to draw the attention of the Security Council. The UN Security Council is responsible and entrusted to maintain international peace and security on behalf of 193 member states. These members are caucusing from regional blocs in which 54 member states are from the African group, 53 member states are from the Asia Pacific group, 23 states are from the Eastern Europe group, 33 member states are from Latin America and the Caribbean, 29 member states are from western Europe plus the USA and Kiribati from no group. There are 193 UN member states (Bailey, 2016).

After review and constant analysis, the Security Council decides whether to deploy UN peacekeepers peace builders, or pacemakers not necessary as an immediate action according to the judgment of the United Nations Security Council. Due to the complex, diverse cultural conditions, command control challenges, and mismatch of measures-mandates-means, the UN peacekeeping missions continuously demand a high level of civil-military relations (CMR), coordination, and cooperation in conflict-torn countries and heavy cost to keep peace and security. The basic principles of peacekeeping are consent, impartiality, and non-use of force except self-defense and defense for the mandates (United Nations, 1987). The presence of peacekeepers is a metaphor for negative peace but negative peace can be converted into positive peace by peaceful means (Galtung, 1969).

The UN has three types of peacekeeping missions. These are traditional, multidimensional, and transitional peacekeeping. The UN peacekeeping mission fosters and builds a culture of peace and non-violence; promotes human rights; and rules of law and improves the lives of millions.

All kinds of peace operations are creating a working environment in the theatre of diplomacy (Welch, 2017). Today, there are five UN peacekeeping missions in Africa; MONUSCO, MINUSCA, MINURSO, UNMISS, and UNISFA; three UN peacekeeping missions in the Middle East; UNDOF UNTSO, UNIFIL; UNMOGIP is in Asia; and UNMIK and UNFICYP are two in Europe. So, DPO now manages 11 UN peacekeeping missions in the world (Wallenstein, 2015).

The UN peacekeeping missions have been also changing their mandates from monitoring ceasefire to the protection of civilians. UNTSO since May 1948 and UNMOGIP since January 1949 is still operational. UNTSO monitors ceasefires and supervises armistice agreements between Israel and Arab states (Francis, 2020). The UNMOGIP also monitors cease-fire at Jammu and Kashmir of India and Pakistan. It has 111 staff with 43 military experts on mission (EOM) and 68 civilian staff. The UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) was established in June 1999 as a DPO mission. It has 18 uniforms (military and police) and 335 UN civil staff. So, the UN mission in territorial disputes may go longer than expected for final success.

UN peacekeeping is not a silver bullet. It is often called face-to-face diplomacy (Holmes, 2018). Data confirms that some peacekeeping missions have been face-to-face diplomacy since 1948 and 1949. Peacekeeping is no longer only monitoring ceasefires instead dealing with armed groups and assessing the historical development of asymmetric and non-asymmetric warfare/conflict (Keegan, 2015). UN peacekeeping Mission fact sheet as of 01 July 2024, the past DPO missions were 26 in Africa; 10 in America; 9 in Asia/Pacific; 8 in Europe, and 7 in Middle Eastern regions. Likewise, the present DPO missions are 5 in Africa; zero in America; 1 in Asia/Pacific; 2 in Europe; and 3 in Middle East regions. In total, there were 60 DPO missions and 11 missions are at present in the globe. The budget and mission establishment are;

Table 2.3.3***UN Peacekeeping Missions and Budget***

Peacekeeping Operations	Strength	Estimated budget	Est.	Remark (\$)
MINURSO, Western Sahara	1178	\$ 60,908,900	1991	US\$ 6.1 Billion
MONUSCO, D.R., Congo	17761	\$1,123,346,000	2010	Budget for
UNIFIL, Lebanon	10537	\$ 510,251,500	1978	2023/2024 UN
UNMISS, South Sudan	18125	\$1,201,887,500	2011	peacekeeping
MINUSCA, CAR	22523	\$1,116,738,700	2014	
UNDOF, Golan	1273	65,507,400	1974	
UNISFA, Abyei	3400	\$280,581,200	2011	
UNMOGIP, India-Pakistan	308	10, 519,800	1949	
UNFICYP, Cyprus	1011	\$57, 567,300	1964	
UNMIK, Kosovo	353	\$44,192,100	1999	
UNTSO, Middle East	998	\$43,650.10,0	1948	

Note. UN Peacekeeping operation factsheet as of 30 June 2024

The above information further reveals that out of 11 UN PKOs; five (5) UN peacekeeping missions are in Africa and three (3) in the Middle East. In addition, a major portion of the regular budget is almost spent on 11 UN peacekeeping missions of the United Nations. Territorial disputes may demand more years to manage the external armed conflict than the international community's common expectation. From the above data, The UNTSO peacekeeping mission was in effect from 29 May 1948 till today and UNMOGIP has still operational since January 1949. The UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) was established in June 1999. All three UN peacekeeping missions have territorial disputes (Francis, 2020).

To achieve the UN peacekeeping mandate, UN member states have been contributing peacekeepers to the DPO missions. Nepal became a UN member state in 1955 (Mishra, 1990). Major troops contributing countries (TCC) are from Asia and South East Asia which are contributing more than 39000 peacekeepers. Nepal, Bangladesh, and India are in first, second, and third positions respectively. SAARC countries have been contributing more than twenty-four thousand troops for peacekeeping missions in the world. There are more than 71000 peacekeepers in 11 different peacekeeping missions across the world at present. Nepal has been providing 5913 UN peacekeeping forces as top troops contributors (as of June 2024 record) in the most challenging and politically unstable place in the world since 1958 as a strong partner of the UN (Bellamy & Williams, 2013).

The most successful UN peacekeeping mission was in the Mano River basin and sub-region after 25 years of continued efforts in Liberia, West Africa. The UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) was established in 1993 and completed in 2018. There are six different UN missions and mandates covering three countries Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Cote d'Ivoire. The main cause of brutal civil wars was the resource curse for conflict and spreading from Liberia to Sierra Leone and Cote d'Ivoire. State authority was dissolved, governance institutions collapsed and millions of IDPs were forced to flee and countries were fragile.

The DDR was most successful after the Liberian Civil War (Huband, 2013). This exemplary DDR had disarmed more than 100000 former combatants in Liberia, 74000 in Cote d'Ivoire; and 75000 in Sierra Leone. UN had secured more than 75000 weapons and millions of rounds of ammunition (Doss, 2020). UN peacekeepers should be well-structured, well-equipped, well-trained troops for robust peacekeeping. Peacekeepers can conduct DDR programs in peacekeeping missions (United Nations, 2003). UN assisted three presidential and legislative electoral processes in Liberia and two in both Cote d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone. Justice courts and security institutions are re-established and IDPs return home to Liberia (Tardy & Ways, 2014). There are no specific benchmarks for clear, relevant, and realistic yardstick that could measure the success of UN peace operations however the common success of the UN depends on legitimacy, credibility, and national ownership to mandate delivery performance and outcome in peace and security index. Reforming of 21st peacekeeping operations is also in the discourse at different times of discussion (Doucet, 2018). Peacekeeping promotes peace and prosperity by identifying the gaps and prescribing principal paths to get lasting peace; and maintain security, stability, and democracy. Peacekeeping and peacebuilding have purposeful linkage in United Nations peace operations (Malone, 2013).

2.3.3 UN Peacebuilding

UN peacebuilding is preventive diplomacy where unarmed military observers and international monitors are on duty in the conflict countries (Ruffini, 2017). The UN peacebuilding is still young and came into existence in 1992 after rethinking the UN's conventional approach to maintaining international peace and security (Schulenburg, 2014). The UN peacebuilding approach is a potent supplement to the agenda for peace as one of the pragmatic peace architecture, approach, and activity along with peacemaking and peacekeeping in a post-conflict

environment. The DPPA and DPO are primary pillars for UN peace support operations and activities to maintain international peace and security (Durch, 2003). The insight and foresight of the UN peacebuilding is preventive diplomacy and conflict prevention to prevent present or potential conflict in a changing global context (Conning & Peter, 2019). The UN peacebuilding is proactive rather than reactive in hindsight. This concept emerged after the Cold War era in 1992 when the former 6th Secretary General Butros Boutros-Ghali used this popular phrase in his speech An Agenda for Peace (A4P) however this pioneering peace approach was already abstracted by John Galtung in 1967 (Galtung, 1996).

The UN peacebuilding approach is a systematic process for sustainable peace that promotes peace, security, and prosperity through multiple initiatives through deploying diverse national and international actors. The UN peacebuilding approach is also known as post-conflict peacebuilding activities but it can be considered before, during, and after conflict. It has a linear linkage with UN peacemaking and UN peacekeeping. The UN peacebuilding obstacles are autocracy, injustice, inequality, conflict, insecurity, and multidimensional poverty (Castillo, 2017). Political and military stabilization alone is not sufficient to end the conflict. Conflict dynamics challenges the purposes, principles, perceptions, and paradigms of the UN peace process. Sustainable peace comes through prosperity and democracy (Carey, 2020).

Nepal was proposed as a zone of peace in 1973 due to its geostrategic location in the time of active monarchy (Panta, 1982). The monarchy came under constitutional provision as per the multi-party democracy and constitution 1990. However, the people's war waged by Maoists challenged the constitution and demanded a new constitution and full democracy in 1996. After a comprehensive peace agreement in 2006, conflict advanced to a peace path through ceasefire and consent for constituent assembly election. Constituent assembly elections lingered due to postponed or prolonged processes and understanding between political parties and people (International Crisis Group, 2007). In 2015, a new constitution came into existence. The new constitution is more inclusive and seems nationally accepted. The stable and steady political situation guarantees the conformity of leadership commitment to peace, security, and prosperity are the principal desires of the Nepalese people as enshrined in the preamble of the constitution. The constitution has embodied people's aspirations for peace and prosperity (Jha, 2008).

Etymologically, the term UN peacebuilding is coined by former 6th Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali in his speech known as an Agenda for Peace at the UN conference in 1992. The UN peacebuilding defies a single definition. It is also difficult to define the actual concept and understand it due to conceptual confusion and the complexity of the conflict in contemporary circumstances. So, the UN peacebuilding is integrated approaches, actions, and activities of national and international actors to prevent any forms of conflict to protect and promote peace and prosperity. Peacebuilding is a complex problem but a negotiated solution (Warner, 2001).

The DPPA is responsible for managing peacebuilding activities and approaches through conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, and developmental work. In sum, UN peacebuilding may engage in negotiation, mediation, and arbitration in likely conflict or ongoing conflict. The UN Secretary-General has the authority to establish his/her good office in a likely conflict-prone country to control the crisis through close consultation and coordination with different stakeholders. This establishment of good office has the UN Secretary-General's authority and legitimacy. This authority and legitimacy allow individuals to act as third-party mediators in various types of disputes and conflicts. Kofi Annan the former UN Secretary-General had appointed Vijay Nambiar of India and the permanent representative of Thailand in the UN as his envoy of Nepal but both had rejected the position. Then, he appointed Samuel Tamrat as his special advisor and John Beven as a human rights advisor in 2002. Samuel Tamrat was DSRSG of UNMIN at a later phase of UNMIN operations. UNMIN was the virtue of narrow missions for a limited duration of support in the peace process (Suhrke, 2011).

Different scholars have opined their epistemological perspectives in different forms. Peacebuilding is a compelling but contested concept with many critiques. Some of them said that peacebuilding is a long-term process and its success depends on political will. Some of others view peacebuilding as democracy and sustainable development which prevents conflict and promotes peace and prosperity. Some share that peacebuilding is power, policy, and politics. But whatever, peacebuilding has a nexus with safety, security, stability, and development through security governance (Bryden & Hanggi, 2005) and securitization theory in post-conflict peacebuilding (Tschirgi, 2013). The UN peacebuilding pioneer Dahal (2006) expressed his views that peacebuilding provides a keyhole for insight analysis of the root cause of conflict to examine the transformation of troublesome ties between cultural and structural injustice, cycles of

conflict, and counter-conflict for the democratic peace process. The UN peacebuilding copes with combined sources of contestants' conflict like caste, creed, need, greed, identity, or ideal (Dahal, 2006). To understand the multiplicities of UN peacebuilding theories, scholars/students have to go beyond the limitations of liberal peace theory and principle (Heatershaw, 2013).

Some critics and comments are also found to rethink UN peacebuilding pedagogies. According to Schulenburg (2014) expressed that peacebuilding is only positive peace in weak and small states. For powerful countries particularly permanent members of the UN Security Council and countries with nuclear weapons, peacebuilding hardly plays a key role. So, voices have been heard that UN peace approaches including peacebuilding are the subject of rethinking and redesigning with reform for the future requirement to bring real peace (Schulenburg, 2014).

The UN has three approaches to peace and security. Peacebuilding and reconciliation is the contemporary thesis and theme (Darweish & Rank, 2012). Special political missions are peacebuilding missions which include conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, and peace enforcement. Conflict preventive diplomacy is before the conflict is broken; peacemaking and peace enforcement are during conflict; peacekeeping is after the ceasefire and peace agreement; and peacebuilding may be a good fit for both before, during, and/or after armed conflict in Nepal (Strachan, 2009). Peacebuilding strengthens and reforms the security sector and justice institutions to recover wounds of conflict at all levels. Sustainable peace and prosperity depend on well-functioning state institutions. The well-functioning institutions depend on strong local-level community ownership (Galtung, 1969). The peacebuilding activities and apparatus create conducive conditions to consolidate peace by addressing root causes of conflict and providing support through security sector reform (Dhungana, 2007); correction in the justice system, and promotion in the Human Rights Office and Commission (Bell, 2000).

According to UN peacekeeping doctrine and definition (2008), peacebuilding is measures aimed at reducing the risk of relapsing conflict, by strengthening national capacities for conflict management to lay the foundation for sustainable peace. The UN peacebuilding stresses on strengthening national capacity-building structure and infrastructure to reduce the risk of relapsing into conflict (UN Peacekeeping Operations, 2008). The UN capstone doctrine (2008) reveals that peacebuilding is an integrated and long-term process to create conditions for

sustainable peace. It addresses deep-rooted structural causes of social, economic, and political conflict in comprehensive analysis (UN Capstone Doctrine, 2008).

NATO adopted the treaty organization in the Atlantic Alliance in 1950 for collective defense purposes (Johnston, 2017). According to Thomas (1997), NATO defines peacebuilding as a peace support effort designed to reduce the risk of relapsing into conflict by addressing the underlying causes of the conflict and the longer-term needs of the people. This definition focuses on addressing the deep-rooted cause of underlying conflict to create and construct peace and security for development and prosperity (Thomas, 1997). The UN peacebuilding requires a long-term promise of the partners/alliance and commitment which may run concurrently with other types of peace support efforts. Peace and prosperity cannot be achieved by one special pill or prescription but it demands coordinated, cooperated, and collaborated efforts by public, private, national, and international actors for peace, prosperity, and democracy (Nagel, 2002).

According to US Military doctrine, peacebuilding is defined that peacebuilding involves actions that support political, economic, social, and military measures aimed at strengthening political stability. This view of the US army towards UN peace operations is unified and seeks address to all the political, economic, and social hurdles to promote peace (1996). However, the Canadian military's point of view is slightly different than the American's. Peacebuilding is stability actions that strengthen and rebuild societal institutions, infrastructure, and civic life to avoid a relapse into conflict. French peace operations doctrine is much more vested in interest based on unity of efforts and clarity of purpose (Walker & Horn, 2008).

French has categorized peacebuilding by vital, strategic, and power interests. Vital interest is a territorial defense; strategic interest in the security of Europe and power interest is the responsibility of a permanent member of the UN Security Council to cultivate peace practice in different contexts by multidimensional modals (Ware, et al., 2014). US military perspective towards peacebuilding is little different than others, It focuses on the support of political, social, economic, and military matters for strengthening safety, security, and sustainable stability (Gregoire, 2002).

Galtung (1996c) provides his viewpoint in his famous book *Peace by Peaceful Means*. UNMIN Peacebuilding is a mixed doings of peacemaking and peacekeeping maneuvers that discourse structural subjects and repair rapport between conflicting parties. Structural indicators can

provide early warning about a potential conflict. Early warning systems give support to identify strategies, tools, and techniques to control conflict at the earlier possible level. In his theory, he further focuses on peacebuilding structures and infrastructures that are important for future peace. The peace infrastructures are symbiosis, equity, and entropy (the state's superstructure). Symbiosis is interdependence and entropy is disorder. In sum, Galtung's peacebuilding theory has focused on social structure, infrastructure, and inclusion from a bottom-up approach to address the root cause of conflict (Galtung, 1996c).

The DPPA, previously known as the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) manages and monitors special political missions all over the world to preserve peace through peacebuilding postures/presence. The primary tasks of DPPA are to provide preventive diplomacy, mediation, and peacemaking through its peacebuilding commission, peacebuilding support office, and peacebuilding fund. In addition to this, it supports conducting elections, to empower women, peace, and security agenda as per Security Council Resolution. UN supports member states in conducting elections, innovation, and dealing with emerging issues. Electing peace means the conversion of conflict into political mainstream participation for peace and prosperity (Matanock, 2017).

At present, there are 22 DPPA missions; which are 8 in Africa, 2 in America; 2 in Asia and Pacific, 3 in Europe, and 7 in the Middle East. There were 42 DPPA missions in the past which were 22 in Africa, 9 in America, 5 in Asia Pacific, 1 in Europe, and 5 in the Middle East. In total, there are 42 past and 22 present DPPA missions or 64 DPPA missions. Peace and development advisors (PDA) have been providing catalyst support to the UN country team and UN resident coordinator since 2004. The UNDP and UN DPPA have a joint program to build national capacities for conflict prevention. PDA gives support to national stakeholders to advance the SG conflict prevention agenda and sustain peace and security. The PDA is a mixed and merged method of integrating political and development pillars in pursuit of conflict prevention and designated 60 countries. PDA is operational in 11 Asia-Pacific countries including Nepal which is stationed at Bangkok as a regional specialist office. UNMIN was a special political mission that successfully implemented the Security Council mandate to foster peace and prosperity in Nepal. Nepal always favors national, regional, and global peace and security through written policy and pledges (Pokhrel & Rana, 2013).

UNMIN as SPM had handled Nepalese armed conflict through preventive diplomacy, mediation, and political and post-ceasefire and peacebuilding operations. The second UN SG Dag Hammarskjöld is referred to as an instrumental in shaping SPMs. The core function of SPM is to prevent and resolve conflict as well as help member states and conflicting parties to build sustainable security, peace, and prosperity. The first SPM was the good offices in Guyana-Venezuela from 1990 to 2017. The special advisors in Myanmar, UNAMA, and UNRCCA are SPMs examples in Asia and the Pacific region. More UN mission presence means to monitor closely before conflict broken (Nagar, 2022).

According to the factsheet as of May 2023 of the UN dashboard, the past and present Department of Political and Peacebuilding (DPPA) missions in total are 63 across the regions/World. Of the DPPA missions in the past were 21 in Africa; 9 were in America; 5 were in Asia Pacific; 1 in Europe; and 5 in the Middle East altogether 41 DPPA missions were in the past. The present missions are 8 in Africa; 2 in America; 2 in Asia Pacific; 3 in Europe; and 7 in the Middle East which altogether 22 DPPA missions including 2431 estimated staff are operational at present in the different countries of the world.

Today, there are ten DPPA missions in Africa and seven are in the Middle East. Three are in Asia and the Pacific and 2/2 missions are in Europe and America respectively as political and peacebuilding missions of personal envoys and SG's Good office. Africa and the Middle East are observed as hotspots of intrastate conflict. In Asia and Pacific, three UN peacebuilding missions are in UNAMA, Afghanistan; SG's special envoy in Myanmar; and UNRCCA in central Asia. UN has less presence in Europe and America. The EU peacebuilding approach employs civilian tools for security, development, and democracy (Castaneda, 2014).

SPMs are varied in terms of their functional roles and responsibilities. It has three types of clusters to support conflicting parties. The first cluster refers to SG's personal and special envoys requested to carry out his/her good offices and mediation for UN preventive diplomacy to conflict prevention. For example, the special envoy on Myanmar is the DPPA mission. The second cluster refers to eleven sanctions monitoring teams/groups/panels of which five are based in New York, one in Nairobi, and the rest five are home-based. These monitoring groups directly report to the Security Council through relevant committees and are composed of a variety of technical experts namely banking, finance, remittance; military, armed groups; customs, exports

travel ban enforcement; information analysis, counter-terrorism, asymmetric warfare, political analysis, and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (Cordsman, 2002). These clusters can coordinate with member states, stakeholders, and the resident coordinators of the UN. The third cluster refers to field-based SPMs including regional offices and country-specific missions. UNMIN was a field-based political mission in Nepal (Smith, 2012).

There are currently 15 SPMs except SG's personal/special envoy deployed around the world with different sizes, structures, and functions. Ten of these missions are operations in Africa, four are based in the Middle East and UNAMA is in Asia and the Pacific. Field-based mission is normally for a limited duration not more than 6 years. However, the existing trends have shown that political missions vary in size, strength, time, and space due to conflict-centric characteristics. Reconciliation, rehabilitation, and restructuring are the rational roads to peace and prosperity in post-conflict peacebuilding for peace (Adhikari, 2008).

Peace is precious and irreplaceable. Peacebuilding supports to building of strong structures, institutions and infrastructure. Peacebuilding is a conflict resolution approach in the 21st century. Peacebuilding principles and methods may require long-term innovative plans, projects and programs (Bercovitz & Jackson, 2012). Within this period, the relapsing of conflict is likely to be broken if not handled carefully in such a transitional period. Peacebuilding mission receives UN peacebuilding funds just for eligible countries. Nepal also received 18 million US dollars from the UN peacebuilding fund for the recovery, reconstruction, and reconciliation programs. The total PBF was \$ 191 million in 2019 and \$173 million in 2020. The peacekeeping budget was \$6.51 billion in 2019 and \$6.1 billion is approved for 2023/2024. The peacekeeping budget is assessed budget paid by member states and the peacebuilding budget is a pledge fund (Lawson, 2011).

Peacebuilding is a tailor-made mission whose requirement is determined by PCNA. In Burundi, peacebuilding prioritized good governance, implementation of ceasefire agreements, SSR/DDR, reform justice sector, promoting human rights, sustainable solutions for land users, and gender equality. In the Central African Republic, the prioritized areas are SSR/DDR and the rule of law. Guneau Bissau prioritizes national reconciliation and unity, SSR, and electoral support, rehabilitating the infrastructure and justice sector, and drug trafficking control. But Sera-Leon had different priorities which are youth employment/ empowerment, democracy, good

governance, justice, SSR, gender equality, and human rights. In Liberia rule of law, DDR/SSR, reconciliation, and gender considerations were prioritized, and one successful mission in Africa. DDR/ SSR, rule of law, justice, and human rights promotions are common areas of concern in peacebuilding (Cavalcante, 2021).

The UN headquarters peacebuilding office monitors and assesses global political developments. It also assists countries those emerging from violent conflict and struggling for peace. Peacebuilding is a mixture of conflict prevention, conflict management, conflict resolution, conflict transformation, and post-conflict reconciliation. Peacebuilding restores and reestablishes effective state institutions, especially the justice and security sectors. Peacebuilding commissioned is not constituted in the UN charter but member states have realized that peacebuilding is imperative in the present context (Jenkins, 2013).

UN peacebuilding orients developments and human rights promotion to cope with conflict. Conflict has a high chance of relapsing from 5 to 15 years. UN Peacebuilding Commission aims to prevent conflict from relapsing /returning conflict. Sustainable peace is not simply attainable. It must consciously and continuously be created and constructed with greater cooperation and collaboration. Afghanistan, Congo, Sudan, CAR, Mali, and Somalia are simply visible samples of prolonged conflict. Peacebuilding is for peace, security, and prosperity. The long-term peacebuilding agendas are the social, economic, political, and cultural restructuring of the state to prevent structural violence which is a path to positive peace (Kim, 2007).

UNDPPA is the frontline workforce in the field before and after conflict. Their plan and program is generally compatible and collaborative with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) based on peacebuilding need assessment (PBNA). Building peace and sustaining peace is most challenging due to the trust deficit between conflicting parties. The national capital of the country in conundrum condition is a parliamentary political party, legislative and judicial bodies. DPPA's integral parts are the peacebuilding commission, peacebuilding support office, and peacebuilding fund to proceed and support preventive diplomacy and post-conflict peacebuilding. Peacebuilding is a systematic, synergetic, sequential, and structural securitization approach to strengthen democracy for the promotion of peace and prosperity (Tschirigi, 2013).

State building is the regular responsibility of the sovereign state to enhance institutional capacity and legitimize actions between state and society. Nepal has endogenous processes and

practices to promote peace and prosperity but Nepal became a fragile state in the political, economic, and social sphere during asymmetric conflict (Thornton, 2007). The government of Nepal requested UN peacebuilding because peacebuilding reduces the risk of recurring conflict through national capacity building. UNMIN was a tailored type special political mission whose task was to monitor ceasefires; manage arms and armies; and provide technical support to conduct constitutional assembly elections. These emerging tasks, technologies, tools, techniques, and tactics at the operational and strategic levels were substantively supportive to promote peace and prosperity. The UN Strategic Communication and UNMIN ko Boli radio program was an effective community outreach program in Nepal (Eurich, 2010). The UN peacebuilding architectures are PBSO, PBF, and PBC in the UN system.

UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) was established in 2006 as per the Security Council and General Assembly Resolution. PBSO supports to peacebuilding commission and peacebuilding fund on behalf of the UN Secretary General and cooperates with partners in a logical manner. PBSO plays a pivotal role in protecting human rights, promoting humanitarian law, and protecting civilian populations in interstate / intrastate conflict. The successful sentiment of civil war is the commitment of conflicting parties to peace and prosperity via a peace accord (Walter, 2001). UN Peacebuilding reduces the risk of reverting conflict. UN PBSO is generally led by an Assistant secretary general level. It supports sustaining peace either nationally owned or led by peacebuilding efforts and endeavors with strategic advice and policy guidance. It incorporates international community and UN agencies, funds, and programs. The experts manage in-house human resources to support the peacebuilding commission and peacebuilding fund (Rizal, 2012).

UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) is also an integral part of the UN DPPA. As Rizal (2012) stresses the UN Secretary General's peacebuilding fund is the most important pillar of the DPPA architecture. Peacebuilding fund is collected from different donors, and regional and international communities through their commitment and pledges. From 2006 to 2021, PBF disbursed US \$1.67 billion money to 65 eligible countries. Nepal was one of the eligible countries out of five-sixty-five countries. PBF collects money on a volunteer basis and its estimated annual fund is US dollar \$25 million in the past now it has increased by 50 million US dollars. Countries are eligible to get peacebuilding funds after the criteria are met by the

countries who are emerging from conflict. SG selects the country however independent advisory group is appointed to provide expert advice and oversight of the appropriation of allocated PBF (Rizal, 2012, p. 331). Debates and discussions over peacebuilding funds were a necessity in the post-Cold War scenarios which brought new and distinctive policy interventions. Peacebuilding promotes liberal democracy and a free trade economy. Liberal democracy provides and promotes prosperity through freedom (Meyer, 2020). Peacebuilding is a peace and security stabilizer, that empowers law, order, and control to maintain national, regional, and global security. Peacebuilding addresses social injustice and inequality through development. Development is possible with free market, trade, and transit (Bhagat, 2020).

UN PBF is a financial instrument for the final resort to sustain peace. It is a catalyst, rapid responder, flexible, prepositioned pooled fund in emergency peace and security situations to secure and sustain peace in conflict-torn countries. PBF is a volunteer contribution of the international community that started in 2005. Due to the change in conflict characteristics in the preceding year, PBF is to be bigger in financial size to cope impact of climate change, COVID-19, and unpredictable unexpected catastrophic circumstances. This fund is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary-General. The peacebuilding fund is evaluated through a thematic review of project and program evaluation to ensure that a peace dividend is reached in conflict-affected communities. UN peacebuilding leadership promotes predictable power to control conflict in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous world order. The UN peacebuilding fund is a volunteer contribution from member states and donors for rapid and emergency use of at least \$300,000 by the authority of the Secretary-General (Fushes et al., 2018).

The UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is an integral commission of the UN DPPA. According to Rizal's (2012) viewpoint, the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is an intergovernmental advisory body to bring a strategic approach that consists of 31 member states with a two-year renewable term. Seven members are elected from the General Assembly; seven members are elected from the Security Council and seven members from the ECOSOC. And remaining 5/5 PBC members are from the top five troops/police contributors and the top five financial contributors. After different and dynamic debates, discourse, and discussions in the UN system, PBC was established in December 2005. The purpose of PBC is to provide inclusive peace support activities undertaken before conflict and/or after conflict. These activities solidify

and strengthen peace and security structures and institutional infrastructures to preserve peace (Rizal, 2012, pp. 330-331).

PBC is mandated by GA resolution A/RES/60/180 and Security Council resolution S/RES 645/2005 for an advisory role. PBC is guided by principles and purposes enshrined in the UN charter. It emphasizes in coordinated, coherent, and combined approach to post-conflict peacebuilding. Post-conflict peacebuilding is a process of recovery, reintegration reconciliation, and reconstruction to lay the foundation for sustainable development through sustainable peace. The primary responsibility of sustaining peace is national responsibility. Peacebuilding is an inherently political and developmental process. UN supports member states through the UN peacebuilding program for those who are emerging from conflict. The main purpose of PBC is to bring all relevant actors/stakeholders under integrated strategies and draw the advice/attention of the international community through letters, formal briefings, and informal interactive dialogue (IIDs). The situation presenter in PBC can be SG/DSG/SRSG/PDA/RC/HC or UN AFP's representatives from the field.

2.4 UN Political and Peacebuilding Missions in the World

UN political and peacebuilding mission is a concurrent and coherent activity by multiple actors in peace and security sectors. UN has been engaged in 11 peacekeeping missions and 22 peacebuilding missions. UN Peacekeeping/peacebuilding missions can be prolonged. The confronting parties may take time to compromise their agenda as per the conflict management strategies by collaborating, competing, avoiding, accommodating, and compromising as per the theory of Thomas-Kilmann's conflict management model. Conflict management minimizes the negative effects of conflict. Conflict resolution is conflict reduction, elimination, and termination of all contours of conflict (Thomas & Kilmann, 1974). UN peacekeeping; UNTSO and UNMOGIP missions have still operational peacekeeping missions since 1948 and 1949 because of the uncompromising attitude of conflicting parties. It shows peace is hard to achieve (Bellamy et al., 2010).

2.4.1 Africa

The primary causes of conflict in Africa are natural resources, terrorism, and ethnic extremism. In Africa, there are six DPO missions and 10 DPPA missions at present. In the past, there were

25 DPO and 19 DPPA missions and it is a larger number than any other region. The role of UNMIN is to pursue procedural practice to prevent and resolve conflict to promote perpetual peace by peaceful means within the legal framework of the UN system (Doss, 2022).

2.4.1.1 Personal Envoy in Africa

The UN Secretary-General has appointed Switzerland diplomat Mirko Manzoni as his envoy at Mozambique by July 2019 with four international staff. This mission mandate provides mediation support between the Mozambique government and the opposition political party Mozambican National Resistance (RENAMO) to implement the Maputo peace and national reconciliation accord signed in August 2019.

Western Sahara was administrated by Spain until 1976 which is bordered by Morocco, Mauritania, and Algeria. This is the disputed territory of Morocco, Mauritania, and Polisario front. The UN mission for the referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) was established in April 1991 to monitor the cease-fire observation and reduce the threat from mines / UXO to maintain a stabilization presence. Its authorized strength is 245 military personnel, 2 police, and other civilian staff. DPPA has also appointed and established his good office in Western Sahara in October 2021. SG's envoy, Staffan de Mistura, and two UN staff are in Western Sahara. Its mandate is to monitor and strengthen after the self-autonomy settlement support plan signed in 1988 between conflicting parties. It has successfully halted the violent interaction between warring parties but a long road to go for the achievement of the specified task of the referendum (Sola-Martin, 2007).

2.4.1.2 SG's Special Envoy and UN Office in Africa

SG's special envoy in the Great Lake region was established in 2013. This is the UN and AU joint mediation office to promote peace, security, and cooperation (PSC) through the PSC framework and it was signed by 13 African countries (Badejo, 2008). The thirteen signatory countries are Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, and democratic republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia. It is a commitment at the national and international level to end the recurring cycle of conflict in the democratic republic of Congo and the Great Lake region in Africa. UN special envoy has the

mandate to do peace consolidation, conflict prevention, and conflict resolution. There are 27 staff in the Great Lake region as a power of peacebuilding (Dzinesa, & Curtis, 2012).

Special Envoy in the Horn of Africa was established in October 2018 with nine staff. The special envoy has to monitor and use measures to prevent civil conflict, unrest, poverty, and climate change through the UN's comprehensive regional prevention strategy to engage and invest in Ethiopia, Eritria, and Djibouti. Ethiopia and Eritria has rapprochement problem. This is a collective approach to tackle the common challenges of peace, poverty, and prosperity.

The UN office at the African Union (UNOAU) was established in July 2010 including 45 staff. UNOAU's area of cooperation is all fifty-five members of African countries. It provides a strategic partnership between the UN & AU in the area of peace and security. The UN Office for West Africa and Sahel (UNOWAS) was also established in 2002 with UN 75 officials. It has been providing preventive diplomacy, political mediation, and cross borders/cross-cutting threats to peace and security. It further monitors Cameroon-Nigeria disputes and regional disputes to address the pertinent challenges of peace, security, and governance in the African Union (Makinda et al., 2016).

2.4.1.3 UN Political and Peacebuilding Mission in Africa

The UN-integrated Transitional Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) was established on 3 June 2020 located at Sudan with 269 staff. It supports the democratic transition process and implements the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA) to achieve peace and prosperity. The UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) was established in 2011 in Libya. Its mandate is to provide mediation, support political processes, implement ceasefires, and monitor and report human rights. It has 314 staff. The UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) has been operational since June 2013 and it has 362 UN staff. It provides support to sustain the federal government system through peace and stable reconciliation in Somalia (Tardy & Ways, 2014).

2.4.1.4 UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA)

UNOCA is a peacebuilding mission that was established in March 2011 and extended its mandate up to August 2024. The UNOCA has a regional mandate to support conflict prevention to sustain peace and security in central Africa. This good office provides support for preventive diplomacy and mediation for potential conflict in close cooperation and coordination with UN

entities, regional and sub-regional organizations including the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to maintain regional peace and security. Central African countries include nine countries where peacekeeping missions MINUSCA in the Central African Republic and MONUSCO in the democratic republic of Congo. Its head office is in Libreville, Gabon. Peacebuilding, power, and politics are fickle in central Africa (Dzinesa & Curtis, 2012).

This mandate includes dealing with arms trafficking, terrorism, organized crime, Boko haram, Lord Resistance Army (LRA), cross-border crime, and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP). The Present SRSG is Francois Lounceny Fall from Guinea and the total staff are 48 including 15 national and 33 international staff. Since May 2011, the Office is also the Secretariat to the UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC). Peace and security of small/poor states are always challenging and this gap is to be filled by UN preventive diplomacy to prevent conflict. This is a demonstrative example of the value of preventive diplomacy and developmental assistance to manage complex crises and conflicts by peaceful means in Asia and Africa (Ramcharan, 2020).

2.5 UN DPPA in Europe

There are two UN DPPA missions in Europe at present. These are SG's special advisors in Cyprus with 21 staff which includes five nationals and 16 international staff. Their work is to develop confidence-building measures and contacts between two communities; Turkish and Greek. UN representative to the Geneva for International Discussion (UNRGID) is another DPPA mission working with five international staff in Europe after the non-extension UN DPO mission mandate for Georgia. The good office Greece in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1993-2019) was the only one in the past in Europe.

After 24 February 2022, the Russia-Ukraine crisis came into exposure in Europe. Russia is engaged with Ukraine. Ukraine and Russia's relationship is an illustration of cold peace (Sakwa, 2013). Russia is a Veto-power country. All five veto-power countries have the power to prevent the Security Council Resolution as per the charter. The UN is continuously trying preventive diplomacy through dialogue, mediation, negotiation, and humanitarian relief approaches to help the Ukrainian people prevent the Russia and Ukraine war (Adams, 2022).

2.6 UN DPPA in America

UN peacebuilding and post-conflict peacebuilding strategies are activated when the peace is foggy in conflict-torn countries (Guehenno, 2015). The UN verification mission in Colombia was established in 2017 after the final peace agreement as a result of responding to the joint request of the Colombian government and the revolutionary armed forces of the Columbia People's Army (FARC-EP). The purpose of the monitoring and verification mission is to disarm, reintegrate, and reincorporate to convert combatants into civilian life (Klime, 2020). There are 571 staff including SRSR Carlos Ruiz Massieu for the verification mission in Colombia.

Another DPPA mission in the America region is the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUB) under Chapter VI in October 2019. There are 114 UN staff (49 national and 65 international civilian staff) including SRSR Helen Lime. The mission advises the Haitian government on how to promote a peaceful political environment, good governance, and the rule of law. It further aims to promote/preserve peace by protecting human rights, humanitarian assistance and development work in cooperation with UN country teams and UN entities (Shapiro & Lampert, 2014). From 1990 to 2020, there were nine political missions in America. These missions were mainly in El Salvador, Haiti, Guatemala, Venezuela, and Bolivia (Kenkel, 2013).

2.7 UN DPPA Mission in Asia

UN DPPA is preventing conflict, mediation, supporting elections, gender/women, and comprehensive peacebuilding support for the promotion of peace and security. UN DPPA manages political and peacebuilding missions. In Asia-Pacific, there are three DPPA missions i.e. special envoy in Myanmar, the UN assistance mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), and the UN Regional Centre for preventive diplomacy in Central Asia (UNRCCA). UNRCCA in central Asia and the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) are the regional offices of UN DPPA.

2.7.1 Special Envoy in Myanmar

The largest country of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Myanmar got its independence from the UK in 1948. And its population is 54 million as per the 2017 census. Its border is shared with India, Bangladesh, China, Thailand, and the Bay of Bengal. There are 135

distinct ethnic groups and more than 108 ethno linguistic groups. Myanmar is rich in jade, gems, oil, gas, and other natural resources. The ethnic group, Bamar covers 68% and Rakhine are 3.5% minor population. Religion-wise, Buddhists are 88%, Christians are 6 % and Muslims are 4%. Nepal and Myanmar are members of BIMSTEC. According to the Global Poverty Indicator Report 2021, the income gap is high and the poverty rank is 147th in the world (Pederson & Magnusson, 2014).

The UN had already perceived security challenges for maintaining peace and security which aided in establishing stronger and effective intergovernmental organizations in conflict-torn countries including Myanmar (Sean, 2019). The UN office was established in Myanmar in 2018 before the military coup. There are five UN staff (one national and four international) including SG's special envoy Noeleen Heyzer. Its mandate is to re-establish a democratic government through reform, reconciliation, and democratization. Myanmar has a long history of junta government and again military coup in Feb 2021. Aung San Su Kyi the leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD) has formed the People's Defence Force (PDF) to remove the junta government to establish a democratic government in Myanmar. The special envoy is supporting to democratize the political process. Refugee crisis, ethnic crisis especially Rohingya Muslims and military supremacy are the major problems in Myanmar (United Nations, 2009).

