



# **COVERAGE OF CHILDREN'S ISSUES IN PRINT MEDIA**

## **A Dissertation**

### **Submitted to:**

Central Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, Tribhuvan University

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master's Degree in faculty of Humanities

and Social Science in Journalism and Mass Communications

### **Submitted by:**

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## DECLARATION

I, Kedar Nath Gautam, hereby declare that this research, titled 'Coverage of Children's Issues in Print Media' is my original work and all the source of information is duly acknowledged. This work has not been published or submitted elsewhere for any academic purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kedar Nath Gautam", is written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is slanted upwards from left to right.

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**RECOMMENDATION**

This is to certify that Mr. Kedar Nath Gautam has prepared the dissertation on 'Coverage of Children's Issues in Print Media' under my supervision and guidance. I forward this dissertation for examination and approval as per regular procedure for the Master's Degree in Journalism and Mass Communications.

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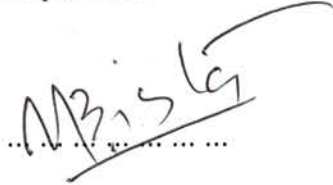
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

A thesis titled 'Coverage of Children's Issues in Print Media' prepared and submitted by Kedar Nath Gautam for partial fulfillment of the requirement of the Master's Degree of Arts in Humanities has been approved by the dissertation committee comprising of:



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Finally, I would like to express gratitude to my classmates, colleagues, friends and all the loving members of my family, who helped me in researching, writing, editing and processing of this dissertation. I would like to dedicate this thesis to my family members, who have continuously inspired me to read, research and write.

**Kedar Nath Gautam**

## **ABSTRACT**

A general analysis of children's coverage (literature, art works, opinion-views and other creative works) and writings on children published in 60 regular issues of Gorkhapatra and Kantipur Nepali national dailies within two month is conducted in the dissertation. Readership trend of secondary level (class eight to twelve) students and their teachers also is surveyed by filling the questionnaire forms.

This study comprises qualitative and quantitative content analysis, survey and key informant interviews to know the status and trend of the children-related contents and even the status of writings on children. This dissertation is mainly researched and prepared by content analysis method. In order to complete it, survey and key informant interviews (KIIs) methods have also been conducted. Findings and conclusions of this study have been drawn as a combined summary of all of these methods.

The study is categorized into five chapters and several sub-chapters. General background, objectives and significance of the study are included in the first chapter. Second chapter deals with literature review form various books, reports, journals and websites. In third chapter, methodologies used in the research are discussed in detail. Analysis and interpretation of data and main part of the thesis as a whole is the fourth chapter. In fifth chapter, the major findings, conclusion and recommendations are made on the basis of the analysis and interpretation of data are included and discussed.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

JMC	Journalism and mass communications
NTV	Nepal Television
FNJ	Federation of Nepali Journalists
MOCIT	Ministry of information, communication and information technology
CA	Contents analysis/Constituent Assembly
KII	Key-informants interview
KPD	Kantipur daily newspaper
GPD	Gorkhapatra daily newspaper
GPO	Gorkhapatra online
NPD	Nayapatrika daily
RN	Radio Nepal
RSS	Rastriya Samachar Samiti
NNA	National news agency
SS	Sancharika Samuha
Govt	Government
PCN	Press Council Nepal
DOIB	Department of information and broadcasting
WWW	Worldwide web
E-mail	Electronic mail
HTML	Hyper-text makeup language
IP	Internet protocol

## CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

According to the preliminary results of the 12th National Census, 2022 conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics, the population of Nepal is 29 million 192 thousand and 480. According to the preliminary data, there are 14 million 291 thousand and 311 (48.96%) males and 1 million 491 thousand and 169 (51.04%) females.

According to this data, the sex ratio is 95.91 male per 100 female (CBS, 2022, p. 'a').

According to the preliminary results of the National Census, 2022, the number of families living in Nepal is 6 million 761 thousand 59. It is seen that those families live in a total of 5 million 643 thousand 945 houses. It shows that 12 families live in 10 houses in an average. According to the same result, there are 4.32 members per family. It is seen that there are 4.25 people in families in urban areas and 4.55 people in rural areas. In terms of geographical area, it has been seen that there are 4.27 people per family in the Himalayan region, 3.95 people in the hills and 4.65 people in the Terai region (CBS, 2022, p. 'a').

Although the preliminary results of the National Census, 2022 shed light on the latest situation in various aspects of Nepal's population, it does not seem to include any facts and details about the number and statistics of children. The number of children is mentioned in various other documents. Looking at the country's demographics, 40 percent of Nepal's population is children under the age of 18 (Nepal's Demographic Changes: Trends and Policy Implications, 2017). "Child" means a person who has not completed 18 years of age (Sub-article 'J' of article 2, Children Act, 2018).

After reading many books, newspapers, magazines, journals, online portals, research papers, thesis-dissertations and watching various television channels, social networks, and other means of communication, it has been found that there is a lack of research in this topic. Finding the research gap in the relationship between mainstream newspapers and the children, an attempt has been being made to justify this gap.

To complete this study, all of the issues of the two major daily newspapers in Nepal within the specified period have been studied, analyzed and presented in detail.

Categorically state of news, news stories, articles, interviews, concerned materials and other types of children-related contents have analyzed and the real condition of presentation has also been portrayed.

## **1.2 Children: meaning and definition**

There are four key periods of growth and human development: infancy (birth to 2 years old), early childhood (3 to 8 years old), middle childhood (9 to 11 years old), and adolescence (12 to 18 years old).

Biologically, a child (plural: children) is a human being between the stages of birth and puberty. The legal definition of child generally refers to a minor, otherwise known as a person younger than the age of majority.

## **1.3 Media, mass media and print media**

Communication is an indispensable part of human life. Mass media means the technology that is intended to reach a mass audience. The most common platforms for mass media are newspapers, magazines, radio, television, and the internet. Mass media refers to a diverse array of media technologies that reach a large audience via

mass communication. Meanwhile mass media can be defined as a system that provides information to many people (Sylvia, 2004). According to Abhuja and Chhabra, 'Communication is the process of sharing information' and business dictionary defines it as a two-way process of reaching a mutual understanding, in which participants not only exchange information, news ideas and feelings but also create and share meaning. Both print and electronic media are included in mass media where print media includes circulars posters, leaflets, bulletin, newspapers and journals etc. and the electronic media consist of Television, Radio, Internet, Video and Telephone (Shuwa et al., 2015).

There are various types of mass media which provide with various types of political, religious, economic and social related news and information to the masses or larger audience through print media or digital media. We are living in a world that is saturated by mass media with our environment brimming with data and information (Hutchings and Matthews, 2008). Mass media is not just the journalistic aspect of the apparatus of popular communication rather it often performs as the focal point of social control and the source of culture. In recent decades, the widespread use of the mass media has resulted in heightening the level of public knowledge in different fields (Buren, 2000). Among the diverse mass media, radio and television, due to their wide and vast range of viewers, have had an outstanding position particularly with regard to informal teaching, and are considered as the best cultural and educational media (Tancard and Verner, 2005).

Media has evolved as an effective form of communication in the contemporary world which has widely acknowledged catalytic impacts on the process of development.



Use of information and communication technologies is proving to improve the knowledge and skills.

#### **1.4 History of newspaper in Nepal**

History of media goes parallel with the political history of any country. We can also witness similar situation in Nepalese context. The history of Nepali media has been immensely influenced by the Nepalese political history.

##### **1.4.1 Brief political history of Nepal**

It seems that the political history of Nepal and the development of journalism are progressing and developing together gradually. Nepal was ruled by Shah Kings and Ranas before 1951 which was also a family rule. Although, there was monarch in Nepal all the authorities were exercised as per the will of Ranas. Peoples were treated as the slaves. People's movement overthrew the Rana regime and democratic system was introduced in Nepal in 1951. With the change in ruling system in the country people were given certain rights as a democratic practice. Some means of communications were established that gave initiation in the field of journalism in Nepal.

In 2060, the then king overthrew the elected government and established a strict Panchayat system which created a barrier in free and fair journalism. In 1979, a referendum was held in Nepal to decide whether to continue the Panchayat or to restore the multiparty system. Although, the multiparty was defeated in the referendum, henceforth the Panchayat system was comparatively liberalized. Some newspapers continued their publication and some new newspapers also started. Which

helped to aware the people although there was a strict control of the Panchayat in press and publication.

The people's movement of 1990 replaced the Panchayat system and the multiparty democratic system was established. With the change in the rule in the country there was a drastic development in the field of journalism in Nepal. New era in the field of journalism started with the re-establishment of multi-party democratic system in Nepal. This political environment ensured the right to press and publication and right to freedom of expression and opinion. Many big and small publications were started after this change.

An armed Maoist rebellion started against the monarchical multiparty system in order to establish the republic system. Seven parliamentarian parties and Maoist rebellion reached a twelve-point agreement that led 'The second people's movement of 2006', both side merged into one-another, and created the environment for the election of the constituent assembly and the establishment of the republic in Nepal.

#### **1.4.2 History of mass media development in Nepal**

Before the change in 1951, only Gorkhapatra and Rising Nepal and some other newspapers were active as mass media. Along with this political change, Radio Nepal was established and developed institutionally. Various banned newspapers were reopened. After 1960, government media such as Gorkhapatra and Radio Nepal continued to function, but not all newspapers in the private sector could not functioned.