2.7.2 UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia (UNRCCA)

UNRCCA is a regional center for preventive diplomacy. The mission is located in Turkmenistan. The mission was established in 2007 in response to requests of five countries Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. It assists in strengthening conflict prevention capacities through dialogue, confidence-building measures, and genuine partnerships to respond to threats and challenges in central Asia. There are eight international staff, including twenty-two national staff including SRSG Natalia Gherman. Before UNRCCA, there was a DPPA-led UN Tajikistan Office of peacebuilding (UNTOP) for seven years. UNTOP had completed its mandate and civil wars had ended in Tajikistan by 2007. In such a way, the new central Asia is the hub of regional and international actors (Kavalski, 2010).

The UNRCCA's three-year action plan from 2022 to 2025 has been adopted by five countries. UNRCCA is mandated to promote preventive diplomacy; provide early warning for conflict prevention; build partnerships with regional / sub-regional organizations; encourage cooperation

amongst central Asian countries; and closely work with UNAMA. The major central Asian threats are terrorists, religious extremists, crime, drug trafficking, and political, social, and economic challenges in the post-soviet era (Vassiliev, 2013).

2.7.3 UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)

Afghanistan became a member of the UN in 1946. The UNAMA was established in March 2002 with Security Council Resolution UN/RES/1401/2002 in Afghanistan. The UNAMA mandate is to implement the Bonn Agreement 2001 and assist Afghans in laying a foundation for sustainable peace and development. The additional mandate of UNAMA further stresses on Afghan-led and Afghan-owned political process to achieve sustainable peace and prosperity. It further includes support for future elections; protection and promotion of human rights; protection of civilians and children; prevention of child recruitment; support for gender equality; support for transitional justice; support for corruption control; support for development; humanitarian assistance and rule of law and governance. There are still many challenges to institutionalizing democratic legal authority, democratic norms, and the rule of law through UN and international aid is important in conflict-shattered countries like Afghanistan (Ponzio, 2011).

There was US US-led NATO mission to dissolve, dismantle, disrupt, and defeat the Taliban government with the global war on terrorism after the 9/11 attack in the Twin Towers, USA. Lakhdar Brahimi, a well-known UN reformist and official, was the first SRSG of UNAMA. The present SRSG is Deborah Lyons and the deputy SRSG is Mette Knudsen. The total staff are 1133 staff which includes 799 national staff, 68 volunteers, and 296 international staff. However, peacebuilding has been facing challenges to construct legitimacy through the UN peacebuilding approach in Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor, and many other parts of the world because of the political and developmental nature of the mandate (Higashi, 2015).

2.8 UN DPPA Mission in East Asia

UN DPPA had five missions in the East Asia region in the past. Out of five, two were in East Timor, two in Papua New Guinea and one was deployed in Nepal. These past missions are reviewed in the succeeding paragraph.

2.8.1 UN Mission in East Timor (UNAMET)

East Timor or Timor-Leste is the newest country in Southeast Asia a neighbour of Indonesia. Timor or Timur means east in the Malay language and Leste is also East in the Portuguese language. East Timor became independent from Portugal on 28 November 1979. Indonesia militarily intervened and integrated as its 27th province of Indonesia. The civil war was broken in East Timor between those who favored independence and those who advocated integration with Indonesia. However, the UN never recognized Indonesian integration. Indonesia and Portugal's government had an agreement in New York on 05 May 1999 to accept the referendum result whether accept or reject the Indonesian autonomy by the East Timorese people. To carry out consultation, UN Security Council resolution 1246 authorized to establishment UN mission in East Timor (UNAMET) mission in 1999. So, it has also mixed history and many challenges have been faced by the UN in Timor. After the referendum, Timor Leste became an independent nation for the second time on 20 May 2002 (Molnar, 2010).

The estimated population is 800,000 and the registered voters were 451,792 in East Timor. On the voting day of 30 Aug 1999, voters voted for integration with Indonesia by 94388 (21.5%) and voted for independence was 344,580 (78.5%) which resulted in the rejection of the Indonesian autonomy proposal. In 1999 the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly recognized the result of popular consultation then UN Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) established the UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTEAT) for the transition support. UN played a crucial role in conducting popular consultation/ transitional administration in East Timor (Eurich, 2012).

2.8.2 UN Office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL)

UN office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL) was a political mission from 2005 to 2006 for a one-year period to support capacity building of state institutions, democratic governance system; and policing works including developmental activities to help further build back better peace in East Timor.

2.8.3 UN Mission in Bougainville

Bougainville is part of Papua New Guinea (PNG). Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) and the PNG had a civil war from 1988 to 1998 which resulted in fifteen to twenty thousand people

deceased during the conflict. UN political office in Bougainville (UNPOB) was established from 1998 to 2003. PNG government and Bougainville leaders signed the Bougainville Peace Agreement (BPA) on 30 August 2001 to lasting peace and political settlement through referendum (Victor, 2017). UN Observer Mission in Bougainville (UNOMB) was operational from 2004 to 2005. According to the referendum result, Bougainville agreed to be one province out of 27 provinces of PNG. Bougainville accepted and recognized PNG sovereignty and constitution as an autonomous province of PNG. Australia and Indonesia provided some sort of peace support to PNG. It has proved how aid can be supportive of war and peace. Bougainville was also a successful political and peacebuilding mission in Asia (Anderson, 1999).

2.9 UNMIN Mission in Nepal

UNMIN was a political mission in Nepal from 23 January 2007 to 23 January 2011 with 182 unarmed UN military observers (Martin, 2012). As Upreti (2010) disclosed the difficulties and dilemmas of armed conflict and Nepalese peace. He further stated that the Maoist armed conflict had started in February 1996 and continued for 10 years until 2006. It had challenged the 240-year monarchical system and other existing economic, political, social, and cultural schemes and structures. Nepalese armed conflict was complex/challenging (Upreti, 2010c).

The state had taken all possible measures and approaches in three tiers of tactical, operational, and strategic levels such as integrated security and development program (ISDP), Kilo sera II, creation of armed police force, military mobilization, imposed of state of emergency, fixing reward money on heads of Maoist leaders, creation of unified command plan (UCP), formation of village defense committees to fail and foil Maoist armed conflict. Some other efforts like two-way communication, dialogue, and negotiation were also established to settle the conflict through ceasefire and peace talks. However, two phases of negotiation and peace talks in 2001 and 2003 failed between the government and Maoists. People's representation was also lacking due to obstruction of the periodic elections. Maoists were initially insurgents to capture state power but later they were ready to accept multiparty democracy which was doubtful and confusion about their commitment to the electoral process and its conclusive conduct (Singh, 2019).

In between the period of armed conflict, the royal massacre on 01 June 2001; the 9/11 attack at the World Trade Center in the USA, and the Royal takeover on 1st February 2005 were also the

key event in the world. The government had also changed in a short time and notice which made the government fragile and fatigued. After Royal's takeover in 2005, King Gynendra tried to test / trail experiments through his direct role to settle the armed conflict by controlling media and parliamentary political parties. All state strategies plus synergized efforts did not give the desired result to maintain peace, security, and prosperity. On the contrary, armed conflict was a continuum and could not be controlled or curtailed. State motion and maneuver were like failed state syndrome (Upreti, 2010c).

In such a way, the Nepal government alone was not completely able to manage intra-state armed conflict. Then, Nepal's government realized to receive support from the parliamentary political parties, civil societies, friendly countries, the international communities, and especially the UN and its entities. Nepalese civil society also played an innovative and constructive role building building peace in a multi-ethnic and multi-linguistic country like Nepal (Bhattachan, 2003). Conflict can be caused by many sources. UN realized that the Nepalese conflict was caused due to underdevelopment, disparity in regional/urban-rural development, and derailed democracy (Bhattra, 2003).

2.9.1 UNMIN Monitoring Mission

According to the UNDP (2009), part 20 of the interim constitution (2007) and its articles 144, 146, and 147 stated the formation of the Nepal army; and the management and monitoring of arms and armies as transitional provisions of combatants. Nepal's army was also determined by the appropriate number, democratic structure, and inclusive character designed and developed by the divulging norms of democracy and human rights. The council of ministers had special rights to establish the special committee to supervise, integrate, and rehabilitate the Moist Army as determined. The monitoring/management of Maoist combatants will be as per the comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) dated 05 Mangsir 2063 or 21 November 2006; and the agreement on the monitoring of the management of arms and armies (AMMAA) reached on 22 Mangsir 2063 or 08 December 2006 or just 17days later of a peace agreement (UNDP, 2009). The UNMIN monitoring duty was technically and diplomatically designed (Berridge, 2015).

The ceasefire arrangement was monitored by the civil affairs office of UNMIN. The common mandate of civil affairs includes monitoring, reporting, and liaison with state and non-state actors as appropriate to fulfill the monitoring mandate. The monitoring aim was to create a safe,

secure, and stable environment to conduct a free, fair, and fearless environment for the CA election, especially in remote parts of the country. The state may be absent for a prolonged period due to the previous merger of a temporary/permanent operating base (T/POB) to manage and maintain overall responsibility to maintain peace and security (Sharma, 2019).

2.9.2 UNMIN Arms and Armies Management

Disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, rehabilitation (DDR/R), and reconciliation are essential execution to repair the relationship between conflicting parties for the management of conflict (Jeong, 2006). Peace and conflict have clear cleavage. Peace depends on partnership and relationship. Modern war or conflict is purely a continuum of policy and polity by other means (Clausewitz, 1989). Peace and conflict are not congruence or confluence (Huntington, 1996a). The most critical/ central task of UNMIN was to monitor ceasefire, management of Maoist arms/armies, integrate into the army, and reintegrate/ rehabilitate into civil society. The exact number of Maoist combatants varies due to different claims by the different sources and scholars however, UNMIN verified 19602 eligible combatants from the cantonments (Gautam, 2015). More than 2900 combatants were found child soldiers or minors during the verification process. The number of minor combatants and national military standards for recruitment had made the integration difficult. However, scholars argued that reintegration was possible due to the military's tone-down approach and a flexible posture for problem-solving. According to the special committee (2012), 1422 combatants (1318 male and 104 female) were integrated into the Nepal Army by eliminating ex-combatants frustration and confusion in cantonments (Shivakoti et al., 2018). The details of total verified combatants were 19,602 as given below;

Table 2.9.2
UNMIN Results of Registration and Verification of Maoist Army

Categories	Number	Remarks
Combatants at cantonment	32250	Initial registration
Minors	2973	Born after 25 May 1988
Late recruited	1035	Join after 25 May 2006
Absent Combatants	8640	Auto disqualified
Verified combatants	19602	UNMIN 2 nd verification
Total	32250	19602

Note. UNMIN press statement on 19 May 2009

According to the UNMIN registered and verification work, the supposed number of combatants was not present in the cantonments. During the verification process, 8,640 combatants were

absent; 4,008 combatants were minors and late recruiters who were automatically disqualified by the UNMIN verification team. The fact sheet of Maoist combatants was as follows;

Table 2.9.2

Integration and Reintegration of Ex-combatants

Categories	Male	Female	Total
Combatants	15576	3846	19602
Deaths	-	-	94
Rehabilitation	6	0	6
Unattended Combatants	-	-	2456
Verification by Secretariat	13702	3350	17052
Volunteer Retirement	12378	3246	15624
Integration into the Nepal Army	1318	104	1422
Total	15576	3846	19602

Note. Special Committee Secretariat, 2012

UNMIN was tasked to implement the central issues of CPA and AMMAA through a special committee and JMCC. Inter-party coordination, political consensus, and special committees had a special role in registering, verifying, and integrating the Maoists into the military too. After verification, 15,624 combatants had chosen volunteer retirement with a 6-9 lakhs lump sum package, and 1,318 combatants integrated into the Nepal army. Nepal army also exhibited flexibility in integrating Maoist combatants to make the success of peace process which was also a key aspect to the success of stakeholders of the peace process and UNMIN. So, investing in peace is for prosperity. Peace is a path to future prosperity (Anderson, 1999).

2.9.3 UNMIN Human Rights Protection

UN OHCHR was established in Dec 1993 by the General Assembly to promote and protect human rights in UN member states. The UN human rights approach is crucial to resolving the Nepalese conflict. The UN Human Rights Office was in operation before the comprehensive peace agreement. Human rights are inherent rights by all humans received at birth for dignity, freedom, and peace. Nepal as a member of the UN, Nepal has to comply with the Declaration of Human Rights 1948. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Nepal government had an agreement to establish an office in Apr 2005. Then, OHCHR opened its office in May 2005. The UN OHCHR's role was to protect, promote, monitor, and report on human rights situations in Nepal (Pathak, 2005). The central cause of the conflict was discontent with monarchy, the absence of democracy, good governance, justice, human rights violations,

and centralized resources/systems in the context of Nepal (Adhikari, 2003). During the conflict, human rights violations were also suspected and UN OHCHR conducted an exhumation for extrajudicial killings in Doramba, Janakpur, and other places. Peacebuilding understands the record of serious/human rights violations to address the issues (Dayton & Kriesberg, 2009)

UN OHCHR further provided advisory support services and advocacy regarding human rights policies, programs, and measures to Nepalese authorities, civil society, and stakeholders including the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). NHRC was established in 2000 as a constitutional body as also stated in Article 248 of the present constitution (Shrestha, 2018). OHCHR and NHRC had coordination. Ian Martin was the UN OHCHR commissioner/representative later; Mr. Martin was appointed as SRSG or head of UNMIN and was succeeded by Mrs. Karin Landgren in the later phase of the peace process. Peacebuilding is also the process of preventive diplomacy (Brawn & Miller, 1998). Without peace, development is impossible (Beswick & Jackson, 2015). To achieve peace, the UN later through the UNMIN mission invested its effort from 2002 to 2018 until the full success of the peace process in Nepal (Martin, 2021).

2.9.4 UNMIN Mine Action Approach

UNMIN had an action team that had contributed to demining landmines and improvising explosive devices (IEDs) such as socket bombs and other types of explosives. This included advising, teaching, and training the Nepal Army personnel too how to be safe from mines demining for remnants of conflicts, and advocating for a mine-free world as per the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). UNMIN mine action team had closely worked with Nepal army and Maoist army, especially for information sharing to locate and identify previously laid minefields. Most of the security bases were secured either by landmines or IEDs.

According to BBC News, the UN had declared Nepal was freed from land mines after destroying all the country's mine fields as per the agreement under the 2006 CPA between the government and Maoists. Some IEDs and homemade mines can be left and still threaten the people. From 2006 to 1 Jun 2011, landmines had caused 473 casualties including 78 fatal in Nepal. Nepal army had laid 257 landmines in 53 minefield locations in different locations of the country during the armed conflict. The last landmine at Phulchoki was a symbolic end by destroying the mine action team and announcing that it was a historic day to destroy all the minefields laid by security

forces in the pursuit of peace in Nepal. So, the successful clearance of the remaining/rampant demining work of UNMIN had pushed to promote peace and prosperity as a part of peacebuilding activities of the peace process in Nepal (BBC News, 14 June 2011).

2.9.5 UNMIN Support in CA Election

The Nepalese peace process was a unique and untraditional example in the world where Maoists removed their belief from the bullet and shifted their trust to the ballot for settlement of armed conflict (Adhikari, 2014a). UNMIN peacebuilding process was positive for central roles to contain combatants, verification combatants, demining and support to CA election which provided a primary path to re-establish strong peace and security in Nepal (Martin, 2012). Peace and prosperity come through full democracy (Nagel, 2022). Democracy conducts periodic elections. Election assistance is the key function of DPPA. UNMIN was the DPPA mission. Upreti (2010c) mentioned the role of UNMIN which provided technical assistance to the Election Commission (EC) of Nepal. It also provided legal advice, election experts, legal framework, and voter education to conduct free and fair elections. UNMIN had the authority to report and review all technical aspects of the electoral process of the election conducted through the election expert monitoring team (EEMT). UNMIN provided 14 international advisors in the election commission in the central office at Kathmandu. Every regional headquarters had 15 international advisors (Upreti, 2010c).

In addition, 124 international electoral advisors and 43 national electoral advisors were stationed in 75 districts which meant 2/3 of electoral advisors were deployed in the district. UNDP provided coordinated information to election observers. The UN agencies / UN OHCHR deployed teams on the day of voting in nearly 45 districts to build confidence among voters. UNMIN monitored the Nepal army and Maoist cantonments to remain demobilization on the day of voting. The voters were 17611832 and voting was 63.29 % in the CA election 2008 for the 240 fixed seats of 601 under the first past the post system in Nepal. UNMIN had efficaciously supported to conduct constituent assembly election which was postponed many years ago and this task was the milestone for making and promulgating the new constitution in Nepal (Upreti, 2010a, pp. 87-90). The free, fair, and fearless conduct of the election pursued a positive and proper path of the peace process in democratic principles and procedural practice in Nepal. Nepal has now established its best wishes for permanent peace and prosperity (Shakya, 2013).

2.9.6 UNMIN Child Protection and GESI

Gender mainstreaming is a challenging issue in any conflict country. UNMIN gender section played a central role in participating in women at all levels of the political process to promote gender equality based on Security Council resolution 1325 to incorporate/support women's political participation. Social inclusion at all levels through the proportional representation principle especially people who are traditionally marginalized groups to include in socio-economic transformation (Ban, 2014). Child protection officers at its UNMIN headquarters and at each regional office had supported to reintegrate of minors from the Maoist army in close work with UNICEF, civil society, and government agencies.

2.10 UN Country Team, Nepal

Under the UN Secretariat, various departments collaboratively work with the UN country team, national government, and local community (Pouliny, 2016). UN has deployed a UN country team in Nepal which is composed of all UN agencies, funds, and programs residing in the country. The UN country team is coordinated and technically controlled by the UN / Resident Coordinator/ humanitarian coordinator (UNRC/ HC). UN country team paints the picture of pre-conflict and post-conflict peacebuilding activities and programs. The UN Peacebuilding is a powerful political process and procedure for reconciliation, rehabilitation, reintegration, and resilience purpose to prevent relapsing conflict by repairing and restoring relationships of people by restructuring and reforming institutions through recommendations and representative of inclusive society because peace is the preferred reality for everyone and everywhere. UN country team is headed by a resident coordinator (Darweish & Rank, 2012).

2.11 Research Gap

The research gap is an acute knowledge dearth because of missing or insufficient information or knowledge in previous research studies. The actual mandates of UNMIN from the UN Security Council and the role of UNMIN in building peace for the management of a decade-long armed conflict is under research study. So, this is a research gap because of its insufficient information and/or under-researched/explored area of study in past research work. Many scholars and researchers have contributed comprehensive knowledge in UN peacekeeping and UN peacemaking principles, practices, procedures, and pedagogies on how the UN supports member

states to maintain peace and security in conflict conditions in the world. However, the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal is an under-researched issues in the context of UNMIN's support role in the Nepalese peace process. After the Cold War, the new tool emerged as a UN instrument coalescing with conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, economic sanction, and post-conflict peacebuilding process when Butros Butros Ghali used the peacebuilding phrase in Agenda for Peace (A4P) in 1992.

Then, the term UN peacebuilding became popular and evolved into a UN-wide system. UN had deployed DPKO and DPA missions on the ground before 2019. After the restructuring of the UN, the DPO manages 11 peacekeeping missions. DPPA manages 22 special political and peacebuilding missions, SG's good office / special envoy / personal envoy or SRSG's special representative to prevent conflict at the lowest possible level before and after conflict breaks. The multi-track peace initiative was inevitable from the top-down and bottom-up approach to resolve a decade-long armed conflict in the procedural pedagogy of the peace process (Jha, 2012). UNMIN exit egress after completion of its mandate implementation but the UN SCR-mandated tasks of UNMIN are still under research on what and how UNMIN had played roles with responsibilities to bring timely positive results in the Nepalese peace process.

UNMIN had arms and armies monitoring and management mandate to end a decade-long armed conflict to promote the pathways of sustainable peace and prosperity. UN funds, agencies, and programs were paving peace and prosperity in Nepal through their supportive roles to reduce poverty; provide food assistance, health, and education; protect human rights; advocate the rule of law, and strengthen democracy (Brown, 1996). As per the request of the government of Nepal and CPN (M), UNMIN worked for four years. UNMIN's unique mechanism has resulted in progress in peace and prosperity status in Nepal. Due to the causes and consequences, Nepalese people's perception in UNMIN is assumed positive. However, the UNMIN's peacebuilding role in Nepal is just partially unleashing or unfolding albeit it was a meaningfully supportive mission (Adhikari, 2008).

Peace and security is the primary responsibility of the government. Sometimes, the government is unable to provide full-fledged security to their people due to causes of complex conflict and humanitarian emergencies. Then, the country may seek UN support to stabilize peace and security. A stable peace and secure environment can only create the path of the business

environment for investment and development. Development is a decisive activity to promote prosperity which provides employment and alleviates poverty. Peace can be attained by managing armed conflict and armed groups, democracy, social justice, and safety and security satisfaction. Prosperity can be attained through poverty reduction, income growth, human development, and corruption control. Peace and prosperity are preferred to pronounce but equally tough to attain it. Peace and prosperity are correlated and depend on many thematic cross-cutting issues like periodic elections, respect for human rights, protection of civilians/children, rule of law, and gender equality and social inclusion.

So, the researcher felt current knowledge is insufficient or deficient in past research work about what were the exact mandates of UNMIN and how UNMIN-mandated tasks had played an impactful role in ending a decade-long armed conflict. In addition, what key roles of UNMIN supported to promote peace and prosperity in Nepal? These unanswered questions in the previous research works are the research gaps in this study. The researcher's research report will explain, describe, and explore the exact role of UNMIN in building peace which will contribute new/actual knowledge in the management of Nepalese armed conflict, peace, and development studies (CPDS) in Nepal.

2.12 Conceptual Framework

The UN peacebuilding ideational is peace architecture, approach, and activity along with peacemaking and peacekeeping to maintain peace and security (Miall, 2001). The UN Peacebuilding is an emerging approach to preventing present and potential conflict through preventive diplomacy, reconciliation, rehabilitation, and restructuring of the state. Safety and security promote peace and prosperity. Dialogue, diplomacy, democracy, and development promote justice, human rights, gender equality, and social inclusion. Gender equality and social inclusion after a new constitution is appreciated to address the root cause of conflict (Asian Development Bank, 2010). Promoting peace and prosperity produces trust, confidence, and a positive perception of the UN.

The UN has been continuously contributing to preventing and resolving conflict. The intra-state conflicts increased after the Cold War. There are specific principles, methods, and approaches for conflict resolution in the 21st century due to multidimensional causes and consequences (Bercovitz & Jackson, 2012). Conflict resolution strategy is central as per international conflict

resolution theory and practice for conflicting parties (Azar & John, 1986). So, peace and prosperity are the final goals in the 21st century and beyond. Political parties may have a clash of ideas or interests which invites disputes, disagreements, and conflicts. As of today, there are 36 UN peace support operations in the world whatever the causes of conflict.

There are 22 UN DPPA missions. They are in Afghanistan, Iraq, Colombia, Somalia, Libya, etc, etc. UN assistance mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) since 2002 is mandated to implement the Bonn agreement to re-establish permanent government institutions. UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) was established in 2003 at the request of the government of Iraq to provide UN advice/assistance to advance political dialogue for national/local reconciliation, election support, and promoting human rights. The UN verification mission in Columbia was established after the joint request for UN support from the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Force of Colombia–The People’s Army (FARC-EP) to monitor the ceasefire agreement and verification of armed forces for armed conflict management. UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) was established in 2013 to provide policy advice for national reconciliation, and promote human rights to support the federal government of Somalia. Likewise, the UN support mission in Libya (UNSMIL) was established in 2011 to implement of ceasefire and facilitate of election to support transitional authority in the Libyan-led political process/model. UN peacebuilding is a need-based support/assistance that helps UN member countries address the root cause of conflict or threats to peace.

The UN peacebuilding works in pre/during/post-conflict environments to promote peace, security, and prosperity (Beshwick & Jackson, 2015). Nepal had faced a decade-long armed conflict from February 1996-2006 which resulted in the death of more than 17886 people and loss of large amounts of private/public properties. UNMIN operated as a special political mission from 2007-2011 and ceased its operation after the completion of its mandate. UN as a last resort and 24/7 is ready to respond when the fog of peace is blurry in member states. UN responded to the government of Nepal and Maoist official requests in a rapid deployment manner (Guechenno, 2015).

Nepal’s foreign policy is to maintain peace and contribute to global peace and prosperity (Bhattra, 2017). The Maoists left the bullet and shifted their trust to the ballet. Participatory democracy is strongly recognized for peace and prosperity by conflicting parties (Barbar, 2003).

Both conflicting parties requested the UN assistance to implement CPA. The Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1740 by the 5622nd meeting on 23 January 2007 and extended it up to 2011. The UNMIN had mandated to monitor cease-fire agreements and manage arms and armies of both sides through a joint monitoring coordinating committee (JMCC). UNMIN was a political mission. The significant mandate was to provide technical support to conduct the election of the constituent assembly in the most challenging conditions (Khanal, 2005).

The UNMIN has successfully supported the completion of the peace process (Druckman & Diehl, 2013). Nepal was transformed from a monarchy to a federal democratic republic. Political structure was the underlying cause of conflict. The other cross-cutting issues are demining task tasks, monitoring human rights, gender equality, and the DDR program (Bhatta & Upreti, 2016). Rehabilitation and integration of Maoist combatants in military service/society was part of security sector reform (K.C., 2013). Nepal government and Nepal army had tone downed model or flexible approach while determining criteria in a supportive manner to manage conflict in Nepal (Rana, 2022). Nepal is mine mine-free country in Asia after UNMIN demining work. The successful peacebuilding process and pursuit was a daunting task for mandate implementation in the 21st century (Franda, 2016).

After a successful peace process, peace and prosperity are upgraded. Ongoing armed conflict and non-state armed groups (NSAG) are not noticed and recorded. The safety and security situation is stable. Battle-related deaths is almost zero. The peace and prosperity index is promoting. Political activities are peacefully organized. The Maoist political party started to trust ballot boxes rather than bullets. The poverty level was reduced. National income, individual income, and prosperity levels have been improved. Satisfaction level is at the top in South Asia (World Happiness Report, 2022).

Personal freedom and a fearless environment are felt. Havoc and harsh words are not heard. UN mediation and UNMIN support role-play have proved and paved the way for peace and prosperity in Nepal. People's perception is also positive due to the outcome of peace resulting from the role of UNMIN and UN AFPs. Trust towards the UN is positive due to the completion of complicated technical tasks of the peace process in Nepal. Peace is present and conflict is absent in Nepal after post UNMIN period (Damor, 2018).

2.13 Theoretical Framework

Nepal faced civil armed conflict from 1996 to 2006 which resulted in more than 17886 battle-related deaths and billions of rupees of properties damaged and destroyed. Conflict has always linkages and nexus with different causes and consequences (Sharma, 2019). Conflict is a clash and class struggle between parties which is also known as a positive cause of change in social, economic, and political structure. Arguments and disagreement are the best-described definitions of conflict. Conflict can be caused by a lack of basic needs and poverty (Akendiz, 2016). According to Maslow's theory of motivation, human needs are hierarchical. These are psychological, safety and security, social, self-esteem, and self-actualization. Safety and security situation is a precondition for peace and prosperity. According to Thomas and Kilmann conflict management strategies are collaborating, competing, avoiding, accommodating, and compromising to resolve conflict. Conflict is not convivial but it is a conundrum. Three phases of negotiation efforts from the government sides were attempted to resolve armed conflict but it could not work in Nepal. The UN intermediary support was realized by both conflicting parties for ending the entire peace process as per international trust (Palmer & Perkins, 2012).

The 12-point understanding was signed between seven political parties and CPN (M) on 22 November 2005 which made a watershed moment towards promoting trust between parties with wants, reasons, routines, and reflexivity of the Nepalese people to end violence and conflict (Mollering, 2006). In order to ensure the promise and perils of civil transitions from dissident to democratic direction by the rebel is essential (Pinckney, 2020).

12-point understanding pledged to end monarchy by participating people in the peaceful movement to bring full democracy, permanent peace, and prosperity (Basnet, 2022). The 12-point understanding made it possible to further sign in comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) between the government of Nepal (GoN) and the CPN (Maoist) in 2006. The parties further agreed that the Nepali Army and the Maoist army shall be kept under the supervision of the UN to conduct free & fair elections and to accept international mediation during the dialogue process to finalize the peace process and management of arms and army. So, trust to the UN mediation role and mandate implementation is always appreciated in the Nepalese peace process (Upreti, 2013).

There are six types of peace agreements in practice in international affairs i.e. pre-negotiation, ceasefire, partial, and comprehensive, implementation, and renewal peace agreements in contemporary conflict resolution (Bell, 2000). In the context of Nepal, a comprehensive peace agreement was signed between the governments of Nepal and CPN (Maoist) in Nov 2006. Parties agreed to seek support from the UN to implement a comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) because of chaos and confusion in conflicting parties to whom they would trust for mediation. Both parties chose the UN and they requested the UN with a five-point request letter and agreed to receive technical/substantial support from the UN to end the entire peace process. UN established the United Nations Mission in Nepal to assist the peace process.

Peace and prosperity are primary national interests but they were absent during the armed conflict in Nepal. Conflict management by Nepalese stakeholders was a kind of day-dream without international community and UN support. The role of the UN in building peace in Nepal was significant which gradually promoted peace, prosperity, and reduced poverty. In their book, Brubaker and Upadhyaya (2021) opined his opinion that the UN had been innovatively engaged for continuous 16 years with parties to settle the Nepalese armed conflict boldly from 2002 to 2018 (Brubaker and Upadhyaya, 2021). Both peace and prosperity are positively advancing at present however minor misunderstandings and dissident in non/parliamentary political parties still exist which could be a future threat to peace, security, and prosperity but can be another way to be a positive response for further betterment in Nepal (Curle, 1996).

UN has been contributing to preventing and resolving conflict since its establishment with specific principles, methods, and approaches in the 21st century (Bercovitz & Jackson, 2012). People and parties may have clashes of ideas and interests which may invite inter-state and intra-state conflict. As of today, there are almost three dozen UN peace support activities in the world whatever underlying causes and sources of conflict. UN can operate in pre / during / post-conflict environments if peace is under threat through diplomacy theory and practice (Berridge, 2015).

In the pre-conflict period, the UN country team especially funds, agencies, and programs function to support member states. Peacemaking takes place, especially during conflict. To understand easily, peacekeeping takes place normally after a ceasefire or comprehensive peace agreement to monitor ceasefire compliance and implement the Security Council mandate (Bellamy & Williams, 2010). UN peacebuilding is more urgent in pre and post-conflict

peacebuilding to maintain quality peace (Wallenstein, 2015). UN Peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding are primary activities and approaches by the UN for contemporary conflict resolution. DPPA managed UNMIN as a special political mission from 2007-2011 to end a decade-long armed conflict in Nepal (Woodhouse & Miall, 2011).

As per the Zakrov and Hintjens (2015) theory and approaches, conflict, peace, and security development are interlinked. Many theories have emerged in conflict, peace, and development studies. Conflict is inevitable in human society. It has both positive and negative effects on societies. If conflict is handled properly, it may provide positive consequences (Zakrov and Hintjens, 2015). Conflict is complex and obstructs sustainable livelihoods however its solution is negotiated to reduce different cause-based conflicts (Warner, 2001).

Conflict is helix (Rummel, 1991). Violent conflict generally damages peace and prosperity. Peace and prosperity is the most buzzing phrase in national and international affairs. Theoretically, different scholars and institutions define peace and prosperity differently however the thematic synthesis is similar in a wider sense. So, peace and prosperity is a meta-theory that has consent than contending issues in international relations to reduce poverty and promote safety, security, and satisfaction for holistic happiness in mathematical understanding (Chernoff, 2007).

The World Bank (2018) defines peace and prosperity as having a high degree of happiness, inner tranquility, and economic well-being. It means peace and prosperity support to be satisfied, happy, and wealthy (World Bank, 2018). Peace and prosperity depend on development, democracy, justice, good governance, equality, and political stability. Lack of peace impedes or prevents economic development and prosperity. The cognizant scholar Smith (2009) suggests that economic democracy is a grand strategy for global peace and prosperity. So, the free market and open trade promote peace and prosperity than a closed or limited market economy. Economic democracy is a grand strategy for global peace and prosperity (Smith, 2009).

Conflict either interstate or intrastate disturbs development and state resources are distributed for defense rather than development. The warring parties do calculative trust in economic organization. This calculative trust can be converted into conflict resolution tactics with track II diplomacy for the promotion of peace, security, and prosperity (Williamson, 1993 & Welch,

2017). Diplomacy defends conflict-related damage control and provides a purposeful role for preventive diplomacy to prevent conflict (Ruffini, 2017).

Peace is the primary agenda for prosperity in both ways either an agenda for peace or action for peace (Ghali, 1995). Peace has many meanings. Peace means a state of security happiness, good health fearlessness, human rights protection, etc. Peace is possible even in conflict and war (Galtung & Jacobsen, 2000). Peace promotes justice; respects human rights; and adheres to international humanitarian law. Peace and justice care with each other; peaceful co-existence is a national interest and foreign policy of many UN member states. Peace, prosperity, and democracy are achievable through partnerships (Christopher, 1997).

The fundamental objective of Nepalese foreign policy is to safeguard sovereignty, and territorial integrity and promote prosperity in Nepal. It also aims to contribute to global peace, harmony, and security (Muni, 2016a). So, Nepalese national interest and foreign policy are also entrusted in peace, security, and prosperity. Peace and prosperity provide satisfaction. Satisfaction in public sector service delivery and justice in the judicial system are supportive/essential pillars of sustainable peace. Peaceful or non-violent political agitation to end politically motivated violent or armed conflict is also the possible course of action available in world practice. Non-violence is the best approach to peace (Gandhi, 1950). Peace and prosperity is attainable through holistic well-being in economic, social, and political systems for prosperous livelihoods (Mueller, 2018).

Perception is the psychological process by which people perceive an idea from observing, hearing, seeing, and empirically experiencing the persons, places, and phenomena. Perception is sometimes misperception in national/international relations too (Jervis, 2017). Perception primarily depends on past and present behaviors, attitudes, and performance. The degree of trust earned by individuals or institutions is also based on opinion, confidence, and public perception. So, perception consists of trust and confidence which is not strategized but freely given (Luhmann, 1988).

According to Gibb, positive perception or trust is unquestioning belief and reliance upon individuals/groups/organizations' performance in perilous positions. Psychologist says perception is an internal cognitive process whereas sociologist says trust is a property of collective attributes or social capital (Lewis & Weigert, 1985). Economists perceive perception as a calculative choice or expectation about beneficial outcomes generated by another party.

Perception can be categorized into generalized, particularized, and institutional perception. Generalized perception is about common perception; Particularized perception is familial and closed relative perception; and institutional perception is people's opinion and behavior toward an institution based on their past, present, and projected performance (Putman, 2000). Perceptual confidence is like superglue which strongly binds together to the parties amidst uncertain and risky situations (Welch, 2017).

The perception and trust towards the UN are positive in Nepal due to UNMIN's past positive performance and future expectations (Wilson & Paul, 2005). Many UN missions are prolonged like UNMOGIP and UNTSO due to the nature of the conflict however people's trust and perception in the UN for social virtue and the creation of peace and prosperity (Fukuyama, 1995). The veto power is known to P5 countries are the USA, UK, China, France, and Russia in the UN. Nepal is getting support from China in domestic as a closed neighbor and international affairs through UN veto power (Destradi, 2010). Sometimes, the UN could do nothing due to the contradictory interests of veto power countries because all veto countries must unanimously to agree on global affairs before the establishment of the Security Council Resolution. This is known as a technical hindrance to solving global affairs. This requires more research and review of what's wrong with UN technical faults to find the problem that causes prolonged peace operations in the world (Weiss, 2012).

UN was established on 24 Oct 1945 as a successor of the League of Nations. According to the preamble of the UN charter, the people of the UN have determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war which came twice in our lifetime in the form of the 1st and 2nd world wars in the 20th century. Article 1(one) of the UN charter clearly states that the purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security; develop friendly relations among nations; promote social progress; and better living standards and promote human rights (Shapiro & Lampert, 2014).

Howard (2019) perceives that UN peacekeeping has power and possessive authority through the Security Council resolution. The legal framework of military peacekeepers is guided by rules of engagement (ROE) and police peacekeepers have directives on the use of force (DUF) in peacekeeping missions while using force to achieve a mandate. Peacekeeping has fundamental principles, procedures, and practices to promote peace and security. The fundamental principles

of UN peacekeeping are consent, impartiality, and non-use of force except for self-defense and protection of mission mandate (Howard, 2019). Peacekeeping is a soldier's diplomacy to promote peace, security, and prosperity (Coulon, 2018). UN is today deployed in 12 different peace operations and 25 political and peacebuilding missions. Peacebuilding mission is double in number than Peacekeeping operations across the globe. In the past, there were 59 peacekeeping missions and 39 political/ peacebuilding missions in the world. UNMIN was one of the 39 political and peacebuilding missions that openly operated from 2007 to 2011 to eliminate the fog of peace (Guehenno, 2015).

Residing UN funds, agencies and programs are also assets to prepare groundwork to support the spirit of CPA and implement the UNSCR mandate (Einsiedel et al., 2012). The successful performance of UN mandate delivery to promote peace and security paved the pathways for development which leads to prosperity and shared economic growth in Nepalese society. UN peace operations are always challenging tasks in changed socio-economic and political contexts (Conning & Peter, 2019). The successful performance to promoting democracy and the rule of law by UN special agencies, funds, and programs has had a positive impact on the hearts and minds of Nepalese people where people were suffering from a decade-long intrastate armed conflict. It shows how democracy can promote peace and prosperity (Halperin, 2005). The remake of state building immediately after post-conflict period was quite confusing because such contemporary governance had many challenges in conflict and post armed conflict societies (Upreti, 2010).

The Nepalese peace process seemed fruitful including the Nepalese people's trust and confidence in UNMIN. UN and UNMIN's peacebuilding role had roles to promote peace and prosperity which is seen in statistical data and other indicators of peace and prosperity. However, significant research literature work in this regard is still missing what and how UNMIN has done to promote peace and prosperity. To find the fact, this research follows Galtung's peace theory; Patten's prosperity theory; and Jackson's performance-based perception to gauge UNMIN and UN AFP's performance in promoting peace and prosperity in Nepal. UNMIN was virtue of a narrow mandate or mission for a limited period with fast and focused fashion (Suhurke, 2011).

The researcher reviewed and analyzed all available, applicable, and appropriate published literature and research reports regarding the UNMIN mission in Nepal and lessons learned from

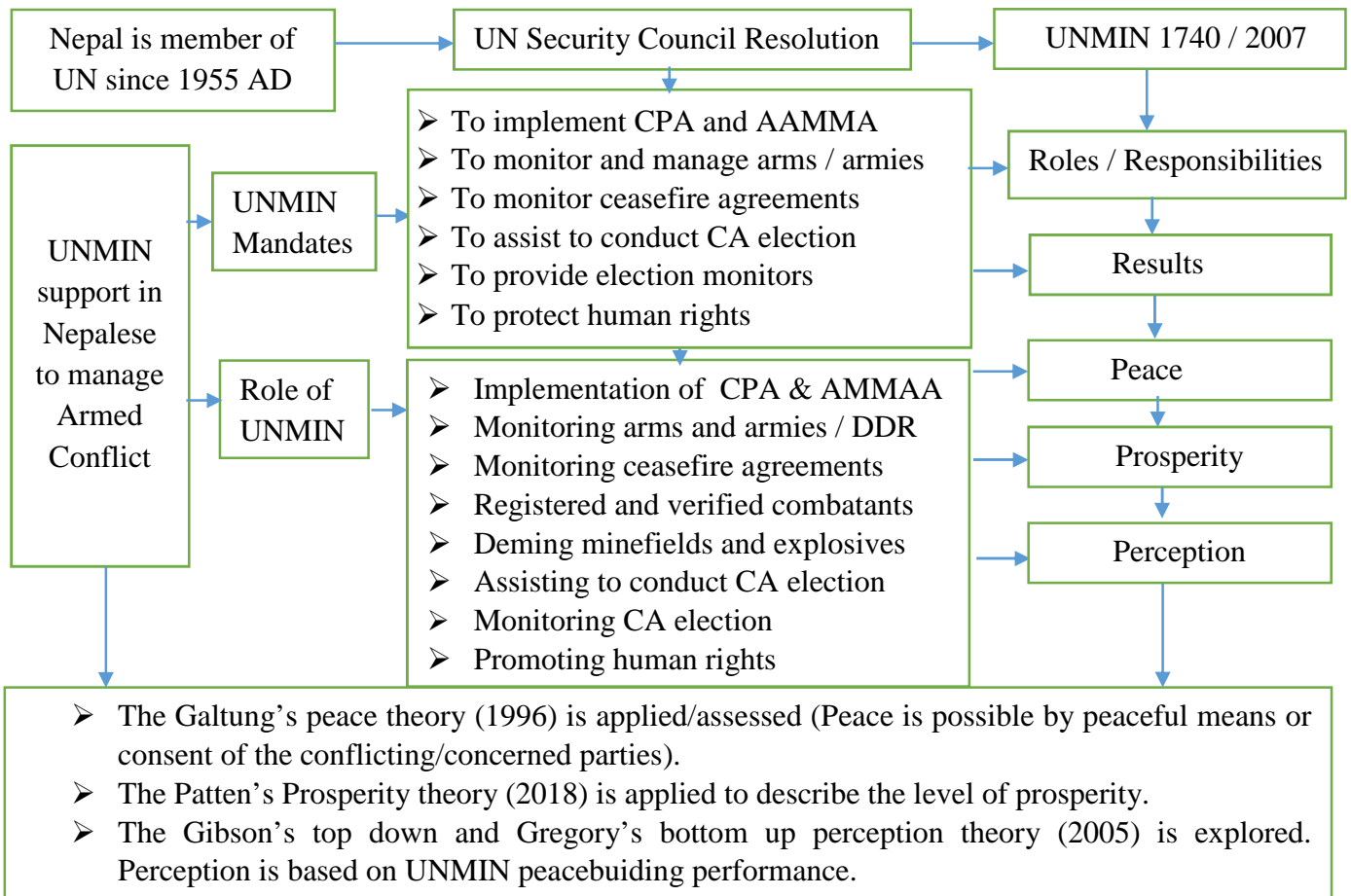
other conflict-torn countries. It became clear that the UN peacebuilding activities or its arches are diverse and hefty in many countries. Analyzing the UN political and peacebuilding missions across the world, UN support missions are engaged in numerous peacebuilding activities particularly implementing peace agreements, monitoring ceasefires, promoting human rights, strengthening government capacity, supporting/facilitating elections, de-mining works, verification of combatants and supporting local led political process in the conflict-torn countries. These resolutions are based on the country's request or technical need assessment report of the countries through technical assessment survey report to manage different types of conflict to maintain peace and security in UN member states. Theoretically, one sized model of UN support may not match to other conflict countries like Afghanistan, Libya, Somalia, Iraq, and Nepal. It depends on the root causes of conflict, the UN principles, state policy, politics, and political process. The above sketch or diagram is about the theoretical and conceptual framework in this research study which is a guideline structure or outline of the study to reach the research objectives.

In this study, the researcher applies Galtung's peace theory to attain peace by peaceful means or consent of the conflicting parties; Pattern's prosperity theory to explore national and personal income; and Gibson and Gregory mixed (top-down and bottom-up) perception theory while assessing the overall outcome of UNMIN peacebuilding activities and UN PBF/ UNPFN for Nepal. UNMIN implemented approved mandates UN SCR 1740/2007 to prevent violent conflict and build peace in Nepal. It is often heard that the major mandates of UNSCR to UNMIN were to implement key aspects of CPA and AMMAA which include monitor and management of arms and armies; monitoring ceasefire; support for CA election; Demining minefields and explosives and verification of Maoist combatants. UNMIN had roles to implement the UNSCR mandates based on the UN peace principle of consent, mandate implementation, and impartiality. Generally, peace promotes prosperity. Prosperity is based on personal income and national income as argued by pattern's prosperity theory. In addition; prosperity is assessed through the poverty level, happiness index, and corruption index. If these indexes are negative then it means that there is no progress in prosperity and if these indexes are positive it indicates prosperity is in progress. These indicators are assessed by both primary and secondary data. Perception is confidence in the public in future performance. Perception of UNMIN peacebuilding performance is assessed through the mixed perception theory of Gibson and Gregory's bottom-

up theory is assessed by survey and FGD data analysis. The top-down theory is assessed by the secondary data analysis based on the public confidence at the international level towards the UN. There is lacking uniform understanding of the role of UNMIN in promoting peace and prosperity in Nepal which is a research gap in this study. To fill the gap, the researcher designed the conceptual and theoretical diagram to explain and explore the role of UNMIN in building peace and prosperity in Nepal.

Fig. 2.13

Conceptual & Theoretical Framework: Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal



CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Research methodology is the overall strategy of systematic, sequential, and scientific research approaches to find new knowledge. According to Kumar's (2008) viewpoint, the research methodology in any academic discipline is regarded as scientific procedures and policies to find new and original knowledge about diverse phenomena including humanities and social science studies. The research methodology seeks reliable and validated answers to research questions (Kumar, 2008). The research studies about the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal precede a proper procedure and technique of research methodology to examine/explore the UNMIN roles, responsibilities, and results by analyzing qualitative and quantitative data in order to make verified findings, conclusions, and suggestive recommendations. The research methodology systematically and scientifically seeks the answer to the level of peace and prosperity questions. This study sequentially analyzes the prevailing level of peace and prosperity outcome after the UNMIN performance which resulted in shaping the positive perceptual view of Nepalese people. This research methodology as a science of study supports how research is done scientifically and significantly to evaluate the overall validity and reliability of the peace process. This research process follows the thorough scientific process of defining/redefining peace and prosperity, literature review; present position of peace and prosperity; formulating assumptions, research design, sampling size, data collection method, data analysis, interpretation, and preparing reports to contribute new knowledge (Kothari, 2004).

3.2 Nature of Research

Research demands the researcher's original work to answer research questions or solve research problems. Every research demands scientific research methodology. This applies a mixed research method in which the level of peace and prosperity after UNMIN role in Nepal is also analyzed in mixed model methodology to answer the research questions. In this research, the scientific process of research methodology is also collectively applied by providing the researcher's philosophical position, research design, questionnaire for survey, interview, and FGD including sampling strategy, sample size, data collection tools, techniques, and procedures,

qualitative and quantitative data management/analysis, interpretation, ethical standards, and variables to explore and analyze the peace and prosperity progress after the role of UNMIN in Nepal (Kim, 2010).

Merging quantitative and qualitative approaches in a single study is widely practiced and accepted in the majority of areas of social science. This study has also used mixed approaches of research i.e. analyzing both qualitative and quantitative data. Peace and prosperity have great value in human life. The researcher's epistemological philosophy about peace and prosperity is based on past research perspectives by varied scholars which have linkage and correlation with each other. Researcher ontologically assumes that there is a progressive index in peace and prosperity level which is achieved after the outcome of successful conflict management through UNMIN diplomatic presence and overall performance. This research focuses on reaching the research objectives. As a researcher, the real index of peace, prosperity, and the perception position of Nepalese people in the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding is the principal objective through mixed research method in this research.

In order to reveal these realities, researchers have applied scientific techniques. These techniques include sampling, highly structured protocols, and administered mixed structure of questionnaires with a set of themes to receive real responses from the respondents. This research study employs sufficient non-random samples in a convenient judgment basis to access applicable data in formal /informal interviews with selected respondents in the key informant's interview (KII) technique. An interview, survey, two focused group discussions, and limited participatory overt observation methods through respondent's ongoing behavior, a different dimension of discourse, dialogue, and discussion have been done to evaluate the authentic picture of peace and prosperity status by using systematic and statistically measurable techniques about the real role of the UNMIN in Nepal. Measuring peace by principles, practices, and politics are problematic parts (Caplan, 2019). To measure peace prosperity and perception; structured questionnaires are designed to achieve goals and objectives by gathering people's thoughts, opinions, attitudes, beliefs, motivations, habits and feelings from clusters/different geographic locations toward UNMIN performance.

The compact form of questionnaires is constructed and thematic opinions are also taken through formal interviews and informal interviews to reach near to the reality of the truth. The primary

source of data collection is the qualitative character through semi-structured questionnaires which are non-statistical information about experience, opinion, observation, and perception of the research subject in line with the overall objectives of the investigation while Nepal has traveled towards the road of federalism from grassroots democracy to durable peace (Adhikari, 2020a).

3.3 Philosophical Position

The philosophical purview of the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding for peace and prosperity is broader however peace and prosperity is a meta-theory. There is no single panacea prescription to promote peace and prosperity when countries are emerging from natural disasters, conflicts, and crises. The general worldview of peace comes from democracy, justice, human rights; rules-based governance/approach, and the absence of armed groups and armed conflict (Richmond, 2014). Prosperity is economic well-being for promoting living standards and livelihoods by increasing personal income and national income. According to the UN charter, the UN has a collective responsibility to maintain peace and security in the world at the request of the host country or without the request of the host country if events pose threats to the peace.

The UN member states may seek support while governments are partially or perfectly unable to manage peace and security due to interstate/intrastate conflict and human-made or natural-made disasters. The UN supports the member states to maintain peace and security; and the role of the UN as a responsibility to protect (R2P) is a new paradigm of collective security scheme in international law (Hilpold, 2015). Due to the global village scenario, one country's security threats/events in one corner may have a severe security impact on another country's national interest and national security due to the exodus movement of refugees, IDPs, mass migrations, trans-border arms trafficking, crimes, and civil unrests.

UN peace operations can be longer, shorter, and limited period due to differentiation in national political will, partnership, and local ownership to achieve lasting peace. UNMIN was a limited and focused mission. UNMIN had almost achieved its mandate in Nepal within a limited time frame and had met people's wishes/expectations through successful mandate implementation in Nepal's fitful peace process (International Crisis Group, 2011a).

The UN peacebuilding has been emerging tools and approaches to maintain peace and security in conflict or potentially conflict-torn countries after the Cold War because conflicts seem more intrastate rather than interstate in the world. The UN peacebuilding prioritizes recovering peace from conflict, repairs relations between warring parties reforms the governance system, and rule of law, and restructures the political-economic-social system by building back better (3B) institutions and infrastructures for strengthening the state's resilience capacity and capability to cope extant and future conflict in fragile, failed and frail countries. The appropriate fashion is focused, fast, and flexible to address uncertainties, and fragile, failed, and frail situations through UN and UNMIN peacebuilding (Horney & Oesha, 2015).

The UNMIN peacebuilding models and mandates may not be matched from mission to mission however addressing root causes of conflict and strengthening national institutions and reconciliation are major objectives of the UNMIN peacebuilding mission. For example, the rule of law, security sector reform (SSR), national reconciliation, and regional dimension of conflict were major peacebuilding mandates in the case of Liberia. The UN-integrated peacebuilding office in Serra Leone (UNIPSIL) from 2008-2014 had mandated that youth employment, empowerment of democracy and good governance, justice, SSR, and human rights were primary. The UN peacebuilding support office in Guinea-Bissau from 1999 to 2009 (UNOGBIS) had focused in elections, economic rehabilitation; infrastructures, public administration, and social justice were major mandates. So, mandates are varied case by case of conflict and political economy dynamics like Guinea-Bisasau and Liberia (Bappah, 2017).

UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) is a political and peacebuilding mission that was established in 2002 and operationalized to date. UNAMA mandate has primarily stressed combating the cultivation and trafficking of illicit drugs, eliminating the threat of landmines/small arms, reconstruction and recovery support, and humanitarian assistance to implement the Bonn agreement by reestablishing a permanent government however peace is like a mirage in Afghanistan (Johnson & Leslie 2008). In the case of Nepal, UNMIN was mandated to manage and monitor arms and armies of the conflicting parties; and supported conducting constituent assembly elections including other cross-cutting issues. These examples compare and contrast that UN peacebuilding could have mixed mandates however the end state is to promote peace and prosperity. Peace and prosperity is a meta-theory and hence it is analyzed from

deductive to inductive method in a descriptive approach about the roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal.

Peace and prosperity are Nepalese people's desires which is also evidently enshrined in the preamble of Nepalese new/latest constitution 2015 (Shrestha, 2018). Peace and prosperity are paradigms for happiness and satisfaction too. This study finds out the actual reality of how UNMIN mandates, policies, plans, programs, and performance have contributed to promoting the peace and prosperity level in Nepal. This new knowledge bridges the existing knowledge gap about the achievement of peace and prosperity through UNMIN performance and the perception of Nepalese people to the UN and UNMIN peacebuilding activities before/during/after the peace process.

This sequential scientific research methodology systematically and logically investigates the flaws and faults of the peace and prosperity position of Nepal in the past and present too. Measuring peace is hard to pin (Parr, 2010). In this study, the researcher uses or applies available and applicable research tools and techniques to reach the objectives of the research by gauging past and present peace and prosperity positions by using relevant benchmarks of peace and prosperity in the case of Nepalese peace and prosperity level

The Peace and prosperity progress was in doubt / unstable during a decade-long conflict due to a lack of trust, and different perceptions and convictions between conflicting parties in Nepal. Perception is not conditional but it is a contextual expectation. Institutional and organizational trust perception is always purposeful in UN and UNMIN peacebuilding operations. Permanent perception towards peace and prosperity people's perspective is based on UN peace and security performance rather than primordial position, familial relations, and social/ethnic identity. This dissertation focuses on finding out UNMIN functional roles, responsibilities, and results based on the UNMIN organizational performance in Nepal.

UN peacekeeping is more expensive because of the demand for the deployments of large numbers of uniformed peacekeepers, military contingent, formed police unit (FPU), and their contingent-owned equipment (COE) based on the status of force agreement (SOFA), status of mission agreement (SOMA) and its rate of reimbursement either wet lease or dry lease rate as per the contractual agreement in memorandum of understanding (MOU) between UN and T/PCC. The UN Peacebuilding and peacemaking approaches are relatively cheaper than UN

peacekeeping from a financial outlook but its end state is also to achieve peace and security for sustainable prosperity (Dawson, 2004). Peace can be positive and negative. According to Galtung (1996), positive peace means is peaceful society at all levels however it may have some structural issues to be settled. Negative peace is direct violence and conflict which results in death and dearth in human civilization. Peace promotes prosperity, and conflict destroys civilization and public and private properties. Peace is a holistic satisfaction in political, social, and economic well-being. Prosperity is a combination of personal and gross national income for better living standards. In this research study, Galtung's peace theory (1996) is applied to assess the level of peace and to achieve research objectives. The researcher analyzes the number of existing armed groups; the status of the safety and security situation, and ongoing internal/external conflict (Galtung, 1996). Prosperity is calculated through Patten's theory of personal income, GDP, happiness, and satisfaction level. People's perceptions can be estimated through either top-down or bottom-up theory. In this research, the researcher applies Gibson's top-down theory of perception to generalize people's trust and perception in the UNMIN mission in Nepal.

The researcher's philosophical assumption is also an anticipated answer to the roles of UNMIN peacebuilding research questions which are short, sweet, simple, and succinct possibilities or predictive statements about the possible outcome in peace, prosperity, and perception. An assumption is a researcher's guess about the likely data or outcome of a population. The assumption is likely found through mixed research methods (Kothari, 2004). Researchers assumed that the UN had a role in making peace and UNMIN had a role in keeping and building peace in Nepal. Researcher presumes that Nepalese people are feeling better peacefulness than armed conflict after the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding activities. Researcher also guesses that the level of peace and prosperity index is progressive after UNMIN roles and Nepalese people's perception towards UNMIN performance in Nepal.

3.4 Research Design

Research design is the overall plan of the proposed study. Research design is and black-and-white plan and procedure for research that spans the decision from broad assumption to a detailed method of data collection and analysis. Research design is the heart of research methodology (Denzin, 2002). Research is an organized process of acquiring in-depth

knowledge. It is a systematic, controlled, empirical, and critical investigation of assumed propositions about the presumed relations among natural phenomena (Crabtree & Miller, 1999). Applying scientific research methodology requires a set of procedures in research to confer its validity and reliability. Research methodology can be defined as the development of research background, research knowledge, and its nature (Saunders, 2011). Research design is the overall plan of the proposed research work from foundation to conclusion (Kothari, 2004).

To select an appropriate research design for this study, the research design is aligned with the research aim, objectives, and research questions to seek scientific and reliable answers. Based on this, this study uses the mixed method of research design qualitatively and quantitatively with descriptive and statistical research methods. The reason behind using descriptive/statistical research methods is to reveal an actual picture of the present and past position of the Nepalese peace and prosperity index by evaluating major and minor correlated cross-cutting issues.

3.5 Research Assumption

The researcher's assumption is a guess for future results/outcomes. The assumption is influenced by the researcher's ontological and epistemological position. It is to be tested and a tentative answer to a specific research question. Generating assumption is a prior guess of knowledge and prediction about a phenomenon based on the research aim, objectives, and likely answer through the proper research methodology in social sciences (Creswell, 2009). Before jumping into any research area, the researcher has to be philosophically aware and familiar with existing epistemological knowledge about the research area. Nepal has been contributing to UN peacekeeping operations since 1958 to promote peace and security in the world but UN peacebuilding emerged after the Cold War. Peacebuilding is a new exercise lane for peacekeepers. Scholars and foreign policy makers/visitors have observed and noticed the name and fame of Nepalese peacekeepers who are deployed in different and difficult hardship duty stations. The UN has also peacebuilding missions in many countries to prevent conflict and has already operated in many countries including Nepal as UNMIN. Researcher assumed UNMIN had a significant role in implementing key issues of CPA and AAMMA in the peace process.

The key tasks of UNMIN were to manage Maoist arms, ammunitions, and armies and provide technical support to conduct the CA election in a free and fair environment. The literature review

knowledge has helped to generate the assumption that the significant role UNMIN played in managing a decade-long unresolved armed conflict and supported the promotion of the peace and prosperity index in Nepal. This basic research assumes that most of the Nepalese people have a positive perception of the UNMIN and its political and peacebuilding performance to promote peace and prosperity in a limited period. More than a dozen of UN AFP's special UNDP, UNICEF, and WHO country teams are still operating for the promotion of peace in Nepal. This indicates the roles and importance of the UN agency in promoting peace, security, and prosperity in conflict-torn countries (Williamson, 1988).

Here in this research, the researcher verifies or proves prior assumptions through data analysis from survey reports, , interviews, and focused group discussions where structured / semi-structured questionnaires were asked to the respondents. To test quantitative data management simple SPSS tool is also used and analyzed mean, median, mode, and standard deviation to find the principal roles of UNMIN and its overall status or result in peace, prosperity, and perception position in Nepal. In addition, peace and prosperity data is also analyzed through the secondary sources of survey data.

3.6 Type of Research

The role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal is mixed a research method which is done through descriptive and exploratory sequential approach however there are different types of research and approaches in social science study. Descriptive research answers what, when, and how but it does not statistically prove the causalities of why inquiries. Inductive and deductive research are two common approaches of research in which the researcher moves from one starting point to another ending point by using reason, rationale, and research routine. The inductive research method is also known as the exploratory research approach which is generated from grounded theory with aiming to develop a new theory. The deductive type of research is also known as the descriptive research method which generally describes/portrays established theories, principles, practices, and procedures. It aims to prove the past philosophy by following existing or established theories through the compare and contrasting the inductive and deductive approaches (Soiferman, 2010). In this research work, the researcher has applied the deductive and descriptive methods for qualitative data analysis, and the survey method including secondary data is used for quantitative data analysis. Overall, this is mixed method research that applies the

grounded theory of Galtung's positive peace theory, Patten's prosperity theory, and Gibson's direct perception theory to explore the role of UNMIN in building peace and promote prosperity in Nepal. In addition, perception is also assessed after UNMIN's role in Nepal.

There are mainly two sources of data in research. Primary sources and secondary sources of data are the principal sources of data collection in any research work. Both primary and secondary data have to be collected to analyze the level of peace and prosperity to make this research more scientific (Kothari, 2004, p.151).

3.6.1 Primary Data

Primary data are direct or first hand evidence about the research project. Primary sources are empirical studies in research where an experiment was performed or a direct observation was made through interviews, surveys, and fieldwork. The primary sources of data are interviews, focus group discussions (FGD), and participatory observation methods in qualitative research. Generally, FGD (ideally 6-10 respondents) had been requested to respond to theme-based questionnaires in structured, semi-structured, or unstructured forms of the questionnaire in different geographic locations. In this research work, the researcher surveyed 22 districts, 13 interviews, and two focused group discussions were conducted to triangulate analysis to make more trustworthy data to validate / reliable about the pertaining situation of peace and prosperity in Nepal. Perception is trust, confidence, and positive expectation (Harrison, 2008). However, there are ample amounts of research-based data about UN peace operations especially peacekeeping missions but compact and concise data about peace and prosperity again remain rigorous in the context of the UNMIN peacebuilding process of Nepal. Peace, democracy, and prosperity have a closed nexus.

To explore the researcher's assumption, the primary data are collected for both qualitative/quantitative patterns in this research. The best primary data collection methods are survey questionnaires, FGD, interviews, and participant observation. For this research parlance too, the researcher has collected primary data from a questionnaire survey, Key informants interview (KII), FGD, and limited overt observation methods which product is key primary data of this research work.

3.6.2 Secondary Data

Secondary data are the data that are already collected and analyzed by someone else at the past. The secondary sources of data are also collected in this research and used for quantitative data analysis which is collected from previous surveys, reports, published books, articles, journals, and online surveys which have significantly supported to analysis of the peace and prosperity level of Nepal while using mixed model research method to examine the trends and Pattern of peace and prosperity progression after presence and departure of UNMIN from Nepal. The secondary data are readily available from other sources for example published or unpublished books, articles, dissertations, journals, and open-source information from the website. The secondary data are also widely used and analyzed to explore the role of UNMIN in promoting peace, prosperity, and the perception of confidential perception to find the real trust in the UNMIN (Gray, 2014).

The researcher collected secondary data for qualitative and quantitative purposes. Hence, the principal method of secondary data collection is derived from published books, journals, articles, newspapers, TV channels, UNMIN digital records, UN publications, national government surveys, records from the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, South Asia Foundation report, Asian Bank and World Bank report to measure the level of peace and prosperity in Nepal. These secondary data are used as supplementary support to analyze the reality of peace and prosperity level in Nepal after the principal role of UNMIN.

3.7 Research Strategy

Research strategy is an action plan in research methodology (Singh, 2010). Peace, prosperity, and perception have different meanings but their linkage is strong in peace, conflict, and development studies. Human beings have a long history of fighting to settle their different disagreements in political, social, and economic dimensions through violent conflict and war.

Many scholars have initiated different perspectives of peace and prosperity however the real image of peace and prosperity is still folding in reality. John Galtung's positive and negative peace is a widely discussed phenomenon in peace psychology and philosophy. Prosperity is possible in peace. People's perception of the UN is more positive after the successful peace process in Nepal. Direct violence is visible and cultural and structural violence has invisible

dynamics. Constructive management of both visible and invisible conflict establishes positive peace. The provisional absence of violence and conflict is not permanent positive peace. Cultural and structural violence are socially and culturally contextual or built where injustice and inequality exist in society.

Peace and security are the primary agenda for the promotion of democracy, human rights, protection of civilians, fraternization of the relation between nations, and making a prosperous country to provide people's happiness and satisfaction. To find the level of peace and prosperity, the role of the UNMIN mandate is to be analyzed in nuance what and how it had performed its role to alleviate numerous obstacles and obstructions to achieve sustainable peace by managing a decade-long armed conflict. After managing the ceasefire and conflict the door of positive peace was opened, CA election was successfully conducted. Peace institutions and infrastructures were initiated, established, and bolstered like the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, and the Nepal Peace Fund (NPF) to end the conflict *diminuendos*.

Peace and prosperity have a crosscutting linkage so my research strategy is framed in mixed modality. Small size sample is selected for interview and non-representative respondents are also selected for focused group discussion via convenient or judgemental sampling. Both primary and secondary data are used in the mixed model method of research (Kumar, 2008). Primary data are analysed by the tactic of content analysis, thematic analysis, and discourse analysis. Secondary data are analysed through SPSS to trace the mean, median, mode, and standard deviation to infer the significant difference in the peace and prosperity levels.

3.8 Sample Size and Sampling Method

Determining sample size is hard to underpin in mixed research methods but significant before generalizing or testifying the phenomenon (Bergman, 2008). Researcher has applied a nonprobability sample where the sample was not representative. However, in selecting the appropriate sample size through the deliberate/convenient sampling method, the researcher employs the KII method, FGD / survey questionnaire, and participatory observation by applying different types of structured/semi-structured/unstructured questionnaires to reveal an actual picture of the level of peace and prosperity, and overall Nepalese people's perception after

UNMIN role in Nepal. The reason and rationale for using this method are to trace the degree of service seekers' satisfaction with UN performance.

For the selection of respondents and to determine sample size, the researcher applied a non-probability sampling method where individuals were selected based on non-random criteria however researcher had assured the age of respondents at least, 35 years more and respondents should have a noticeable observation of conflict effects in conflict time and peace status at present time. To meet the basic criteria and cover the whole geography of the country mainly conflict-affected districts, the researcher surveyed 22 most armed conflict-affected districts with 220 respondents, interviewed 13 KII respondents, and two FGD groups with 13 respondents in the country and abroad too.

In total, 246 respondents participated in the survey, interview, and FGDs. The active participation of respondents in the survey, interview, and focus group discussion supported the researcher in generalizing the research finding because many of the interview respondents had empirical and exclusive experience of conflict and peace knowledge who were directly or indirectly linked or/and closely monitored the UNMIN and UN AFP's work performance before/during/after armed conflict in Nepal.

3.9 Sampling Strategy

Sample strategy is important for generalizing the deduction and significance while framing the research design. The sampling strategy in research design is a plan and procedure for research that extends from the assumption in data collection decision, data analysis operationalization of conclusion. Each individual in the population has an equal probability of being selected in random sampling (Creswell, 2011). Determining the appropriate sample size through the right sampling technique is the central agenda in mixed research. Bearing this in mind, this study surveyed 22 districts with 220 respondents, interviews with 13 key informants' interview (KII), two focused group discussions with 13 respondents in a total of 246 respondents, and a participatory observation method in Lebanon and South Sudan to compare practical picture or level of peace and prosperity in Nepal.

In this research, convenient or judgmental sampling has been used. Convenient sampling is the idea of selecting people who are most conveniently available to the interviewers. Judgmental

sampling is a purposive sample where respondents are selected based on qualitative characteristics of the population in line with the aim and objective of the research. The reason behind using this method is based on the UNMIN service receiver's opinions and experiences which made people's perceptions regarding UNMIN in Nepal (Kumar, 2008, p.57-60). To set a standardized sample size the researcher has interviewed with wider coverage of society i.e. army officers, police officers, leaders of political parties, media persons, Maoist ex-combatants, academic analysts, and special committee officials.

This non-random sampling has attempted to cover the optimum sample size especially, focusing on highly affected areas of armed conflict like Rukum, Rolpa, Salyan, and Dang districts to fulfill the requirements of representativeness and reliability of research works. The 13 subject-related experienced experts participated in the interview and a 2xgroup of 7/6 each respondent participated in focused group discussions (FGD). These primary sources of qualitative data and sample size significantly supported to generalizing takeaway of the UNMIN's performance in the promotion of peace and prosperity and people's perception towards the UN peacebuilding mission in Nepal. The details of respondents and sample sizes are shown in appendix A in subsequent pages.

3.10 Research Method

Research design is the best available and appropriate choice or option for the researcher for data collection, data measurement, and data analysis. It is a blueprint or action plan to conduct the research. Doing real research in the peace and prosperity context in the case of Nepal, the researcher has applied survey, interview, FGD, and observation methods for primary data collection (Gray, 2014). In this research, 220 respondents from most conflict-affected 22 districts participated and 13 interview respondents were contacted in person and one respondent Mr. Ian Martin, former SRSG of UNMIN was contacted/conducted through an email interview. The interview was conducted face to face but Dr. Ram Thapaliya sent his answers to the interview questions through email. Interview answers can be given in written form on per convenient basis (Dahlin, 2021). The content analysis and SPSS are analyzed from the collected data before concluding.

3.11 Data Collection Method

According to Creswell (2009), data collection is a process of preparing and reviewing data to obtain information for specific research purposes. There are two types of common data collection methods in research works. The data collection steps in peace and prosperity research set the boundaries of study, collecting information through structured, semi-structured, and unstructured questionnaires through FGD, observations and interviews, documents, and visual materials as well as establishing the protocol for recording information (Creswell, 2009). UN peacebuilding teams are composed of UN military observers (UNMOs), UNPOL, UN international civil, staff, and national staff stationed in the field for selfless sacrifice to promote peace and prosperity. The data collection method is associated with UNMIN as part of the political process in civil-military coordination and cooperation to manage conflict (Huntington, 1957).

In this study, the researcher collected significant primary and secondary data based on availability. Due to the researcher's limitations regarding time, cost, resources, and travel restrictions due to Post Covid-19 pandemic, the researcher collected essential information primary data through surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions with key informant informer (KII) while accepting comments and feedback before finalizing the research generalization (Kothari, 2004, p.136-140). Similarly, this study has optimally used secondary data/information from published books, journals, articles, survey reports, UN/UNMIN website, UNMIN press statements, and records/reports based on the goodness of fit to analyze the level of peace and prosperity status after UNMIN role in the peace process.

In this research, the researcher conducted various types of data collection methods to obtain qualitative and quantitative data. For primary data collection, the researcher conducted a survey, interview, focused group discussion, and participatory observation through structural and unstructured questionnaires in this research work. In research, both primary and secondary data are significant for exploring, analyzing, and making deductions in mixed-method research (Ritchie & Spencer, 1994). In the survey, 220 respondents participated in answering the survey questions from 22 districts in Nepal. Likewise, 13 respondents were selected for KII interview; and 13 individuals from different service sectors were selected for FGD with aiming to gauge the role of UNMIN to promote peace and prosperity level in Nepal. Data were collected from 246

respondents in total to measure the Nepalese people's perception of UNMIN's role in the Nepalese peace process. Secondary data are mainly used to compare and contrast for statistical purposes which are derived from past research works, reports, and survey data in the field of similar research work. The origin of sources is given in references and appendices and is also cited accordingly as per the APA 7th edition format.

3.11.1 Survey Method

The survey is a research strategy for qualitative data collection. It focuses on attributes of respondents (age, sex, education, and marital status), behaviors of respondents (questions on what and how), and opinions, attitudes, beliefs, and preferences (respondents' point of view) survey on the new research topic (Aldridge & Levine, 2001). Survey on a small scale is a commonly practiced method of data collection in research. According to the practical perspective, a survey was designed and done based on the principle of parsimony practice towards the research title. The researcher had skilfully designed short and suitable survey questions to match the respondents to receive the required responses. The survey was conducted in 20 districts from 28 Nov 2022 to 01 Feb 2023. Each district had 10 respondents which altogether 220 respondents. In the survey, respondents' age should not be below 35 years while surveying because the survey tried to seek answers to those who have seen armed conflict and the present situation of peace in Nepal. For this purpose, the researcher selected an assistant research supporter on an ad-hoc basis where the assistant researcher received an email and printed the questionnaire then data collection and conveyed the data via digital form and/or non-digital /hard copy format. The details of the survey plan, survey questions surveyed districts, and convenience of survey respondents are specified in the subsequent pages of appendix A.

The survey was classified into three parts i.e. socio socio-demographic part, the main body part, and the third conclusive part on the researcher's judgmental basis. The survey questions are crafted in open-ended and open-ended patterns to know the level of peace, parity, and prosperity position in post UNMIN peacebuilding period in Nepal. The general information consisted of demographic information of the respondents like name, age, sex, marital status, geographical location, address, education, occupation, and income level. The second part consists of the main questions having open-ended questions and the third part probes public perception. The main

theme of the questions was about awareness and performance of UNMIN roles and responsibilities which had certainly played a supporting role in promoting peace and prosperity in Nepal. The survey tried to obtain independent information about the present peace and prosperity level and compares and contrasts during conflict and post-conflict periods in Nepal.

Based on the survey plan, the sample size was 246 including interviews and FGD. The basic criteria of respondents were also set as per the survey design/plan. In addition, the researcher aimed to make more representatives of respondents those who were/are working in the military, police, armed police force, chief district official/officers, media persons, business persons, and human rights activists by whom they had seen armed conflict and its impact in peace, security, and prosperity from their experience, knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA) as possible as propose of the research. The most impacted districts of conflict were included in the survey. Respondents were selected in the convenience sampling method who were presently working/stationed in the district and who have background knowledge of conflict and peace. Conflict is to be managed for peace, security, and development because of its association (Helen & Dubravka, 2015). For this survey process, the researcher emailed the list of questionnaires to a temporary research assistant and he/she printed it and conducted the survey. After the survey, the research assistant sent back to the researcher either a scanned copy of emails or an original copy of the survey by transport means.

The survey questionnaire is a written list of questions to which researchers carefully note or record the responses of respondents. There are myriad ways of conducting survey research which are pen-paper surveys and web-based survey research. The researcher utilized the mixed method of survey research somewhere questionnaires were sent directly to the respondents and in some places, questionnaires were sent to the focal point research assistants and the research assistant was responsible for printing and surveying the pen and paper method of research. All respondent's reports were collected through email, post office, and physical submission. The survey research design was done to select potential participants/recipients of results before surveying the likely area of the survey to make validity, reliability, and trustworthiness (Andres, 2012). Appendix E shows the detailed report of the survey.

3.11.2 Interview

The interview is person-to-person interaction either face-to-face or email dialogue/conversation to dig the required research-related response to find the answer to meet the research objective (Braun, 1997). There are personal interviews, published interviews, and researcher participant interviews. Two interviews were conducted by email to the Former SRSO Ian Martin and Dr. Ram Thapaliya where the interview questionnaire was sent through email. Eleven interviews were conducted in face to face method. An interview is a common data collection method from respondents and the most cost-effective method which is designed to collect responses from respondents; in this research in peace, prosperity, and perception. Interviews can be face-to-face and telephonic. The researcher has conducted in-person interviews to explore the actual situation of peace and prosperity as per the requirement of the research design and its objective (Creswell, 2009). An interview may have different set or pattern of questionnaire which seeks insight information by involving several steps to access the fact of phenomenon from respondents. A questionnaire in an interview can be designed to secure different types of primary data from respondents i.e. peace and prosperity level, attention, attitude, opinion, activities or behaviour, demographic characteristics, satisfaction level, and other thematic issues about research objectives (Kothari, 2004, p.101-150). Some unstructured pattern of questionnaires is adapted from various past surveys and findings to enhance the validity and reliability of the interview which will allow gaining more accurate data. In this research, the actual level of peace and prosperity progress is due to the creative role of UNMIN in transferring conflict into peace and security situations. The tangible peace and prosperity are explored and analyzed by acquiring, analyzing, and assessing both primary and secondary sources. The interview guidelines will be structured Pattern with open-ended questions to get individual opinions, attitudes, and perceptions from participants (Flick, 2021). The interview questionnaires and name list of respondents are attached in Appendix D.

Interview is a qualitative data collection method in social science (Akbarak, 2000). The researcher conducted informal, in-person, and email interviews with 13 respondents. The interview questions, respondents, and date of the interview are in detail in Appendix C. There are three different types of interviews in research works: structured, unstructured, and semi-structured. Structured interviews are based on questions that can be asked of every participant at

a specified time and place. Unstructured or informal conversation interviews have no predetermined set of questions. The interviewer starts the conversation with holistic questions like tell me your happiness and satisfaction level from UNMIN peacebuilding performance in Nepal. Semi-structured interviews make a balance between a structured interview and an unstructured interview. In semi-structured interviews, the questions are open-ended thus not limiting the interviewee's choice of answer which provides a greater chance for discussion in detail between the interviewer and interviewee (Hardin, 2002). However, an interviewer has to provide some clues to direct the interviewee into the research topic in this method of data collection.

This is best useful tool to discover and gain in-depth knowledge of the subject which provides opportunities to probe to find the underlying factors. It is more useful in the time of limited respondents with expect a good return rate and to support those who have difficulty understanding the language to fill in the answers (Gray, 2004). The interview is a face-to-face interpersonal role situation in which one person, the interviewer asks a person being interviewed, the respondent questions designed to obtain answers pertinent to the purpose of the research problem (Kerlinger & Lee, 2000). The interview is a purposeful discussion between two or more people to reach the objective of the research study (Saunders, 2011).

In this thesis, the researcher designs a mixed method of research to explore the level of peace and prosperity after the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding. Qualitative research typically answers where, what, who, and when questions but it cannot adequately answer why a phenomenon occurs or how it occurs. So to get answers about how and why the phenomenon occurs, the qualitative research answers the necessary in-depth and exploratory tools and techniques to achieve a clear picture of the process. Qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on the distinct and methodological tradition of inquiry that explores a social or human problem. In this research, the researcher built a complex holistic picture, analyzed words, reported detailed views of informants, and conducted the study in a natural setting by focusing on a set of themes to gather reliable information. The qualitative data are in-depth descriptions of circumstances, people, interactions, observed behavior, events, attitudes thoughts, and beliefs, and direct quotes or perceptions from people who have empirically experienced the peace and

prosperity phenomenon. Over the last three decades, qualitative methods have been valuable tools in social sciences and particular research to gauge prosperity position (Patten, 2018).

This dissertation thematically and statistically tests the professional performance of UNMIN based on the mandate delivery implementation through analysis of quantitative and qualitative data however UN peacebuilding approaches may have separate sets of rules, procedures, planning, and SOPs. Sometimes, peace builders' work is behind the scenes in the conflict-torn countries. The respondents' responses were reflected in this research work and did not neglect their ideas, intentions, and impressions while contributing their casual/critical comments and feedback during the interview through the open-ended questions at the final session of the interview (Roulston, 2010).

For the interview purpose, the researcher selected/requested 13 individuals. Many of them were subject matter experts and two were normal individuals who were aware of or monitored the role of the UNMIN, and special committee and contributed to the conflict, peace, and development management sectors based on convenient sampling. With many of them, the researcher conducted face-to-face interviews after their consent because of the accessible approach and had an email interview with Mr. Ian Martin, the former SRSR of UNMIN. A UK citizen Mr. Ian Martin, the researcher sent a list of questionnaires in the email to answer the interview questions because he is not physically accessible to the researcher but is a significant respondent of this research. He responded his thoughtful answers/insights of the researcher's questions in written form. During the interview process, the researcher conducted an informal interview with Mr. Ram Chandra Poudel and later he was appointed as the right honorable president of Nepal. The detail of the interview plan and list of respondents is given in Appendix B.