After 1979, private sector newspapers gained little freedom, but after the political changes of 1990, they got the opportunity to flourish and spread completely. FM radio started in Nepal after 1996 and many radio stations were operated by the private

sector as well. Throughout the period of armed conflict, daily and weekly newspapers as well as weekly, monthly, bi-monthly and quarterly magazines also came in flood. After the most recent political change in 2006, online or digital media and social networks reached nationwide and the hands of almost all general people.

#### **1.4.3 Nepali newspapers: general overview**

As mentioned in the 47th annual report of the Press Council Nepal (2022), a total of 7911 newspapers and magazines have been registered in the Department of Information and Broadcasting, including 754 daily, 40 semi-weekly, 2975 weekly, 480 fortnightly, 2361 monthly, 387 bimonthly, 654 quarterly and 260 others. Similarly, 237 television stations and 1176 radio stations are operating with permission from the department, while 3494 online news portals are listed and operating in Press Council Nepal (PCN, 2022, p. 137).

While the Gorkhapatra and The Rising Nepal continue to be published, their influence has vastly diminished in the face of stiff competition from eight other broadsheet dailies five in Nepali and three in English, all in the private sector. In 1993, a new era in print journalism began with the launch of two private-sector broadsheet dailies, Kantipur (in Nepali) and The Kathmandu Post (in English). As of late 2001, the success of these newspapers, in particular the financial success of Kantipur, has not yet been replicated by others who came in their wake.

These include those currently being published such as the Nepali language dailies Himalaya Times, Nepal Samacharpatra, Spacetime and Rajdhani and the English dailies Spacetime Today and The Himalayan Times as well as three others that have ceased publication. Nevertheless these Nepali and English language newspapers have

made the daily news market fairly competitive. There has also been a phenomenal growth in the genre of evening daily newspapers, especially those published in Kathmandu, even though they are deemed to be weak content-wise (Bhatta, 2001).

In summary, it is clear that the development of Nepal's political history and the development of mass media have progressed together in this way. The journey of Nepali journalism, which started with Gorkhapatra in 1958 (BS), has reached to mobile journalism through AM radio, FM radio, television and online media. In spite of this, until now, print media is still the mainstream of Nepali media.

## **1.5 Brief introduction of the selected newspapers**

### **1.5.1 The Gorkhapatra daily**

Gorkhapatra is the oldest Nepali language state-owned national daily newspaper of Nepal. It started as a weekly newspaper in 6th May, 1901 (24 Baisakh, 1958 BS) and became a daily newspaper in 1961. It is managed by the Gorkhapatra Corporation.

The Rising Nepal is the sister newspaper of Gorkhapatra in English medium.

Gorkhapatra was founded by Dev Shumsher Jung Bahadur Rana. Dev Shumsher was considered to be one of the more liberal Rana Prime minister. It was initially managed by Pandit Nara Dev Pandey and was published weekly under the supervision of Lt. Col. of Nepali Army.

About 2 years and 10 months after the publication of the monthly magazine 'Sudhasagar', on Monday 3rd Jeth, 1958 (BS), a newspaper published as the second newspaper in Nepal, 'Gorkhapatra', was born. Although it is the second among the newspapers, it should be said that it is the first among the plants that have grown in the form of newspapers in Nepali soil.... From the time it was born, Gorkhapatra used

to meet every seven days, after the age of 42 years, it met twice a week, and from the age of 45 years, it met three times a week, and after it crossed the age of 59 years, it started to meet every day (Devkota, 1967, p. 30).

Gorkhapatra, which started publication on Monday, 24th Baisakh, 1958 (BS), was published on Fridays from 9th Baisakh, 1991 (BS). From 29 Asoj, 2000 (BS)

Gorkhapatra was changed to semi-weekly and started to get published twice a week on Tuesday and Friday. After that, Gorkhapatra, which started to get published three times a week from 23rd December, 1946, started to get published as a daily newspaper from 18th February, 1961 (Parichaya. 2022, Sep. 30. Gorkhapatra Sansthan. <https://gorkhapatra.org.np/introduction.>).

### **1.5.2 The Kantipur daily**

Gorkhapatra Dainik is the oldest newspaper of Nepal. It is a government-owned newspaper with a nationwide coverage or reach. Likewise, Kantipur Daily is considered to be the most influential and comparatively old newspaper, published by the private sector with nationwide reach and coverage.

In terms of target audience, ideological perception and managerial structure, these three newspapers represent different trends. The totality of these two newspapers can be considered as 'mainstream newspapers'.

### **1.6 Children-related contents and media coverage**

“Children’s literature is good quality trade books for children from birth to adolescence, covering topics of relevance and interests to children of those ages, through prose and poetry, fiction and nonfiction” (Lynch-Brown, et. all, 2005, p. 3).

“The best children’s books offer readers enjoyment as well as memorable characters and situations and valuable insights into the human condition” (Lynch-Brown, C. & Tomlinson, C., 2005, p. 4).

Child-related literature, news, articles, features, interviews, pictures, graphics and other all types of creation for print media contents by children are included as children's writing in this study. Likewise, all of the writings and creations published in children supplementary of major broadsheet dailies are included as children-related contents in this study.

### **1.7 Statement of the problem**

Human childhood itself is a very sensitive subject. Children are innocent creatures with a fair and healthy mind. Therefore, parents, families, society and the nation have a great responsibility and duty towards children. Mass media and journalists are also an important part of the nation and society. Therefore they also have a great responsibility and duty towards children.

In this context, this study is focused on finding out the real situation regarding Nepal's mainstream newspapers behavior towards children and their issues, and how much priority, importance, space and the materials they have given to children's issues.

### **1.8 Research questions**

The three major research questions of the study are:

- a. What is the status of children's issues coverage in Nepali print media?
- b. How do Nepali print media portrait the children's issues?
- c. Why children's issues are in concern of print media?

### **1.9 Objectives of the study**

There are three major objectives of the study, according to the title and limitations of the study. They are-

- a. To study the status of children's issues coverage in Nepali print media.
- b. To analyze how the Nepali print media portrait the children's issues.
- c. To assess children's issues as a concern in print media.

### **1.10 Significance of the study**

The title of this study makes it clear that the main objectives of this dissertation is to find out how much space, importance and priority have been given by the print media of Nepal to news about children, children's problems and their issues. In the same way, it is clear that the empowerment of children, senior citizens, citizens with different abilities and those who are weakened or seen as weak in the society is the essence of current democratic norms and values.

Dahal (2013) writes about the essence of democracy, the current constitutional system and freedom of the press and freedom of expression and freedom of communication-

Freedom of expression and mass communication are the most important issues for political freedom, the basic condition of democracy. 'Freedom of expression' is also known as the mother of freedoms. Freedom of speech is one of the various rights that are necessary for human happiness and prosperity. Freedom of expression is considered essential for the search for truth and identification of facts. The modern world takes freedom of speech as the oxygen of democracy. Freedom of expression has been established as a natural right of citizens as a result of a long struggle in world history (Dahal, 2013, p. 291).

Therefore, a very important part of the society namely children, who represent a large part of the population; this study has been completed to find out the role played or not by the Nepali print media according to the recognition, basis and constitutional-legal assurances of the current democratic system.

The significance of this study lies in the fact that the relevant government agencies, organizations, offices and child rights activists will be able to help them to work in the future from its conclusions, the facts and data it will provide and the actual situation. In the same way, the significance of this study will also be given to help the print media to reconsider such issues in the future after seeing their own situation regarding children's concerns.

### **1.11 Limitations of the study**

This study is limited only to the contents related to the children included in the issues of the two months of Gorkhapatra and Kantipur daily. In this study, the answers of the research problems will be sought by focusing on the content analysis of Gorkhapatra and Kantipur- two daily newspapers. Basically, these newspapers are taken as representatives in the context of Nepal's 'mainstream print media' according to the title of the study.

#### **1.11.1 Limitations of subjects**

Area of the research will be limited to the specific topic particularly. In this research there are major limitations as mentioned below:

- a. Content Analysis is conducted as following:



- i. 60 regular issues (of two months) of Gorkhapatra and Kantipur Dailies; and their children supplementary issues or pages; from 16th June, to 14th August, 2022 (1st Asar to 29th Saun, 2079).
- b. Survey is conducted among 110 people representing different geographical and social groups, by filling up the questionnaire forms.
- c. Key informant interviews (KIIs) are conducted with tow concerned personalities and their answers are mentioned according to the requirement of research process.

#### **1.11.2 Limitations of specified area**

- a. Only news and other contents with a separate title are counted, analyzed and studied as a 'content'. Contents containing only pictures and cartoons with or without captions are not included in the research.
- b. Readers' letters or responses to both the newspapers, quotations from scholars or philosophers presented separately in both newspapers and Gorkhapatra's 'from Gorkhapatra 100 years ago' are not included in the study.
- c. The Saturday supplements of Gorkhapatra and Friday Supplements of Kantipur, ' Koseli' are not included in the study.
- d. The contents of the national editions of both newspapers are calculated, studied and analyzed. Provincial or regional versions are not included.
- e. Separate pages of Gorkhapatra named 'New Nepal' in different mother tongues and the contents contained in it are not counted, studied or analyzed.

- f. Any sponsored or paid pages, paid contents and advertisements and paid notices are not included in the study.
- g. News and contents that indirectly related to children, such as maternal and child health, education and schools have not been included in this study.

## **CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW**

Many scholars, previous researchers, media-related institutions, child-related organizations and authorities have studied on the subject matter. Different types of conclusions and theories have been drawn and formulated as the sum of these studies.

There are many-more aspects of inter-relations and inter-struggles challenging children, young and adult people. Child trafficking, child-labor, child exploitation and among many issues are there against children and other age-groups. Media contents and coverage are occupied about these issues then other aspects of childhood.