3.11.3 Focused Group Discussion (FGD)

FGD is a common qualitative research technique to understand feelings, meaning, and interpretation from a selected group of people consisting of a small number of participants. FGD is one of the significant qualitative research methods for data collection in social science (Hennink, 2013). FGD is a way of collecting information that involves gathering people from similar backgrounds or experiences together to discuss the topic of peace, prosperity, and perception after the UNMIN's role in the successful peace process. FGD has been conducted in

the concordance of the respondents. The researcher conducted a focused group discussion in two groups. Group A had seven respondents and Group B had six respondents where media persons and integrated combatants/commanders were also included through judgmental sampling. The first FGD was conducted on 05 December 2022 and the second FGD was conducted on 15 January 2023. The FGD questions and participating respondents are shown in detail in appendix D. The FGD is a qualitative research where questions were asked about their perceptions, attitudes, beliefs, opinion, or ideas about the Nepalese people's perception towards UNMIN peacebuilding performance in Nepal in comparison with other UN peacekeeping mission. FGD is one of the most popular qualitative research methods. It is a guided discussion by the interviewer according to the prepared interview guideline to dig the cause and consequences (Lebow, 2020). The FGD was carried out in two groups with 7 in groups A and 6 in group B where visitors/media persons were participated.

FGD is also known as a predetermined semi-structured interview by a skilled moderator. The researcher asked broad questions to generate healthy discussion amongst the participants which critical capacity enabler to understand the deeper knowledge of what and how UNMIN supported to promotion of peace and security in Nepal. The researcher used probing, follow-up, and exit strategy questions according to the interview guidelines which were conducted for 30 minutes per persons where UN peacekeepers/respondents (National / International) were deployed from different UN member states / diverse backgrounds. This FGD method was used to collect and cross-check the data from the FGD respondents to analyze the inferences qualitatively. This is a kind of reinforcement and additional data which supports to cross-check the inferences of secondary sources of data in my research. FGD questions were designed to be theme-based and open-ended where respondents had the opportunity to share their perspectives and perceptions towards UNMIN's role and output in the Nepalese peace process.

For this, the researcher conducted FGD in two groups which consisted of group A and group B. Group A had 7 respondents and group B had 6 respondents which altogether was 13 respondents. The researcher moderated the FGD question/plan and received their responses. The respondents were representatives of Nepalese delegation members and were requested to participate in FGD. The FGD was conducted for 30 minutes and the researcher encouraged sharing his/ her view with each respondent. The researchers conducted these FGDs while visiting and observing the

complexity of conflict in South Sudan, Africa, and Lebanon and, the Middle East. The respondents responded with their views regarding the Nepal conflict management case in comparison with Lebanon / South Sudan. The group concluded that the UN worked in a speedy modus by which Nepal can promote peace, security, and prosperity level which is achieved due to the UNMIN intermediary role. The FGD deducted peace is complex to achieve in conflict countries due to a lack of confidence, consent, or compromise amongst conflicting parties.

3.12 Dependent and Independent Variables

Two main variables in scientific research in social science are dependent and independent ones. An independent variable is a variable that is changed or controlled in a scientific experiment to test the effects on the dependent variable. A dependent variable is the variable being tested and measured in a scientific experiment. The dependent variable is dependent on the independent variable. As the experimenter changes the independent variable, the effect on the variables is observed and recorded (Kothari, 2004).

In this research work; peace, prosperity, and perceptions are dependent variables, and the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal is an independent variable. There will be cross-triangulation mainly for two or maybe more variables i.e. dependent variables and other independent variables. In other words, the independent variable is the input, and in turn, the dependent variable is the output or outcome of the research work. So, peace, prosperity, and perception are dependent variables and the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding performance to promote peace and security is the independent variable. Conclusions are made after simple and succinct correlation analysis in mathematic modeling as well to make it more scientific research.

3.13 Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data analysis is significantly essential to deduct expected inferences based on the qualitative and quantitative data in research. In this research report, a major portion of data is secondary however some portion of primary data was also analyzed to verify the researcher's assumption in terms of the role of UNMIN in building peace and prosperity in Nepal.

To acquire, analyze, and interpret data from both primary and secondary sources to enhance the effectiveness of research, the data cleaning process after receiving respondents' responses from field observation and interview schedules was conducted. In this process, manually scrutinize

each interview model and then code and recode for an open response. After the survey, the researcher entered the major data for statistical analysis through the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software program to get the required/desired information. Based on the purpose and research questions, the researcher calculated the mean, median, mode, and standard deviation before concluding. Finally, this study described tabulated data to describe, interpret, and generate meaning at a significant level. Numerical data is calculated by using the SPSS software.

Maxwell (2013) expresses his idea that qualitative research is useful for understanding, explaining, exploring, discovering, and clarifying situations, feelings, perceptions, attitudes, values, beliefs, and experiences of the different segments of people in society. The position of peace and prosperity is a qualitative research design that is more subjected to issues but made it significantly sequential and structural to link quantitative design. Many research tools and techniques are available and applicable in qualitative and quantitative research design. Qualitative data can be analyzed through content analysis, thematic analysis, and discourse analysis. However, in this research, the researcher applied a content and thematic analysis approach to make a more reliable and valid research report while concluding findings. The researcher conducted Patten analysis by identifying, analyzing, and interpreting nonnumerical data or textual comments/feedback from the interviewees / FGDs respondents so that a valid, reliable, and authentic deduction and conclusion would be drawn for the contribution of new additional knowledge in qualitative research work (Maxwell, 2013).

3.14 Ethical Considerations

Ethical considerations and moral values and norms by which the researcher exposes his trust, commitment, reliability, regard, reputation re-flexibility, consistency, credibility, confidentiality conformity, transportability, transparency, and validity about his past, present, and future research works. Research integrity and ethical value is the code of conduct for any researchers that help to find the original outcome in research work.

Denizen and Lincoln (2000) stressed that research ethics is often much more about institutional and professional regulations and codes of conduct. Considering this fact, before administrating the interview and FGD schedule, the researcher carefully explains the research objectives to the

respondents and assures that information will be only utilized for this research purpose. For that assurance, the researcher carefully explained the objectives of the research and the researcher had confidence that information would be only utilized for this research purpose. Similarly, the researcher paid due respect to the entire respondent's response and their privacy. Information will be neither manipulated nor criticized in any way. To make consent and concordance the researcher used the most efficient effort possible to seek agreement with the respondent's experiences, and perceptions before concluding (Denizen & Lincoln 2018).

3.15 Limitations of the Study

UNMIN's peacebuilding approach is an emergent but unique modus operandi with the responsibility to monitor global political development to assess/address predict and prevent the dynamic nature of conflict through peaceful means. Each conflict conversion case toward peace is unique and nonlinear because of the diversity of actors and approaches. Due to the exit strategy and confidentiality of UNMIN information; the researcher may face access control to acquire real records/information or appropriate archived documents of UNMIN in peacebuilding roles in Nepal. UNMIN had a common system of work culture through the integrated mission planning process and SOP. SOP is a step-by-step procedure and planning is future preparation for potential problems. Due to the limited publication of UNMIN confidential documents, the researcher depends on UNMIN public press statements, available archived UNMIN SOP/records, and real related published books/articles to analyze the role of UNMIN peacebuilding works in Nepal. So, the researcher may face limited access to extract accurate information due to UNMIN security issues which may hinder a rigorous review of the literature.

The researcher had somewhat covered or traveled to the limited geographic area of provincial deployments of UNMIN in Nepal. The researcher proposed a travel plan as per the research proposal, but it was also limited because this research was conducted immediately after covid-19 pandemic. Due to limited permission or travel restrictions of COVID-19 impact and irregular epidemiological problems; the researcher collected/conducted a small and suitable sample size survey through selected respondents in conflict-affected 22 districts/areas only based on judgmental sampling which may also be the limitation regarding this research in the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal.

CHAPTER FOUR

UNMIN'S MANDATES AND PEACEBUILDING IN NEPAL

4.1 Introduction

UNMIN had received its mandated tasks from a series of UN Security Council resolutions. UNMIN had specified mandated tasks from UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/1740/2007; S/RES/1796/2008; S/RES1825/2008; S/RES/1864/2009; S/RES/1879/2009; S/RES/1909/2010; S/RES/1921/2010 and S/RES/1939/2011. UNMIN was a political mission to build peace in Nepal. UNMIN had mandates to manage Nepalese armed conflict through the UN peacebuilding approach in the context of the Nepalese peace process. The UNMIN was a political and peacebuilding mission that had a foundational role in monitoring arms and armies and the election process to transform armed conflict into durable peace. Peace symbolizes social harmony, the absence of security risks/threats, the absence of armed conflict, the absence of armed groups, and the absence of structural violence (Galtung & Hoivik, 1971).

The UNMIN had roles in implementing key aspects of the comprehensive peace agreement, agreement on monitoring the management of arms and armies, monitoring ceasefire, and providing technical support to conduct CA election and monitoring CA election and other subsequent agreements between conflicting parties to build lasting peace in Nepal. Before establishing an edifice of peace in any conflict-torn country, the UN technical survey team conducts a technical assessment mission/survey and reflects on the root cause of conflict, condition, and context of conflict then recommends the concept of operations (CONOPS) to prevent and cure conflict through the clustered therapy of peace through UN peace approaches.

One size UN peacebuilding resolution may not fit all types of problems or may be unable to address the root cause of conflict. Peace and conflict are like health and disease. Choosing peace or conflict depends on human approaches to solutions. Opposite attitudes, assumptions, behaviors, and contradiction/content in individual or group mindsets can lead the conflict. Conflict is triadic in construct and typically destructive in outcome if it is not addressed on time.

Nepalese conflict started from 13 Feb 1996 till 21 Nov 2006 which lasted for 10 years 09 months and 8 days in total or it was almost 11 years in round figure. Many phases of negotiation at the

national level failed to solve the internal or civil conflicts. The first informal peace talk was held between Mr. Ram Chandra Poudel and Rabindra Shrestha in 2000 but became controversial. Later, three different prime ministers initiated formal negotiations to end armed conflict with full efforts but the result was not conducive due to a lack of trust between parties and mutual understanding to internally recognized facilitators and mediators. The timeline, for both side negotiators and facilitators was as follows;

Table 4.1

Phases of national-level negotiation

Negotiation	Government	Maoist	Govet./Fascilititaor
1. 25 Jul 2001	Chirinjibi Wagle Mahesh Acharya Chakra Bastola Bijaya Gachedar	Krishna Bdr Mahara Top Bdr Rayamajhi Agni Sapkota	PM Sher Bdr Deuba Padmaratna Tuladhar Damannath dhungana
2. 03 Dec 2002	Badri Pd Mandal Ramesh N Pandey Kamal Pd Choulagai Narayan Singh Pun Upendra devkota Anuradha Koirala	Baburam Bhattraai Krishna Bdr Mahara Ram Bdr Thapa Dev gurung Martika Yadav	PM Lokendra B. Chand Padmaratna Tuladhar Damannath dhungana Shailendra Upadhya KarnaDhoj Adhikari
3. 11 Jun 2003	Prakash C Lohani Kamal Thapa	Baburam Bhattraai Krishna Bdr Mahara	PM Surya B Thapa PadmaRatna Tuladhar Daman Nath Dhungana

Three failed negotiations

Note. Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, 2016

In all the negotiations, the common national facilitators were the late Mr. Padma Ratna Tulathar and the late Mr. Daman Nath Dhungana. But in the second phase of negotiation, Shailendra Upadhya and Karna Dhoj Adhikari were also included with Padma Ratna Tuladhar and Daman Nath Dhungana team. All three phases of negotiation were not successful. The first and third negotiations were unilaterally broken by CPN (M) due to a trust deficit between conflicting parties. Due to failure or fear of future failure in peace negotiation, both parties agreed to invite UN mediation for technical support in the key aspects of the entire peace process because three attempts of national-level negotiations with the support of different expert groups of national facilitators were unsuccessful. UN DPPA's role is to monitor political development in the world

to prevent existing or potential conflict. UNMIN was initially under the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) mission so it is still known as a political mission for peacebuilding support. UNMIN's task and mandate were to consolidate a democratic culture of politics, sustain peace, and promote prosperity for the collective welfare of the Nepalese people. UNMIN had tried its best to implement the Security Council 1740/2007 mandate amidst chaos to attain broader goals and purposes of the UN.

UNMIN record is also found and documented under political and peacebuilding mission in its archived accounts and official record of UN websites however, it was a special political mission. On 01 Jan 2019, the UN DPA and Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) were merged and established the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) which is the principal infrastructure for maintaining international peace and security in the UN-wide system. Most of the contemporary conflicts are intra-state or within the boundary of the state due to political, social, and economic discontentment and uncertainty in the world. The primary purpose of DPPA is to monitor and assess the political development or disturbances to prevent potentially deadly conflict to build sustainable peace and security in the world. So, UNMIN is recognized as part of the DPPA mission or political and peacebuilding mission in the changing contextual reform of the UN structure after 01 January 2019.

Before the deployment of UNMIN, Nepal's peace negotiation process was initiated for triple times but was deadlocked due to unilateral demands and own stance of the conflicting parties. But later, both parties, the government of Nepal and the CPN (Maoist) party agreed to send a request letter with a similar spirit to seek UN support for the implementation of CPA, management of arms and armies, ceasefire monitoring, and assistance for the conduct of CA election in the free, fair, fearless environment. Nepal had no election experiences since 1999 till the conduct of the CA election in 2008. UNMIN strategy for key leader engagement (KLE) and community engagement program (CEW) was applied through civil society and national election commissions by empowering observers and monitors. So, UNMIN support for the planning, preparation, and conduct of the CA election was essential because CPN (Maoist) had boycotted previous local and house of representative elections. At that time, there were no elected representatives. There was a political vacuum and provisional management for temporary

support by all party committees to address local practical problems up to the local level on an ad-hoc basis through the representative of all political party leaders had been arranged.

The first and foremost task in the UNMIN peacebuilding process was to ensure permanent management of conflict and/or conflict transformation. The role of UNMIN as an international responder or mediator had a crucial role in the situation of the Nepalese peace process to end ten years of armed conflict. Its successful foundational role in converting conflict into peace in the Nepalese peace process was significant because multiple endeavors were attempted by individual experts from a private approach and the government side was unable to make a successful peace story due to the geopolitical situation and international response to collaborate to manage armed conflict in Nepal (Bhattarai, 2005). However, citizens' mass movement or civil resistance for sustainable exigencies of progressive peace and democracy was also conclusive value addition in the context of the Nepalese peace process (Bogati & Thurber, 2021). UNMIN was the decisive and trusted one for both conflicting parties due to its international legitimacy and global confidence in the UN charter where 193 member states are signatories to authorize for maintenance of international peace and security, human rights promotions, and social fraternization.

The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN OHCHR) Ms. Luis Arbour and Nepalese representative foreign minister Mr. Ramesh Nath Pandey signed an agreement on 05 April 2005. The objective of the agreement was to open OHCHR offices permitting the monitoring and reporting of human rights violations to minimize or mitigate the impact of armed conflict up to the local level in Nepal. After the agreement, UN OHCHR speedily deployed its office/staff in the conflict turmoil period in May 2005 in Nepal with the leadership of Mr. Ian Martin. So, this approach of office opening in Nepal is known as a human rights-led approach to solve Nepalese armed conflict in Nepal. This was one great initiative of the UN to build peace through the deployment of the UN OHCHR office in Nepal.

UN OHCHR had created conducive and crucial conditions for initial peacebuilding groundworks which put pressure on the parties to come to the negotiated peace agreement or threat to the party leader to be responsible for the result of serious human rights violations or crimes against humanity. Six months later of the operational activities, Nepal's political course was surprisingly twisted towards progressive peace and prosperity. The SPA and (Maoist) signed 12-point

agreement on 22 November 2005 in New Delhi, India. The theme of the 12-point understanding was to establish full-fledged democracy for immediate peace, progress, and future prosperity by removing the direct rule of monarchy/king because signatories had concluded/confirmed that monarchy was the main problem for promoting peace and prosperity at that time. Former king Gynendra dismissed the elected government of Sher Bahadur Deuba cabinet/parliament in Oct 2002. After two years, the former king handed over his governing power to ousted Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba by re-appointing as prime minister on 04 June 2004 with a commitment that the Nepalese people's souvenir is now returned to the people's representatives. In 2005, UN OHCHR was deployed in Nepal. After 12 points of understanding, the SPA and CPN agreed to exhibit mass people's power through a mass movement which ultimately forced then-king Gynendra to reinstate the dissolved House of Representatives (HoR) on 24 April 2006.

The reinstated House of Representatives formed a new government and later, decided to send an official request letter to the UN to receive UN assistance to initiate the Nepalese peace process and to end the conflict. Initially, the government sent a single request letter on 02 July, 2006 and CPN Maoist sent its objection letter to His Excellency, UN SG Kofi Annan on 24 July, 2006 by stating that the government, 's letter was unilateral. Then, the Nepal Government and CPN (Maoist) jointly sent an official letter to the UN to provide all necessary technical support to finalize the Nepalese peace process on 09 August 2006. The gradual changing outcome of the 12 points understanding, reinstated government, and request letter to the UN had produced another primary product for the people's desire for peace, democracy, and prosperity. Then, in the subsequent timeline, the signing of a comprehensive peace agreement between the government and CPN Maoists prospered on 21 November 2006 which was the key turning point for the peace process or key foundation of the Nepalese peace process. After two weeks on 08 December 2006, the AMMAA had also been signed in the modality of management of arms and armies for permanent peace with the witness of Mr. Ian Martin, the personal envoy of UN SG and the commissioner of UN OHCHR of Nepal. Later, he was appointed as SRSG of UNMIN by the UN Secretary-General.

After the CPA and AMMAA and joint request letter of government and CPN (Maoist) to the UN for the assistance of technical support; the UN endorsed the UNMIN mission to Nepal with

mandates. Peacebuilding and peace-promoting works are progressive if parties have a consent or compromise theory of conflict management (Thomas & Kilmann, 1974).

By rapidly responding to the official request of the Nepal government and CPN (Maoist), the UN passed Security Council resolution 1740/2007 within two months of reaction time with a full favor vote of fifteen permanent members in the Security Council including veto countries which had decided to deploy UNMIN mission in Nepal for initially one year on 23 January 2007 to implement key issues/aspects of CPA, and arms/armies management. The comprehensive peace agreement is the legal document in the eyes of the law of peace and the exit route of the peace process is in inter /intra-state conflict after mandate implementation (Bell, 2008a). Having focused on UN mandates to UNMIN, the SG's special envoy had already opened his good office in Nepal in 2002 followed by leveraging the UN OHCHR office in 2005 to monitor and report the human rights issues of Nepal under the leadership of Mr. Ian Martin. So, this gradual but multidimensional response of UN-wide approaches/ agencies supported the shaping of the foundation of a smooth Nepalese peace process which can also considerably focus on peacemaking and peacebuilding approaches except peacekeeping practice in Nepal. The UNMIN started repairing the relationship by reasoning or reinforcing for reunion between major political parties especially for the Maoist and seven political parties' alliance (SPA). The time and space of the Nepalese peace process is noticed substantial due to its rapid development process and mandate implementation of the UNMIN peacebuilding process. UNMIN had also taken a fast and focused initiative to settle or manage Nepalese armed conflict by immediately re-establishing peace and security situation by containing combatants into combatants as per the spirit of a comprehensive agreement.

The UN SG Kofi Annan visited Nepal in March 2001 then the first round of negotiation was initiated in July 2001 but failed. UN immediately sent SG's special envoy Samuel Tamrat in 2002 because the UN was continuously and closely watching the outcome or development of the conflict. The second phase of negotiation was held on 03 December 2002 but it also failed. Then, the third phase of negotiation was also held on 11 June 2003 but also again failed. The agreement and deployment of UN OHCHR showed the human rights goal to control and bring into the negotiated agreement through the human rights monitor approach. Mr. Lakthdar Brahimi arrived /visited 10-15 July 2005, and then after five months, 12 point understanding had been

signed on 22 Nov 2005. There were many triangulated talks and outcomes associated with the phenomenon of Nepalese armed conflict-resolving efforts in the peace process. After the failure of three negotiations, the following attempts were made as the key development of the UNMIN peacebuilding process in Nepal.

Table 4.1

Key Developments of the Peace Process in Nepal

Details	Time and Space	Remarks
Formal Peace Negotiations	1. 25 Jul, 2001 2. 03 Dec, 2002 3. 11 June, 2003	1. PM Sher Bdr. Deuba 2. PM Lokendra Bdr. Chand 3. PM Surya Bdr. Thapa
UN Special Envoy's good office	2002	Samuel Tamrat
Agreement between UN OHCHR and Nepal	05 April 2005	Monitor/report human rights
Deployment of UN OHCHR	May 2005	Nepal office
12 points understanding	22 Nov 2005	New Delhi, India
Reinstated the house of representative	24 Apr 2006	By Ex-king Gynendra
25-point Ceasefire agreement	25 May 2006	Govt. and Maoist
Request letter sent to UN	09 Aug 2006	2063/04/24 BS
CPA signed, ceasefire, PLA confinement	21 Nov 2006	2063/08/05 BS
AMMAA signed as UN witness, Ian Martin	08 Dec 2006	2063/08/22 BS
Interim constitution 2007	15 Jan 2007	Supervision / Integration
UNMIN deployment	23 Jan 2007	2063/10/09 BS
UNMIN Registration and Verification	Jun-Dec 2007	28 Maoist Cantonments
Federal established Monarchy abolished	28 May, 2008	2065/02/15 Ended monarchy
UNMIN Withdrawal except for rear party	13 Jan, 2011	UN S/RES/1939/2011
The UN Political Liaison Office established	22 Jan 2011	UN house/UN country team
Combatants' integration into the Army	2012	Special committee
New Constitution-2015 promulgation	2015	President Ram BaranYadav
Conduct three-level federal election	2017	Election commission
The UN political liaison office closed	2018	Entire UNMIN mission exit

16 years of UN and UNMIN in peacebuilding

Note. UNMIN, 2007 and the Secretariat of Special Committee, 2012

UN special envoy Samual Tamrat had a role in resolving conflict through peacemaking efforts and preventive diplomacy or peace is possible through preventive diplomacy or peaceful means. The UN strongly advocated respecting human rights issues and international human rights laws through the UN OHCHR office which was already deployed in 2005 to monitor and report human rights issues. The human rights protecting mechanism indirectly pressurized the parties to come to the negotiated agreement as a peacemaking approach. Then, AMMAA also signed as a witness of the UN personal envoy of UNSG Ian Martin. The key was the CPA which was about to implement key issues of CPA/AAMMA; monitoring and management of arms and armies; ceasefire monitoring, CA monitoring, and providing support to CA election. There were only five major mandates of UN SCR to UNMIN to make success for the Nepalese peace process. After the sequential and subsequent phases of the peace agreement, the UN adopted UN SCR 1740/2007 to deploy UNMIN with UNSCR mandates as a focused mission for a limited duration for an initial period of one year with a chance of extent/exit based on Nepalese government recommendation.

4.2 Major Mandates of UNMIN

According to article number 99 of the UN charter, the UN SG has the authority to bring the attention of the Security Council for any peace and security-related subjects, issues, or events which in his/her opinion, may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security. UN SG has the power to make peace by sending his/her personal or special envoy to exploratory missions in member states (Lorenz, 1999). Security threats are deliberate actions or attacks, particularly during Maoist armed conflict. UN Security Council was in the picture about the development and security threat of Nepalese armed conflict for regional and international peace and security. After the written request from both conflicting parties, the UNMIN mandate was established/approved by UNSC.

The major mandates of UN/UNMIN in Nepal were to implement the key issues of the comprehensive peace agreement; to monitor and manage arms and armies of both sides; to monitor ceasefire and code of conduct; to provide technical support to conduct constituent assembly election; to register and verify ex-Maoist combatants; to demine land mines and explosives; to provide election monitor and many other cross-cutting issues or implied tasks

related with the armed conflict to end the peace process.

UNMIN had a closed connection or nexus with UN agencies, funds, and programs. The project and program areas were incorporated through the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) where the focus areas of the project were water resources, human resources, agriculture, tourism, technology, infrastructure, and environment (WHATIE). The highway of political policy has to focus on the responsibility of political parties to promote political stability, good governance, social justice, and development for permanent peace and prosperity (Poudel, 2023). In the post-conflict peacebuilding period; political stability and good governance are also important for the promotion of peace and prosperity which is continuously supported by UN agencies, funds, and programs to collaborate with the national planning commission/concerned partners of Nepal.

The 12-point agreement signed by seven major political parties and CPN (M) was the departure point to delete the dilemma/ trilemma of the Nepalese peace process. Many other understandings and agreements were also agreed to accept and invite UN support to settle the key issues of the peace process. According to the eight-point agreement signed by SPA and CPN (M) on 16 June 2006 and its clause no. 3 clearly stated to seek UN support/help to end the Nepalese peace process. This agreement also highlighted to monitoring of human rights through the UN OHCHR, monitoring the ceasefire code of conduct; and the management of arms and armies of both sides. Monitoring the Nepal army to ensure the military remains in the barracks and its weapons are not used for/against any side. The UNMIN provided election observers for the CA election in consultation with the parties. The CPA and AMMAA clauses have further reiterated that both parties committed to seeking support from the UN to monitor and manage both sides' arms and armies to conduct a free and fair CA election. The peace accord is always the starting point of the peace process which has three principal issues to be considered i.e. the different perspectives of the peace process, contentious issues, and diverse ideologies involved in the peace process to make a success of peace process (Das, 2005).

Before UNMIN's deployment, the UN country team and UN funds, agencies, and programs had also played initial roles in making peace through preventive diplomacy and human rights approach through the Secretary General's good office in 2002. The comprehensive peace agreement and ceasefire accord signed by conflicting parties is the first and foremost criterion to

build or keep peace. To cope with such a critical time, the UN peacekeeping principles follow the consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force except for self-defense and defense of the mandate in any UN peace operations (Kondoch, 2017).

UN Charter in chapter six, article 33(1) focuses on the parties to any dispute, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, shall, first of all, seek a solution by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means of their own choice. And again article 33(2) states that the Security Council shall, when it deems necessary, call upon the parties to settle their dispute by such means. So UN recommends that any internal/external armed conflict be resolved by pacific settlements of disputes as per the consent of parties according to the UN chapter six (VI). However, the UN can operate with coercive means UN chapter (VII) if that peace and security situation poses a threat to international peace or breaches the threat of peace and security to the international community. There are numerous UN chapters and articles to provide authority for peace establishment.

The government of Nepal had also established a peace talks coordination secretariat which was the first formal institution of Nepal's peace infrastructure. Later, the Peace Secretariat was elevated into the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction (MoPR) in April 2007 after the government and Maoists signed the CPA. Now, this ministry has been dissolved after the successful peace process, the restructuring, and the right number of ministries on the way to a federal setting in the central government (Adhikari, 2020). According to Powell (2017), the CPA is the contractual agreement and was the breakthrough of the Nepalese armed conflict which resulted in a ceasefire where both parties showed their commitment to ending conflict and building long-term peace, democracy, and security in the country. Peace does not come from a single track but comes from multiple tracks in national peace transition (Powell, 2017, p. 259).

The Nepalese peace process was complex due to the different types of combatants' military structures of Maoists. But peace was inevitable. Liberal peace is precipitated by the existence of security threats and non-state armed groups which is a practical problem in the peacebuilding process (Cambell, Chandler & Savaratanam, 2012). The CPN (Maoist) had a People's Liberation Army (PLA) in their political structure. Members of the political wing are easy to assimilate into society but combatant military members of the Maoist wing were difficult to integrate into

society or reintegrate into national security forces due to their political indoctrination. According to the UNMIN registration, there were 32,250 combatants in cantonments during the initial disarmament and demobilization process. Later, UNMIN verified or certified 19,602 eligible combatants excluding child combatants, disqualified combatants, and absentees during the UNMIN verification process. Verification responsibilities were given to UNMIN as per the spirit of CPA / AMMAA where both parties had agreed that the most trustable international organization or UN mediation was accepted to end the Nepalese peace process (Upreti, 2009b).

Peace is precise and valuable. Peace is not achieved from one special criteria but peace requires dialogue, democracy, defense, diplomacy, and development to make a prosperous country. UN/UNMIN principles, policies, procedures, proactive prevention diplomacy, pragmatic practical problem-solving techniques with promptness; and purposeful programs were unique paradigms of the Nepal peace process. The CPA was the foundational document of peacebuilding initiative and innovation by the government and CPN Maoists to end the decade-long armed conflict. In earlier phases of peace negotiation, none of the parliamentary parties were in compromise but they were in vied or contested to impose their agenda on the opponents. Later, parliamentary political parties and CPN (M) also agreed to compromise and correct their past mistakes for the sake of the Nepalese people's desire for peace, democracy, and prosperity. Like Thomas-Kilmaan's (1974) model of conflict management strategy, collaboration, compromise or consent are the best fit conflict management strategy which may include avoiding, accommodating, competing, and corroborating the peace while managing conflict. Consent is a crucial constituent in any conflict management process (Thomas & Kilmaan, 1974).

In the same way, UNMIN had received mandated tasks in particular, to implement key issues of CPA and AMMAA to monitor the arms and armies, ceasefire monitor, election conduct, and election monitor to transform ceasefire into permanent peace in the process of the Nepalese peace process. There were five principled mandates and other implied mandates of UNMIN from the Security Council resolution S/RES/1740/2007 which are as follows.

4.3 To Implement Key Aspects of CPA and AMMAA

The UNMIN's primary role was vital for the timely and effective implementation of the key issues/ aspects of a comprehensive peace agreement in which both sides had requested support

from the UN. UN's readiness to support is exemplified by recalling the advanced deployments letter of SG dated 22 November 2006 and dispatching advanced armed monitors and election monitors by 01 December 2006 which showed that the UN's willingness to support in Nepalese peace process/progress is highly praiseworthy. According to the UN Security Council, resolution 1740/2007 and its articles 1 (a and b) have mandated to assist the parties through a Joint Monitoring Coordinating Committee in implementing their agreement on the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides in line with CPA and subsequent agreements.

The implementation of CPA is the key task for the UNMIN in the Nepalese peace process. The CPA article 10.8 also urged the UN and friendly countries as well as the internal community to extend their support to Nepal in the campaign of establishing peace and prosperity after analyzing the core causes of Nepalese conflict: the causes were the presence of monarchy or absence of democracy, the disparity in development, poverty, and social exclusion. The preamble of the CPA stated in its first opening sentence that the CPA respects the people's aspiration and mandate which was expressed in favor of peace, democracy, and progress in different stages of people's non-violence movement. To achieve this, the CPA took ownership of a 12-point agreement, eight (8) point understanding, and twenty-five (25) point ceasefire agreement. It would further include all agreements, understanding, code of conduct, commitment to international declarations of human rights 1948, international humanitarian law, and correspondence of similar intent sent to the UN for the progressive restructuring of the state. Non-violence people's movement is the best application and efficacy to achieve peace, democracy, and prosperity in the 21st century (Sharma, 2006). UNMIN key mandates are extracted from joint request letters, CPA, AMMAA, ceasefire agreements, and subsequent agreements, which are binding factors for parties in the peace process.

The CPA article 2 (a) states that the ceasefire is the act of prohibiting all kinds of attack, kidnapping, disappearance, and obstruction, carried out by both parties through whatever means and ways. The CPA Article 2 (d) further describes that both parties the government of Nepal and CPN (M). The CPA 2 (f) states that the verification of combatants is to be done by the UN, both Maoist and Army after recorded registration. UN had decided to deploy the UNMIN mission in 2007. The DPPA's role is to manage all special political missions and peacebuilding around the world. The past DPA missions were known as political missions and the present DPPA missions

are political and peacebuilding missions effective after 2019. UNMIN was a political mission that worked under the domain of DPA because it was operationalized before 2019. The UN peacebuilding is not rhetoric but reality for peace performance (Cament & Schnabel, 2004).

Since UNMIN was invited by both parties it had a significant role in managing Nepalese armed conflict with clear UNSCR mandates. The UNMIN had received its mandate from the Security Council Resolution (SCR). The UN High Commissioner Office for Human Rights (UN OHCHR) office was also established in 2005 as a guiding goad to maintain peace and security in Nepal. Mr. Ian Martin was the high commissioner of UN OHCHR for human rights monitoring and reporting, and later he became the special representative of the secretary-general in UNMIN. According to the Security Council Resolution 1740/2007, UNMIN was deployed in a hands-on approach with tailored tasks which demystifies the role of UN/UNMIN to promote peace and security in Nepal. The UN Human Rights Commission and the UN political mission are blended enterprises for peacebuilding and political settlement initiatives in Nepal (Pace, 2020).

Before dealing with any armed or unarmed conflict, the UN has to know the root causes of conflict and related causes of conflict through investigative surveys. The conflict background of Nepal can be divided into covert conflict from 1991-1996; overt conflict from 1996-2006, conflict settlement from 2006-2008, and post-conflict period from 2008 to date. After the Jana Andolan-I in 1990, the powerful monarchy steeped down, and multi-party democracy and constitutional monarchy were established in Nepal. But CPN (Maoist) had started the covert war by sensitizing wall painting, strikes, awareness campaigns, and other modes of preparation for the waging civil war to dismiss the full power of the monarchy. After clandestine preparation for the armed conflict, the United People's Front led by Mr. Babu Ram Bhattarai (later Maoist) had submitted 40 points demands which were almost impossible to address by the then Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba government (Bogati, 2014). Then, Maoists waged a people's war in Feb 1996 by attacking the security post. It went on for ten years and a major settlement was made in the presence of UNMIN deployment. Peace was mayhem in the minds of the Nepalese people. National institutions were weak in providing service delivery to the countryside people. UN/UNMIN reacted with the Security Council Resolution to address the root causes of conflict and establish peace; and is unlikely to relapse armed conflict in Nepal (Asian Development Bank, 2010).

The UNMIN was invited to implement the key complicated issues of the peace process which was not possible to sort out by the major political parties, Nepalese stakeholders, and the conflicting parties. According to the survey respondents in open-ended questions, they claimed that the key difficult task of UNMIN was to implement key issues of CPA; registration and verification of combatants; monitor and manage Maoist arms and armies; ceasefire monitoring 24/7; assist in conducting CA election; promotion of human rights and demining/ defusing the rampant of IED and explosives. Respondents shared that UNMIN had completed 32250 combatants registration and verified only 19602 combatants based on criteria set up by UNMIN in consultation with parties; confirmation of demilitarizing and demobilizing the Maoist combatants by 24/7 monitoring and observation duty; making free country; and supported to conduct successful CA election in Nepal which were the key essential task of CPA in the peace process. Thus, the researcher found that UNMIN had successfully implemented key issues of CPA and AMMAA-related or requested tasks to UNMIN to promote peace and prosperity in Nepal.

4.4 To Monitor the Managing Arms and Armies

UN Security Council resolutions 1740/2007 article 1(a) has mandated UNMIN to monitor the management of arms and armies of both sides. So UNMIN had the authority to monitor Maoist arms and armies and Nepal army arms and armies in equal numbers which were kept at Chauni, Kathmandu with a double locking system in a continuous clock system. CPA article 4.1 states that pursuing various understandings, agreements, and five-point letters sent to the UN on the date of 09 August 2006, the Maoist army combatants are kept in seven temporary positions. The temporary seven locations for the confinement of combatants were Kailali, Surkhet, Rolpa, Nawalparasi, Chitwan, Sindhuli, and Ilam. Each main cantonment had three sub-cantonments around the main cantonments as well. The UN was responsible for monitoring and verifying the confinements of combatants in cantonments on a 24/7 basis. The purpose of confining the combatants was to conduct a free and fearless CA election. The UNMIN SCR 1740/2007 of article 1(a) mandated to monitoring of the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides in line with the provision of CPA and AMMAA. The CPN (M) had submitted 3475 registered weapons. UNMIN had permitted each main cantonment 30 weapons. Each sub-cantonment had 15 weapons for the protection of cantonment security. The rest of the weapons

were kept in containers by a double locking system which was monitored by the UNMIN arms monitor on a 24/7 basis.

The CPA article 4(2) has provided authority that all the arms and ammunition except for security purposes of cantonments were securely stored in the cantonment. The key was given to the concerned party after a single lock, record, CC camera, and siren-connected device of the security system. UNMIN had a double lock system. Nepal government provided foods supplies and other necessary arrangements to the confined combatants. Nepal army also received an order to keep an equal number of weapons in the cantonment or sealed manner in the presence of UNMIN however its routine duty was in continuation. The purpose of confinement of combatants/weapons was to ensure that both party's arms were not used for or against any party. These confined weapons and ammunition including combatants in cantonments monitor duty was given to UNMIN because of its neutrality, credibility, and impartiality characteristics for the contribution to global peacebuilding. UNMIN examined the stored arms and ammunition in the presence of the concerned party. This was one of the crucial commitments of conflicting parties and a strenuous task for UNMIN to monitor 24/7 for the combatants, their arms, and ammunition. The monitoring and management of arms and armies were central due to the destructive result of the conflict in personal, private, and public properties (Comprehensive Peace Agreement, 2006). Because Nepal had faced fatal and terrible results from the internal conflict which managed in time was the preventive course of action/diplomacy.

During the conflict period, Nepal had a hard time managing conflict as early as possible without choice and option. Articles 6 and 6.1 had provisions for the roles and responsibilities of the UNMIN mission and monitoring procedures with compliance in the past, present, and future concerning peace agreements. In the witness of UN Representative Mr. Ian Martin later SRSG of UNMIN, AMMAA was signed on 8 December 2006 between the government side team leader Krishna Prasad Sitoula and Maoist team leader Krishna Bahadur Mahara. In keeping the request letter to the UN and CPA, the AMMAA had provisions to monitor arms and armies by international UN monitors. The Security Council resolutions 1740/2007 also authorized that UNMIN shall monitor the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides in line with the provision of the CPA and other agreements/arrangements. As per the clause, UNMIN and the UNMIN Joint Monitor Team (JMT) had conducted cantonment site visits to implement under

Joint Monitoring Coordination Committee (JMCC) while implementing a peace accord to manage Maoist arms, ammunition, and armies. Conflict resolution was an urgent requirement in our underdeveloped country because of human casualties and infrastructure destruction. The following table shows the unforgettable times and irreparable losses during the armed conflict in Nepal:

Table 4.4

Human / Infrastructure Cost in Armed Conflict in Nepal

Details	Number	Remarks
Deceased persons in Armed conflict	17886	
Disappeared persons	1530	
Disabled persons	8935	
Displaced persons	79571	
Widow persons	9000	
Orphans	620	
Abducted persons	3142	
Destroyed schools	2149	
Destroyed VDCs office	2072	
Govt. office at district HQ	986	
Govt. office at the local level	1047	
DDC and Municipalities	130	
Suspension Bridge	101	
Misc. other destruction	2032	
Total: 8,517 public infrastructures were destroyed		

Note. The Kathmandu Post, 30 Apr 2013 and Bhatt & Upreti, 2016

UNMIN SCR 1740/2007 and its article 1(b) had also mandated to monitoring of the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides, in line with the provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement to assist the parties through a joint monitoring coordination committee in implementing their agreement on the management of arms and armed persons of both sides. At that time, UNMIN had monitored to ensure the barracking of the Nepal army and cantonment of combatants. UNMIN monitored both state and non-state armed groups. UNMIN had provided a competent monitor to implement SC's mandate with its commitment and conscience including

human rights, and international humanitarian workers to organize past combatants through consent to promote peace and prosperity (Rodenhauser, 2018).

According to the interim constitution, in 2007 Nepal had the Nepal army, Nepal police, armed police forces, and National Investigation Department (NID). All the security organizations were deployed in integrated approaches for the Internal Security and Development Program (ISDP) and they conducted joint operations to deter, disrupt, and destroy the Maoist insurgency during the conflict period. NID had a responsible role in the information collection, analysis, and dissemination of strategic interest-based intelligence to the state security forces through a specific chain of command. But bringing peace and prosperity through development also became meaningless. Maoists had a People's Liberation Army (PLA) including political and military wings.. The confinement of combatants had made it easy to register and verify the eligibility and ineligibility of Maoist combatants. Maoists had faced allegations of mixing minor soldiers for messengers and administrative works in combating force. To investigate the allegation, UNMIN had a fixed cut-off date of birth before 26 May 1988, and joining in combatants before 25 May 2006 to consolidate peace policies by UNMIN made easier and effective its monitoring work (Dixit, 2011).

Demobilizing Maoist combatants into cantonment under CPA meant that there was no effective armed group outside the camp. The absence of armed groups and no ongoing internal or external conflict are strong indicators of a peace and security situation. According to the record of ten years of internal armed conflict, 17,886 people died/were killed in Nepal (Upreti, 2015d). People were petrified of conflict. Peace and security were almost absent in the country. After UNMIN's mediating presence, combatants in cantonments, and major political parties' consent had commenced the hope for peace and security. Civilians, women, and children felt more secure; and seized properties were also returned to their respective owners, refugees started to return to their own homes, merged police stations and administrative units were re-established and battle-related cases were almost zero. These indicators of security situations came to the surface. UNMIN's role to monitor the management of arms and armies as per article 1(a) of UN SCR 1740/2007 to implement CPA and UNMIN-mandate to maintain peace and security was a requirement due to national failure or fault line of Nepalese-led negotiation (Pandey, 2011).

According to the survey report, 53 or 30% of respondents out of 220 agreed that UNMIN had monitoring and management roles for arms and armies by monitoring in all 28 cantonments. So, this found that UNMIN supported building peace by monitoring or containing the Maoist combatants and their arms and armies in cantonments.

4.5 To Monitor Cease Fire Agreements/Arrangements

UNMIN had a primary mandate according to article 1(c) UN SCR 1740/2007 which has authorized to assist in the monitoring of the ceasefire arrangements/agreements in the Nepalese peace process. A ceasefire is a temporary stop of war which is also known as an attempted path to positive peace in conflict. Ceasefire is also known as negative peace. Ceasefire may lead permanent end of conflict however sometimes it is fatal if it is pretending for tactical, operational, and strategic advantages by the conflicting parties. Initially, under the chairmanship of Professor Birendra Mishra National Commission for Monitoring the Ceasefire Code of Conduct was established but dismissed before the CA was signed. According to the CPA article 5 ceasefire agreements/arrangements and its sub-article 5.1 had agreed to terminate all military action and armed mobilization. Ceasefire agreement and code of conduct are essentially expected to be implemented before conflict management. Ceasefire and the code of conduct had provided the UN, donors, and other common citizens with freedom of movement. But conflicting parties may breach the code of conduct thus international UN monitors are symbolic and systematic judges for the compliance of the agreement. According to the UNSCR 1740/2007 and its article 1(c) the UNMIN had a mandate to assist in the monitoring of the ceasefire arrangements in the peace process. In the process of permanent settlement of the conflict, there was 25 point ceasefire code of conduct signed on 26 May 2006 by Krishna Prasad Sitoula and Krishna Bahadur Mahara as a coordinator from the government and CPN (Maoist), respectively. Due to the sensitivity of the monitoring function, the arrangement was made to invite the trusted international organization UN with the mission of UNMIN. Article 21 of the ceasefire code of conduct has also been arranged to be monitored by international monitors based on mutual agreement. Ceasefire was monitored by international UNMIN arms monitors to create a trustable environment for both parties because the negative role of political parties may be deepening democracy (Aditya & Bhatta, 2016)).

UNMIN had managed 186 UN arms monitors. They had deployed in all main and satellite cantonments with combatants as an observatory role and responsibilities. UNMIN arms monitors were unarmed observers deployed to monitor Maoist armed combatants.. This was the strategic working standard procedure of the blue helmet to exemplify impartiality and neutrality in UN military operations (Hillen, 1998).

Due to UNMIN's professionalism, integrity, diversity, discipline, dedication, and diligence, UNMIN monitored the ceasefire arrangements well. There was no single bullet fired during the ceasefire time in Nepal. UNMIN managed the joint Monitoring Team (JMT) led by one UN monitor as team leader, one Nepal army, and one Maoist army team member to monitor the local level/regional issues of the ceasefire code of conduct. UNMIN activities to monitor arms and armed personnel are coordinated together Joint Monitoring Coordination Committee (JMCC). So, this mechanism had successfully monitored the ceasefire code of conduct which was the crucial component of the Nepalese peace process. The army was at the barrack and combatants were confined in the cantonment for a long time however patience of conflicting parties, the professionalism of UN monitors, and the political party's strong will to make lasting peace supported peace, and security in the country.

In the past times, the ceasefire agreement was made but was broken due to the violation of the ceasefire agreement by both conflicting parties because there was no presence of an internationally recognized UN monitoring mechanism. A ceasefire is a central initiative to end armed conflict in the contemporary peace process. The ceasefire and peace process are often described as a transition from war to peace in which conflicting parties are engaged in negotiation to end conflict by peaceful means (Akebo, 2017). The 186 UN unarmed observers were deployed in every Maoist main and satellite cantonment to monitor the ceasefire agreements and code of conduct after the demilitarization of Maoist combatants. Due to confidence in UNMIN monitors and peacebuilding professionalism, no parties violated the single events of the ceasefire code of conduct which led to the success of the Nepalese peace process in the presence of UNMIN in Nepal as per the FGD report. They further focused that the 186 arms monitors for 28 cantonments to monitor continuous cease-fire was tiring but they did it professionally. The researcher found that the ceasefire monitor supported keeping and building peace across the country.

4.6 To Provide Support for CA Election

UNMIN had mandated tasks UNSCR to provide technical support for planning, preparation, and conduct of the CA election and also mandated task to provide a small team of election monitoring and reporting of CA election conduct as per article 1(d and e) of UNSCR 1740/2007 mandate. CA election was the main demand of the CPN (Maoist) to establish democracy for peace and prosperity. The periodic election is the procedure to quest for permanent peace and consolidate participatory democracy (Baral, 2008). Due to shifting and changing dates and times for CA, there was chaos and confusion about whether the peace process would be complete or incomplete in Nepal. Without the CA election, the constitution-making process could not be completed (Pyakurel & Adhikari, 2013). There was also a kind of cold conflict between political parties for their desired results in a non-violent manner in armed conflict (Srestha, & Upreti, 2006). The main body of the UNMIN election adviser arrived in Nepal on 15 January 2007 one week before UNMIN's actual deployment and intensely started for poll which was twice postponed.

The UNMIN's election assistance office had committed and provided technical support to the Nepal Election Commission (EC) to assist with election conduct and monitoring by experts to ensure that the CA election was conducted in a free, fair, and fearless environment. The representatives of the CA election were supposed to make a new constitution to replace the interim constitution of 2063. According to the UNMIN web-based information, Nepal had 20,882 polling centers, 9801 polling locations, and 234000 polling location staff. The first past the post (FPTP) seats were 240 proportional representative seats were 335 and the council of ministers could appoint 26 members, which made 601 in total from marginal groups, ethnic groups, and backward communities (Hangen, 2015). According to the dashboard information of the election commission of Nepal, the Janajati had 33.5 percent of FPTP seats in the constituent assembly election in 2008 which was bigger in number than Bahun and Chhetry. See the table below of FPTP representation;

Table 4.6***Ethnic Representation of FPTP Election, 2008***

Ethnic Caste	Seat Number	First past the post(FPTP)	Remarks
Bahun	59	24.6%	
Chhetry	31	12.9%	
Janajati	80	33.5%	
Madhesi	54	22.5%	
Dalit	7	2.9%	
Unstated	9	3.8%	
Total	240	100%	

Note. Election commission dashboard, Nepal

The periodic election is an indicator of democracy or weak democracy disturbs peace. Respondents shared and focused that the UNMIN-supported CA election was well managed with a tight security system to minimize the flaws and faults in the election. According to the interview report, the election education volunteers were 8568; domestic observers were 92000 from 150 domestic observer organizations; and 700 accredited international election observers/monitors were monitoring the election procedure (Interview no 7 dated 13/02/2023). The researcher found CA election was held with UNMIN support with the deployment of high-level human resources experts to minimize defects which would not be possible to be held without international or UNMIN support in Nepal. See the details of the election-related staff and factsheet of the election in the table;

Table 4.6***Election factsheet of April 2010***

Details	Number	Total	Remarks
Districts /Election seats	240	75 districts	
Registered political parties	54	Nepal	
Voters	17611,832		
Election Candidates	3946		
Proportional candidates	5701		
Polling location	9801		
Polling center	20,882		
The polling center's staff	234,000		
Voting election volunteer	8,568		
Total	240	100%	

Note. UNMIN, 2010 and election commission, 2022

The UN Security Council mandated the UNMIN as per the S/RES/1740/2007 and article 1(e) to provide election monitors to facilitate the overall electoral process in Nepal. The Nepalese Election Commission had no experience in planning, preparing, and conducting the CA election which was only possible by getting full support from UNMIN electoral experts, election monitors, and international election observers from starting to the completion of the CA election. Carter himself and his center also came to monitor/observe the free and fair conduct of the CA election. So, the diplomatic presence and effective effort of UNMIN, UN OHCHR, the UN country team, and Carter Center, and other sympathizers made the peace process possible in Nepal that gave it permanent shape.

4.7 To Provide Election Monitors

The Secretary General, himself had appointed an independent team of election monitors with the criteria that monitors could directly report to his office about the proper conduct of the CA election in Nepal. The independent team was the Electoral Expert Monitoring Team (EEMT), composed of (05) a five-member team, appointed by the UN Secretary-General. The EEMT had the special mandate of the reporting line to the UN Secretary-General to know the reality or to review the technical aspects of the electoral process and conduct of the CA election. This provision was a unique and special mandate to UNMIN for the monitoring of the election conducted by the international election experts to make success at any cost in the CA election of the Nepalese peace process. The comprehensive election design for the ballot box and election administration was a consolidating and reinforcement process for democracy (Lausen, 2007).

The EC of Nepal and UNMIN EAO had worked together for the settlement of potential technical issues of the election because UNMIN had a mandate and experts to provide technical assistance for the CA election. The key technical assistance areas were legal framework, overall operational planning, voter registration/education, candidate nomination/certification procedure, political/media campaign or communication, observer accreditation, and dispute resolution tools and techniques. To achieve the UN Security Council mandate, UNMIN received around 100 international election advisors to conduct the CA election in Nepal. The projected election violence was settled by UNMIN preventive diplomacy (Pokharel et al., 2019). In the election head office, nine international advisers provided technical assistance daily. Two international advisers had also been allocated to assist in each five regions daily. UNMIN had 70 international

and 70 national district electoral advisers/language assistants who were deployed to all the districts before the CA election date of 10 April 2008 in Nepal. This was how UN/UNMIN had supported EC to elect the candidates for the CA. It was the first time in Nepalese history that women's representation was nearly 33 percent which indicates that inclusiveness was meaningful in the peace-building process with the support of UNSCR 1325/2000 agenda for women, peace, and security in UN architecture. So, the role of UNMIN in conducting elections from starting to the conduct phase was significant in terms of inclusion of women for WPS (Aroussi, 2017).

4.8 To Monitoring and Reporting Human Rights

UNMIN had the mandate to monitor and report the incidents of human rights violations to the UN HQ through the UN OHCHR office which was established in 2005 before UNMIN deployment. The human rights approach was the critical, crucial, and conducive goad or approach in the Nepalese peace process. Human rights are not a myth but sometimes it is a misunderstanding in conflict (Fagan, 2009). Human rights focus on halting the impunity of those who have seriously violated human rights or crimes against humanity as per international human rights law practices and principles. It further urged to investigate disappearances if anyone who is still missing in the past violence. UN human rights monitoring team had placed the sufficient cause of causality theory to affix human rights compliance obligation to promote the human rights issues in the conflict-torn country, Nepal (Ojendal, et al., 2021).

UN closed the DPPA political liaison office at Kathmandu at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after successfully fulfilling its mandate by June 2018. The successful indicators of peace, the promulgation of the new constitution in 2015, and the successful conduct of three tiers of election in 2017 made it easy to close the political liaison office in Nepal. The political liaison office was completely closed within three months with the consultation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which was established in 2011 to support and follow up on the remaining aspects of the peace process in collaboration and partnership with the Nepalese government after the UNMIN mandate was completed which filled the vacuum of the peace process (Spotlight news, 18 June 2018). The UN OHCHR has a direct mandate to monitor human rights violations and protection provisions in the CPA and UNSCR as well for the purpose of reinforcing and respecting human rights promotion in Nepal which is openly supported to stop the direct violence in conflict. Researchers found that the human rights approach was good to guide the

parties to respect human rights and international humanitarian law which directly supported building peace in Nepal.

4.9 To Coordinate with Parties and International Actors

Article 3 of the Security Council resolution S/RES/1740/2007 has mandated that UNMIN had a task in particular, to the SRSR to coordinate with relevant parties of the peace process and international actors for the confidence building and support measures. The peace process was supported by UNMIN however all the peace-related agreements were done by the parties so its ownership was always with the parties. UN SCR also recognizes all the agreements and arrangements made in the witness of UN representative Ian Martin in Nepal. Besides, its role was liaising with civil society, national and international actors, factors, and donors to end conflict because conflict may have web-type linkage with many individuals and institutions. UN and UNMIN advocated providing support for the peace and prosperity-related project budget in consultation with the National Planning Commission which was US \$1,827,683,390 or NRS 250 Billion rupees on average from 2002 to 2022. This amount of project and grant money was a great support to strengthen the crosscutting issues of peacebuilding areas.

4.10 To Monitor Overall Peace Process

UNMIN had the overall monitor role of managing arms and armies including registration and verification of combatants; monitoring ceasefire; demining works, protecting human rights, assisting and monitoring CA election, and other cross-cutting peacebuilding related issues of the peace process. Regretting conflict lesions and lessons from the national-led peace negotiation. UNMIN implemented most of its mandated tasks either through UNMIN peacebuilding works or by monitoring the role of the ceasefire and CA election. The remaining peace process works like integrating combatants into the army and reintegration of combatants into civil society, were continuously monitored by the political liaison office till the promulgation of the constitution in 2015 and the first periodic election at all levels in 2017, three tiers of election which were locally led process. After success in the key achievement of the peace process, the UNMIN rear party or political liaison office closed its office and completely left in 2018. UNMIN rear party handed over its other peacebuilding works to the UN country team in Nepal. So, it indicates that the UNMIN peacebuilding support was successful in the presence, performance, and monitoring

role of UNMIN peacebuilding amidst conflict, confrontation, chaos, and complexity of peace and security situation. UN SCR-mandated tasks or UNMIN mission had implemented given mandates for the support of the entire peace process which had supported to address/resolve the root cause of conflict. During an interview, the respondent focused that the special committee had also a role to reintegrate and integrate the combatants for rehabilitation, reintegration, and integration besides the UNMIN support role (Interview no. 8 dated 10 Feb 2023). This means UNMIN had a substantive role in monitoring the ceasefire, arms and armies management, and the CA election which was the critical task of the peace process. So, the overall peace process was successfully supported and monitored from 2002 to 2018 by the trusted intermediary organization or UNMIN in Nepal.

CHAPTER FIVE

ROLE OF UNMIN IN BUILDING PEACE AND PROSPERITY IN NEPAL

5.1 Introduction

The palpable role of UNMIN was to build peace in Nepal which includes managing arms and armies of conflicting parties; ceasefire monitoring; registration and verification of combatants; demobilizing and disarming combatant weapons and ammunitions; demining works, providing catalyst support to conduct CA election/monitor election; and promotion of human rights to re-establish permanent peace in Nepal. UNMIN had also faced dilemmas in initial peacebuilding works in confidence-building measures; it was a hard task to convince conflicting parties about the peacebuilding pedagogy and rapidly deployable and available arms and election monitors to dispatch within short notice in advance. However, the UN managed to deploy an advanced team of arms and election monitors before the actual UNMIN deployment. This enthusiasm of the UN shows a keen interest in building peace in Nepal. This role of the UN directly supported building a conducive and confidential environment to stabilize the shambles of security and safety situation which ultimately promoted peace status in Nepal (Uzonyi, 2020). After the CPA and ceasefire agreement, an ongoing armed conflict was stopped. Combatants were confidently contained into a cantonment and government forces were stationed at their respective barracks to dis-contact the rival forces through the support role of UNMIN arms and army monitors. The role of UNMIN in containing both armies in their respective place was a strong initiation of making/building peace in the country after a decade-long conflict through UNMIN peacebuilding architectures, avenues, and approaches.

To find out the particular and principal roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal; a survey was conducted as per the scheduled plan in 22 districts across Nepal. Two hundred twenty-two (220) respondents from 22 districts were included to find the exact role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal. During the sample design and selection of the sample district, the researcher focused on the most armed conflict-affected districts particularly in Karnali province to explore the reality of peace and security conditions before and after the UNMIN played a role in Nepal. The researcher also conducted 13 key informants interviews (KII) which included the right honorable president Ramchandra Poudel, former Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai, Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti,

special committee coordinator Lt Gen. Bala Nanda Sharma (Retd.), former and first SRS of UNMIN Ian Martin and others who were selected through the sampling strategy of convenient and purposive sampling. During the face-to-face interview, the researcher was fully aware of the Hawthorne effect (modified behavior of respondents rather than normal behavior) from the respondents to trace the exact role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal (Flick, 2021). Participatory observation is one of the techniques for FGD in social studies (Jorgensen, 1989). The FGD group “B” respondents further wished that Nepal would not face ethnic and territorial conflict in the future. The discussion deduced that Nepal's peace process was successful within a limited time because of the fast, focused, and flexible fashion of the UNMIN’s role in peacebuilding support operations (FGD no. 2 dated 15 Jan 2023). UNMIN’s role was key or leading including many others in the management of the Nepalese peace process.

Like-wise, two FGDs were conducted. Group A had 7 respondents and group “B” had 6 respondents from diverse backgrounds including integrated Maoist combatant officers, senior army officers of the Nepal army including women, civil servants, and media persons. FGD is also qualitative research to collect data for the analysis of findings (Morgan, 1997). Due to the seriousness of the research subject, the basic criterion to select respondents was set from 35 years or above so that they had noticed, observed, and experienced the effects of armed conflict, ceasefire agreement, CPA, AMMAA, and UNMIN deployment to manage armed conflict which created a conducive environment to promotion of peace and prosperity. Participatory observation is one of the techniques for FGD in social studies (Jorgensen, 1989). The FGD group B respondents further wished that Nepal would not face ethnic and territorial conflict in the future. Besides, the researcher collected secondary data for this research from previous research works, published books/journals/articles, and others that were available and applicable to this research study.

Due to the accountable and trustable presence and performance of UNMIN,; the peace and security situation was slowly stable which shaped a favorable business environment where public and private investment produced cost-effective products, goods, and services. Foreign capital investment, external tourists, employment, and exports were also activated due to the positive message of peace progress and a stable security situation. Ceasefire/CPA agreement also minimized direct killing, abduction, extortion, disappearance, and kidnapping after the

cantonment of combatants and barracking armed forces in Nepal which was the result of UNMIN presence and trust in UNMIN started-up peace support operations in Nepal (Upreti, 2015d). However, to cope with armed conflict; Nepalese-led initiatives and negotiation efforts had taken place three times but all the preventive peace negotiation efforts were otiose to make peace which impeded economic development and income growth. To achieve positive peace, there is a stable safety and security status; no ongoing internal/external armed conflict; no presence of armed groups, and no fear of structural violence in the country. In addition; democracy, periodic elections, corruption control, justice, gender equality, and social inclusion are also structural and supporting factors for strengthening positive peace. These are the necessities and sufficient causal factors for strong and stable peace and prosperity in the country (Goertz, 2017).

Permanent and positive peace promotes progress and prosperity. To attain prosperity; poverty reduction, personal and national income growth, economic well-being, satisfaction, and happiness index are primarily essential features in a structurally sound political and economic environment (Persson, & Besley, 2011). UNMIN's activities relating to building peace were associated with building basic and sufficient causal theory or causality of peace. Perception comes from people's behavior, opinion, attitude, and trust (BOAT) towards UNMIN ideas, initiative, individual staff skills, and institutional performance in present, past, and projected performance in UNMIN peacebuilding (Broadbent, 2013). Perception is based on service delivery or mandate delivery performance in the UN system.

To do so, the researcher collected and juxtaposed the qualitative and quantitative data from the primary and secondary sources of peace and prosperity indicators in the post-UNMIN period in Nepal (Braun, 2016). After rigorous research and scientific analysis of the key roles of UNMIN mandate implementation and holistic peace performance, the researcher deducted time and energy to obtain the findings and conclusion; that the roles of UNMIN had contributed to managing a decade-long armed conflict. The UNMIN played a positive role in its pledged responsibility of UNSCR mandates to promote peace, progress, and prosperity in Nepal which was also unique, exemplary, and locally led Emory peace process/progress. The peace and prosperity indicators or factors are analyzed to explore the positive impact of UNMIN in subsequent pages.

5.2 Role of UNMIN in Nepal

Nepal government requested the UN to monitor arms and armies of Nepal army and Maoist combatants. To implement AAMMA, UNMIN designed JMCC which was responsible for supervising, monitoring, and coordinating body and chaired by UNMIN with the representative of both the Nepal army and the Maoist army. Arms and armies monitors were 186 personnel from 40 different countries but they were not allowed to wear military uniform and carry self-defended weapons. So, the monitoring duty was technically tricky and diplomatically designed to demobilize and disarm both sides' armies during the peace process in Nepal.

The role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal was valiance in terms of implementation of UN SCR mandates through arbitration, mediation, monitoring, and management work by UN experts, staff, and unarmed UNMIN observers as per the agreements/requests from both conflicting parties. So, combatants' perception was positive in UNMIN because of the foundational and flexible approach to the peacebuilding process as an internationally trusted intermediary organization that was requested by conflicting parties in the Nepal peace process (Interview no.3 dated 27 November 2022). Many had big doubts that without UNMIN peace was not possible. In gist, most of the interviewees (90%) answered with agreement that there was surely less chance of achieving peace in the absence of UNMIN support in Nepal.

The role of UNMIN was intended to build peace and prosperity through the tailored model in a fast, flexible, and focused mission (Adhikari, 2023b). There was least hope to get peace because three formal negotiations at national level were already initiated and held three times but failed all the time. International arbitration was compulsory for the management of armed conflict to bring peace to Nepal. In the survey, the question was asked about what were the key roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal for the 220 respondents in 22 districts across the province particularly the most armed affected districts in Nepal. Most of the respondents focused that the key role of UNMIN was to implement CPA and AMMAA and few respondents focused on other supports. In detail, the majority of respondents(67 or 30% respondents) answered that the UNMIN's key role was to implement key issues of CPA and AMMAA; (53 or 25% of respondents) answered that UNMIN's role was to monitor and manage arms and armies; (45 or 20% respondents)responded that the key role of UNMIN was to support for CA election and election monitor and (26 or 12% respondents) answered that UNMIN had key role in demining

and liaison works including monitoring ceasefire agreement and combatants registration and verification works. After analysis of the data, the researcher concluded that UNMIN's key role was to implement CPA/AMMAA and subsequent agreements to build peace in Nepal. The survey report, interview, and FGD proved that UNMIN had a positive role in managing armed conflict in Nepal by providing substantive and significant support in the key conflicted issues and other crosscutting issues of the peace process. The detailed survey report of UNMIN's role in the peacebuilding process is as follows;

Table 5.2
Survey Report

UNMIN's Roles in Peacebuilding	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Implementation of key issues of CPA / AMMAA	67	30%	
Monitoring and management of arms and armies	53	25%	
Supported conducting the CA election and its monitor	45	20%	
Monitoring ceasefire agreement	18	8%	
Demining minefield and Liaison works	26	12%	
Registration, verification, and Re/integration of combatants	11	5%	
Total	220	100%	

Note. Researcher's survey report, 2023

The key role of UNMIN was principal support of the peace process however UNMIN also supported key and other implied tasks of the peace process to build peace in Nepal. Both primary roles and implied roles of UNMIN including its result are subsequently explored and analyzed in a given sequence.

5.2.1 Implementation of Key Aspects of CPA and AMMAA

The primary role of UNMIN was to implement CPA, AMMAA, and other agreements and arrangements signed between parties. There were several mutual agreements and arrangements signed by the conflicting parties to manage armed conflict in Nepal which is to be implemented by the trusted international organization or UNMIN through the strategy of monitoring and intermediary roles. So, the principal role of UNMIN was to implement the requested roles or tasks of the parties to promote peace in consent with the conflicting parties (Interview no 7 dated

13/02/2023). The initial understanding between conflicting parties was known as the 12-point understanding which was signed in New Delhi, India. Then, the People's Movement and ceasefire agreement was signed on 25 May 2006 at Gokarna, Kathmandu which also confirmed certain codes of conduct including a ceasefire between the conflicting parties to achieve peace. Subsequently, the CPA was also signed on 21 November 2006 between the government of Nepal, PM Girija Prasad Koirala, and Puspa Kamal Dahal "also known as Prachanda" chairman of CPN (Maoist) who sincerely requested support from the UN for technical support and assistance to settle the ten years armed conflict in Nepal. To respond to the request of the government and the conflicting party's consent, the UN initiated the deployment of UNMIN in Nepal. Consent is compulsory for achieving peace. So, UNMIN had certainly a role in implementing the important aspects of the peace process as a third-party monitor and mediator. Article (4) of CPA for the management of army and armament has stated that the management of arms and armies of both sides are to be monitored by the UN and UNMIN in accordance with the 12 points understanding, eight-point agreement, AMMAA, 25-point code of conduct, and five-point letter sent to UN headquarter. CPA and AMMAA spelled out about the UNMIN monitor role for arms and armies. After the agreement, Maoist combatants were located on different cantonment sides. The major seven cantonment sites for combatants were selected in Kailali, Surkhet, Rolpa, Nawalparasi, Chitwan, Sindhuli, and Ilam and sub-cantonments would remain at the rate of 3 each around the main/major cantonments which were known as satellite cantonments. All the cantonments were monitored by UN arms monitor on a 24/7 basis with a closed circuit camera to implement the spirit of Comprehensive Peace Agreements and AMMAA.

The CPA article 4(1) invited the UNMIN for the registration, verification, and monitoring of the combatants and monitoring of the electoral process by international electoral observers. CPA article 4(2) stressed further that after cantoning combatants in cantonments to verify and monitor it is another form of disarming and demobilizing for integration and reintegration. The subsequent article 4(4) of the CPA agreed that the interim council of ministers would work by forming a special committee to supervise, integrate, and rehabilitate the Maoist combatants where they would fit for the service or society. AMMAA was signed on 08 December 2006 in witness of UN SG personal envoy Ian Martin; According to AMMAA, Maoist was to be

contained, secured weapon storage, combatant verification and registration and the Nepal army remain in army Barayak which are closely monitored by UN armed monitors. Likewise, the eight-point agreement was signed on 16 July 2006 between SPA and Maoist representatives at the Prime Minister's Office at Baluwatar in Kathmandu. Amongst the eight points, the third point of agreement was to request the UN to help with the monitoring and management of the arms and armies of both sides for free and fair elections. So, the UN had adopted UNSCR 1740/2007 mandates to UNMIN for the management of arms and armies of both sides which was stated in the eight-point agreement too. These roles were critical and most difficult to be done for the parties but UNMIN implemented these complex tasks through 186 UNMIN arms monitor in 7 major and 21 satellite combatants' cantonments. The monitor duty was a key to the success of the peace process including the strong self-confidence of combatants and Nepal armies towards the UN and UNMIN performance.

According to the researcher's survey to assess the UNMIN's role in Nepal, multiple choice questions were asked about what were the key roles of UNMIN in Nepal. The 67 respondents or 30% of respondents out of 220 have answered by choosing option (a) to implement key issues of CPA, AMMAA, and subsequent agreement. In an interview, one of the respondents also stressed that the role of UNMIN was technical tasks that were not possible by the political parties or national mediators. CPN (M) combatants entered into cantonments to be confined on 5 Mangshir 2063 BS due to the combatant's confidence and trust in UNMIN as there was a trust deficit with the government and government armed forces. UNMIN built bridging for the trust and confidence between the Maoists and the government (Interview no. 10 dated 15 Feb 2023). Likewise, the researcher also discussed UNMIN's key role in FGD. Group: A has focused that the role of UNMIN was simply to implement CPA and other agreements. So, this primary data supported that the key role of UNMIN was to implement the CPA/AMMAA agreements to build peace and prosperity.

Analyzing and assessing existing security threats in the country, the South Asian Foundation survey surveyed 1702 respondents across the country in 2017. The report revealed that there is no security threats from non-state armed groups at all because no armed groups was existing in the country after UNMIN's presence and performance for the implementation of the cantonment of combatants and barracking Nepal's army. Besides, Nepal had security threats from alcohol

abuse and natural disasters including crimes and corrupt elites. Nepal is a multi-lingual and multi-ethnic country but the survey reports showed that there is no ethnic, religious, and caste-based tension in Nepal. This can be taken as Nepalese societal capital for the promotion of peace and development. The perceived security threats by the Nepalese people to peace are as follows;

Table 5.2.1

Security Threats to Peace in Nepal

Types of threats	Threats (In 100%)	Respondents
No threats at all	88%	
Alcohol abuse	42%	
Natural disasters (earthquakes/ floods)	42%	
Crime, thieves, gangs	28%	
Corruption, Corrupt elites	16%	
Weak rule of law/ governance/justice system	15%	
Violence against women/ domestic violence	9%	
Ethnic, religious, or caste-based tensions	4%	
Total		1702

Note. The Asia Foundation, 2017

These days there are no internal and international conflicts in Nepal. No conflict meaning refers to peace and security. People are free from conflict or Nepalese people are free from fear and fire. This is why respondents responded that there are no armed security threats to the peace in the country. No security threat in the country is the key indicator of peacefulness of the country however peacefulness is always relative to its neighbors and friendly countries. So, the researcher argues that the security threats are less in the present situation due to the absence of armed groups and armed conflict in Nepal

No security threat sign symbolizes peace, stable internal/external safety, and security situation in any society or country (Shrestha, 2013). But there are unconventional security threats in the present context which are alcohol abuse (42%), natural disasters (42%), crimes (28%), corruption (16%), and injustice/ delayed justice (15%) are still security threats for the promotion

and protection of peace and prosperity in Nepal. Delayed justice is no justice or injustice. Justice is to be provided in a timely fashion. Such injustice and impunity can be a threat to the transition for positive peace (Bhattraï, 2010). Besides, political instability or fast/frequent changes in government alliances and counter-alliances are also additional fuss for permanent peace and security. This trend creates despair in the public. Analyzing the secondary data after the consequent years of UNMIN roles in peacebuilding, the overall security threat has been improved or peace is consolidated and consolidated peace supports strengthening prosperity.

5.2.2 Monitoring and Management of Arms and Armies

The UN Security Council mandate 1740/2007 of article 1(b) had authorized the UNMIN to monitor the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides in line with the CPA. So, UNMIN had a mandated role for monitoring the management of combatants and the Nepal army which was also a life-threatening task to UNMIN staff and arms monitors to bring peace. Both parties had automatic mass-killing weapons, ammunition, explosives, and landmines. UNMIN managed this serious task by monitoring arms and army management through various mechanisms. The Joint Monitoring Coordination Committee (JMCC) and Joint Monitoring Team (JMT) were the UNMIN mechanisms to implement CPA, AMMAA, and UN Security Council mandates. According to the AMMAA and its article six (6) regarding the UN and Article 6(1) provision of JMCC to promote confidence-building measures to serve as a dispute resolution mechanism. The JMCC was composed of nine members. One representative member is from each organization e.g. UN, Nepal Army, and Maoist Army. The chairman was appointed from UNMIN. The Chairman was Brig. General Jan Eric Withemsen in UNMIN. There were two vice chairmen, one from the Nepal army and another from the Maoist army. The vice chairman of the Maoist army was Mr. Nanda Kishore Pun (Pasang) later appointed as Rt. honorable Vice-President of Nepal and now he completed his tenure. The remaining six members were two UN members, two from the Maoist army, and two from the Nepal Army. UNMIN had made a team of JMCC through the inclusionary and participatory approach to incorporate both conflicting parties

The major function of JMCC was to assist the parties in implementing the signed agreements. The JMCC was the central coordinating committee for monitoring arms and armies of both sides. JMCC had a duty to serve as a dispute resolution mechanism regarding operational difficulties,

complaints, questions, or any problem related to compliance with the peace process agreement/arrangement by parties. To achieve these roles, the JMCC had to assist in confidence-building measures so that JMCC could resolve all problems and disputes at the lowest level possible. The practice of joint problem solving and confidence/trust building mechanism was in action through active efforts to investigate and report all incidents of concern to the parties. That is to say, the JMCC was monitoring, coordinating, and reporting to the committee chaired by UNMIN chief arms monitor Gen Jan Eric. The JMCC was also responsible for supervising the compliance of both conflicting parties.

UNMIN had also formed a three-man Joint Monitoring Team (JMT) to assist the JMCC at the regional and local levels through patrolling and team site visits. Patrolling is the ears and eyes of JMT. The JMT was composed of one international armed monitor as team leader, one monitor from the Nepal Army, and one monitor from the Maoist army. The task of JMT was to visit and liaison with the village community; cooperate with UN agencies/I/NGOs; assist the parties in creating conducive conditions by information sharing and defusing local tension; proactive conflict management at the local level; to investigate any complaints/allegations and recommend measures to fix the compliance. JMT had no mandate to inspect arms and ammunition storage in Maoist cantonment/military barracks. A joint mission or integrated concept is a military perspective to address conflict through the development of civil-military relations. So this is the joint team to monitor both sides' military activities/perspectives (Raghavan, 2012).

According to the primary data survey by the researcher in 22 districts, 53 frequency or 25% out of 220 respondents responded that the role of UNMIN was to monitor and manage arms and armies of both sides. The response of respondents is well-matched with the UNSCR mandates 1740/2007 of 1(b) which also mentioned monitoring and managing the arms and armies of Maoists and Nepal Army. So, the role of UNMIN in building peace by continuously monitoring the movement of Maoists and the Nepal Army was prominent because no greater security-sensitive accidents or incidents were recorded. It was all possible because of the trusted mediation and monitoring role of UNMIN as an international armed/armies observer for monitoring and management of arms and armies which was also a key role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal.

After properly monitoring and managing arms and armies of combatants and the Nepal Army, the security threats in the country were gradually erased. Security threats are deliberate actions from opposing armed forces which can be armed conflict, civil unrest, crime, and terrorism. Security threats are intended potential physical damage to destroy or death vulnerable people, places, and property. Safety hazards are non-deliberate actions which can be earthquakes, flooding, tsunamis, and pandemics like COVID-19. Nepalese people are slowly getting free from fear of individual or group violence or attack from combatants, state armed forces, or illegal criminal groups. Armed groups may threaten National security which is generally calculated by multiplying likelihood and potential impact (Gandhi, 2016). After cantoning combatants, the national security threat also became less due to the role of UNMIN peacebuilding activities. National security is a long-term planned strategy and doctrine to prevent, manage, or mitigate the likelihood of armed attack/conflict and its impact on the collective security of people (Newsome, 2014).

After monitoring and managing the arms and armies by the monitoring mechanism JMCC and JMT of UNMIN, combatants were strictly placed inside the cantonment, and the Nepal Army was also kept inside the military barrack. So this means fighting forces were absent or after cantoning all combatants, there was no presence of state-recognized armed groups in the country which provided a peaceful feeling/environment of peace and security in the country.

As Galtung said the absence of armed groups and the nonappearance of ongoing armed conflict is also a key indicator of peace however poverty, inequality, and unemployment may also invite instability, disorder, and violent conflict which prevent the path of prosperity (Seery, 2019). For example, Nepalese people also felt the disastrous effects and impact of a decade-long civil war at the heart and heart of the country's courtyard (Pettigrew, 2013). Peace means the absence of opposite attitudes, behaviors, competition, and interests. Conflict is to be resolved by negotiation, mediation, and arbitration. According to the Kathmandu Post 01 Aug 2009, there were up to 109 or so armed groups in the different parts of the country mostly in the Terai region in Nepal. But after UNMIN operationalization, these groups were disarmed and dismissed and now no record is found of their existence after the UNMIN peacebuilding role in Nepal. So, the absence of armed groups and ongoing armed conflict was resolved by the UN technical support role and Nepalese political parties' consent or compromise through peaceful means in Nepal. To

achieve this, Nepalese people agreed that UNMIN had direct and indirect roles in building peace and managing armed conflict to promote peace, strengthen the security system, and progress in development and prosperity in Nepal. Moreover, the unarmed status opened the route of foreign employment and remittance which supported the addition of personal/ national income in Nepal (Interview no 12, dated 25/02/2023).

5.2.3 Registration, Verification and Re/Integration

UNMIN had tough tasks for the registration and verification which only could ensure the total numbers of genuine combatants and ineligible non-combatants at the 28 cantonment sites. So, UNMIN had to play roles as per the UNMIN mandate to verify the actual numbers of combatants according to the CPA and AMMAA agreement. In addition, UNMIN had registration and verification roles as per UNSCR 1740/2007 of its article 1(a) in monitoring and managing Maoist combatants. To monitor and manage combatants, the first step was to disarm, demobilize, and register for combatants. The Maoist army had claimed that they had 32,250 combatants in twenty-eight (28) cantonments these numbers were not trustworthy in the public guess/assumption because of the leaked video of CPN (Maoist) party chairman Prachanda from Image Channel news regarding his claim of the exact number of combatants and their claimed number of registered combatants and weapons. The AMMAA clause 5.3.5 authorized to send in leave not more than 12 percent of total combatants to resolve combatant technical/serious house/family problem problems.

According to the provision 1.4 clause phases of AMMAA, there were four phases of combatants' management. The reporting and verification process was conducted in different phases; redeployment and concentration of forces; combatants in cantonments, Nepal Army in barracking; and full compliance with agreements and UN policy. In the AMMAA agreements, article 2 regarding reporting and verification focused on the combatant detail information; order of battle/military structure /organization/deployment/strength; minefields/landmines, unexploded ordnance, improvised explosives, and its locations; needy information relating to roads, tracks, and dispositions of arms and armies of both sides. Commanders are supposed to provide a complete list of personnel with their names, ages (birth date/ entry date as combatant), education, address, and current rank and commander. In addition, the commander had to provide a list of weapons, types, serial numbers, calibers, ammunition amount, and lot number. For the

cantonment security, 30 set weapons were allowed for perimeter security for every seven main cantonments, and 15 weapons were allowed for security for each of the 21 satellite cantonments.