### **2.1 Society, media and children**

Children are an integral and important stake-holders of society. Similarly, mass media are also another important and integral aspect of society. On the interrelationship between society, children and the media Khanal (2013) says- The term society is a composition of individuals identifying them on the basis of their role, status, class, basic forms of work, major socializing forces (the structure of families, education, social organization) and roles and forms of social control that organize a society. Media are always related to the society because the society is the reality and the communication media are connected to this reality (Khanal, 2013, p. 246)

Many scholars at different times have studied and drawn conclusions regarding the different stages and conditions of human life and its different identities. In this regard (Duck & McMahan, 2012) have written- Identity is partly a characteristics (something that you process), partly a performance (something that you do), and partly a construction of society. For example, society tells you how to be "masculine" and

"feminine" and indicates that "guys can't say that to guys". This restricts the way in which men can give one another emotional support. Society also provides you with ways to describe a personality; the media focus you on some traits more than others. Categories like gluttonous, sexy, short, slim, paranoid, and kind are all available to you, but they are not all equally valued (Duck & McMahan, 2012 p. 101-102).

Dominick (2010) defines communication and mass communication as- In the broadest sense of the word, a medium is the channel through which a message travels from the source to the receiver ("medium" is singular; "media" is plural). Thus in our discussion we have pointed to sound and light waves as media of communication. When we talk about mass communication, we also need channels to carry the message. Mass media are the channels used for mass communication (Dominick, 2010, p. 13).

## **2.2 Journalistic practice in previous decades**

After entering the Rising Nepal in 1986, showing the state of news gathering and more specifically the state of children's coverage, a senior journalist and professor of mass communications, said- One day, the news came that 45 thousand children had diarrhea in Nepal. The news came from Paris. Should our news reach him? I felt sorry. Barunshamsher Rana was the editor-in-chief. I said to him- 'We also had to go outside to the districts and bring the news.' He said- 'Well, it will happen slowly.' However, I was never able to go to the field and report. Going outside for reporting is sometimes only when called by the embassy, otherwise it was depended up to the news agency (Rai, 2022, p. 101).

This statement of Ganeshman Singh (1956), the then one of the top leader of Nepali Congress, has been quoted by Devkota (1967) in his book as- There is a lack of healthy and fearless journalists in Nepal. This is not because of any intellectual weakness or lack of necessary qualities for that level, but because there is no creation of an independent middle class in Nepal. The stronger and more independent the middle class of the country is, the stronger and more developed the country is. The bugle of awakening has been blown by this class forever and everywhere. In Nepal, this class is very weak and is so bound by economic shackles that it is completely unable to fulfill its historical responsibility. The reflection of that situation is evident in the world of journalism as well as in other fields. Two or four newspapers and journalists who are in the country today have not been able to do anything more than the work of a particular party or an ambitious capitalist. This is a matter of great shame and regret (Devkota, 1967, p. 15).

### **2.3 Scholarly explanations**

McQuail (2013), well-known media expert in the contemporary world, has mentioned about coverage, effects/impacts and many more aspects of media content in his work. He says- Children are spending more and more time exposed to violent content. Overall, the evidence supports the hypothesis that the viewing of violent entertainment increases the likelihood of aggressive behaviour. These conclusions still appear to stand more than thirty years later. (McQuail, 2013, p. 480).

Wimmer and Dominick, the world famous authors on media research field, have mentioned media coverage, its effects with many more subjects/aspects of human life and civilization/socialization. They say- magazine and newspaper research began in the 1920s and for much of its early existence was qualitative in nature. Typical

research studies dealt with law, history, and international press comparisons (Wimmer and Dominick, 2012, p. 346).

They have mentioned various aspects of print media- Who reads a publication, what items are read, and what gratifications the readers get from their choices. ...readability studies investigate the textual elements that affect comprehension of a message. A more recent research area examines the usability of newspaper and magazine websites (Wimmer and Dominick, 2012, p. 347).

McQuail points out the undesirable effects on children as the bad effects by mass media: an increase in social isolation; reduction of time and attention to homework; increased passivity; reduced time for play and exercise (displacement); reduced time for reading (due to television); undermining of parental authority; premature sexual knowledge and experience; unhealthy eating and obesity; promotion of anxiety about self-image leading to anorexia; depressive tendencies. (McQuail, 2013, p. 484).

Likewise, McQuail includes the beneficial effects attributed to media: provision of a basis for social interaction; learning about the wider world; learning of prosocial attitudes and behaviours; educational effects; help in forming an identity; developing the imagination. (McQuail, 2013, p. 484).

#### **2.4 Children coverage: ethical aspects**

Press Council Nepal has systematically formulated the rules and duties to be followed by mass media and media workers. And, the compilation of those points is called Journalist Code of Conduct. The code of conduct, which has been gradually modified, refined and developed on various dates and stages. Journalist code of conduct, 2016 is

latest version of this. The first amendment, 2019 has also been made by further adjusting it.

The revised and updated code of conduct has 5 sections namely Preamble; Preliminary; Duties of Journalists and Mass Media; Works not to be Carried Out by Journalists and Mass Media and Complaints and Redress Procedures. The Press Council Nepal has also been given the responsibility to monitor whether the media and media persons not follow the code of conduct, to warn and take actions according to the level of violation of code and conducts.

Protecting the rights and interests of children, as is written in sub-article (b) of article 13 of the code of conduct- journalists and mass media should not act contrary to child sensitivity while collecting and disseminating news item about them (PCN, 2019, p. 10).

In sub-article 4 of the article 4 of journalist code of conduct, 2016 issued by the Press Council Nepal, it is stipulated that journalists and media should provide special support for the upliftment and development of children. In the child-friendly communication guideline, 2016, issued by the Council, according to this code of conduct, what should be done and what should not be done by journalists and mass media in the matter of children has been clearly stated, as shown below-

***Duties of Journalists and Media:***

3. Journalists and mass media should comply with the following duties while reporting news related to children:
  - a) **Priority for children:** Journalists and media should give special priority to the content that has a positive effect on children.

- b) **Protection of children's rights:** Journalists and media should transmit news content in a way that protects and benefits children's rights.
- c) **Vigilance in transmission of violent content:** Journalists and media should produce and transmit news content in such a way as not to cause negative psychological impact on children with special vigilance and caution.
- d) **Interviews only with prior authorization:** Journalists and media should only take and transmit interviews or news of children with the prior approval of parents, teachers or wardens/guardians.
- e) **Caution in the use of children in advertisements:** Journalists and media should transmit advertisements in such a way that they do not adversely affect the welfare and safety of children.
- f) **Dissemination of useful content for children:** Journalists and media should disseminate news content that is useful for the interests, thoughts and feelings of children.
- g) **Child-sensitive behavior in cases of child labor or crime:** Journalists and media should always give news by imbibing the principle of juvenile justice in child labor.
- h) **Protection of children's privacy:** In order to protect children's privacy in cases of sexual violence or abuse by relatives, journalists and media should keep the identity of the accused confidential and transmit news content.



- i) **Caution in transmitting sensational or exaggerated content:**  
Journalists and media should transmit news related to children without sensationalizing or exaggerating it (PCN, 2017, 32nd ed., p. 199-200).

*Journalists and media should not do:*

- 4. Journalists and mass media should not do the following while reporting news related to children:
  - a) **Should not have a negative impact on child psychology:**  
Journalists and media should not transmit news content that has a negative impact on child psychology.
  - b) **Children's self-esteem should not be hurt:** Journalists and media should not transmit news content that has an adverse effect on children's sensitivity or hurts their self-esteem.
  - c) **Children should not be harmed:** Journalists and mass media should not publicize their identities in any other way except in the public interest, in such a way as to cause harm, risk, or immediate or long-term negative impact on children.
  - d) **Do not introduce them as witnesses or accused:** Journalists and media should not introduce children as witnesses or accused in the incident or use them as sources or even reveal their identity.
  - e) **Do not use drawings, pictures and visuals:** Children should not be exposed to any kind of risk through the transmission of drawings, pictures or audio-visuals, except in cases where journalists and media convey a positive message.

- f) **Do not present obscene material:** Journalists and media should not transmit obscene material prepared using children.
- g) **Advertisements should not be broadcasted in such a way as to pose a risk to children:** Journalists and media should not broadcast advertisements that pose a risk to the welfare and safety of children or that are used for political or commercial purposes intended for them.
- h) **Children's identities should not be revealed:** Journalists and media should not reveal the identities of children who have been sexually abused or abused and transmit news content.
- i) **Do not interview as much as possible:** Journalists and media should not interview children as far as possible (PCN, 2017, 32nd ed., p. 200-201).

Considering the sensitivity of children's news content, it seems that Radio Nepal, the government broadcasting corporation, has determined clear guidelines in this regard.

Radio Nepal (2013) has mentioned the following-

- Radio Nepal is very careful as not to harm their dignity in the future while broadcasting material related to children involved in criminal incidents.
- If there is an incident related to juvenile delinquency in any school, hostel, child protection center or correctional facility that has a negative impact on children and society, news or programs will be broadcasted mentioning the name of that organization.
- They will not be persecuted by presenting the criminal incidents committed by minors when they are of age (Radio Nepal, 2013, p. 21).

## **2.5 Media jurisprudence**

### **2.5.1 Constitutional arrangements**

The Constitution of Nepal (2015) has made a much wider arrangement than the existing constitutional arrangement regarding the basic relations of citizens. The Constitution, which was issued for the first time by the Constituent Assembly, has clearly defined and protected the right to freedom, the right to communication, the right to information, the right to privacy, the right to language and culture, and the freedom of press and expression.