The UN had officially conducted its first registration process from 16-31 January 2007 to screen and register a real number of combatants. The second phase of registration was done from 16 January to 21 Dec 2007 (UNDP, 2007). Maoist leadership had claimed that they had 32,250 combatants in cantonments. UNMIN team had verified only 19,602 combatants in cantonments. During the UNMIN verification process, UNMIN had suspected in Maoists' shenanigans that the claimed numbers of combatants were not found inside the cantonments. They found that 8,640 combatants were absent in the verification. These huge numbers of 8640 absent combatants are still doubtful against Maoist claims and often questioned by the public and opponent political parties towards the Maoist leadership as a cantonment corruption. UNMIN further found that 2973 combatants were minor, and 1035 were late recruiters or recruited after the ceasefire agreement. In total, 12,648 combatants were disqualified due to an absence in verification, being minors, and late recruited combatants. This has created trust in the Nepalese people towards the UNMIN verification process. The detailed verification of combatants, minors, absent combatants, and late recruited combatants are as follows;

Table 5.2.3

UNMIN Registration/verification Report

Details	No.	Remarks
Combatants at Cantonment	32250	Registration (1 st phase form 16-31 Jan 2007)
Absent in the verification process	8,640	Automatically Disqualified
Born after 25 May 1988	2973	Minors (Male:1987 & Female: 986)
Recruited after 25 May 2006	1035	Disqualified (Male:804 & Female: 231)
Verified combatants	19,602	UNMIN 2 nd phase verification (Male:15756 & Female:3846)
Total	19,602	

Note. UNMIN press statement, 2009

So, the UNMIN verification team verified the number of combatants to whom the Nepal government was responsible for providing basic food, clothing, and housing with the appropriate amount of money per person per day for those who were contained at the cantonments. After

verification; according to the provision of the interim constitution 2007, there is a special committee to supervise rehabilitate, and integrate the combatants as per the consent of the parties. Thus, the final verification conducted by a special committee to re-confirm the actual number of combatants took place in 28 cantonments to integrate or reintegrate the combatants. This special committee confirmed that 15,756 combatants were present and 2,456 combatants were absent in cross-verification. The flexible approach of UNMIN and the down strategy of the Nepal army made it easy to reintegrate the combatants into the Nepal Army (Interview no. 6 dated 30 December 2022).

Addressing the ex. combatant issues were decided hastily but were implemented at snail's speed, causing them to leave the cantonment (Timilsena, 2014). Many combatants fled from the cantonments because of the uncertainty of the cantonment facility management. According to an interview report with the former commander, the combatants were in chaos and confusion due to a delayed peace process for combatant management. So, 2456 combatants deserted/fled from cantonments after the UNMIN actual verification report regarding the combatant's qualification and verification as per the conflicting parties' consent and design (Interview No. 2 dated 27 November 2022). The facts and figures of the combatants and special committee verification report are as follows;

Table 5.2.3

Fact and figures of Combatants

Details	No.	Remarks
Combatants	19602	UNMIN Verified 15,756 male and 3846 female
Death after verification	94	Death
Rehabilitation	6	Rehabilitation
Absent / Unattended	2456	Absent in special committee check
Verification by secretariat	17052	Male:13702 & Female:3350
Arms and ammunition	3475	Number of weapons
Volunteer Retirement	15624	Reintegration (Male: 12378 &female: 3246)
Integration into Army	1422	Integration (Male:1318 & female:104)
Total	19,602	

Note. Secondary data from Special Committee Secretariat, 2012

This disarmament and demobilization process would not have been possible if UNMIN had not been present in Nepal. The special committee had also set flexible criteria for the integration process for former combatants rather than the regular recruitment. Combatant officers had to take nine months of basic training instead of 24 or 36 months for regularly recruited officers; and 3-month bridge course instead of 6-month young officer course; for warrant officers and non-commission officers (NCO) 6 months of basic training in terms of 9 months basic course and 3-month bridge course was given to bridging the better. Besides, there was no unmarried status bar for combatants to be enrolled in the army officers, unlike the regular army officers; and 3 years extra age bar of 24 years was calculated at the time of recruitment; and one level below education was considered in comparison to the regular army officers. There was a bit of dissatisfaction among the regular officers regarding the provision of the special committee's decision while integrating combatants into the military. However, military leader applied their brain, eyes, ears, and international conflict experience and accepted the criteria. It is known as the tone-down approach of military leadership which was solid support to settle the combatant integration issues for conflict resolution.

5.2.4 Demining Minefields and Explosives

UNMIN had a prominent role in demining the explosives and minefields which was essential for creating a safe and secure environment for the free movement of the people. UNMIN had the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) team in their structure. UNMAS started its work in coordination with the UNDP on 01 Jan 2009. UNMAS and UNICEF had provided training to the Nepalese Army personnel to address issues of residual explosive remnants contamination with minimum support from the UNMIN. Demining work requires technical knowledge and professional skills. Mine causes collective casualties and can be fatalities or death. Rudimentary mines were first time used in the American Civil War in 1861-1865 AD but later it became a military strategy in the First World War, the Second World War, and even the internal armed conflict of Nepal (Rutherford, 2020).

Both the conflicting parties used land mines and explosives in Nepal as a strategy of deterrence, delay movement, and destruction. CPN (Maoist) used improvised explosives devices (IEDs) which were normally made by improvisation. The Government forces had used sophisticated mines for the protection of the garrison, telecommunication tower, and vital places. Demining

work through safe demolition practices, procedures, and principles was inalienable to open humanitarian access and make lasting peace and security. An unexploded explosive (UXO) and personnel/ antitank minefield are direct threats to the local lives/ livelihoods (Croll, 2020).

To remove laid land mines and UXO, UNMIN deployed the UN mine action team for demining purposes to clear the minefield area which was laid by the Maoist army and Nepalese security forces. The UNMIN training team or UNMAS had conducted a demining course. UNMAS had certified 80 (Eighty) Nepali army engineer officials who were eligible to destroy minefields as per international mine action standards (IMAS). Nepali Army had laid 53 (fifty-three) anti-personnel land mines including at the Phulchowki communication tower and Maoists had also laid many numbers. Nepali Army and Maoist army personnel had a responsibility to provide details of minefield-related information because they knew its exact types, places, layouts, and several minefield areas. Most of the conflicting parties like Maoists have a history of using land mines, explosives, and IEDs as a weapon of war in conflict (Jha, 2013).

UN mine action team directly supported the clearing of such an area in collaboration with the Maoists and armed forces. According to the UNMIN mine action advisor (Mr. Grant Milthope) and UNMIN press statement, a total of 140 incidents had killed 6 persons and made 170 casualties including children. A Nepali army unit also conducted mine risk education (MREs) in their area of responsibility (AOR) to make aware and keep people safe from the remnants of a minefield. Nepal became second after China in 2011 as a free land mine country in Asia and it took almost five years after ending the civil war. There could be found unrecorded improvised minefields in the country. Awareness has to be taken if it is found or suspected items/ things for security purposes. The minefield incidents and their impact on deaths and casualties were grave in armed conflict which is also shown in the tabulated form in the case of Nepal;

Table 5.2.4
Casualties from IED and Minefield in Nepal

Year	Incidents	Casualties	Killed/Fatality
2002	42	101	6
2006	98	169	-
After 2006	78	473	78
Total	218	743	84

Note. UNMIN digital library

UNMIN had disposed of and destroyed 14,682 socket bombs / IEDs and 7,250 kg explosive materials stored outside the nine (9) cantonment side of the combatant location. NA had also deployed minefields in 275 security positions, Nepal police had laid minefields in 48 locations and APF had deployed 200 minefields in different locations. Conflict-ridden country is always contaminated by land mines and explosives. These locations were guarded by command-detonated devices. So, all minefield areas and explosive stores were defused/ settled by the UNMIN mine action service in a humanitarian mine clearance basis to make lasting peace in Nepal (BBC News, 14 June 2011). A survey report from primary data also proved that 26 respondents or 12% of respondents have focused on UNMIN's role in demining action across the military, police, and cantonment sites. So, the demining role of UNMIN in peacebuilding is highly praiseworthy to protect and prevent casualties from present or future armed conflict in Nepal.

5.2.5 Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

UNMIN had a significant role as a reliable third party for mediating and monitoring support to manage conflict in Nepal. The DDR is the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration process. SSR refers to security sector reform. DDR and SSR are applied to manage internal armed conflict (Ong, 2012). DDR or SSR have a close nexus while managing conflict (Miklaucic, 2011). After confidence-building measures through UNMIN peacebuilding activities at the national and local level, agreement and subsequent agreement were signed after CPA started up the process of confinement of combatants into cantonments in 2063BS. UNMIN had conducted DDR work for disarming and demobilizing from cantonments then a special committee handled the integration/reintegration process. After the confinement of combatants, the weapons were disarmed and kept in safe containers on a 24/7 basis by physical and closed-circuit surveillance measures by the UNMIN observers. CPN (M) combatants had registered and handed 3,475 personal and support weapons including seven tons of explosives and numerous improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The DDR theory and practice help resolve different dynamics of conflict (Molly, 2017).

The Nepalese peace process was a uniquely and domestically led process in comparison to the other conflict-ridden countries. According to Basu Dev Ghimire ex-deputy Division Commander, retired in the rank of Lt. Colonel joined through the integration process clearly said

that the trust and confidence-building measures applied by UNMIN were greatly supportive of disarming, demobilizing, and reintegrating the combatants however Nepal army military leadership flexible approach was also highly praiseworthy while integrating combatants into Nepal Army (Interview no. 4 dated 13 December 2022). Military moves on the mind rather than muscle (Montgomery, 1945). The integration of ex-combatants was done according to the spirit of the interim constitution and the seven-point agreement based on national consensus which agreement was signed between chairman CPN Maoist and prime minister Sushil Koirala on behalf of other principal political party leaders. UN political liaison office and other UN agencies, funds, and programs have been closely monitoring/observing the integration process to settle the conflict in Nepal (Dyck, 2016).

After 2nd phase of verification or disarmament and demobilization, part 20 and article 146 of the interim constitution of Nepal 2063 were applied for supervision, integration, and reintegration or rehabilitation because it has provisions to supervise, integrate, and reintegrate combatants in coordination with the parties or integration and reintegration was the special committee task (Interview no 8 dated 10/02/2023). Article 147 of the interim constitution mandated to monitoring and management of arms/armies as per CPA, AMMAA, and UN monitors. The special committee had given choice and option for verified 17052 combatants to either reintegrate into Nepalese society or integrate into the Nepal Army. Gender is an asset in the DDR process (Hauge, 2015). The 15,624 combatants including 3246 ex-female combatants or 91% of total verified combatants had opted for volunteer retirement or reintegrated into society with a cash package from 6-9 lakhs on an installment basis (Steenbegen, 2022). This reintegration and integration process ensured stable safety and security surely promoted peace, progress, and prosperity. Peace was established after political stability and UNMIN architecture of armed conflict management (Interview no. 3 dated 01 Dec 2022).

Of the 1422 combatants or 9% of combatants had chosen to integrate into the Nepal army of 63 combatants are senior officers, 102 combatants are warrant officers (WO) and 1275 combatants are non-commission officers (NCO) and private. The senior most integrated officer was Brig Gen Yam Bahadur Adhikari who was a respondent of the interview as well. The qualified combatants who were fit and interested in joining the Nepal army were integrated into the Nepal army. Nepal army also played a commendable role in setting flexible rules in age, education, and

marital status criteria for recruitment of combatants to support to resolution of armed conflict in Nepal. So, initial registration and verification were done by UNMIN, and final cross-verification, integration, and reintegration were done by a special committee. This practice is known as locally led and uniquely supported by UNMIN for the management of combatants in the case of the Nepalese peace process. The role of UNMIN is to be a lesson learned to other conflict-torn countries and how Nepal applied a mixed model for verification, integration, and reintegration of combatants in Nepal.

UNMIN's role in political stability and creating a sense of security was ensured through ceasefire monitoring, demining works, the DDR process, and the successful conduct of the CA election. However, major parliamentary political parties' willingness to negotiate with CPN (Maoist), military leadership's flexible approach to integrating combatants, Nepal army's readiness to adopt a new political context, civil society's constant pressure, neighboring countries, multilateral agencies, and UN AFPs played supplementary support for building peace. UN former UN SG Ban-Ki Moon said in one of his reports that UNMIN had supported a lot but it was a Nepali-led peace process which means UNMIN and national consent, coordination, and cooperation were important for the successful DDR process for the management of combatants in Nepal (Ban, 2014). Amongst 19,602 verified combatants, there are 1422 combatants integrated into the Nepal army and one of the PLA commanders is at the rank of Brigadier General. This was the compromise strategy of conflict management through the consent of national stakeholders and the mediation and monitoring of UN/UNMIN (Interview no. 4 dated 13 December 2022). Combatants in the army;

Table 5.2.5

Integration of Ex-combatants into the Nepali Army

Col.	Lt. Col	Major	Cpt.	Lt.	Wo1	Wo2	Sgt.	Cpl.	L/Cpl.	Pvt.	Total
1	2	13	30	24	14	42	166	190	178	762	1422

Note. Special Committee Secretariat, 2012

After DDR and the successful integration process, there was a survey by the South Asia Foundation in 2017 in Nepal to assess the safety and security satisfaction situation across the

country. Security satisfaction is also one of the solid indicators of peacefulness in post-conflict situations (Khanal, 2013). Analyzing the secondary data from 1702 respondents for the safety and security satisfaction survey in Nepal, the data shows that more than 90% of respondents are satisfied and feel the safe and secure situation in the seven provinces. This kind of safety, social safety and overall acceptable security situation is seen after the substantive role of UNMIN peacebuilding support, successful DDR, ceasefire monitoring and management of arms and armies; and UNMIN support to conduct a successful CA election in Nepal. The overall safety and security status /situation at the province level are explained below in the table;

Table 5.2.5
Safety and Security Status in Nepal

Details	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Unsafe	Total
Province no 1	21	70	8	1	100%
Province no 2	11	84	5	0	100%
Province no 3	10	84	6	0	100%
Province no 4	40	55	5	0	100%
Province no 5	30	64	5	0	100%
Province no 6	29	68	3	0	100%
Province no 7	41	51	6	2	100%
Total	658	476	37	3	
Total N		1702 respondents			100%

Note. The Asia Foundation Report, 2017

5.2.6 Monitoring the Ceasefire

UNMIN's other major role was also to monitor the ceasefire agreement as a trusted international mediator for both conflicting parties because both parties had agreed to be monitored by UNMIN. According to UN SCR 1740/2007 of 1(c), the UN had given roles to UNMIN to assist in monitoring ceasefire arrangements/agreements in the Nepalese peace process. A ceasefire is commonly known as a temporary stoppage of war or negative peace from the Galtung point of view. The key challenge of a ceasefire is to convert a ceasefire into durable peace. According to the CPA article five (5) ceasefire agreements/arrangements and its sub-article 5.1 had also agreed

to dismiss all military/Maoist operations with armed mobilization/activities but it is crucial and challenging to apply in the spirit of the ceasefire code of conduct. That is why both parties had agreed that all the activities of the agreement are to be monitored by UNMIN because of its neutrality and impartiality.

Ceasefire monitoring duty was based on UN SCR mandates and 25 points ceasefire code of conduct/agreement signed on 26 May 2006 by Krishna Prasad Sitoula and Krishna Bahadur Mahara as a coordinator from the government and CPN (Maoist), respectively. After the ceasefire monitored by the UNMIN, people felt free to move. Due to the sensitivity of the monitoring function, the arrangement was made to invite for trusted international organization UN with the mission of UNMMIN. Article number twenty-one (21) of the ceasefire agreement has also been arranged to be monitored by international monitors based on mutual agreement. Ceasefire if monitored by international arms monitor is more trustable to both / more parties (Akebo, 2017).

Ceasefire and the peace process are often described as a transition from war to peace in which conflicting parties are engaged in negotiation to end the conflict by peaceful means or conflict management step seems two steps up and one step down (Thapa & Ramsbothan, 2017). The ceasefire duty monitored by UNMIN had provided the feeling of peace by silencing all guns; explosives and minefields. Nepalese people were annoyed by the gun sound and gunpowder smell. One hundred eighty-six (186) international UN ceasefire monitors in 28 cantonments and 866 out of authorized 1073 civilian staff were a strategically symbolic and systematic judge for the compliance of the ceasefire agreement. Both sides had stored an equal number of Arms, weapons, and ammunitions which were locked by concerning party and double locked by the UNMIN armed and ceasefire monitors team. This shows the impartiality and neutrality of UNMIN operations for the winning of confidence of conflicting parties (Hillen, 1998). Due to the UNMIN peacebuilding performance with diversity, discipline, dedication, and diligence of cease-fire monitors, there was no record found of a single bullet fire or explosion of a minefield whose achievement was substantively supportive of consolidating fragile peace in Nepal.

According to the primary data of the researcher's survey report, the question was asked about what was the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal. While answering the question, 18 respondents, or 8% out of 220 respondents answered by giving their response that one of the

roles of UNMIN was to monitor ceasefire by deploying UNMIN arms monitors in 28 cantonments around the clock. In addition, due to the trusted third party, Maoist combatants had full confidence in UNMIN roles that they only felt sure secured from UNMIN monitoring and ceasefire compliance as per the ceasefire agreement and UNMIN mandates to monitor (Interview no.3 dated 27 November 2022). So, the ceasefire monitor role supported silencing the guns inside and outside the cantonments. This primary data has supported that the UNMIN had a role in monitoring and strengthening peace. The permanent nature of peace is always supportive to promote prosperity in a country emerging from conflict. The cease-ire monitor role of UNMIN was also crucial to conclude the ceasefire into permanent peace.

5.2.7 Support to Conduct CA Election and Monitor

The principal role of UNMIN was to conduct the CA election successfully which was the gateway for a new constitution. CA election was conducted in free, fair, and fearless conditions even in complex conditions through consent and confession (Pyakurel & Adhikari, 2013). Undoubtedly, UNMIN had a clear role in providing support in the CA election and the duty to monitor the whole planning, preparation, process, and procedure of the CA election in Nepal. According to the UN SCR 1740/2007 mandated to the UNMIN with its articles 1(d and e), UNMIN was responsible for providing technical support and assistance for the planning, preparation, and conduct of the CA election in consultation and coordination with the conflicting parties. UNMIN was also supposed to provide election monitor for technical procedures and processes for the legitimized conduct of the CA election. The UNMIN deployed an advanced team of arms monitors and election monitors for the preparatory work to support the Nepalese peace process because the CA election was a critical demand by the CPN (Maoist).

In the CA election 2008, there were 20,882 polling centers; 9801 polling locations; 8568 election education volunteers; 234,000 polling location staff; 92000 domestic observers from 150 organizations; and 700 internationally accredited election observers. There were 54 registered political parties with 3946 FPTP (First past the post) candidates and 5701 proportional candidates. The total number of registered voters was 8,730,473 in 75 districts. The first past the post (FPTP) seat was 240; proportional representation seats 335; and 26 from cabinet decisions which were 601 members in total. UN had deployed a UNMIN election adviser on 15 Jan 2007 a week before UNMIN's actual deployment and intensely started for the poll which was twice

postponed. UNMIN’s election support team was careful about the political party’s wish to win the election at any cost or hidden wishes in the CA election (Shrestha, & Upreti, 2006). The 33.5% FPTP seat was allotted to the different excluded groups in the election of 2008 for inclusion.

According to the survey report conducted in 22 districts, the question was asked in multiple choice options: what was the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal? 45 frequency or 20% of respondents agreed that UNMIN had a role to support the CA election and its CA monitor to guarantee that the CA election would be conducted in a free, fair, and fearless environment. The UN had deployed election advisers a week in advance then the UNMIN; deployed 700 internationally accredited election observers and 92000 domestic observers. This primary survey data and secondary data proved that UNMIN had a key role in successfully conducting the CA election for the first time in 2008 in Nepal which was a critical enabler in establishing peace and promoting prosperity in Nepal. The inclusion and caste-wise representation seats were as follows;

Table 5.2.7

Ethnic Representation of FPTP Election, 2008

Ethnic Caste	Seat Number	First past the post (FPTI	Remarks
Bahun	59	24.6%	
Chhetry	31	12.9%	
Janajati	80	33.5%	
Madhesi	54	22.5%	
Dalit	7	2.9%	Domestic observer
Total	240	100%	92000

Note. Election Commission dashboard, Nepal

5.3 Implied Role of UNMIN

UNMIN had specified roles which were written in the UN SCR mandate however other associated roles to fulfill the specified task were also there for the protection of human rights, child protection, coordination with internal and external agencies for sympathy and support through the preventive diplomacy. These roles are also analyzed below.

5.3.1 UNMIN Role in Human Rights/ Child Protection

UNMIN had a role to promote and protect human rights and protection of civilians (POC) through UN OHCHR by continuing monitoring, community engagement, and reporting was significant and it encouraged to participate women for peace and security through the women, peace, and security (WPS) resolution of UN because women are weak and fragile in conflict and violence (FCV) situation (Morrison, 1999). UNMIN had also a supportive and advocacy role for participating women in the decision-making process and protecting children for the protection of child/human rights as per the 1948 convention. Child protection practice is upheaval and may contradict theory in conflict. Children are also to be protected. According to the UN SCR 1612/2005, the UN had a provision that children are strictly prohibited from participating in civil war and conflict for their protection. The UNMIN played a great role in peacebuilding preventing conflict, and corruption for peace remedies, and shaping people's perceptions in a positive form in conflict-torn countries through different measures (Hansen, 2012). Children are a zone of peace as per the international humanitarian law and international declaration of Human Rights law and convention of Human Rights which UN member states are signatories. The impact of conflict on children and civilians is casual in conflict. But the Nepalese peace process was headed by the human rights goad process (interview no 13 dated 27/02/2023). So, children and civilians are to be protected with a due diligence policy of human rights to minimize the impact on children from the effects of civil war (Machel, 2001).

UNIMN had a child protection unit in its structure whose duty was to ensure children were free from any form of conflict. Conflict can escalate into a complex crisis if not handled properly. The Human Rights Watch report published in Feb 2007 reported that Maoists had used child soldiers for combatants, as cooks, porters, and many other military purposes. UNMIN's child protection team had also found 2,973 minors who were born after 25 May 1988 or under the age of 18 who had joined the Maoist army and found cantonments during verification. These minors were protected and assimilated into society with the support of UNMIN and UNICEF. The reintegration of militarily indoctrinated Maoist child combatants to send them back to their society was crucial for conflict management or transformation. Some countries have a national crisis management policy framework that provides a comprehensive approach to managing the crisis these are the 5 Ps policies in UNMIN peacebuilding; predict, prevent, prepare, perform,

and post action plan with need assessment to recover from the crisis. These 5Ps crucial components are consequential ranging from convergence of incident in crisis management (Hillyard, 2000).

So, UNMIN had visible roles for the reintegration of child combatants into civil society. Children without parental care are vulnerable to being exploited for commercial use and conflict (Desai, 2021). The UNMIN utilized strategic ideas to ensure the release, return, and reintegration of child combatants into civil society by the UNMIN child protection unit. During the UNMIN verification process, 4009 combatants were disqualified because of their age or late recruitment in the Maoist army. The recruitment, retention, and retirement policy of CPN Maoists was not compatible with the criterion set by UNMIN. It came out to children associated with armed forces or armed groups (CAAFAG) as minors and declared disqualified and ejected from the cantonment. So, UNMIN protected 2973 minor combatants from cantonments and supported them to assimilate into society while managing conflict and promoting children's rights to get peace, justice, and security (Bedard, 1996).

5.3.2 UNMIN's Role to Coordinate UN Country Team

UNMIN had cooperative work relations with the UN country teams as UN-wide approach to the peace process. The UN AFPs are integrated components of the UN Country Team (UNCT) which applies in collective forms for conflict prevention and peacebuilding plans, programs, and processes. The UN country team also coordinated with internal partners like the government, ministry, military, police, and local people as per the UN's purpose to promote peace and prosperity. UN FAO opened its office in 1951 which was quite before Nepal became a UN member state. The UNCT is led by a resident coordinator (RCO). UN country team formulates and conducts a need assessment survey or common country assessment (CCA) for the good fit plans, projects, and programs that are targeted to promote peace, lower poverty, inequality, and income gap in pre-conflict, conflict, and post-conflict period by empowering people.

UNDP opened its office in Nepal in 1963, since then it has been continuously operating for developmental work. UNDP's thematic areas of work are inclusive economic growth; democratic governance; energy, environment climate, and disaster risk management; and gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) for women empowerment through a participatory approach in

decision-making (Shepherd, 20017). UNDP coordinates 15 UN agencies. The FAO specially provides food for hunger to improve nutrition and food security in Nepal.

The UNDAF had projects and programs with financial support. UN supported through its agencies from 2002 to 2006 and the key outcome area was democratic governance because the monarch had direct power; from 2008-2010 the project areas were central to consolidating peace and from 2013-2017 the outcome areas were designed to capacitate democratic intuitions and promotion of human rights; and 2018 to 2022 the programs were focused on the economic growth for people’s inclusive prosperity. The table shows that the UN country team, UNDAF fund, and outcome area to promote peace and prosperity are shown below;

Table 5.3.3
UN Country Team’s Contribution to Nepal

Year	Support in \$dollar	Purpose of programs
2002-2006	\$453,000,000	Promoting democratic governance
2008-2010	\$45,597,500	Consolidating peace / human rights
2013-2017	\$685,776,784	Democratic institutional capacity building
2018-2022	\$ 643,309,106	Economic growth / good governance
Total	US \$ 182,76,83,390	NRS 250 Billion on Average

Note. UN Digital Library, 2022

According to the data given above in the table, the UN country team had provided millions of US dollars every year through need-based plans and projects to support addressing underlying poverty and causes of conflict. The key UN AFPs were UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, ILO, WHO, WFP, UNRCPD, FAO, UNFPA, and others. The UN country team's pragmatic projects and programs are finalized with the coordination of the National Planning Commission (NPC) and related ministries or offices to be aligned for the promotion of peace and development. The success factors of any UN peace operations are gauged by legitimacy, credibility, promotion of national and local ownership, and implementation of mission mandate.

5.3.3 Empowering Civil Society

UN SEC/R/1796/2008 is the second resolution and UN SEC/R/1939/2011 is the exit resolution of UNMIN which has recognized civil society that can play an important role in conflict

prevention, and conflict transition in Nepal. It indicated that the UN and UNMIN both supported to Nepalese civil society as supportive civil tools for conflict prevention. Civil society is a web of volunteer associations of individuals or groups that are united together to link between state and society to fulfill their common concerning policy in liberal democracy (Jensen, 2012). Unveiling civil society and state-building are associated with UNMIN peacebuilding to balance external influences and challenges in the Nepalese peace process (Bhatta, 2012). Civil society had also a supportive role in advancing the Nepalese peace process. Civil society planted the seeds of peace and cultivated nonviolence / peaceful resolution to manage conflict. They work as a watchdog which was supported by informing the people about what was progressing/ persisting on the central level so that people would be conscious about protesting or permitting the peacebuilding-related activities in Nepal. After 12 points of understanding in India, civil society played a role in making a peaceful mass movement for 19 days in April 2006. According to the interview no 12 reports; civil society's role is invaluable for a successful peace process (Interview no. 12 dated 27/02/2023). So, the watchdog duty, culture of tolerance, and unique quality of reconciliation were impressive by the role of civil society in the success story of the UNMIN peacebuilding process in Nepal (Dahal, 2017).

5.3.4 Liaison with NGOs/INGOs

Some of the NGOs work under UN SMS saving lives together with a framework of the UN in conflict-torn countries because of the security threat in the working environment. NGOs/INGOs have a role in advocacy and agenda-setting for building peace in international practice. In the time of conflict, Nepal had also several INGOs/NGOs that were, directly and indirectly, supporting peace and prosperity in Nepal. These N/INGOs worked together for the partnership and sustainable developments which means supportive for consolidating peace and security. The number of NGOs/INGOs was significantly larger in the conflict period. Altogether, the registered NGOs were 39,759 and INGOs were 189 in between 1977 to 2014. These organizations worked especially in areas like health, agriculture, poverty alleviation, and good governance through their programs and projects. These sectors are the cross-cutting concerns for consolidating peace, security, and prosperity by cooperation with NGOs and INGOs (Interview no. 10 dated 15/02/2023).

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a promoter of international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflict to reduce the impact of conflict in society. In Nepal, ICRC has provided assistive devices to disabled persons through the Army Rehabilitation Center, Kathmandu, and Green Pastures Hospital, Pokhara Nepal. According to the ICRC report, it had provided funds to the military rehabilitation center from 2066 BS to 2078 BS in Nepal. International alert (INGO) emphasizes and advocates the five edges of peace which are fair peace, equal opportunity, effective rule of law, personal safety, and equal access to basic needs. The UNMIN peacebuilding is concurrent and collaborative work to prevent, escalate, continue, and recurrence violent conflict which can take place before, during, and after conflict in consultation and cooperation with I / NGOs. So, these I/NGOs (CARE Nepal, World Vision, and Mercy Corps) had a support role in building peace and prosperity in collaboration with UNMIN in Nepal (Thapa, 2017).

5.3.5 Rapport with Neighbors and Donors

UNMIN's peacebuilding process had further roles of coordinating and cooperating with bilateral and multilateral neighbors and donor countries for morale support and financial assistance to end the armed conflict because neighbors and donor countries had always roles or nexus for conflict sensitization or conflict management. UN SCR has authorized SRSG to make rapport with neighbors and donors. India had an indirect role to sign in 12 points of understanding between seven political parties and CPN Maoists in New Delhi, India however there was no official accreditation of Indian government officials. It seems India had an indirect role in managing armed conflict. The 12-point understanding was known as the preliminary point of the Nepalese peace process. China as a permanent member (P5) of the UN Security Council could use a veto for disapproval of the UNMIN resolution in the case of UNMIN deployment in Nepal. However, China unanimously supported the deployment of the UNMIN mission in Nepal. So, China had a policy support to maintain Nepalese peace and security for prosperity.

Therefore, these two neighboring countries China and India also played roles in the management of armed conflict and making of lasting peace in Nepal, directly and indirectly, whose support was indispensable in the achievement of the present level of peace, progress, and prosperity (Sharma, 2019). In addition, the UN peace fund, Japan, the UK, the USA, and the Nordic countries, and international organizations including ADB, IMF, and the World Bank had also

roles of providing grants, aid, donations soft loans to consolidate peace in Nepal. According to data from the Ministry of Finance, the donor countries had disbursed \$2145 million US dollars from 2010 to 2023 to promote 3256 cross-cutting peace and prosperity projects especially agriculture, education, drinking water, and health facilities in Nepal. This support, of course, supported to stabilize peace at the local level in Nepal. According to the interview no 5 report dated 15/12/2022; the interview respondent stressed that relation and rapport at the bi/multilateral level with foreigners and donors was creditable cooperation that supported to promotion of peace and prosperity in Nepal because armed conflict management is to be supported by cash and diplomacy. So, the UNMIN and UN country team's role in coordinating and collaborating with Nepalese stakeholders, and neighboring friendly and donor countries were helpful in building peace in Nepal.

5.3.6 UNMIN's Role to Facilitate Interim Constitution, 2007

The Interim Constitution 2007 was promulgated on 15 Jan 2007 in Nepal (Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2007). That is to say, it is instant after the UN SG personal envoy signed in AMMAA as a witness which has made a provision for a special committee to supervise, monitor, and integrate combatants into the national army. The special committee consisted of inter-political party members with consent to supervise, integrate, and rehabilitate the combatants. It reveals that UN envoys had an indirect or hidden role in the special provision of arms and army management in the interim constitution. UN had rapidly deployed an advanced team of UNMIN of 35 arms monitors and 25 election monitors team within one week after the CPA which is readiness work of the UN for effective and timely management of the peace process in Nepal. UNMIN seems its an indirect operation with the initial peace process before its actual deployment in Nepal.

The historical development of the constitution indicates either change or conflict in the country. The first constitution was the Government of Nepal Act, 2004 BS, and respectively the Interim Government Act 2007 BS, the Constitution of Kingdom of Nepal 2015 BS, the Constitution of Nepal 2019 BS, Constitution of Kingdom of Nepal, 2047 BS, Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2063 BS and the Constitution of Nepal, 2072 BS which is seventh constitution and the first that came after constituent assembly election which is the indicator of ending conflict or successful peace process in Nepal. If this constitution of 2015 AD is not owned by all stakeholders, there

could be another conflict or threat to peace again. So, with the presence and performance of UNMIN and post presence of the UN political liaison office, the integration of combatants into the Nepal Army and reintegration of combatants into civil society became a success as per the special provision of the interim constitution 2007 which was a unique model of integration of combatants into the Nepal Army to resolve the armed conflict for the people's permanent desire for democracy and peace.

5.3.7 UN Peace Fund for Nepal (UNPFN)

UNPFN was established in March 2007 supported by the UK, Norway, Canada, Denmark, and Switzerland to complement the Nepal Peace Trust Fund (NPTF) to respond to the request of the Nepalese government and donors in December 2016. The overall goal of NPTF was to support to implementation of the CPA and subsequent agreements. NPTF is a coordinating body for peacebuilding-related internal and external initiatives, activities, infrastructures, and institutions. This body was also authorized to monitor the overall peace process and acted as a funding coordinating mechanism between government and donor agencies. The Joint secretary officer was the executive director of the NPTF under the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, now dismissed this ministry after the completion of the peace process and promoting prosperity in Nepal.

NPTF mobilized clear, short-term term, and most relevant projects of the peace process which prioritized works were cantonment monitor, combatant's reintegration, recovery, and reconciliation including election, governance, and security through quick impact projects (QIPs). Such QIPs and peace projects were approved by the executive committee and chaired by the UN resident coordinator. UNPFN had granted 26,792,413 dollars to NPTF to implement programs that could not be funded/implemented by other existing programs of the peace process. This grant and donation money was also supportive of recovering/maintaining damaged or destroyed public security infrastructures and institutions which eventually supported building peace for prosperity at the local and provincial levels.

UN SG's PBF was established in 2005 on a volunteer basis by the UN member states. More than 60 UN member states have contributed more than \$1.9 billion in US dollars for global peace support through UN PBF which is the leading instrument and investment of peace to prevent

violent conflict for promoting peace and prosperity in a partnership model. The key role of UN PBF is immediate UN response fund up to \$5 million dollar as a UN financial first response to address critical peacebuilding opportunities by connecting development, humanitarian, human rights, and peacebuilding pillars to strengthen fragile peace in conflict-affected countries. UN invests every year in UN SG's PBF fund to prevent violent conflict by broadening and deepening its aim and activities through the UN administrative process in the UN member states. This fund is especially permitted be used to capacitate institution-building and capacity-building efforts for peaceful conflict resolution, peace education awareness campaigns, and basic service delivery support in conflict-affected areas,/countries like Nepal. This activity directly supports the implementation of peace agreements, reestablishing basic services through dialogue to provide /share peace dividends to the public. Nepal also received 18 million US dollars from the UN peacebuilding fund for initial recovery, reconstruction, and reconciliation and reintegration program while managing conflict. This fund had also a positive impact and investment for the purpose of building peace and prosperity in Nepal.

5.4 Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding

To conduct an appropriate and accurate analysis regarding the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal, the researcher surveyed in 22 districts including the most conflict-affected districts in Nepal. According to the list of major questionnaires researcher had tactfully asked the structured question about who or which organization had the key role in managing armed conflict in Nepal. Four respondents or just 2% of respondents responded that SAARC had roles by arguing that 12-point agreements were signed in India so SAARC had roles to advance the management of armed conflict. Then, 6 (six) respondents, or 3% answered that the EU had roles to manage or bring them into negotiation by providing unseen support and direct financial support from donors to make the initial environment however this version of respondents is a minority. Surprisingly, no one respondent answered that ASEAN and NATO had a role in managing armed conflict in Nepal. But, 210 or 95% of respondents agreed that UNMIN had a key intermediary role including assistance in key aspects of the CPA and AMMAA implementation to manage a decade-long armed conflict in close consultation with conflicting parties in Nepal. It is proved that UN-mandated UNMIN had a key role in managing conflict by building better peace to promote prosperity in Nepal. The table below is the version of respondents' responses regarding

the question about which international organization had the role of managing armed conflict in Nepal;

Table 5.4

Frequency of Key Role Players in Peacebuilding in Nepal

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
SAARC	4	2 %	UNMIN (95%) is the principal supporter of Nepal
ASEAN	0	0 %	
NATO	0	0 %	
European Union (EU)	6	3 %	
UN and UNMIN	210	95 %	
Total	220	100	

These statistics simply prove that UNMIN had principal key/principal roles in the Nepalese peace process, whereas other regional organizations had small-scale roles in the peace process. Then researcher asked the question about what were the roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding or managing armed conflict in Nepal. To seek the answer to the question the researcher designed a separate survey questions which are listed in survey question no. 10. The Researcher asked about what were the key roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal. The majority of respondents answered that UNMIN's role was to implement the key aspects of CPA and AMMAA which is 67 respondents or 30,%. The second majority of 53 respondents answered that UNMIN's role was to monitor and manage arms and armies which is 25%. Likewise, 45 respondents, or 20% of respondents answered that UNMIN's main role was to provide assistance to conduct CA elections and to monitor the process in Nepal. Out of 220 total respondents, 18 respondents or 8% answered that the role of UNMIN was to monitor the ceasefire agreement. Respondents also argued that it was a monitoring and verification mission in Nepal. 26 respondents or 12% of respondents answered that the key role of UNMIN was to demining the antipersonnel minefields, explosives, and socket bombs.

Besides, UNMIN had also the role of liaison with conflicting parties and concerning parties in the country and abroad because conflict has root causes in the country and might have been connected abroad too. UNMIN had outreach communication and coordination through its UN

system-wide approach. 11 respondents or 5% responded that UNMIN had a key role in registering and verifying combatants because conflicting parties had colossal doubt and confusion about the exact number of combatants inside the cantonments. CPN (M) had claimed that they had more than 32000 combatants and the government side guessed they had not more than 10000 combatants including supportive combatants.

So after a nuanced analysis of the role of UNMIN in Nepal; UNMIN had main roles in implementing key issues of CPA and AMMAA, monitoring and management of arms and armies; ceasefire monitoring; registration and verification of actual combatants in cantonments; providing assistance to conduct CA election which was the key demand of conflicting party CPN (M); and demining and defusing the minefield and explosives burned sockets bombs, IED and grenades. Below is the frequency of primary data regarding the actual role of UNMIN in number frequency or percentage-wise below table;

Table 5.4

Roles of UNMIN in Peacebuilding	Frequency	%
A. Implementation of key issues of CPA	67	30%
B. Monitoring and management of arms and armies	53	25%
C. Monitoring ceasefire agreement	18	8%
D. Supported to conduct CA election and its monitor	45	20%
E. Registration and verification of combatants	11	5%
F. Demining minefield and liaison work	26	12%
Total	220	100%

5.5 Peace Indicators

Peace is possible by peaceful means. Peace depends on the particular context and condition of the conflict situation, the web of relationships, and ideas/ideals of agenda. Peace is the level of relations between institutional, individual attitude, conviction system, and psychological understanding. If peace is disturbed by violence or conflict then the transcends technique of conflict transformation is needed indeed. Peace has two sides like a coin; positive and negative peace. Negative peace is direct violence and a starting point of departure for future positive peace. Positive peace is the structural settlement of conflict /state (Galtung & Hoivik, 1971). The

key aspects of implementing CPA / AAMMA were critical particularly the management of arms, ammunition, and armies to conduct the CA elections in a free, fair, and fearless manner/environment.