This constitution has also made clear provisions regarding the rights of children. This constitution has specified not only the rights of the citizens but also the basic duties.

Article 17 of the Constitution guarantees the right to freedom as-

#### ***17. Right to freedom:***

- (1) No person shall be deprived of his or her personal liberty except in accordance with law (Constitution, 2015, p. 9). Similarly, it is written in sub-article (2) of the same article-
- (2) Every citizen shall have the following freedoms: (a) freedom of opinion and expression (Constitution, 2015, p. 9).

The main article of the constitution which has been designed to provide constitutional arrangements especially in the context of mass media and media workers or journalists is- article 19. This article provides the following provisions regarding constitutional matters related to communication and/or mass communication-

***19. Right to communication:***

- (1) No publication and broadcasting or dissemination or printing of any news item, editorial, feature article or other reading, audio and audio-visual material through any means whatsoever including electronic publication, broadcasting and printing shall be censored. Provided that nothing shall be deemed to prevent the making of Acts to impose reasonable restrictions on any act which may undermine the sovereignty, territorial integrity, nationality of Nepal or the harmonious relations between the Federal Units or the harmonious relations between various castes, tribes, religions or communities, or on any act of treason, defamation or contempt of court or incitement to an offence, or on any act which may be contrary to public decency or morality, on any act of hatred to labour and on any act of incitement to caste-based untouchability as well as gender discrimination.
- (2) No radio, television, on-line or other form of digital or electronic equipment, press or other means of communication publishing, broadcasting or printing any news item, feature, editorial, article, information or other material shall be closed or seized nor shall registration thereof be cancelled nor shall such material be seized by the reason of publication, broadcasting or printing of such material through any audio, audio-visual or electronic equipment. Provided that nothing contained in this clause shall be deemed to prevent the making of an Act to regulate radio, television, online or any other form of digital or electronic equipment, press or other means of communication.

- (3) No means of communication including the press, electronic broadcasting and telephone shall be interrupted except in accordance with law (Constitution, 2015, p. 13-14).

The Constitution of Nepal has not only guaranteed the right to communication, but also made a distinct and clear arrangement that related government institutions, corporations, offices and officials should provide information to the common citizens about public bodies and public concerns. Article 27 of the Constitution has the following provisions regarding the right to information–

***27. Right to information:***

Every citizen shall have the right to demand and receive information on any matter of his or her interest or of public interest. Provided that no one shall be compelled to provide information on any matter of which confidentiality must be maintained in accordance with law (Constitution, 2015, p. 19).

The Constitution not only ensures the right to communication, but also pays equal attention to the privacy of citizens. On the one hand, the basic privacy of citizens, state agencies and organizations should be protected, and on the other hand, the right to information and the right to communication should be fully guaranteed.

However, when there is no privacy in the name of the right to communication and the right to information, individuals, society and the nation become chaotic and loose. Keeping this fact in mind, the Constitution has tried to maintain a proper balance between these two aspects. Article 28 of the Constitution of Nepal- 2015 has the following provisions regarding the right to privacy-

### ***28. Right to privacy:***

The privacy of any person, his or her residence, property, document, data, correspondence and matters relating to his or her character shall, except in accordance with law, be inviolable (Constitution, 2015, p. 19).

It has already been mentioned that while ensuring the fundamental rights of citizens, the Constitution of Nepal has ensured the right to communication, expression and information. The right to language and culture, which is an integral part of these parties, has also been guaranteed by the constitution through a separate article. It has been mentioned in Article 32 of the Constitution of Nepal 2015-

### ***32. Right to language and culture:***

- (1) Every person and community shall have the right to use their languages.
- (2) Every person and community shall have the right to participate in the cultural life of their communities.
- (3) Every Nepalese community residing in Nepal shall have the right to preserve and promote its language, script, culture, cultural civilization and heritage. (Constitution, 2015, p. 20).

After discussing the civil rights, right to communication, right to information, right to privacy and right to language and culture, let us now review the rights of children guaranteed by the Constitution of Nepal - 2015. Article 39 of the Constitution provides for the rights of children. The following provisions are mentioned in this article of constitution-

**39. Rights of child:**

- (1) Every child shall have the right to name and birth registration along with his or her identity.
- (2) Every child shall have the right to education, health, maintenance, proper care, sports, entertainment and overall personality development from the families and the State.
- (3) Every child shall have the right to elementary child development and child participation.
- (4) No child shall be employed to work in any factory, mine or engaged in similar other hazardous work.
- (5) No child shall be subjected to child marriage, transported illegally, abducted/kidnapped or taken in hostage.
- (6) No child shall be recruited or used in army, police or any armed group, or be subjected, in the name of cultural or religious traditions, to abuse, exclusion or physical, mental, sexual or other form of exploitation or improper use by any means or in any manner.
- (7) No child shall be subjected to physical, mental or any other form of torture at home, school or other place and situation whatsoever.
- (8) Every child shall have the right to juvenile friendly justice.
- (9) The child who is helpless, orphan, with disabilities, conflict victim, displaced or vulnerable shall have the right to special protection and facilities from the state.
- (10) Any act contrary to in clauses (4), (5), (6) and (7) shall be punishable by law, and a child who is the victim of such act shall have the right to

obtain compensation from the perpetrator, in accordance with law.

(Constitution, 2015, p. 22-23).

Citizens, states, state agencies, journalists and media have not only rights, but also certain obligations and responsibilities towards the people, nation and the constitution. In article 48 of the Constitution of Nepal- 2015, the duties of citizens are mentioned as follows–

***48. Duties of citizens:***

Every citizen shall have the following duties:

- (a) To safeguard the nationality, sovereignty and integrity of Nepal, while being loyal to the nation,
- (b) To abide by the constitution and law,
- (c) To render compulsory service as and when the state so requires,
- (d) To protect and preserve public property. (Constitution, 2015, p. 26).

**2.5.2 Legal arrangements**

The history of legal framework related to mass media and journalism in Nepal is very old. However, clearly mentioned provisions in the constitution and acts, regulations and other forms of laws or legal system related to communication and journalism had started to be established only a little later. Although even before the starting of publication of the Gorkhapatra in 1901, it seems that communication laws had started in Nepal with the order issued in the name of 'Sanad'. The then prime minister of Nepal Shree 3 Maharaj Dev Shamsheer J.B.R., the 'Sanad' (written order) issued on 23rd April, 1901 (Monday, 11 Baisakh, 1958 BS) to the name of Pandit Nardev Pandey, explaining the full operating provisions of the Gorkhapatra with all details,



can be considered as the first legal document regarding to the mass media in Nepal. (Devkota, 1967, p. 57-59).

Since then, communication-related laws in Nepal have continuously being added, amended, refined, simplified and clarified. With the *Radio Act, 1958*, the process of creating a systematic law of modern form and format had started in regard to the Nepali mass communication sector and that process has continued till today.

### ***Media-related Acts***

The laws that have been made and issued since then *Radio Act, 1958; Postal Act, 1963; Inland Postal Commodities (Insuring) Act, 1962; National News Agency Act, 1962; Gorkhapatra Corporation Act, 1963; Nepali Language Publication Corporation Act, 1964; Films (Production, Exhibition and Distribution) Act, 1969; Communications Corporations Act, 1972; The Printing Press and Publication Act, 1991; Press Council Act, 1991; National Broadcasting Act, 1993; Working Journalists Act, 1995; Telecommunications Act, 1997; Right to Information Act, 2007; Advertisement (Regulation) Act, 2019* etc. are in vogue now.

(<https://mocit.gov.np>, Retrieved on Oct. 1, 2022)

### ***Media-related Regulations***

The information, communication and fundamental rights provided by the constitution have been organized, defined and embodied by the various acts mentioned above. The way to implement it, the concerned government agencies and offices, methods and other practical aspects have been organized by various regulations.

*Postal Regulations, 1964, National News Agency Regulations; 1984, Radio Communications (License) Regulations, 1992; Regulations on Printing and*

*Publishing, 1992; Press Council (Proceedings) Rules, 1992; National Broadcasting Regulations, 1995; Regulations on Working Journalists, 1996; Telecommunications Regulations, 1997; Film (Production, Exhibition and Distribution) Regulations, 2000; Right to Information Regulations, 2009; Advertisement (Regulating) Regulations, 2020* etc. are the major media-related regulations in Nepal.

In some cases, in the absence of acts, provisions are made to implement constitutional rights even on the basis of guidelines. *Online Media Operations Guidelines, 2017* can be taken as an example of this. Various other practical aspects are clarified through various guidelines, procedures and orders according to the provisions and spirit of the constitution, acts and regulations. In this way, the totality of constitutional provisions, acts, regulations, guidelines, procedures and orders is essentially called media jurisprudence.

## **2.6 Theoretical framework**

Communication is fundamental to the human experience. Mass communication is an essential need whenever humans come together to form an organized society.

Constant changes in the political and technological landscape have changed the nature of mass communication throughout history. As technology and society continue to evolve, so do mass communication theories, and with time, we may need to both modify the existing theories as well as devise new theories to explain the newer forms of mass communication.

Experts and scholars of mass communication have invented, explained, analyzed and theorized many-more mass media theories. Some of these are relevant anytime and anywhere but some theories are practical only for certain places or times or situations. Some of these theories are very relevant and useful in a certain country,

time and situation, while the rest are appropriate for another time-reference. All the theories of mass communication may not be applicable in the same place, at the same time and in the same context.

*Agenda-Setting, Uses and Gratification, Classical Rhetorical, Direct Effects, Cultivation Framing, Gate Keeping, Magic Bullet or Hypodermic Needle, Media Dependence, Social Responsibility, Technological Determinism* etc. theories are most popular and famous among the media theories. The state, conscious and leading citizens, journalists and media have special responsibilities and obligations towards children, elderly, physically differently abled, socially-culturally and economically backward citizens and communities. From this point of view, the *Social Responsibility Theory* is most closely related to the topic and subject matter of this research. In addition, in the context of this study *Gatekeeping Theory* is also directly related in a way.

### **2.6.1 Social responsibility theory**

Social responsibility is an ethical theory in which individuals are accountable for fulfilling their civic duty, and the actions of an individual must benefit the whole of society. In this way, there must be a balance between economic growth and the welfare of society and the environment.

If the media fail to meet their responsibilities to the society, the social responsibility theory holds that the government should encourage the media to comply by way of controlling them. Bittner (1989) has it that the theory held that “a press has the right to criticize government and institutions but also has certain basic responsibilities to maintain the stability of society”. In the same vein, but in a slightly different angle, Dominick (2009) writes that- This approach holds that the press has a right to criticize

government and other institutions, but it also has a responsibility to preserve democracy by properly informing the public and by responding to society's needs and interests. The press does not have the freedom to do as it pleases; it is obligated to respond to society's requirements.

Ahuja (2011) writes about the social responsibilities of the press- responsibility can never be achieved without an ethical foundation. The development of a responsible press depends on how well the concept of the press is understood by the public and the government (Ahuja, 2011, p. 9).

He mentions the historical background of social responsibility theory also in his book- the term "social responsibility" was first used by the Hutchins Commission appointed by the British Government in 1947. It was subsequently elaborated by the so-called Four Theories of the Press which have come to govern modern press media (Ahuja, 2011, p. 9).

### **2.6.2 Gatekeeping theory**

The gatekeeping theory is one of the major theory of mass communication. Shoemaker, et al. (2009) refers to gatekeeping as 'the process of selecting, writing, editing, positioning, scheduling, repeating, and otherwise massaging information to become news' (Shoemaker, et al., 2009, p. 73). The idea of gatekeeping, in fact, did not initially concern mass communication. Instead, it emerged from the study about food.

Gatekeeping is the process of selecting, and then filtering, items of media that can be consumed within the time or space that an individual happens to have. This means gatekeeping falls into a role of surveillance and monitoring data. These gatekeeping decisions are made every day to sort out the relevant items that audiences will see.

The gatekeeping theory of mass communication is a method which allows us to keep our sanity. By consuming content that is most relevant to us each day, we can ignore the billions of additional data points that are calling for our attention.

### **2.6.3 Agenda-setting theory**

Agenda-setting theory is one of another major theory of mass communication. The media filters and shapes what we see rather than just reflecting stories to the audience. An example of this is seeing a sensational or scandalous story at the top of a broadcast as opposed to a story that happened more recently or one that affects more people.

The assumption is that the more attention the media gives to an issue, the more likely the public will consider that issue to be important. Another way to look at it: Mass media organizations aren't telling us what to think or how we should feel about a story or issue, but are giving us certain stories or issues that people should think more about.

There is psychological and scientific merit to the agenda-setting theory. The more a story is publicized in the mass media, the more it becomes prominently stored in individuals' memories when they're asked to recall it, even if it doesn't specifically affect them or register as a prominent issue in their minds.

(<https://online.alvernia.edu/articles/agenda-setting-theory>)

## **CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

Content analysis (CA), survey and key informant interviews (KIIs) are the major methods and techniques for the research. Using these methods and techniques, data collection, presentation, analysis and drawing conclusion are the major functions of the study. Majorly, these methods will be applied to answer the research problem.

Collecting primary data from targeted newspapers, taking and presenting KIIs and collecting secondary data from concerned literature/previous works, analyzing, tabulating data and presenting are the major processes/works of the research method.

Research method means the technique, without by which systematic investigation of the facts is impossible. The study is designed to explore the priority and condition of presentation of child related contents in mainstream newspapers. For the purpose of this thesis, both the qualitative as well as quantitative methods will be employed. The Chapter presents research design, data collection methods and the sampling procedure used in the study.

### **3.2 Research design**

This research was carried out with help of both descriptive as well as analytical research design. This is a pure research as it is useful in attempting to analyze print media content related to the children published on two daily newspapers. To make this study insightful and reliable different perspective regarding media coverage have been analyzed in critical way. The research is both qualitative and quantitative in nature. It is exploratory as it will attempt to find out the problems, challenges and lacking points.

### **3.3 Nature and sources of data**

The data required for the study are collected from primary as well as secondary sources. The primary data includes data collected from the contents analysis, surveying by questionnaires, key informants interviews while the secondary sources of data are obtained from the various research papers, books, journal articles and reports conducted by other researchers. Concerned information are collected by visiting the concerned authorities and published documents.

### **3.4 Research methods**

#### **3.4.1 Content analysis**

Content analysis technique is used in this study to examine the contents and trend of coverage of children information according to what is mentioned in limitations sub-chapter of this study. In this method two national daily newspapers are selected, presented, studied, analyzed and concluded. Krippendorff (2004) defined content analysis as research technique for making replicable and valid inferences from data to their context. Content analysis entails a systematic reading of a body of texts, images, and symbolic matter, not necessary from an author's or user's perspective (Krippendorff, 2004, p. 3). He writes- Content analysis is a research technique for making replicable and valid inferences from texts to the contexts of their use. As a technique, content analysis involves specialized procedures. It is learnable and divorceable from the personal authority of the researcher (Krippendorff, 2004, p. 18). Contents are studied on the basis of code of journalistic ethics, 2073 (first amendmend-2076). And, through the judgmental sampling basis, following national daily newspapers were selected-

1. Gorkhapatra daily
2. Kantipur daily

### **3.4.2 Survey and questionnaires**

School level students are selected by random sampling method for this study to collect required primary data. The printed questionnaires were filled physically in two government-owned/public schools and in two private sector-owned/boarding schools. Respondents were responded with their responses.

Random sampling, also known as probability sampling, is a sampling method that allows for the randomization of sample selection. In this type of sampling, the members of the sample are selected randomly and purely by chance. Hence, the quality of the sample is not affected as every member has an equal chance of being selected in the sample.

### **3.4.3 Key informants interviews**

Short interviews were conducted among key informant interviewees (KIIs), who are the social activists related to children welfare sector, to collect the related primary data for the study.

### **3.5 Ethical consideration**

To complete research with appropriate research guidelines research ethics is very important. Considering ethical aspect of research enough time will be given to study and analyze the role of media with due respect to audience viewpoint. Beyond that consideration, usage of any other secondary data from any source will be acknowledged



with appropriate references. Hence, the ethical aspect of research are followed in this research.

### **3.6 Theoretical approach: methodological development**

Arun (2012) has beautifully analyzed the methodological development of mass media studies. He writes-

A popular form, "propaganda analysis," was pioneered by Lasswell. The "Chicago School" of sociology, caught up in the progressive spirit of the era, did not shy away from advocating social causes and "do-goodism." Early Chicago School research displayed a methodological eclecticism that was "empirical but not very quantitative." Chicago School researchers took advantage of their inner-city environs to conduct ethnographic studies of urban problems, while in Europe the Frankfurt Institute of Social Research applied neo-Marxist theory to critically analyze communication and culture (Arun, 2012, p. 234).

## CHAPTER IV: DATA PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

### 4.1 Status of coverage of children-related contents

In the course of this research, the condition of the coverage of children-related contents among the whole contents published in the two representative newspapers has been found. Let's analyze this first, on the basis of the limitations of the study. The entire contents of 60 issues of Gorkhapatra and Kantipur Daily for two months (16 June to 14 October, 2022), shows the following statistics.

Newspapers	Total Contents	Child Coverage	Percentage
Gorkhapatra	4818	80	1.55
Kantipur	1987	30	1.5

*Table 1: Status of coverage of children-related contents in print media (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

In this process, it is apparent that a total of 4,818 items of whole contents have been published in Gorkhapatra daily. Out of these, only 80 materials related to children seem to have been published. Analyzing on the basis of these numbers, it appears that Gorkhapatra has given space to only 1.55 percent of children's contents. Similarly, it seems that a total of 1,987 items of whole contents are published in Kantipur daily. Among these, only 30 children-related contents are published. Analyzing, on the basis of these numbers, it seems that Kantipur has given have been only 1.5 percent of its space for children's content.

### 4.2 Coverage types of the children-related contents

When analyzing the materials related to children published in Gorkhapatra and Kantipur throughout the study period, the space given to them, their size and format

of presentation, both newspapers do not seem to have given much importance to this subject. However, Kantipur seems to have given comparatively more space and importance than Gorkhapatra.

<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Editorial</b>	<b>Article/Feature</b>	<b>Hard News</b>
Gorkhapatra	-	2 (2.5%)	78 (97.5%)
Kantipur	-	9 (30%)	21 (70%)

*Table 2: Coverage types of the children-related contents in print media (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

Out of a total of 80 children-related contents published in Gorkhapatra, 78 are small-sized and formal news only. It only has 2 content or feature type and research writing. Out of the total 30 children-related materials published in Kantipur, 21 are small-sized formal hard news. It has 9 in-depth news, features or articles.

In this way, it is seen that 97.5 percent of the children-related contents published in Gorkhapatra are formal hard news and only 2.5 percent are in-depth, investigative and large-sized articles. In Kantipur, 70 percent of small hard news and 30 percent of articles, research materials or features are published relating to the field of study.