UNMIN had a definite role in managing armed conflict in Nepal. After the key role played by UNMIN in consultation with conflicting parties to maintain peace and security in Nepal, the level of peace is assessed positively through the peace variables. The peace variables are many but in this study, the researcher has evaluated the presence of armed groups and ongoing armed conflict from primary sources of data, and the overall security threats to peace, security satisfaction, and security status are assessed through the secondary sources of data analysis. These key peace variables were found positive in the post-conflict period in Nepal. As Einsiedel (2009) said peace is gradually consolidating in Nepal (Einsiedel et al., 2009). According to researcher's survey report and Global Peace Index (GPI) report too, Nepal's peace rank seems progressive after effective peace process. The secondary data shows that Nepal had 79th position in 2023 out of 167 countries in the world which is ahead of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Afghanistan in South Asia where whereas Nepal was ranked 107th position in 2009 in the global peace index. It shows that peace is building arms and armies are managed and there is no continued engagement either internal or international armed conflict. But this peace is still fragile and can be flux time and again because the transition of justice is not addressed yet from the people's war period to the peace and prosperity progress period in Nepal.

5.5.1 Primary Data Analysis of Peace

Peace is measured by the level of peacefulness. To measure the level of peace researcher has dexterously designed key structured questions in serial number 4 while conducting the survey and the researcher asked the respondents about the current status of armed groups and ongoing armed conflict in Nepal. Of a total of 220 survey respondents, 11 respondents or 5% respondents answered that there is the presence of armed groups in Nepal because these respondents argued that few cases of illegal firings occurred in different corners of the country however these are not armed groups but they are armed criminals. 13 respondents or 6 % respondents answered they do not have actual idea about armed groups and ongoing armed conflict in country because they are unaware about armed conflict and armed groups except government security forces. But 197 respondents or 89% of respondents answered that they have not seen illegal armed groups and

ongoing armed conflict in the country after the management of armed conflict. Before the management of armed conflict, respondents have heard/seen confrontations and ambush attacks between Maoist combatants and government security forces in several places. So, this response shows that there is no presence of armed groups except the Army, Police, and APF or authorized security personnel/guards in Nepal. This is the primary data analysis that proves or can be generalized that there is no presence of unauthorized armed groups and there is no ongoing internal and external armed conflict in Nepal. Below is the primary data table and respondents' answers about the presence of armed groups and ongoing armed conflict in Nepal;

Table 5.5.1

Presence of Armed Groups and Armed Conflict in Nepal

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Yes	11	5%	
No	197	89 %	
Do not know	13	6%	
Total	220	100%	

5.5.2 Secondary Data Analysis of Peace

In order to judge the security threats to peace, the researcher has taken secondary data from a survey report which was surveyed with 1702 respondents by the Asian Foundation in 2017. According to the report, 88% of respondents have said that there are no security threats to peace in Nepal however the key security threats are alcohol abuse/misuse and natural disasters like earthquakes and floods which chances are high due to global warming and climate change effect in most of the continent including in our country. 28% of respondents have responded that the main threats to peace are crime, thieves, and gangs however 16% of respondents argued that the key threat to peace and security is corruption and corruption of elites due to policy corruption in the executive position in Nepal. Some portions of respondents have thought that weak rule of law, governance, and justice systems are also existing threats to peace. However, few respondents, or 9% have perceived that violence against women or domestic violence is also a small-scale threat to peace but this is a negligible threat to peace. The new thing is there is no caste-based tension, no religion-based tension, and no color-based tension which is the strong characteristic of pluralistic caste and linguistic community/society which is real unity in

diversity. This data predicts that there are fewer chances of future conflict between different castes, colors, and languages in the reconciliation of the feelings of Nepalese people.

Nepal Government Survey (2017) which was conducted with 12,782 respondents across the country discovered that the majority of Nepalese citizens are satisfied with the present security management system. The level of security satisfaction is also high with 92% of Nepalese people being satisfied in Koshi province; 88% satisfied in Madhesh province; 89% satisfied in Bagmati province; 94% satisfied in Gandaki province; 87% satisfied in Lumbini province; 89% are satisfied in Karnali province; and 90% are satisfied in Sudur Paschim province. Overall, more than 90% of Nepalese people are fully satisfied with the existing security system across the province however few people are feeling security threat or insecurity due to financial disruptive or indiscipline behavior. The below table indicates that there are no security threats to the peace from armed groups and ongoing armed conflict but Natural disaster crime and corruption are likely threats to peace in Nepal. The survey predicts likely threat to peace in post-conflict UNMIN environment in Nepal;

Table 5.5.1

Security Threats in Nepal

S. No	Types of Threats	Threat level	Respondent	Remarks
1.	No security threats at all	88%		
2.	Alcohol abuse	42%		
3.	Natural disasters (earthquakes/ floods)	42%		
4.	Crime, thieves, gangs	28%	N =1702	
5.	Corruption, Corrupt elites	16%		
6.	Weak rule of law/ governance/justice system	15%		
7.	Violence against women/ domestic violence	9%		
8.	Ethnic, religious, or caste-based tensions	4%		

Total: 1702 Respondents

Note. The Asia Foundation, 2017

5.5.3 Comprehensive Analysis of Peace

After analyzing important peace indicators; security threats, presence of armed groups, ongoing armed conflict, security dissatisfaction, and structural violence are not felt/ found. The peace indicators are gradually stronger and improving after UNMIN's supportive role in the management of Arms/Armies, DDR, demining IED/explosive and socket bombs; successful conduct of the CA election, and promulgation of the new constitution 2015 in Nepal. According to the UN, UNMIN peacebuilding provides tools, techniques, tactics, and training for intensive and sustained preventive efforts across multiple sectors of peace issues such as electoral support, women empowerment and human rights, and humanitarian assistance. This tactic of UNMIN from mediating to monitoring the military/Maoist combatants' arms and armies, ceasefire monitors, and election conduct has supported consolidating fragile peace to make it a feat in the context of Nepal.

In this research Question number 13 is about which organizations played key roles in managing the Nepalese armed conflict. Four respondents or 2% ticked to SAARC; six (6) or 3% of respondents ticked to EU; and 210 respondents or 95% indicated the UN and UNMIN had the most significant role in the management of armed conflict and the establishment of peace in Nepal. The role of UNMIN was the cornerstone for the effective peace process that promoted peace and security in Nepal (Interview no. 11 dated 19 Feb 2023). So, the primary data from the survey said the level of peace was progressive after the UNMIN played its role.

During an interview with another respondent, he focused that the special committee had also played a significant role in reintegrating and integrating the combatants for rehabilitation, reintegration, and integration which finalized the Nepalese peace process (Interview no. 8 dated 10 Feb 2023). During the survey, respondents argued that Maoist combatants had 6500 weapons during conflict which included 6/7 numbers of AK 47, M-16, INSAS, and 81MM including numbers of socket bombs and explosives. In the cantonment process, they were not able to submit 6500 weapons because 2936 weapons were damaged/ destroyed by firefighting, burning, and river flooding during the different phases of armed conflict. Maoist combatants submitted only 3574 weapons for securely stored containers to UNMIN.

A few respondents have also shown some doubts that CPN (M) may still have some number of automatic weapons and ammunition. In reality, there are no records and events found for weapons of mass destruction. No presence of armed groups and no ongoing armed conflict is a strong and supporting indicator of peace. Similarly, the assessment of peacefulness in Nepal is analyzed from the secondary data as well. According to the Global Peace Index 2023, the level of peace and prosperity has also to gradually promoted since 2009 or immediately after UNMIN peacebuilding operations held, which helped manage armed conflict in Nepal. The detailed data on the peace level are shown below;

Table 5.5.3

Nepalese Peace Position in 163 Countries and Peace Indicators

Nepal	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	Total
Peace Index	107	113	91	61	99	81	85	79	163
Armed groups				No					
Armed conflict				NO					
Security threats				NO					
Structural Violence				Not Exist					
Satisfaction Status				90% security satisfaction					

Note: Legatum peace and prosperity Index, 2023, and Content Analysis

5.6 Analysis of Prosperity Indicators

After the UNMIN support for the management of armed conflict in Nepal, the level of peace and prosperity indicators are slowly and gradually promoted because prosperity was stressful in conflict times however, the pathways to prosperity are too tough (Adhikari, 2018). According to Patten’s theory of prosperity (2018), prosperity has two domains; individual income and national per capita income or GDP. Personal income is received from hereditary property and personal pay and profits. GDP is the collective monetary value of goods and services produced in a country. Prosperity is shared property by hereditary income and individual remunerations (Patten, 2018). Peace and democracy can promote prosperity (Amatya, 2017). But in a contemporary context, prosperity can be incorporated with the poverty line, corruption perception, and the happiness level of the population which may nearly measure the level of prosperity.

5.6.1 Primary Data Analysis for Prosperity

To explore the prosperity level after the role of UNMIN peacebuilding, the researcher conducted a survey, interview, and FGD through questionnaires with 220 respondents. 85% of respondents agreed that the achievement of peace and prosperity is supported by UNMIN peacebuilding activities, direct financial support from UNPBF which had directly provided \$16 million, and NRs. 250 Billion rupees through UNDAF to consolidate peace. Prosperity certainly comes through peace but in the case of Nepal personal income is supplemented by support from the opportunity for foreign work and its remittance (Interview no. 1 dated 22 Nov 2022).

5.5.2 Secondary Data Analysis for Prosperity

The researcher also analyzed secondary data derived from the World Bank to analyze per capita income, GDP, and poverty line since 1996 to 2021. The data shows that the income and GDP is gradually upgrading which almost doubled in 2010 and the poverty line is slowly improving because there was a UNMIN presence for mediating and monitor for the entire peace process. People including investors and businessmen felt the secure business environment to produce for profit which had increased personal income, and national income, and improved in poverty line. If peace was not possible through the UNMIN's role there could be different scenarios in the case of income, GDP, and poverty line because UNMIN's peacebuilding used a strategic development assistance framework plan to reduce poverty in consultation with its agencies and up to the local community needs assessment. UNMIN peacebuilding is a hybrid form of peace between the international community and local practice (Mac Ginty, 2012). The defense budget was slowly shifting from 1.93% in 2005 and 1.34% in 2021 for development (Pyakurel & Adhikari, 2013). Higher poverty lines may trigger conflict like in South Sudan (75%) and Congo (63%) poverty. Both are in grave conflict. UNMIN peacebuilding directly funded \$17 million from UNPBF or indirectly funded \$1630 million US dollars from UNDAF to reduce poverty. Happiness provides positive motivation and life satisfaction (Haybron, 2013). Nepal is the happiest country in South Asia and has the 84th rank in the world out of 146 countries in 2022.

So, the prosperity indicators as per Patten's theory of prosperity are income and GDP growth including reducing poverty and increasing happiness levels in global ranking. Peace may be sellable in post-conflict corruption (Cheng, & Zaum, 2011). However, Nepal has been trying to

control corruption over the years (Dahal & Gazder, 2003) by investing/punishing wrongdoers without excuse in the case of abuse of authority and corruption evidence (Klitgaard, 1991) which is the protection procedure of social welfare and public interest to promote peace and prosperity (Setty, 2017). This data proves that Nepal is moving towards a prosperous country in comparison to the conflicting situation because of the compromised settlement of the armed conflict with the support of UNMIN. Prosperity is possible in the presence of positive peace or a peaceful environment.

Promotion in personal income was \$205 in 1996 and \$1399 in 2023; national GDP in \$4.52 billion in 1996 and 41.02 billion in 2023; poverty line was 68% in 1996 and 22% in 2023; corruption control index was 143rd in 2010 and 108th in 2023; promoting in happiness index 115th in 2015 and 78th position in 2023; and reduction of defense cost and upgrade in prosperity rank are key indicators or evidence for economic/ developmental activities for the promotion of prosperity. Likewise, settlement of armed conflict, absence of armed conflict, no presence of armed groups, progress in safety and security, safety and security satisfaction, happiness level, and overall peace position of Nepal in the world ranking are taken as key indicators of peace. These indicators are progressive after the operationalization of UNMIN and its mandate implementation in Nepal. The data shows personal income is incremental and GDP is gradually growing; the poverty line is reducing and global happiness position is promoting. This proves prosperity variables, factors and indicators are positively advancing after the management of armed conflict which was possible by the presence and performance of UNMIN and supported by others. The below data is an integrated index of prosperity as follows;

Table 5.6.1***Income, GDP, Poverty, Happiness, and Corruption Matrix in Nepal***

Year	1996	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019	2021	2023
Personal Income (US \$)	\$ 205	\$229	\$316	\$592	\$902	\$1,195	\$1,223	\$1399.01
GDP (US \$ in Billion)	\$4.52	\$5.49	\$8.13	\$16.00	\$24.36	\$34.19	\$36.29	\$41.02
Average Poverty line	68%	53%	49%	25%	19%	17.4%	17.4%	22%
World happiness rank	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	121	100	87	78
Corruption perception	N/A	N/A	N/A	143	130	113	110	108
Prosperity index	N/A	N/A	N/A	131	116	114	114	110

Note. World Bank 2023; CPI, 2023; World happiness index, 2023 and Legatum Index, 2023

UN peacebuilding is conceptually framed with an integrated mission planning process (IMPP); post-conflict needs assessment (PCNA) or common country assessment (CCA), UN country team, and UN development assistance framework (UNDAF). UNDAF is a common strategic framework for the operational activities of the UN system at the country level. This is a collective coherent and congenial UN FPA response to support for the national developmental plan, priority needs, goals, and objectives with stakeholders of the host government. The UN country team has an agreement with the National Planning Commission (NPC) of Nepal through UNDAF projects. UNDAF (2008-2010) budget was US \$360 million, UNDAF (2012-2017) budget was US \$634 million dollar and UNDAF (2018-2022) budget was US \$635 million and accumulated money was 1629 million US dollar to consolidate peace and security in Nepal (UN Country Team, 2017). The UNDAF pillars are sustainable and inclusive for economic growth; social development; resilience, disaster risk reduction, and climate change; and governance and rule of law and human rights. In theme, UNMIN, UN agencies, funds, and programs are also associated with the UN country team and UNDAF to encourage balanced development to minimize the chance of conflict. Underdevelopment can be one of the causes of conflict (UN country Team, 2022).

5.7 Analysis of Public Perception

Peace and prosperity cannot be achieved without periodic elections and sustainable economic development. Economic development is a paradigm for economic growth and prosperity (Jackson, 2017).

Political economy determines economic paradoxes, patterns, and portals to ensure permanent prosperity. Perception is measured through public perception in UNMIN's peacebuilding performance. Perception is based on performance. Perception is measured through the mixed perception theory. The role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal is assumed to have a positive perception. Perception is measured by individual or institutional performance in risky situations (Sztompka, 1999). Public opinion and behavior are also known as additional indicators of perception in prediction (Povlosky, 2012). So, exploring perception in this study, perception indicators can be awareness of UNMIN, confidence in UNMIN, and public opinion and behavior in UNMIN peacebuilding to know the public viewpoint in the role of UNMIN peacebuilding performance in Nepal.

5.7.1 Primary Data Analysis of Perception

Primary data is used for a bottom-up purpose to assess the public perception in the post-conflict period in Nepal. To explore this, the researcher conducted a survey, and the question was asked whether are you aware of UNMIN in Nepal. Amongst 220 respondents, 202 respondents or 92% responded that they are fully aware of UNMIN but 18 respondents, or 8% answered that they do not know or recognize UNMIN. So, 92% of Nepalese people are aware or familiar with the role of UNMIN presence and performance in Nepal. The question was asked what is your level of confidence in the role of UNMIN peacebuilding performance? Very few / 4 respondents or 2% of respondents have responded that they have no confidence at all in UNMIN's performance. 30 frequency or 13 % of respondents have low confidence in UNMIN because they argued that they were not satisfied with UNMIN verification for the combatants. The majority of the respondents out of 220 or 91 frequency and 41% respondents are somewhat confident in the performance of UNMIN by saying that UNMIN is the key role player in settling the confused conflict credulity. 80 respondents or 37 % of respondents have high confidence in UNMIN activities because they focused on the present status of the peace process. Hence, 15 frequency or 7% of respondents

have full confidence in the role of UNMIN in the peace process and they argued that peace was impossible without UNMIN's presence and performance. The overall public confidence in the role of UNMIN performance is 85% which is shown below;

Table 5.7.1

Confidence Level of Nepali People in the Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding Performance

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
No Confidence at all	4	2 %	
Low Confidence	30	13 %	
Somewhat Confidence	91	41 %	85% confidence in average
High Confidence	80	37%	
Very High Confidence	15	7 %	
Total	220	100%	

Perception is based on past, present, and future performance in any organization (Putnam, 1993). Perception delivers individual and institutional image (Marozzi, 2014). To gauge the public perception of the role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal the question was asked about what is your personal perception and satisfaction level towards the UN and UNMIN in Nepal. Amongst 220 respondents, 184 respondents or 83% respondents had a positive perception; 19 respondents, or 9% respondents had a negative perception, and only 17 frequency or 8% respondents answered that they do not know about UNMIN's mission and perception. However, 83% public is positive about UN and UNMIN's presence and performance.

Table 5.7.1

Level of Nepalese Perception in UN and UNMIN in Nepal

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Positive	184	83 %	
Negative	19	9 %	
Do not know	17	8 %	
Total	220	100%	

Note: Survey report, 2024

5.7.2 Mixed Data Analysis of Perception

Secondary data is used for top-down purposes to assess the public perception in the post-conflict period in Nepal. In addition, as per the Glocalities Survey (2020) in 25 countries with 26,775 respondents, the UN has (47%), EU (38%), NATO (35%), Government (31%), parliament (26%) and USA (31%) trust and confidence for the peace and security. So, the secondary data also reveals that the UN is a more trusted organization than other governmental and regional organizations in the world. The overall confidence in UN and UNMIN is 85% from primary data and 47% of global people have confidence in global perspectives is secondary data. Both top-down confidence from the world (47%) in UN missions and 85% confidence in UNMIN in Nepal can be aggregated as 66% confidence or trust in UN peacekeeping or peacebuilding missions which confidence is higher than the USA or other national and regional organizations for the maintenance of peace and security (Glocalities, 2020). Confidence in the UN and UNMIN is based on the performance of the UN organization/mission. The follow-up question was asked whether your opinion and behavior towards UNMIN is positive or negative for its performance. The 210 respondents or 95% out of 220 respondents agreed that the UN and UNMIN had played a role. So, it means 95% of respondents agreed that UNMIN had a principal role in managing armed conflict through the management and monitoring of combatant arms and armies in Nepal.

In FGD too, more than 90% of Nepalese people have a positive perception (FGD group B dated 15 January 2023). Few respondents had some criticisms for UNMIN's initial biased role towards the CPN (M) Party and their combatants' registration/verification operations and activities (Interview no.12 dated 25 Feb 2023). Researchers proved that people have a positive perception of the role of UNMIN peacebuilding in Nepal. The survey results found that 92% public has an awareness of UNMIN; 85% of respondents have confidence in the UNMIN's role; 92% have FGD group confidence in UNMIN; 83% of respondents have a positive perception of UNMIN's role in peacebuilding in Nepal. The below table shows;

Table 5.7.2***Perception from Survey, Interview, and FGD***

Details	Frequency	Matrix	Total
Awareness about UNMIN	202	92%	220
Confidence in UNMIN	187	85%	220
Public perception of UNMIN performance	210	95%	220
FGD confidence in UNMIN	12	92%	13
Nepalese Perception Position in UNMIN	Positive	83%	83%

Note: Researcher's survey report, 2024

5.8 Role of India and China

Nepal has amity relations with both close neighbours India and China. As closed neighbours and emerging powers, they had a commendable role in solving the armed conflict in their neighbouring countries like Nepal. India as a regional power in South Asia had a first-hand role in promoting peace and democracy in Nepal through political engagement which succeeded in 12 points of understanding between seven political alliances and Maoists in New Delhi, India in 2005. Without the Indian government's support or sympathy, the 12 points understanding between seven political parties held in New Delhi was hardly possible. The South Asian regional power, India had provided strategic and sympathetic support to promote peace and security and played a role in preventing conflict in Nepal. China also played a role as a permanent member of the UN Security Council while adopting Security Council resolution 1740/2007 for UNMIN political mission deployment in Nepal. So, these neighbouring countries' efforts and sympathy were supplementary support to build peace in Nepal. Besides, the UN country team and UN agencies, funds, and programs have also played a significant supportive role in fulfilling the UNMIN mission mandate. In addition, the international community, INGOs, NGOs, media, and civil society activists have also played coherent roles that are not undermined in the peace process as Paneru (2015) argued in his argument/idea in the Nepalese peace process (Paneru, 2015).

5.9 Findings

The UN is a significant intermediary organization to stabilize peace and security in countries and regions/globe. In Nepal, the UN started its groundwork from 2002 to 2005 to foster relationships with the political parties, groundwork through UNSG's good office. Kofi Annan, UN's former Secretary General had sent his envoy in 2002 to set up SG's good office in Nepal. UN roles and foreign aids are always supportive of building peace and prosperity in conflict-torn countries. Investing in peace is always for peace and prosperity. Peacebuilding is a theory of preventive diplomacy to prevent conflict and promote peace, security, and prosperity. Peace, security, justice and development are almost impossible without conflict management/conflict resolution. From 2005 to 2006, the UN leveraged human rights accountability as well to bring parties to the negotiated table.

After 2011, the UN established a political liaison office to monitor the peace process which was operational till 2018 in Nepal. The total period of the UN's direct posture through UNMIN and indirect presence through OHCHR and political liaison office can be calculated from 2002 to 2018 until the full success of the peace process which is in total 16 years of peacebuilding efforts of UN and UNMIN. Thus, 10 years of conflict management required 16 years of constant direct and indirect investment and international efforts through UN, donors, and the UNMIN mission. Conflict is to be managed by consent and peaceful means as early as possible to halt the damage and destruction of lives and property.

UN peace approaches include preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace enforcement, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding. UNMIN was a peacebuilding mission in a concurrent and coherent work coordinated form with mission partners and UN agencies, funds, and programs to build and sustain peace. The peacebuilding approach focuses on addressing dynamic root reasons for conflict. Peace and prosperity progress are supportive of maintaining standard living and livelihoods which provide sustainable satisfaction. Without sustainable peace and security, no sustainable development is possible. The presence of war, conflict, violence, and disorder means no peace in the society/country. A peace agreement or ceasefire is always vulnerable to peace spoilers. All types of disputes are to be suggested / settle through peace by peaceful principles of peacebuilding pedagogy. Perpetual peace and progressive prosperity is possible through pacific settlement of conflict and peacebuilding partnership in planet.

The peacebuilding process of UNMIN was also complex because of the association of plural actors and factors of conflict cause, which needs concurrent and coherent efforts for the advancement and acceleration of peace motion in Nepal. Fluidity and flexibility are needed based on persistent goals and objectives of the peacebuilding process. UNMIN peacebuilding is multidimensional and multifaceted and sometimes it confuses posture with peacemaking and peacekeeping principles and practice. UNMIN peacebuilding was a partnership for peace, democracy, and prosperity. UNMIN's peacebuilding employed strategies to ensure the potential and permanent provision of peace in Nepal. Human tendency or public perception towards UNMIN can be either positive or negative and neutral in Nepal. Peace is based on performance. Sustainable peace/prosperity is in risk in the negative status of peace. Nepalese people also felt negative peace in the absence of temporary violence / temporary ceasefire moment with gently waiting for permanent peace. UNMIN provided permanent peacebuilding by understanding conflict backgrounds and cultural contexts while addressing the root causes of conflict. Nepal is at the stage of transforming armed conflict into permanent peace and justice. Political and military stabilization alone is not sufficient to attain permanent peace. Transitional justice is also timely addressed which remains part of the peace process in Nepal.

After alertly analyzing the detailed survey report, FGD, KII, and secondary data, the peace and prosperity index found progress after the role of UNMIN peacebuilding activities which had ended ten years of armed conflict through the Nepalese-led peace process. The mandate implementation was not easy because of the trust deficit due to showing off their hidden/vested interest in implementing their political agenda for peace and prosperity. UNMIN had a tough task in implementing its mandate was to manage arms and armies, which was to manage arms and armies, including registering, verifying, and qualified/ disqualified combatants in cantonments. After the combatant's management/consent, a peaceful environment was created which eventually promoted the level of peace and prosperity index. Nepalese people are positively previewed in UNMIN performance in Nepal. The objective-wise findings are;

) After holistic analysis of different forms of data including survey report of questions no 9 and 10; interview questions no 2 and 3; and FGD questions 2 and 3, the major mandates of UNSCR 1740/2007 to UNMIN were to implement key issues of CPA and AMMAA (30%); to monitor ceasefire (8%), management of arms and armies (25%); to provide technical support to

conduct CA election (20%); to register and verify combatants (5%); to demine land mines/explosives and other liaison works (12%) with UN country team and stakeholders of the peace process.

) The key role of UNMIN in building peace was to implement the UNSCR 1740/2007 mandates in a fast, focused, and fathomable fashion.

) UN PBF and UN PFN grants and donations were also complemented to build peace and promote prosperity through recovery, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and reconciliation programs.

) After the role of UNMIN, the level of peace ranked 79th, and prosperity ranked 110th in 2023. The preamble of the constitution has a provision to promote peace and prosperity. Peace and prosperity are progressive after the paradigm role of UNMIN in Nepal.

) Nepalese people have an 85% confidence level in UNMIN to settle the different nature of armed conflict. Public perception towards UNMIN's presence and performance is 83% in Nepal. Likewise, 47% of global people are UN fandom/friend than frenemies which is higher than the EU, USA, and NATO. Perception is based on the predicted performance of UNMIN in the past, present, and future.

) In succinct, UNMIN's positive role in political stability and creating a sense of security was ensured through CPA/AMMAA implementation, ceasefire monitoring, demining works, DDR process, and support for the successful conduct of the CA election which ultimately promoted peace and prosperity.

) King's compromise theory, major parliamentary political parties' alliance/ willingness to compromise with CPN (Maoist), Nepal Army's leadership flexible approach to integrating combatants, Nepal Army's readiness to adopt new political context, civil society's constant pressure, neighboring countries, bi/multilateral agencies, and UN AFPs had also played supplementary support for building peace and prosperity in Nepal.

) The researcher argues that conflict is to be resolved by the compromise theory of conflict management strategy or Chapter Six (VI) of the UN Charter or peace is ensured by peaceful means or pacific settlement of disputes by the consent of conflicting parties.

) Prosperity is progressive in peace. People's perception is also positive due to peace and prosperity is progressive after UNMIN's epoxy experience of peacebuilding therapy.

) The Nepalese peace process was ended by the international multilateral organization or UNMIN catalyst support which was a locally led, unique, and exclusive peace process.

J **Thesis:** The UNSCR mandate to UNMIN was to implement 1740/2007 mandates in time with coherent consultation, coordination, cooperation and collaboration with conflicting parties and concerning stake holders. The major mandates of UNMIN were to implement key aspects of CPA and AMMAA which include containing/monitoring combatants in cantonments; disarming/demobilizing /demining works; registration and verification of combatants for integration/reintegration; and supporting to conduct CA election to build permanent paradigm for peace and prosperity by peaceful means in fast, focused, flexible and fathom fashion. So, an international multilateral / intermediary organization like the UN can play an effective and impactful role in ending the internal or intrastate armed conflict in any country like Nepal through peacebuilding pedagogical process, and the people of that country perceive the UNMIN like mission's role relentlessly grappling through which peace is built and prosperity is at the progress.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Summary

Any armed conflict either internal or external is to be mediated or facilitated by an intermediary international organization or United Nations due to its global trust. Three negotiations by three different governments failed in the context of the Nepalese prodigal peace process. But UN and UNMIN had a decisive role in meditation, monitoring, and managing the conflict in a limited time with a focused fashion. So, the UNMIN peacebuilding role in the Nepalese peace process was crucial for the management of arms and armies by containing combatants inside cantonments, monitoring ceasefire agreements, and supporting the CA election for the new constitution. UNMIN had provided mine action team. Their role was to create a safe and secure environment/country by demining minefields and explosives across Nepal. The promotion of peace, security, and prosperity is the primary responsibility of state-building to protect and promote sovereignty, independence, and national integrity/unity in any country. All UN member states have signed in UN Charter and the UN has also a collective responsibility to protect (R2P) the peace and security of 193 members if UN member states are unable or unwilling to do so. Nepal was also almost unable to resolve the conflict. Based on the UN's purpose of maintaining peace and security, the UN deployed UNMIN in Nepal with mandates. Armed conflict in any region is one of the serious causes or threats to challenge peace and security. Nepal had faced ten years plus indirect and direct structural violence/conflict. The Nepalese armed conflict deceased 17886, disappeared 1530; disabled 8935, and 9000 women became widows including the destruction of billions of public and private property. National-led three-time negotiations in 2001, 2002, and 2003 were held but were fragile and failed due to the lack of consent and unnecessary stance of the political parties. All three peace negotiations were facilitated by Padma Ratna Tuladhar and Daman Nath Dhungana.

Conflict is to be managed through the consent of the concerned parties because peace and prosperity are possible by peaceful means and general consent. After the CPA agreement, both conflicting parties agreed and jointly requested to seek UN support in particular, for the arms/armies monitor/management and assistance to election monitor and conduct in a free, fair,

and fearless atmosphere. The ownership of CPA and subsequent agreements rested with political parties, which are recognized by the UN through its UNSCR. UNSCR is legally binding document or decision adopted by world community to protect peace. The UN had easily responded Nepalese joint request for deployment of UNMIN effort to advance the Nepalese peace process (Interview no 12 dated 19/02/2023). Then, the UN quickly deployed the UNMIN advance monitors team within one week after the CPA was signed on 21 November 2006. The UN SCR 1740/2007 was the first UNSCR resolution to Nepal which had mandated specific tasks or roles to UNMIN for providing technical support in monitoring and management of arms, armies, and election conduct/ for the success of the entire peace process.

The key role of UNMIN was started after its deployment. UNMIN had rapidly registered 32250 and verified 19602 combatants from the cantonment within a year. In the verification process, UNMIN disqualified 12648 combatants; of which 8640 were absent, 2973 were minor combatants, and 1035 were late recruited combatants from the cantonment through a systematic and tough verification process. UNMIN had to demine 7250-ton explosives, 14682 socket bombs, and demining 323 Army, police, and APF locations making Nepal a mine-free country in Asia after China. Disarmament demobilization and demining were the key roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal (Interview no 6 dated 19/02/2023)). UNMIN monitored 28 cantonment sites and the ceasefire agreement by making a joint team of JMT and JMCC by 186 international arms observers.

Besides, UNMIN provided an election adviser for planning and preparatory work for the election and allotted 700 accredited international election observers and 92000 domestic monitors, 8568 election education volunteers, and 234,000 polling locations staff in 20,882 polling centers / 9801 polling locations to elect 240 FPTP representatives and 335 proportional candidates in 75 districts. So, this was a feat role to UNMIN for the successful settlement of civil conflict however it was possible due to its unique peace process (Sharma, 2021). One of the interview respondents also stated that UNMIN had provided a large number of national and international observers to monitor the CA election which created a trust for free and fair election conduct and ultimately parties accepted the fair election result. This election culture was also supportive and substantive to strengthen democracy and promote peace (Interview no. 9 dated 13/02/2023).

The researcher conducted a survey, interview, and focused group discussion which also showed that UNMIN was a political mission that had a principal role in managing conflict in Nepal. Nepalese people agreed that UNMIN had a central role as an intermediary organization for the monitoring and management of arms, armies, and elections. The secondary data analysis has proved that UNMIN had implemented its major tasks with the spirit of a focused mission for a limited duration. However, the final verification and integration/reintegration of combatants were done through the roles and responsibilities of a special committee with the provision of the interim constitution, 2007 in Nepal. UNMIN's rear party or political liaison office carefully and consciously monitored the entire integration/reintegration progress of the peace process. So, the researcher concludes that the Nepalese armed conflict was managed with the support of UNMIN peacebuilding roles with the unique strategic model of integration/reintegration of combatants of the host country. The researcher further explored that peace and prosperity indicators are also improving after the transformation of conflict into lasting peace in Nepal. Public perception of UNMIN performance is found positive or agreed upon by arguing that UNMIN had little controversial roles while performing peacebuilding support as well. However, without the UNMIN peacebuilding support role, the Nepalese people's desire for peace, democracy, and prosperity could be unattainable without a smooth transformation of conflict into peace.

The UN had given UNSCR mandates from eight (8) Security Council Resolutions to convert the ceasefire into permanent peace in Nepal. These UN SC Resolutions were UN SC/RES 1740/2007; UN SC/RES 1796/2008; UN SC/RES 1865/2008 UN SC/RES/1864/2009; UN SC/RES/1879/2009; UN SC/RES/1909/2010; UNSC/RES/1921/2010 and UN SC/RES/1939/2010. These UNSCR had always reaffirmed political independence, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty for the ownership of the implementation of the CPA and subsequent agreements of the peace process. UN SCR focused on consent. All eight UNSCRs have been found that it has always focused on the consent of all political parties/stakeholders to accelerate the Nepalese peace process and to unite together in a spirit of cooperation, compromise, and consensus to continue the transition of conflict into lasting peace to enable more peaceful, democratic and prosperous future of Nepal. The major mandates of UNMIN from UN SCR 1740/2007 were mainly five in succinct sentences which were to implement key issues of CPA and AAMAA; to monitor the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides, in line with the provisions of CPA and subsequent agreement; to assist the parties as requested by

Nepal government and Maoist to implement all agreement through Joint Monitoring Coordinating Committee on the management of arms and armed personnel of both sides; to assist in the monitoring of the ceasefire arrangements; to provide technical support with consulting parties for preparing, planning, and execution of CA election in a free and fair atmosphere; to provide a small team of electoral monitors to review all technical aspects of the electoral process/procedure of election conduct then report to UN HQ. In summary, the UNMIN mandate from the UN Security Council was to monitor the management of arms and armies; to provide technical support to conduct CA election; to register and verify for re/integration of combatants; and to demine land mines, explosives, and liaison and others.

6.2 Role of UNMIN in Nepal

The role of UNMIN in building peace was led by solidarity not solitary. Based on the UNSCR mandate, UNMIN had a constructive and conclusive role in managing armed conflict in Nepal. After analysis of primary and secondary data, the researcher found that UNMIN had a key role in mediating, monitoring, and managing the entire peace process through UN peacemaking efforts from 2002-2006 for mediation/cooperation; UNMIN mission from 2007 to 2011 for ceasefire monitor, combatants verification and CA support/coordination; and UN political liaison office from 2011 to 2018 by observing for the corroboration of the remaining peace process. UN established a political liaison office in 2011 immediately after a week of UNMIN egress and stationed in the UN country team office to monitor the Nepalese-led peacebuilding activities in particular re/integration of combatants and periodic elections and promulgation of the new constitution as a watchdog till 2018 after the termination of UNMIN. The FGD group “A” respondents had unambiguously agreed that the Nepalese peace process was successful due to the fast, flexible, and focused UNMIN peacebuilding approach. UNAMA, UNMOGIP, UNIFIL, UNMISS, and many more UN peacekeeping/ peacebuilding missions may take prolonged efforts to manage conflict for the maintenance of international peace and security. However, Nepal achieved peace for a limited duration through cooperation, coordination, and corroboration including compromise and consent of the conflicting parties or actors from UNMIN mediation, monitoring, and management (FGD no. 1 dated 5 December 2022). The finding argued that the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding support on a bitty basis was the implementation of key issues of CPA (30%); monitoring and management of arms and armies (25%); monitoring ceasefire

agreements (8%); support to conduct CA election and its monitor (20%); demining minefield and liaison works (12%); and registration and verification of combatants (5%). Overall, the specified and implied roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding were to implement key aspects of CPA, AMMAA, and subsequent agreements; monitor arms and armies of both sides; monitor ceasefire and conduct DDR; register and verification of combatants; demining minefields and explosives; assistance to conduct CA election; monitoring electoral conduct and closing procedure; containing combatants into cantonments and barracking Nepal Army; promoting and protecting human /child rights; and coherent coordination with UN country team, neighbors, donors, partners/stakeholder of peace process.

6.3 Peace and Prosperity Indicators

Peace and prosperity are interlinked with each other in UNMIN peacebuilding. The presence and performance of UNMIN substantially and visibly supported to stabilizing and strengthening of state institutions to consolidate peace and promote prosperity. Consent, compromise, or win-win are the best conducive strategies for conflict management. Political stability creates consent for the progress of peace and prosperity (Interview no. 5 dated 15 Dec 2022). In the case of Nepal, the compromise theory of conflict was applied by King; the consent theory of seven political parties; conflict prevention support/ strategy by civil society, Tone down approach of army leadership for integration, sympathy, and support from neighboring/ donor countries and other UN agencies had also played supplementary roles to protect/promote peace and prosperity position in Nepal.

Because of the achieving peace in the home country, Nepal is working for global peacekeepers as the first largest troops-providing country. The indicator of peace can be many but principal indicators of peace are; no security threats, no presence of armed conflict; no presence of armed groups, affirmative security satisfaction, and no presence of structural violence. As per Galtung's definition, peace is possible by peaceful means. Nepal also received UNMIN support in consent or UN Chapter Six (VI) provision through peaceful means to resolve the anguish of armed conflict. In 2009, the level of Nepalese peace position was 107th position but improving a lot, and 79th position in the year 2023 amongst 163 countries in the world. Peace is attainable through consent or compromise.

Peace promotes a paradigm of prosperity or prosperity is possible in peace. According to Patten's theory of prosperity, it is based on personal and national income. Personal income is growing gradually from \$592 in 2010 and \$1399 in 2023. GDP is also growing from \$16 billion in 2010 and \$41 billion in 2023. Other additional key factors or pillars of measuring prosperity can be poverty reduction progress, corruption control, and happiness level. In the case of Nepal after the UNMIN peacebuilding role, the level of the average poverty line was reduced by 25% in 2010 and 17% in 2021. Nepal has made significant progress in poverty reduction in the years since the peace process began and after the success settle settling armed conflict (Interview no. 13, dated 27 Feb 2023). Nepal is the happiest country in Asia with 78th rank in the world which was 121 in 2015. Likewise, the corruption perception position was 143rd in 2010, and now it is 108th in the world ranking. So these key indicators are positive for the progress in prosperity.

6.4 Public Perception in UNMIN Role

UNMIN peacebuilding was a fast, focused, and flexible political mission for a limited or four-year duration in a fathom fashion. UNMIN promoted confidence-building measures with parties through dialogue, discussion, and debate for uniform deduction (Interview No 7, dated 08 Jan 2023). In the survey, 202 or 92% of respondents answered that they are familiar with UNMIN support in Nepal. The secondary source said that the international public trust in the UN is 47% from a top-down view. A primary source confirmed that 187 respondents or 85% of respondents answered they have confidence in UNMIN performance from a bottom-up view in the local context. In a similar survey question, 210 or 95% of respondents answered their public opinion or perspective on UNMIN performance is positive however 5% of respondents disagreed that they have a negative perception towards UN/UNMIN because of its prejudiced role in combat/weapons verification. In sum, the overall Nepalese perception of the UNMIN role is positive about UN SCR mandate implementation (FGD group A dated 5 December 2022). Perception is based on performance from top down or bottom up as said by Gibson and Gregory's theory of perception. So, it is found that public perception is positive due to UNMIN prodigy performance.

The mean, median, mode, and standard deviation are the measures of the central tendency of the survey research. After simple SPSS analysis, the calculated mean (2.69); median (3), and mode (3) values validated that the respondents are agreed or positive with the role of UNMIN in

building peace in Nepal however; respondents do not strongly agree or strongly positive in this proposition. The standard deviation (.917) is less than the mean, median, and mode value which seems respondents' responses are more clustered. Standard deviation is also a supporting measure to calculate dispersion for the perception of respondents. It has revealed that the respondents agreed or had positive confidence in the role of UNMIN though respondents did not fully or strongly agree with the role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal. So, the researcher's assumption is accepted and the alternative assumption is rejected. UNMIN had a principal role in managing conflict which led to building peace, prosperity, and positive perception in UNMIN. Thus, the researcher concluded that the Nepalese peace process succeeded in uniquely supported by the UNMIN role and nationally led Nepalese peace process in Nepal.