#### **4.3 Presence and absence of children-related contents**

In terms of newspaper size (length-width) and number of pages, Gorkhapatra seems to be a little bigger than Kantipur. For this reason, the total number of published content are also slightly higher in Gorkhapatra than in Kantipur. However, from the point of view of including contents related to children in every issue regularly, it seems that Kantipur has been extremely lacking compared to Gorkhapatra.

Newspapers	Counted Issues	Presence	Absence	Presence Percentage
Gorkhapatra	60	41	19	68.33
Kantipur	60	21	39	35.00

*Table 3: Issue wise presence and absence of children-related contents in print media (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

When studying the regular 60 issues of both newspapers, it is seen that 41 issues of Gorkhapatra have published some news-materials that touched children. In the 19 issues of Gorkhapatra, no material related to children appears to have been published. In Kantipur, only 21 issues have published children's content. In 39 issues of Kantipur, it does not appear that any news-material related to children has been published.

It seems that 68.33 percent of the issues of Gorkhapatra included children's content throughout the study period. 31.67 percent issues of Gorkhapatra do not seem to contain any material related to children. In 35 percent of Kantipur issues, small and big, news, articles or features related to children are published. 65 percent of Kantipur's issues do not seem to have included any content related to children.

#### **4.4 Placement of children-related contents**

Another important basis for finding the answer to the problem of this study is what page and what position the mainstream newspapers have given to children's contents. Now let's briefly analyze in which pages Gorkhapatra and Kantipur have included children's news, articles, opinions and other content.

In 19 of the 60 issues of the Gorkhapatra daily included in the study, no content related to the children was published. Out of the 41 issues that contain children's

content, 3 issues appear to contain children's content on the first page. Apart from these, in 39 issues, children's content have been included in the inner pages.

<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Front Page</b>	<b>Inner Page</b>	<b>Absence (Issues)</b>
Gorkhapatra	3	38	19
Kantipur	2	19	39

*Table 4: Status of placement of children-related contents in issue basis (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

Out of 60 issues of Kantipur Daily, 39 issues did not publish any content related to children. Out of the 21 issues containing children's content, only 2 issues placed this topic on the front page, while the remaining 19 issues placed it only on the inside pages.

#### **4.5 Status of event and issue-based children-related contents**

What is the nature of children's content published by mainstream newspapers? This aspect is another important basis for finding out the level of importance and priority given to children's content by the media and even more so by newspapers. Even from this point of view, mainstream newspapers do not seem to give much importance and priority to the children's content.

<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Total Child Coverage</b>	<b>Event Coverage</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>
Gorkhapatra	80	69 (86.25%)	11 (13.75%)
Kantipur	30	18 (60.00%)	12 (40.00%)

*Table 5: Status of event and issue-based children-related contents in print media (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

In the study, out of 60 issues each of Samowash Gorkhapatra and Kantipur, 80 in Gorkhapatra and 30 in Kantipur, a total of 120 children-related materials have been published. Out of these, with 11 in Gorkhapatra and 12 in Kantipur, a total of 23 materials are only for raising issues, conducting debates and showing the way. Apart from these, 69 articles from Gorkhapatra and 18 articles from Kantipur, a total of 87 articles are only small news coverages that fulfill the general formalities.

In this way, out of a total of 80 children-related materials published by Gorkhapatra, 11 (i.e. 13.75 percent) of the materials are issue-based articles or investigative writings, while 69 (i.e. 86.25 percent) of the materials are small size formal news. Similarly, out of a total of 30 children-related materials published by Kantipur, 12 (i.e. 40 percent) of the materials are issue-based articles or investigative news-reports and 18 (i.e. 60 percent) of the materials are small sized formal news. From this point of view, compared to Gorkhapatra, it seems that Kantipur has given more space, priority and importance to the children-related issue-based and in-depth articles.

#### **4.6 Placement sizes of children-related contents**

Another basis for drawing a conclusion about what space and importance the print media has given to children's news and materials is the physical size of the material. Full page, half page, quarter page, single column, double column, 5 column, 6 column etc. factors are the standards for this approach.

Out of the total 80 children-related contents published by the Gorkhapatra, 39 (i.e. 48.75 percent) of the contents got only 1 column space. Out of the children's content published in Gorkhapatra, 20 (i.e. 25 percent) of the content got 2 columns, 16 (i.e. 20 percent) got 3 columns and 5 (i.e. 6.25 percent) got 4 columns. In this way, it seems

that out of the total children-related contents published in Gorkhapatra, almost about half of them have been published in single column.

<b>Numbers of Columns</b>	<b>Gorkhapatra</b>	<b>Kantipur</b>
One	39 (48.75%)	8 (26.66%)
Two	20 (25%)	5 (16.67%)
Three	16 (20%)	8 (26.66%)
Four	5 (6.25%)	4 (13.34%)
Five	-	3 (10%)
Six	-	2 (6.67%)
<b>Total Items (Published)</b>	<b>80 (100%)</b>	<b>30 (100%)</b>

*Table 6: Placement size of children-related contents (status of presentation) (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

Similarly, out of total 30 materials published by Kantipur, 8 (i.e. 26.66 percent) got single column, 5 (i.e. 16.67 percent) got 2 column and 8 (i.e. 26.66 percent) got 3 column space. Similarly, in Kantipur, 4 contents (i.e. 13.34 percent) of 4 columns, 3 (i.e. 10 percent) of 5 columns and 2 (i.e. 6.67 percent) of 6 columns contents are published.

When studying on the basis of placement size, it seems that Kantipur is ahead of Gorkhapatra in terms of children's news and other topics. Gorkhapatra has not published any content related to children covering the entire page width, while Kantipur has published 2 content covering 6 columns in full page width. Regarding children, Gorkhapatra has not published a single material up to 5 columns, while Kantipur has published 3 materials in 5 columns.

#### 4.7 Usage of photographs with children-related contents

Along with the materials published in the newspaper, the situation of photo usage is also an important basis for drawing conclusions on how much priority or importance the media has given to the specific subject.

Newspapers	Total Children's Contents	With Photo	Without Photo
Gorkhapatra	80	22 (27.5%)	58 (72.5%)
Kantipur	30	16 (53.34%)	14 (46.66%)

*Table 7: Status of usage of photographs with children-related contents (Source: content analysis, 2022)*

Out of a total of 80 contents related to children published by Gorkhapatra, only 22 (i.e. 27.5 percent) of the contents have been published with photographs. Another 58 or 72.5 percent contents of Gorkhapatra has been published without photos. Similarly, out of the total of 30 contents related to children published in Kantipur, 16 (i.e. 53.34 percent) contents have been published with photographs. The other 14 contents published by Kantipur, (i.e. 46.66 percent) of the content, were published without photos.

Looking at it this way, it seems that Kantipur uses more photos than Gorkhapatra in the content related to children. More than half of the total content related to the children published by the Kantipur (i.e. 53.34 percent) of the contents uses photos; whereas photographs were used in only 27.5 percent of such materials published in Gorkhapatra.

It has already been discussed that while studying the 60 issues of the Gorkhapatra and the Kantipur, most of the news-materials related to the children published in them are presented in single columns. Practically speaking, the use of photos is easy, attractive and more suitable only in materials published in double, three or more columns. This



may be the reason why the use of pictures in the contents related to the children included in the studied newspaper issues is seen to be low. According to the limitations of this study, the newspapers taken as a sample and the condition of photo usage found in their fixed issues also leads to the conclusion that the news-materials related to the children are not given much importance by the print media.

#### **4.8 Print media's eyes on children**

The figures, facts and data presented above and their analysis lead to an easy conclusion that the eyes of Nepali print media looking at children are not so clean, sharp and shiny. When it comes to children's issues, their eyes seem dim, vague and prejudiced.

It seems that both the newspapers have given enough space and importance and have published large-sized content on politics, industry-business, sports, art, glamour, international etc. However, it seems that children's news, their questions or cases, educational materials to guide them, etc., cannot fill the pages, and only small columns and broken spaces in the empty corners are used. In this case, the situation of Gorkhapatra, which is run with government resources, investment and management, seems to be more critical than in Kantipur of the private sector.

Even after looking at the 60 issues of two consecutive months in broadsheet size, minimum of 12 pages and half of them in color printing, it was not seen that a significant and discussable number, size and format of content was not published about this very sensitive and important part of the society covering a significant percentage of the population (children). This situation really cannot be considered a positive matter for individuals, organizations, agencies, government or society, working in the field of children.

#### 4.9 What does the survey show?

In the process of this study, an attempt has been made to draw conclusions by conducting a survey among 110 children. A survey was conducted among the students of 4 secondary schools, 2 located in Kathmandu and 2 located in Lalitpur.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
1	23	20.91	48	43.63	39	35.46	110
2	51	46.36	42	38.19	17	15.45	110
3	53	48.18	23	20.91	34	30.91	110
4	34	30.91	15	13.64	61	55.45	110
5	21	19.10	71	64.54	18	16.36	110
6	41	23.26	43	39.10	26	23.64	110
7	56	50.90	32	39.10	22	20.00	110
8	28	25.45	33	30.00	49	44.55	110
9	14	12.73	49	44.54	47	42.73	110
10	36	32.72	43	39.10	31	28.18	110
<b>Total</b>							<b>100%</b>

*Table 8: Presentation of respondents answers (Source: survey, October, 2022)*

In this process, the students of 2 government/community and 2 private sector boarding schools have been asked to fill the questionnaire form. 10 questions and 3-3 multiple choice answers (options) were given for all questions. Among these students, every effort has been made to include children from different castes and tribes and those who live outside the capital and the valley.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
1	23	<b>20.91</b>	48	<b>43.63</b>	39	<b>35.46</b>	110

Table 9: Status of newspaper reader children (Source: survey, October, 2022)

'How often do you read newspapers?' In response to the first question, out of 3 options, a) I read regularly b) I read sometimes; and c) I don't read much- 23 people (i.e. 20.91 percent) answered first, 48 people (i.e. 43.63 percent) selected second and 39 people (i.e. 35.46 percent) answered by choosing the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
2	51	<b>46.36</b>	42	<b>38.19</b>	17	<b>15.45</b>	110

Table 10: Status of language choice (Source: survey, October, 2022)

Likewise, 'Which language newspapers do you usually read?' In response to the second question out of 3 options asked, a) Nepali b) English; and c) Mother tongue- 51 people (i.e. 46.36 percent) chose the first option, 42 people (i.e. 38.19 percent) chose the second option and 17 people (i.e. 15.45 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
3	53	<b>48.18</b>	23	<b>20.91</b>	34	<b>30.91</b>	110

Table 11: Status of topic choice (Source: survey, October, 2022)

Similarly, 'What topics do you read more in newspapers?' In response to the third question asked, out of 3 options, a) Newsworthy b) Ideological/Philosophical/Exploratory; and c) Entertaining/glamour- 53 people (i.e. 48.18 percent) chose the first option, 23 people (i.e. 20.91 percent) chose the second option and 34 people (i.e. 30.91 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
4	34	<b>30.91</b>	15	<b>13.64</b>	61	<b>55.45</b>	110

Table 12: Status of content type choice (Source: survey, October, 2022)

'What kind of content do you like to read more?' In response to the fourth question asked, out of 3 options, a) Political b) Social and; c) Other- 34 people (i.e. 30.91 percent) chose the first option, 15 people (i.e. 13.64 percent) chose the second option and 61 people (i.e. 55.45 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
5	21	<b>19.10</b>	71	<b>64.54</b>	18	<b>16.36</b>	110

Table 13: Child-related content publication status (Source: survey, October, 2022)

'How often do you think there are children's content in the print media?' In response to the fifth question, out of 3 options, a) Sufficient b) Lesser; and c) Too much lesser- 21 people (i.e. 30.91 percent) chose the first option, 71 people (i.e. 64.54 percent) chose the second option and 18 people (i.e. 16.36 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
6	41	<b>23.26</b>	43	<b>39.10</b>	26	<b>23.64</b>	110

Table 14: Quality of child-related contents (Source: survey, October, 2022)

'How do you see the quality of children's content published in newspapers?' In response to the sixth question, out of 3 options, a) High level b) Little bit; and c) Weak- 41 people (i.e. 23.26 percent) chose the first option, 43 people (i.e. 39.10 percent) chose the second option and 26 people (i.e. 23.64 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
7	56	<b>50.90</b>	32	<b>39.10</b>	22	<b>20.00</b>	110

Table 15: Status of regional representation (Source: survey, October, 2022)

'How do you see the children's content published in the newspaper from a regional point of view?' In response to the seventh question, out of 3 options, a) Representing all sides b) Capital-centered; and c) Too much lesser- 56 people (i.e. 50.90 percent) chose the first option, 32 people (i.e. 39.10 percent) chose the second option and 22 people (i.e. 20 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
8	28	<b>25.45</b>	33	<b>30.00</b>	49	<b>44.55</b>	110

Table 16: Status of geographical representation (Source: survey, October, 2022)

'How do you see the children's content published in the newspaper from a geographical point of view?' In response to the eighth question, out of 3 options, a) Beneficial to Himalayas/Hills area's children b) Beneficial to Terai/Madhesh area's children; and c) Beneficial to the city area's children- 28 people (i.e. 25.45 percent) chose the first option, 33 people (i.e. 30 percent) chose the second option and 49 people (i.e. 44.55 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
9	14	<b>12.73</b>	49	<b>44.54</b>	47	<b>42.73</b>	110

Table 17: Government or private school focusing (Source: survey, October, 2022)

Likewise, 'Which category do you think would benefit the most from the children's content published in the newspaper?' In response to the ninth question, out of 3 options, a) Private school students b) Government/community school students; and c) To everyone- 14 people (i.e. 12.73 percent) chose the first option, 49 people (i.e. 44.54 percent) chose the second option; and 47 people (i.e. 42.73 percent) chose the third option.

Question No	Given Answers						Total Respondents
	Option A		Option B		Option C		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
10	36	<b>32.72</b>	43	<b>39.10</b>	31	<b>28.18</b>	110

Table 18: Statue of age group focusing (Source: survey, October, 2022)

Similarly, 'Which age group do you think would benefit most from children's content published in newspapers?' In response to the ninth question, out of 3 options, a) Primary school students b) Secondary school students; and c) To everyone- it was found that 36 people (i.e. 32.72 percent) chose the first option, 43 people (i.e. 39.10 percent) chose the second option and 31 people (i.e. 28.18 percent) chose the third option.

In summary, it seems that the children have given mixed answers to all the questions. Looking at the total number, it is seen that most of the children do not read newspapers regularly. Most of the readers were also found to be reading English newspapers. Looking at the answers of most of the children, it is easy to conclude that the newspapers give inadequate space to children's issues or contents and the space and quality given is not very satisfactory, good or sufficient.

#### **4.10 Opinions of experts and child-right workers (KIIs response)**

In the process of this study, an attempt has been made to draw a conclusion by conducting brief interviews or key informant interviews (KIIs) with some well-known child rights workers and personalities involved in writing in the field of children about the interrelationship between media, print media and children and the current social environment.

Child right activist Rabin Nepali (2022) says- 'children are not commodities for sale, so it seems that our media and print media do not give them much priority, space and importance, but only show them as a representation and only use them as a tool to fill the empty space that occurs sometimes.' He focuses ahead- 'while writing the news, the media person should take the privacy of the child into consideration so that he/she

does not lose any opportunities in the future due to the same news and he/she does not get inconvenienced from anywhere' (Nepali, 2022).

Nepali further says that children themselves cannot hold press meets, nor can they organize and sponsor events, so they are always overlooked by the media. Therefore, on the basis of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the leaders of the society, the knowledgeable, the literate and those working in the field of mass communications should realize their responsibility and give reasonable priority, importance and space to children in the media. The media should consider it their basic duty to become the voice of the voiceless (Nepali, 2022).

According to child-related author Kartikeya Ghimire (2022), various statistics show that about 40 percent of the Nepali population are children. However, the media coverage of their content and issues seems to be critical and worrisome. The status of media coverage on children seems too poor. Unless the media is sensitive to children, society cannot be changed. Since children are an integral part and important component of the society, if the prosperity and change of the society can be initiated from the children, only then that change will be sustainable and fruitful (Ghimire, 2022).

He goes on to say that the inclusion of children-related materials found in print media such as Gorkhapatra, which the state invests and runs with the aim of making the people well-informed, educated and aware, and the Kantipur, which is considered popular in the society, does not seem satisfactory from any angle of the children-coverage. Both these newspapers should change their attitude towards children and increase the inclusion of children's issues (Ghimire, 2022).



#### **4.11 Overall situation**

In this chapter, content analysis, survey and key informant interviews (KIIs) methods were applied. A detailed study using the content analysis method showed that the inclusion and presentation of children's content in both Gorkhapatra and Kantipur dailies is not satisfactory. After that, the findings of the content analysis method came to be confirmed even after further study through the survey and interview methods.

Looking at it like this, it can be seen that there is very little coverage of children's news, problems and issues in Nepali print media.

## CHAPTER V: FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Findings

During this study, as a representative sample of print media, more than a century old Gorkhapatra daily which is published regularly under government ownership and management and the Kantipur daily, which has a long history of more than 25 years, run by private sector, 60 issues were studied carefully, meticulously and in detail. In this process, it has been observed that these two newspapers have not paid much attention and give space to the publication of materials such as children's issues, problems, progress and guidance towards a better future, knowledge enhancement, etc.

- From a numerical point of view, compared to Kantipur, it was seen that Gorkhapatra published a little more content related to children. In 60 issues of Gorkhapatra, 80 contents related to children have been published, while in the same issue of Kantipur, only 30 contents related to children have been published.
- However, from the point of view of space and priority, it was seen that Kantipur gave more emphasis than Gorkhapatra. Out of 60 issues, no issue of Gorkhapatra appeared to have published content related to children in 5 columns and 6 columns; while out of the same issues, 3 issues of Kantipur published 5 columns and 2 issues published 6 columns of content related to children. Similarly, out of 80 content related to children published in Gorkhapatra, 39 (i.e. 48.75 percent) of the content have been published in 1 column, while 8 out of 30 (i.e. 26.66 percent) of the content published by Kantipur have been published in 1 column.

- Out of 60 issues of Gorkhapatra, in 3 issues, content related to children has been placed on the first page, while in 19 issues, no content related to this has been published and 38 content has been placed on the inside page.
- Similarly, out of 60 issues of Kantipur, 39 issues do not appear to have published any content related to children, while 2 issues appear to have be on the front page and in 19 issues children-related contents are on the inside page. Out of a total of 80 children-related materials published in 60 issues of Gorkhapatra, 22 were published with photographs and 58 were published without photographs.
- However, out of a total of 30 children-related contents published in the same issue of Kantipur, 16 contents were published with photographs and 14 contents were published without photographs. In this way, it has been found that photographs were included in only about a quarter of the children's materials published in Gorkhapatra, but more than half of the children's materials published in Kantipur.