6.5 Conclusion

As per the official request of conflicting parties, the UNSC had approved the UNSCR 1740/2007 to implement the key issues of CPA, to monitor/manage arms and armies; and to assist in conducting CA elections through UN system-wide pedagogies, policies, and practices. To fulfill the UNSC mandates, UNMIN had implemented its overall mandates except for integration/reintegration which made the Nepalese peace process successful as per the UN principles of consent. UNMIN had prodigious performance in the Nepalese peace process however some of the respondents showed anger/anxiety towards UNMIN for its partiality towards Maoist combatants during the initial cantoning and counting of arms, weapons, and armies.

The researcher analyzed primary data from surveys, interviews, and FGD and secondary data from previous literature/ sources to find the UNSCR mandates for the UNMIN mission and the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal to explore the result in peace and prosperity situation. Both data showed that UNMIN had a principal mediating and monitoring role in supporting the Nepalese peace process which had finally ended 10 years plus armed conflict in Nepal and chances of relapsing armed conflict are less likely. Political instability particularly a prodigal pattern of changing government can be still a critical challenge to consolidating prospered peace.

The researcher survey reports from 7 provinces / 22 districts / 220 respondents; interview reports from 13 judgmental respondents and FGD reports from 13 heterogeneous respondents which

altogether 243 respondents. These responses were carefully collected, codified, and collated before confirming the conclusion. Survey data found that more than 95% of respondents were aware and agreed that UNMIN was a political and peacebuilding mission in Nepal. In addition, more than 85% of respondents have shown their confidence towards UNMIN peacebuilding performance however, 15% of respondents have disagreed by arguing that UNMIN had a biased role towards the Maoist party and their combatants while performing peacebuilding jobs in Nepal. Respondents realized better peacefulness with the indicators of peace which are; there are no security threats, no presence of armed groups, and no ongoing internal/external armed conflict and security satisfaction.

Survey and interview results also disclosed that more than 92% of respondents have confidence in the UNMIN's role in Nepal. Respondents also shared their realization that after UNMIN support in the peace process; peace is promoted, prosperity is growing, and 85% of people's perception of UNMIN is positive. So, the principal findings of the research are; that UNMIN registered for 32,250 combatants and certified only 19,602 qualified combatants by disqualifying 12,648 minors, absent and late recruited combatants; demining 7250-ton explosives, 14,682 socket bombs, Demining 323 Army, police, and APF locations to my free country. UNMIN provided 9 international advisers in the national election commission and 2 advisers for every five regions to plan, prepare, and conduct the CA election in free, fair, and fearless condition; 700 internationally accredited election observers and 92,000 domestic election observers deployed to monitor CA election for 240 seats; monitored ceasefire 24/7 basis by 186 UNMIN arms observer; and continuous monitored through political liaison office/posture for new constitution drafting progress, promulgation, periodic election and implementation of the new constitution 2017 and up to 2018 to assess the impact of integration and reintegration of combatants whereas 1422 combatants are integrated into Nepal army and 15,624 combatants were reintegrated into the society giving them 6-9 lakh lump-sum money each per the recommendation of special committee.

After the UNMIN mission, Nepal has no more ongoing armed conflict, no presence of illegal armed groups, the periodic election is held; peace is consolidated and business work is promoted in a peaceful environment and public confidence in UNMIN is positive because the achievement of a reasonable level of progress in peace and prosperity after the role of UNMIN in Nepal. This

pathway of peace is achieved by the support of UNMIN roles and does not undermine Nepalese Emory culture, consent, or compromise of major political parties in Nepal. So, both primary and secondary data proved that UNMIN was the principal role player in building/progressing peace in the context of the Nepalese peace process. The level of present peace could not be achievable/possible without supporting the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal. In the context of Nepal, there are no armed groups, no armed conflict, no security threats, and a high degree of security satisfaction in Nepal which are strong indicators of peace. So, peace is achieved or possible by peaceful means in Nepal as per Galtung's theory of peace or consent with the conflicting parties as per chapter six (VI) of the UN charter for UN peacemaking, UN peacekeeping, or UN peacebuilding mission.

If there was no eminence presence as a mediator/monitoring role of UNMIN in the Nepalese peace process to implement key issues of CPA; enormous doubt and distrust existed in the mind of Nepalese people/parties to the settlement of combatants and conduct of CA election which is bone of contention of armed conflict. The present level of peace and prosperity was not possible. My finding is peace is possible by consent in war or conflict. Prosperity is progressive in peace. Public perception is positive if peace and prosperity indicators are progressive after UN peace operations/missions. The role of UNMIN in Nepal was solid support to settle a decade-long armed conflict to protect, promote, and build fragile peace and prosperity in a fast, focused, flexible, and fathomable fashion.

In conclusion, peace is possible by peaceful means as stated by Galtung, or compromise and consent between conflicting parties in particular; it is significant to achieve peace as per chapter six of the United Nations charter. An established peace creates conditions to activate funds, functions, and financial activities that operate developmental programs and projects in different clusters. This supports to increase in personal and national income, or increasing in income level is a key indicator of prosperity as propounded by Patten in his theory of prosperity. So, prosperity is progressive or possible in peacetime. The achievement of peace and prosperity promotes a positive perception in public attitude in any UN peace support operations. In the case of Nepal, Nepalese people have confidence in the role of UNMIN for building peace which promoted prosperity. Thus, the promotion of peace and prosperity provides positive pomposity towards UNMIN as an intermediary organization based on its performance in the case of Nepal.

6.6 Recommendations

The UN has collective peace and security responsibility for maintaining international peace and security according to the UN Charter. The UNMIN peacebuilding role was the result of the consent of the parties which successfully implemented UN SCR 1740/2007 mandates to create conducive conditions for peace. The key mandate of UNMIN was to implement the key issues of CPA; to monitor/manage arms and armies; monitor ceasefire, registration, and verification of combatants, and support to conduct of CA elections through UN system-wide pedagogies, policies, and practices. Managing Maoist armed combatants for the settlement of the Nepalese armed conflict was essential to protect and promote perpetual peace in Nepal. The intermediary presence and professional performance of UNMIN supported to settling a decade-long armed conflict in a limited duration. This has proved that UNMIN's mission was successful in stymieing/preventing violent armed conflict and supporting to protection of peace and democracy, human rights, and prosperity which are the ultimate desires of the Nepalese people. However, the researcher suggests two recommendations for decision-makers/ future researchers;

The first one is transitional justice is to be given priority to address conflict victim justice as per the Supreme Court's ruling and international norms, values, and standards of human rights and humanitarian law. So, my first recommendation for future researchers is to research the prospects and pathways in the prophecy of peace and prosperity position in the tardy transitional justice system and delayed truth and reconciliation commission which remains unresolved.

The second one is; the consolidation of a participatory approach, rule of law, accountability, command control, transparency, integrity, corruption control, and ethics (PRACTICE) in the governance system are the researcher's recommended propriety or penance to prevent projected war or armed conflict in the country. In UN member countries, the UN country team (UNCT) has action plans, programs, and projects in consultation, coordination, and collaboration with the country/ national planning commission to support cross-cutting issues of peacebuilding. UNCT is an internationally recognized focal point for the overall UN peacebuilding support system to consolidate peace, prosperity, health, education, and economic advancements in UN member countries. So, the researcher's second recommendation alludes to research on the role of the UN country team in promoting peace and prosperity in the post-conflict context of Nepal.

Appendix A
Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding Survey

1. Sample Districts of Survey Plan

S.NO	Provinces	Districts	Name of districts
1.	Koshi Province	3	Okhaldhunga, Jhapa, Panchthar,
2.	Madhes Province	2	Bara, Sarlahi,
3.	Bagmati Province	4	Dolakha, Ramechap, Makwanpur, Dhading,
4.	Gandaki Province	4	Gorkha, Tanahun, Mygdi, Mustang
5.	Lumbini Province	3	Dang, Rolpa, Gulmi
6.	Karnali Province	4	Kalikot, Salyan, Western-Rukum, Mugu
7.	Su. Pa. Province	2	Bhajang, Dadeldhura,
Total	7 Province	22 districts	

2. Peace and prosperity survey plan in provinces

S.NO	Provinces	Districts	Surveyed districts	Respondents
1.	Koshi Province	13	3	30
2.	Madhes Province	8	2	20
3.	Bagmati Province	13	4	40
4.	Gandaki Province	11	4	40
5.	Lumbini Province	13	3	30
6.	Karnali Province	10	4	40
7.	Sudar Paschim Province	9	2	40
Total	7 Province	77	22	220

2. Composition of Respondents

S. No.	Details	Respondents (N)	Remarks
1.	Army/Ex-Army/NID officers	22	
2.	Police/Ex-police,/APF/Ex-APF	22	
3.	Civil servants/CDOs	22	
4.	Human Rights Activities/Lawyers	22	
5.	Civil society/Community Based org	22	
6.	political leader/General public	22	
7.	Media/Journalists	22	
8.	School teachers/ College lecturers	22	
9.	Mayor/Chairman/Ward Chair	22	
10.	I/NGO workers/ Business persons	22	
	Total	220	

3. Details of respondents in 11 districts

These 11 districts have one/one respondent from each category of society which are from Mustang, Salyan, Bhajang, Kalikot, Dadeldhura, Rukum Paschim, Mugu, Mygdi, Gulmi, Dang, and Rolpa in total 110 respondents.

S. No.	Details	No	Respondents	Remarks
1.	Army/Ex-Army	1	10	
2.	Police/Ex-Police	1	10	
3.	Civil servants	1	10	
4.	Human Rights Activists	1	10	
5.	Civil society	1	10	
6.	Leader of political Parties	1	10	
7.	Media/Journalists	1	10	
8.	School teachers / Lecturers	1	10	
9.	Mayor/Chairman/Ward Chair	1	10	
10.	I/NGO and Business persons	1	10	
11.	General public	1	10	
	Total	11	110	

4. Category of Respondents in Details (11 Districts)

These 11 districts have one/one respondents in Dolakha, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Jhapa, Makwanpur, Bara, Dhading, Gorkha, Panchthar, Sarlahi, and Tanahun. In total 110 respondents were selected.

S. No.	Details	Numbers	Respondents	Remarks
1.	NID officers	1	10	
2.	APF/Ex-APF officials	1	10	
3.	CDOs/Deputy CDOs	1	10	
4.	Lawyers	1	10	
5.	Community-based organization	1	10	
6.	Leader of Political Parties	1	10	
7.	Media/Journalists	1	10	
8.	School teachers/Lecturers	1	10	
9.	Mayor/Chairman/Ward Chair	1	10	
10.	Business persons	1	10	
11.	General Public	1	10	
	Total	11	110	

Appendix B
Survey Questionnaire

Dear Sir/Madam

Namaste /Good Morning!

I am Surya Bahadur Adhikari, PhD student at the Department of Conflict, Peace, and Development Studies at Tribhuwan University, Nepal. I am conducting a research study on the “Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal.” I selected you through a purposive sampling method to receive your response to make my study more reliable and valid.

UN SCR mandates for UNMIN to support the Nepalese peace process through mandate implementation have enabled UNMIN to manage a decade-long armed conflict within a limited time frame using a tailored and focused mission approach. I request you to share your ideas and opinions on this research work. I respect your response and will never disseminate or disclose this information for any other purpose. Thank you for your participation.

Date:

Time:

Space:

Part A: Socio-demographic information

1. Gender:

- A. Male
- B. Female
- C. Other

2. Age

- A. Up to 40 years
- B. 41 to 50 years
- C. 51 to 60 years
- D. 61 to 70 years
- E. 71 years and above

3. Religion:

- A. Christian
- B. Muslim
- C. Hindu
- D. Buddhist
- E. Others

4. Education (according to the last degree obtained):

- A. Up to SLC/SEE
- B. Intermediate/ Plus two
- C. Bachelor's Degree
- D. Master's Degree
- E. M-Phil/PhD Degree

5. Address: Province: District:
Metropolitian:.....Ward No:
Sub-Metropolitian:.....Ward No :
Municipality:..... Ward No:
Rural municipality:Ward No:
Tole:
Area:

6. Occupation:

- A. Government Service
- B. Private business
- C. Social Service
- D. Self Employed
- E. Others

7. Yearly income in NRS

- A. Below five lakhs
- B. Five to seven lakhs
- C. Seven to ten lakhs
- D. Ten to fifteen lakhs
- E. Above fifteen lakhs

Part B: Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding

8. UNMIN was a political mission. Are you aware of the deployment of UNMIN in Nepal?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Do not know

9. What were the UN Security Council mandates to UNMIN in Nepal?

- A. To implement key issues of CPA/AAMMA and subsequent agreements
- B. To monitor the management of arms and armies of both sides
- C. To monitor a ceasefire agreement
- D. To register and verify combatants and demining explosives
- E. To provide technical support in the CA election and monitor its process
- F. Others

10. What were the key roles of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal?

- A. Implementation of key issues of CPA/AAMMA
- B. Monitoring and management of arms and armies
- C. Monitoring ceasefire agreement
- D. Supporting conducting CA election and its monitor
- E. Registration and verification of combatants
- F. Demining minefield and other liaison works

11. Are you noticing any presence of armed groups and internal or external ongoing armed conflict in post UNMIN period in Nepal? If Yes, Explain.

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Do not know

12. The role of UNMIN was to support and monitor the mission as an intermediary organization to end Nepalese armed conflict. (0,1,2,3,4 Likert scale)

- A. Don't know
- B. Disagree
- C. Agree
- D. Highly Agree
- E. Strongly agree

13. What is your level of personal confidence in the performance of UNMIN's role in peacebuilding in Nepal? (0,1,2,3,4 Likert scale)

- A. Not confident at all
- B. Low confidence
- C. Somewhat confidence
- D. High confidence
- E. Very high confidence

14. What is your perspective/judgment towards the role of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal? (0,1,2,3,4 scale)

- A. Do not know
- B. Negative
- C. Positive
- D. Highly Positive
- E. Strongly positive

15. Which organization had played principal roles in managing the Nepalese armed conflict in Nepal?

- A. SAARC
- B. ASEAN
- C. NATO
- D. European Union
- E. UN and United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN)

16. Do you have additional comments or feedback relating to the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal?

Thank you sir and madam for your response!

Appendix C

Interview Questionnaires

Dear Sir/Madam

Namaste/Good Morning!

My name is Surya Bahadur Adhikari, PhD student at the Department of Conflict, Peace and Development Studies (CPDS) from Tribhuvan University Kathmandu, Nepal. I am conducting research on the title “**Role of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal**”. Due to the support role of UNMIN in managing a decade-long armed conflict, Nepal is heading toward the progressive path in promoting a level of peace and prosperity position.

You are selected through a convenient/judgmental sampling method as a key informant interview (KII) research design for primary data collection purposes. Your perception of the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding for the promotion of peace and prosperity in Nepal will be supportive to analyze and explore the exact roles and extant results of UNMIN in Nepal. I assure your answer will not be disclosed for any other purpose, and will be kept confidential according to the Statistical Act, 2015 BS. I appreciate your consent to participate despite your busy schedule. Thank You.

Respondent’s consent/Signature:

Date:

Time:

Place:

Interview Questionnaires

1. The United Nations mission in Nepal (UNMIN) was a political and peacebuilding mission. Are you aware of UNMIN?

A. Yes

B. No

C. Do Not Know

2. Given UN Security Council mandates what were the key mandates of UNMIN?

3. Taking into consideration, what were the roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal?

4. After UNMIN roles in the peace process, what is the progress in peace and prosperity position in Nepal?

5. Considering the threat to peace, what is the present status of armed groups, internal/external armed conflict, and the overall security situation of Nepal?

5. Recalling UNMIN's role, what is your confidence in UNMIN in peacebuilding performance/results? (Likert scale / a. scores zero and e. scores four).

a. Not confident at all

b. Slightly confident

c. Somewhat confident

d. Quite confident

e. Extremely confident

6. In light of UN/UNMIN roles, what is your perception towards UNMIN?

(0-4 Likert scale)

a. Do not know

b. Strongly Negative

c. Negative

d. Positive

e. Strongly positive

7. Do you have additional comments about UNMIN's roles and results to promote peace and prosperity in Nepal?

Thank You Sir/Madam for your response

List of Interview Participants

Interview No.	Interview Respondents	Remarks	Date
1.	Lt Gen Bala Nanda Sharma Retd.	Special Committee, Coord	22/11/2022
2.	Brig Gen Yam Bdr. Adhikari	Integrated commander	27 /11/2022
3.	Chirinjibi Bhandari	Lecturer, CPDS	01/12/2022
4.	Lt Col. Basudev Ghimire Retd.	Integrated commander	13/12/2022
5.	Dr. Rajan Bhattra	Politician	15/12/2022
6.	Dr. Pranaya Samsher JBR	General public	30/12/2022
7.	Dr. Ram Thapaliya	Crisis management expert	08/01/2023
8.	Dr. Deepak Bhatta	Special committee	10/02/2023
9.	Ram Chandra Poudel	The Rt. Hon President	13/02/2023
10.	Subindra Bogati	Nepal Peace Initiative	15/02/2023
11.	Dr. Baburam Bhattarai	Former Prime Minister	19/02/2023
12.	Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti	Conflict expert	25/02/2023
13.	Mr. Ian Martin	Former SRSG of UNMIN	27/02/2023

Appendix D

FGD Questions and Respondents

Dear Sir/Madam

Namaste/Good Morning!

My name is Surya Bahadur Adhikari, PhD student at the Department of Conflict, peace and Development Studies (CPDS) from Tribhuvan University Kathmandu, Nepal. I am researching the title “**Role of the UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal**”. With the support role of UNMIN in managing armed conflict in Nepal, the country seems more peaceful. You are selected through a convenient/judgmental sampling method for this discussion. Your ideas, opinions, and contributory comments regarding the role of UNMIN in armed conflict management would be valuable in my research work. I appreciate your participation and your information will not be disclosed for any purpose and kept confidential as per the Statistical Act, 2015 BS. Thank You.

FGD Questions

1. The United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) was a political mission to build peace in Nepal. Share your idea/opinion, please.
2. What were the UN SCR mandates for UNMIN?
3. What were the key roles of UNMIN in building peace in Nepal?
4. After the UNMIN mission, what are the positive indicators of peace and prosperity in Nepal?
5. Do you have additional comments about the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal?

Thank You Sir/Madam for your response!

FGD Respondents

Group	A: (Date: 05 Dec, 2022)	B: (Date: 15 Jan, 2023)	Remarks
1	Mr. Sushil Acharya	1. Mr. Arun Rai	Govt. officials
2.	Mrs. Rachana Shrestha	2. Mr. Bikash Silwal	DPR, Army HQ
3.	Mrs. Kalpana Nepal	3. Dr. Sanjiv Singh (Vet.)	Nepalese citizens
4.	Mr. Ratna Shrestha	4. Mr. Mitra Lal Bhandari	Media person
5.	Mr. ChundaMadi Nepal	5. Mr. Krishna Adhikari	Media person
6.	Mr. Sanjaya Regmi	6. Mr. Jagdishwor Pandey	Media person
7.	Major Kuber Karki	-	Integrated officer

Appendix E

Summary Report of Survey

1. Respondents from Gender

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Male	150	68 %	
Female	70	32 %	
Others	0	0 %	
Total	220	100%	

2. Respondents from Province/Geography

Province	District	Respondent	coverage	Sampling Districts
Koshi	14	30	14 %	Panchthar, Jhapa, Okhlahunga,
Madhes	8	20	9 %	Bara, Sarlahi
Bagmati	13	40	18 %	Dolkha, Ramechap, Sindhuli, Makwanpur
Gandaki	11	40	18 %	Tanahun, Gorkha, Mygdi, Mustang
Lumbini	12	30	14 %	Rolpa, Dang, Gulmi
Karnali	10	40	18 %	Mugu, Kalikot, Salyan, Rukum-W
Su. Pa.	9	20	9 %	Bajahng, Dadeldhura
Total	77	220	100 %	22 Districts had ten respondents each

3. Respondents from Religion

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Hindu	185	84 %	
Muslim	13	6 %	
Christian	7	3 %	
Buddhist	15	7 %	
Total	220	100 %	

4. Education

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Up to SLC/SEE	5	2 %	83% of respondents have a Bachelor and above degree.
Intermediate / Plus two	33	15 %	
Bachelor's Degree	77	35 %	
Master's degree	94	43 %	
MPhil/PhD	11	5 %	
Total	220	100%	

5. Age of Respondents

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
35 to 40 years	123	55%	
41 to 50 years	65	30 %	
51 to 60 years	27	12 %	
61 to 70 years	4	2 %	
71 years above	2	1 %	
Total	220	100%	

6. Occupation of Respondents

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Government Service	110	50 %	
Private Business	44	20 %	
Social Service	33	15 %	
Self-employed / Media	22	10 %	
Civil society/others	11	5 %	
Total	220	100 %	

7. Yearly income of Respondents in NRS

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Below five lakh	55	25%	
Five to seven lakh	91	41%	
Seven to ten lakh	50	22%	
Ten to fifteen lakh	16	8%	
Above fifteen lakh	8	4%	
Total	220	100%	

8. UNMIN was a political mission. Are you aware of the deployment of UNMIN in Nepal?

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Yes	202	92 %	
No	18	8 %	
Total	220	100%	

9. What were the UN Security Council mandates to UNMIN in Nepal?

Categories	Frequency	%
A. To implement key issues of CPA and AAMAA	67	30%
B. To monitor the management of arms and armies	53	25%
C. To provide technical support to conduct the CA election	45	20%
D. To register and verify for re/integration of combatants	18	8%
E. To demine land mines, explosives, and others	37	17%
Total	220	100%

10. What were the key roles of UNMIN in Peacebuilding in Nepal?

Roles of UNMIN in Peacebuilding	Frequency	%
A. Implementation of key issues of CPA	67	30%
B Monitoring and management of arms and armies	53	25%
C. Monitoring ceasefire agreement	18	8%
D Supported to conduct CA election and its monitor	45	20%
E. Registration and verification of combatants	11	5%
F. Demining minefield and liaison work	26	12%
Total	220	100%

11. Are you noticing any presence of armed groups and ongoing armed conflict in Nepal?

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Yes	11	5%	
No	197	89 %	
Do not know	13	6%	
Total	220	100%	

12. The role of UNMIN was a support and monitoring mission as an intermediary organization to end Nepalese armed conflict. (0,1,2,3,4 Likert scale)

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
A. Don't know	19	9 %	
B. Disagree	17	8 %	
C. Agree	6	2 %	83% agreed on average
D. Highly Agree	160	73 %	
E. Strongly agree	18	8 %	
Total	220	100	

13. What is your confidence and satisfaction towards the UN and UNMIN's role in Nepal?
Using 0,1,2,3,4 Likert scale. (0 refers less and 4 refers high value)

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
No Confidence at all	4	2 %	
Low Confidence	30	13 %	
Somewhat Confidence	91	41 %	85% confidence in average
High Confidence	80	37%	
Very High Confidence	15	7 %	
Total	220	100 %	

14. What is your perception of the role of UNMIN in building peace and prosperity in Nepal? (0,1,2,3,4 scale)

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Don't Know	18	8 %	
Disagree	15	7 %	
Agree	6	2 %	85% positive perception
Highly Agree	160	73 %	
Strongly Agree	21	10%	
Total	220	100 %	

15. Which organization had played key roles in managing the Nepalese armed conflict in Nepal?

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
SAARC	4	2 %	UNMIN (95%) is principal supporter
ASEAN	0	0 %	
NATO	0	0 %	
European Union (EU)	6	3 %	
UN and UNMIN	210	95 %	
Total	220	100 %	

Note: Researcher's Survey report, 2023

16. Do you have additional comments about the role of UNMIN in promoting peace, security, and prosperity in Nepal?

The researcher had tried to receive all the remaining data that was not shared by the respondents in the other question set. In this open-ended question, the majority of the respondents agreed that UNMIN had principal and positive roles in managing Nepalese Armed conflict by implementing UNSC mandates through strengthening national institutions and confidence-building measures between the government and Maoists to promote peace and prosperity. The major role of UNMIN was to implement CPA/AMMAA, monitor the ceasefire, and manage arms and armies including conducting the CA election which UNMIN did successfully. However, some respondents have also commented that UNMIN was more flexible towards the CPN Maoist agenda while building peace and security in Nepal. This could be the tactical and technical movement of UNMIN to consolidate confidence with combatants. If there was no UNMIN in the peace process, a big doubt/distrust prevailed in the success of the peace process. So, the overall role to manage armed conflict goes to UNMIN which was invited by joint request from the government and CPN Maoist to receive UN assistance for finalizing the entire Nepalese peace process. At the same time, few respondents viewed that the comprehensive consent between the armed Maoist party and unarmed seven political parties supported for establishment of full democracy, peace, progress and prosperity and finally ending armed conflict in Nepal. The political parties and Nepalese people have to be conscious of likely future conflict by preventing/addressing its cause if it is indicated or warned whatever the cause because conflict is a conundrum and costly.

Appendix F Interview Summary Report

1. The United Nations mission in Nepal (UNMIN) was a political and peacebuilding mission, Are you aware of UNMIN?

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Yes	13	100 %	
No	0	0 %	
Total	13	100%	

2. Given the Security Council mandate of UNMIN, what are the key mandates of UNMIN in Nepal?

The question was asked to all selected interviewees about what were the key roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal. All interviewee respondents had focused on the UN Security Council Resolution 1740/2007 which mandated to implementation of the key issues of a comprehensive peace agreement; to monitoring and managing arms and armies of both sides; providing technical support to conduct the CA election; registration and verification of combatants in cantonments; and to demine land mines and unexploded bombs and explosives. These were the key areas of the peacebuilding peace process that had supported to end of the armed conflict in Nepal.

3. Taking into consideration, what was the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal??

The former SRSG Mr. Ian Martin stated in an email interview that UNMIN was a political but not a peacebuilding mission. Its mandate was to support the peace process in the limited ways specified in Security Council resolution 1740 (2007), regarding the implementation of CPA and other subsequent agreements, management of arms and armies, monitoring the ceasefire, and support and monitor CA election. Besides, respondents said, that UNMIN did registration and verification of combatants, demining explosives and minefields, and liaison with national and international actors. It thus, helped to create the conditions for peacebuilding but after UNMIN's exit, UN peacebuilding roles remained with the UN Country team where the UN has managed to monitor the political liaison office at the UN country house to monitor the progress and process of peacebuilding in Nepal.

4. After UNMIN roles in the peace process, what is the overall status of peace and prosperity progress in Nepal?

Most of the respondents agreed that the overall peace and prosperity seem progressive in Nepal after the establishment of peace with UNMIN support however it is also the result of remittance and state-building process.

5. Considering peace, what is the present status of the armed group, ongoing internal/external armed conflict, and the overall security situation of Nepal?

The former SRSG Martin stated that the ultimate criterion for the success of a peace process is the absence of armed conflict or the likelihood of its recurrence. In that sense, Nepal's peace process has been a success.

6. Recalling UNMIN's role, what is your confidence in UNMIN's peacebuilding performance/results? (Likert scale / a. scores zero and e. scores four).

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Not confident at all	1	8%	92% confidence in average
Slightly confident	1	8%	
Somewhat confident	3	23%	
Quite confident	7	53%	
Extremely confident	1	8%	
Total	13	100 %	

Mr. Martin said that he is extremely confident in UNMIN's performance and would score it high in relation to its mandate to support the peace process, but as stated above its role was not one of peacebuilding, only of creating conditions for peacebuilding.

7. In light of UN/UNMIN roles, what is your perception towards UNMIN?

(0-4 Likert scale / a. scores zero and e. scores four).

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Do not know	1	8%	Interview respondents have 92% positive perception
Strongly Negative	0	0%	
Negative	0	0%	
Positive	9	69%	
Strongly positive	3	23%	
Total	13	100 %	

Mr. Martin, the former SRSG again said that Up to the time I left Nepal in 2009, I found the perception of most Nepalese people towards UNMIN to be strongly positive, except a Kathmandu political elite and the Nepal Army which felt challenged by the peace process. Some elite and scholars have used this conflict as bargaining tools for their private benefit but overall Nepalese people are always wishing for national and global peace. Their perceptions towards UN peacemaking, peacemaking, and peacebuilding efforts of UN are always appreciated by Nepalese people whatever the underline causes of conflict. Thus, Nepal has been contributing its troops and resources for peacekeeping purposes in the world.

8. Do you have additional comments about UNMIN's roles and results to promote peace in Nepal?

Interview respondents agreed that the UN/UNMIN had clear roles in managing Nepalese armed conflict after the failure of the national attempt at three times negotiations. UNMIN deployment was due to the Nepalese request to seek support from the UN. UNMIN supported to management of armed conflict through its mandates, especially in implementing key issues of CPA, arms and armies management, DDR/SSR, demining minefields and explosives, and support to conduct CA election. Besides, Nepal as a good wisher of peace had roles in or Nepalese peace process and was successful in supporting of UNMIN by locally led peace process

Appendix G

FGD Report

Two FGDs were conducted by the researcher in 5 Dec 2022, and 15 Jan 2023 in two groups which experienced Nepalese military and police peacekeepers participated. Group A had seven respondents and group B had six respondents. FGD group had been inclusive in terms of profession where military officer officers, media and women participation, and government officials were involved. There was also a military officer from integration, a member of the ministry of defense, and a media person including gender inclusion to perceive their perception regarding the role of UNMIN in Nepal.

The group A had acknowledged that all of them are familiar with UNMIN which was requested by Nepal to manage arms and armies of both sides and conduct CA election for new constitutions. Group A further compared and contrasted the Nepalese and other UN mission deployments and the role/result of the UN. Nepal had political problems and it was not an ethnic problem like South Sudan/Rwanda however ethnic minorities and marginalized groups like Mashas, janajati, and Dalit were also part of the conflict in Nepal. Nepal has to learn from other conflict-torn countries (Rwanda and South Sudan) where ethnic and resource conflicts are present for prolonged periods. In the case of Nepal, UN/UNMIN had substantive roles in managing Nepalese armed conflict in a short time. The group B FGD respondents also agreed that they all are familiar with UNMIN. This FGD was conducted with the same structured questionnaire. Conflict dynamics can be different on case case-to-case basis. Both of FGD's discussions have revealed that border disputes and ethnic / community-based conflict go for longer periods. UN or UN missions may take a longer period for resolution. But the Nepalese conflict was political but not community-based or ethnic conflict and territorial disputes with its neighbor. FGD appreciated UN efforts and UN timely deployment of UNMIN political and peacebuilding approaches for making peace in Nepal. Both groups had concluded or opinionated that If there was no UN/UNMIN mission in Nepal, the case of Nepalese armed conflict would not be resolved due to the trust deficit between conflicting parties. So, UNMIN had conducive and lead roles however some of the other stakeholders like the King, SPA, Army leadership and civil society had also supporting roles in concluding the Nepalese peace process.

Primary Data Tables

1. Awareness about UN/UNMIN

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Yes	202	92 %	
No	18	8 %	
Total	220	100%	

2. What were the UN Security Council mandates to UNMIN in Nepal?

Categories	Frequency	%
A. To implement key issues of CPA and AAMAA	67	30%
B. To monitor the management of arms and armies	53	25%
C. To provide technical support to conduct the CA election	45	20%
D. To register and verify for re/integration of combatants	18	8%
E. To demine land mines, explosives, and others	37	17%
Total	220	100%

3. Key roles of UNMIN in peacebuilding in Nepal

UNMIN Roles	Frequency	%
C. Implementation of key issues of CPA	67	30%
D. Monitoring and management of arms and armies	53	25%
C. Monitoring ceasefire agreement	18	8%
E. Supported to conduct CA election and its monitor	45	20%
E. Demining minefield and liaison work	26	12%
F. Registration and verification of combatants	11	5%
Total	220	100%

4. Presence of armed groups and armed conflict in Nepal

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Yes	11	5%	
No	197	89 %	
Do not know	13	6%	
Total	220	100%	

5. The role of UNMIN was a supportive and monitoring mission as an intermediary international organization in the Nepalese peace process. (0, 1,2,3,4 Likert scale)

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
A. Don't know	19	9 %	
B. Disagree	17	8 %	
C. Agree	6	2 %	
D. Highly agree	160	73 %	
E. Strongly agree	18	8 %	
Total	220	100%	

6. Principal role player to manage Nepalese armed conflict

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
SAARC	4	2 %	
ASEAN	0	0 %	
NATO	0	0 %	
European Union (EU)	6	3 %	
UN and UNMIN	210	95 %	
Total	220	100%	

7. Nepalese confidence in the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding performance

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
No Confidence at all	4	2 %	
Low Confidence	30	13 %	
Somewhat Confidence	91	41 %	85% confidence in average
High Confidence	80	37%	
Very High Confidence	15	7 %	
Total	220	100%	

8. *Level of Nepalese Perception in UN and UNMIN in Nepal*

Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Remarks
Positive	184	83 %	
Negative	19	9 %	
Do not know	17	8 %	
Total	220	101%	

9. *Simple Statistical Analysis through SPSS*

Statistical Analysis

Details	Question No. 12	Question No. 13	Question No. 14
N	220	220	220
Mean	2.69	2.53	2.69
Median	3.00	2.00	3.00
Mode	3	2	3
Std. Deviation	.977	.861	.977
Deduction	Agree	Confidence	Positive

Secondary Data Tables

1. *Key dates of the Nepalese peace process*

SRSG's Special Envoy in Nepal	2002	Mr. Samuel Tamrat
Agreement / deployment of UN OHCHR	05 Apr- May 2005	Monitor/Report human rights
12 points understanding	22 Nov 2005	New Delhi, India
Reinstated the house of representative	24 Apr 2006	By Ex-king Gynendra
A joint request letter was sent to the UN	09 Aug 2006	
CPA signed, ceasefire, PLA confinement	21 Nov 2006	
AMMAA signed in Witness, Ian Martin	08 Dec 2006	
Interim constitution 2007	15 Jan 2007	Army / combatant supervision
UNMIN operationalization	23 Jan, 2007	2063/10/09 BS
UNMIN registration and verification	Jun-Dec 2007	Maoist Cantonments
Federal established Monarchy abolished	28 May, 2008	
UNMIN departure	13 Jan, 2011	
Combatants' integration into the Army	2012	
Constitution promulgation by the president	2015	Mr. Ram BaranYadav
The UN political liaison office established	22 Jan 2011	
UN Closed its liaison office	2018	

2. *Security Threats in Nepal*

S. No	Types of Threats	Threat level	Respondent	Remarks
A.	No security threats at all	88%		
B.	Alcohol abuse	42%		
C.	Natural disasters (earthquakes/ floods)	42%		
D.	Crime, thieves, gangs	28%	N =1702	
E.	Corruption, Corrupt elites	16%		
F.	Weak rule of law/ governance/justice system	15%		
G.	Violence against women/ domestic violence	9%		
H.	Ethnic, religious, or caste-based tensions	4%		
Total: 1702 Respondents				

Note. The Asia Foundation, 2017

3. Safety and Security Status in Nepal

Details	Very safe	Safe	Somewhat unsafe	Unsafe	Total
Province no 1	21	70	8	1	100%
Province no 2	11	84	5	0	100%
Province no 3	10	84	6	0	100%
Province no 4	40	55	4	0	100%
Province no 5	30	64	5	0	100%
Province no 6	29	68	3	0	100%
Province no 7	41	51	6	2	100%
Total	658	476	37	3	100%
Grand Total N			1702		100%

Note. The Asia Foundation, 2017

4. Poverty Reduction in Nepal

Details	1996	2004	2011	2019	2020	2021	Remarks
Rate of Poverty	68 %	53%	24.8 %	17.4%	18.2%	17.4%	

Note. World Bank report, 2022

5. Security Satisfaction Status in Nepal

Security satisfaction	No1	No 2	No 3	No 4	No 5	No 6	No 7	Mean
Satisfied	92 %	86 %	89 %	94 %	93 %	87 %	89 %	90 %
Dissatisfied	8 %	13 %	9 %	6 %	7 %	13 %	10 %	7 %
Do not know	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3%
Total				N= 12,872				100%

Note. Nepal Government Survey, 2017

6. Personal Income and Annual Growth in Nepal

Year	1996	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019	2021
Personal Income (US \$)	\$ 205	\$229	\$316	\$592	\$902	\$1,195	\$1,223
GDP (US \$ in Billion)	4.52	5.49	8.13	16.00	24.36	34.19	36.29

Note. World Bank report, 2022

7. Corruption Perception Index, Nepal

S. No	Year	Rank	Score (0-100)	Remark refers to corrupt and 100 refers to clean.
1.	2010	143	22	Nepal reduced the corruption index which resulted in Nepal is ranked 110th out of 180 countries. In SAARC, Bhutan (25 th), Maldives (45 th), India (85 th), Pakistan (140 th), Bangladesh (147 th) and Afghanistan (150 th) position.
2.	2012	139	27	
3.	2014	126	29	
4.	2016	131	29	
5.	2018	124	31	
6.	2020	117	33	
7.	2022	110	34	

Note. Transparency International, 2020

8. Peace Position of Nepal

S. No	Year	0-5 (5 refers to high threats)	Rank	Remarks
1.	2008	2.215	112	This is the growing global peacefulness level of Nepal amongst 163 countries. Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, South Sudan, Iraq, and Somalia are the least peaceful countries.
2.	2010	2.187	107	
3.	2012	2.126	94	
4.	2014	2.025	77	
5.	2016	2.035	83	
6.	2018	2.080	95	
7.	2020	2.015	83	
8.	2023	1.947	79	

Note: Global peace index report, 2023

9. Happiness index of Nepalese people

S. No.	Nepal	Score (0-10)	World Ranking	Remarks
1.	2013	4.156	135	Nepal is the happiest country in South Asia and 84 th position in world out of 146 countries in 2022.
2.	2015	4.514	121	
3.	2017	4.962	99	
4.	2019	4.913	100	
5.	2021	5.262	87	
6.	2022	5.377	84	

Note. World Happiness Report, 2022

10. Trust in the UN Organization

S. No	International Organization	Est. year	Trust	Respondents	Remarks
1.	UN established in	1945	47 %	26,775 respondents participated in 25 countries. Survey date from 23 Jan to 13 Mar 2020).	UN is a more trusted organization than others.
2.	NATO established in	1948	35 %		
3.	EU established in	1993	38 %		
4.	National Government	-	31 %		
5.	National Parliament	-	26 %		
6.	USA		27 %		

Note. Glocalities Survey Report, 2020

11. Peace, Prosperity, and Perception in Post UNMIN Period in Nepal

Nepal	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	Total
Peace Index	107	113	91	61	99	81	85	79	163
Prosperity Index	128	131	122	116	116	114	114	110	167
Perception	85% have confidence and 83% public have a positive perception of the role of UNMIN in peacebuilding performance in Nepal								

Note: Global Peace Index 2023; Legatum Prosperity Index, 2023 & Researcher's Survey, 2023

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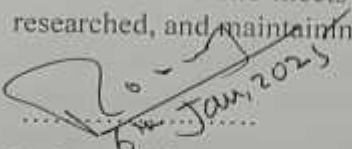
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