The answers to 10-10 questions with 3-3 options that were asked to 110 children during the survey seem to confirm the details presented above. During this study, two brief interviews (KIIs) conducted with the children's content writer and researcher and another child expert and child rights worker also confirmed this fact.

## **5.2 Conclusions**

According to the summary of many facts and figures observed, studied and analyzed during this study, the condition of coverage of children's issues and topics in Nepali print media is not satisfactory. The Nepali print media has not given much importance

or attention to portraying children's issues effectively. Based on the presented facts and analysis, the conclusions of this study are as follows-

- a) Print media has been giving very little space, importance and priority to the issues and news related to children.
- b) Most of the children's materials published throughout the study period and in the samples used are only formal news and some of these include news about 'children being vaccinated against corona'.
- c) Issues related to children were not included in the editorial throughout the study period.
- d) It was found that the issue related to children included were very infrequently in the opinion page.
- e) Issues and news related to children were found to be included very little on the first/front page.
- f) Contents related to children with attractive, large and colorful photos were not published much.
- g) It was seen that most of the contents related to children were limited only to one or two columns.
- h) Among the children's content published by the print media, most of the event-based news were observed, while the fact-raising/issue-raising, investigative and analytical contents were very rare.
- j) Compared to Gorkhapatra, it has been found that Kantipur published a few more large-sized materials, photographs and issue-raising materials.

## **5.3 Recommendations**

### **5.3.1 Recommendations to state and policy makers**

In the process of this study, a thorough study of various references, many newspapers and mainly 60 issues of Gorkhapatra and Kantipur, which were used as samples, revealed many problems, issues and many topics yet to be written and published in the field of children, and there is still a need of work to be done in this field.

Ministry working in the field of children, various subordinate government agencies and thousands of NGOs/INGOs are found to be active. Despite this, the main and many problems of children have not been covered by the print media. Therefore, it can be suggested that state, government agencies and policy makers should act as follows-

- a) Creation of child-friendly laws, timely modification and amendments of existing laws seems necessary.
- b) It seems imperative to create an environment of effective coordination and cooperation between government agencies active in the field of children, government agencies and NGOs/INGOs.
- c) Effective orientation, identification of problems and coordination between government agencies, NGOs/INGOs and mass media working in the field of children and journalists who look at the social and children's bit seems to be necessary.
- d) It seems necessary to provide sufficient support to the NGOs/INGOs working in the field of children from the government and regular and effective monitoring of their activities.

### **5.3.2 Recommendations to the mass media**

In order to adequately and effectively give space, importance and priority to children's issues, it can be suggested that mass media should do the following-

- a) It seems that the mass media and especially the print media rely only on the bit of looking at the social sector to see the issues and problems of children. For the effective coverage of children's issues by the media, it seems necessary to establish and operate a separate 'Balbalika Bit'.
- b) Although it is not immediately possible to conduct a separate bit, it seems necessary for the print media to give enough importance, space and priority to this, taking into heart the fact that children are an important part of the society and are the main basis of a bright future.
- c) It seems necessary to develop a study-culture to identify the main issues and problems of children through regular seminars, programs, discussions and studies.

### **5.3.3 Recommendations to future researchers**

The face of the future society can be determined by looking at the faces of today's children. If the status of current children is weakened, the future society cannot become strong and capable. It is natural that the current situation of Nepali society directly affects the status of children. Therefore, in today's problematic society, countless problems of children are also seen. It is not possible to expose all aspects, topics and problems with this study which is done within certain limits. Therefore, this study is very narrow and only draws conclusions on specific subjects of one side,

so there are many topics left for study. It will be appropriate for future researchers of this subject and field to further study and analyze the following subjects-

- a) Why children's issues have been included in the print media only in a small amount? What can be done to solve it?
- b) What is the space, priority and importance of children's issues in the broadcasting and online media?
- c) Are the authentic bodies of the state aware that children's issues receive very little priority, space and importance in the media? If they are aware, what kind of initiations and efforts are being made for the solution?

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**ANNEX- I: QUESTIONNAIRE FORM**

Tribhuvan University

**Central Department of Mass Communication and Journalism**

**Coverage of Children's Issues in Print Media**

(Dissertation)

**Questionnaire Form**

**Name of Respondent:** ..... **Phone no.:** .....

**Working/Studying Institution:** .....

**Address:** ..... **Email:** .....

**1. How often do you read newspapers?**

- a) I read regularly
- b) I read sometimes
- c) I don't read much

**2. Which language newspapers do you usually read?**

- a) Nepali
- b) English
- c) Mother tongue

**3. What topics do you read more in newspapers?**

- a) Newsworthy
- b) Ideological/Philosophical/Exploratory
- c) Entertaining/glamour

**4. What kind of content do you like to read more?**

- a) Political
- b) Social
- c) Other

**5. How often do you think there are children's content in the print media?**

- a) Sufficient
- b) Lesser
- c) Too much lesser

- 6. How do you see the quality of children's content published in newspapers?**
- a) High level
  - b) Little bit
  - c) Weak
- 7. How do you see the children's content published in the newspaper from a regional point of view?**
- a) Representing all sides
  - b) Capital-centered
  - c) Don't know
- 8. How do you see the children's content published in the newspaper from a geographical point of view?**
- a) Beneficial to Himalayas/Hills area's children
  - b) Beneficial to Terai/Madhesh area's children
  - c) Beneficial to the city area's children
- 9. Which category do you think would benefit the most from the children's content published in the newspaper?**
- a) Private school students
  - b) Government/community school students
  - c) To everyone
- 10. Which age group do you think would benefit most from children's content published in newspapers?**
- a) Primary school students
  - b) Secondary school students
  - c) To everyone

.....  
 Sign of Respondent

Date: ..... ..

.....  
 Sign of Researcher

**ANNEX- II: PUBLICATION OF CHILDREN RELATED  
CONTENTS IN PRINT MEDIA**

**Annex 2.1 Coverage of children-related contents in Gorkhapatra daily**

SN	Date	Total Content	Children Coverage			
			Total	Front Page	Inner Page	Photos
1	16/6/022	71	1	-	1	1
2	17/6/022	72	-	-	-	-
3	18/6/022	70	2	-	2	-
4	19/6/022	72	-	-	-	-
5	20/6/022	71	3	1	2	1
6	21/6/022	92	5	-	5	3
7	22/6/022	86	3	-	3	1
8	23/6/022	81	4	-	4	1
9	24/6/022	81	-	-	-	-
10	25/6/022	61	2	-	2	-
11	26/6/022	57	1	-	1	-
12	27/6/022	73	1	-	1	-
13	28/6/22	77	1	-	1	-
14	29/6/022	71	1	-	1	1
15	30/6/022	67	3	-	3	2
16	1/7/022	78	1	-	1	-
17	2/7/022	82	2	-	2	1
18	3/7/022	74	2	-	2	-
19	4/7/022	83	2	-	2	-

SN	Date	Total Content	Children Coverage			
			Total	Front Page	Inner Page	Photos
20	5/7/022	104	2	-	2	1
21	6/7/022	86	2	1	1	1
22	7/7/022	85	4	-	4	1
23	8/7/022	71	-	-	-	-
24	9/7/022	73	2	-	2	1
25	10/7/022	76	-	-	-	-
26	11/7/022	82	-	-	-	-
27	12/7/022	86	3	-	3	1
28	13/7/022	70	2	-	2	1
29	14/7/022	95	-	-	-	-
30	15/7/022	82	1	-	1	-
31	16/7/022	70	2	-	2	-
32	17/7/022	90	-	-	-	-
33	18/7/022	84	-	-	-	-
34	19/7/022	90	1	-	1	-
35	20/7/022	69	-	-	-	-
36	21/7/022	94	3	-	3	-
37	22/7/022	80	-	-	-	-
38	23/7/022	86	2	-	2	-
39	24/7/022	69	-	-	-	-
40	25/7/022	84	-	-	-	-
41	26/7/022	87	3	-	3	1

SN	Date	Total Content	Children Coverage			
			Total	Front Page	Inner Page	Photos
42	27/7/022	90	2	1	1	1
43	28/7/022	87	-	-	-	-
44	29/7/022	92	1	-	1	1
45	30/7/022	68	1	-	1	-
46	31/7/022	75	-	-	-	-
47	1/8/022	79	-	-	-	-
48	2/8/022	101	1	-	1	-
49	3/8/022	100	-	-	-	-
50	4/8/022	83	1	-	1	1
51	5/8/022	88	1	-	1	-
52	6/8/022	74	1	-	1	-
53	7/8/022	71	3	-	3	1
54	8/8/022	94	3	-	3	1
55	9/8/022	82	1	-	1	-
56	10/8/022	89	-	-	-	-
57	11/8/022	94	2	-	2	1
58	12/8/022	78	-	-	-	-
59	13/8/022	74	1	-	1	-
60	14/8/022	67	1	-	1	-

*Table 19: Coverage of children-related contents in Gorkhapatra daily (16th June, to 14th August, 2022)*

## Annex 2.2 Coverage of children-related contents in Kantipur daily

SN	Date	Total Content	Children Coverage			
			Total	Front Page	Inner Page	Photos
1	16/6/022	36	2	-	2	-
2	17/6/022	40	-	-	-	-
3	18/6/022	22	3	-	3	3
4	19/6/022	27	-	-	-	-
5	20/6/022	44	1	1	-	-
6	21/6/022	14	3	-	3	2
7	22/6/022	30	2	-	2	1
8	23/6/022	38	1	-	1	1
9	24/6/022	35	1	-	1	1
10	25/6/022	41	-	-	-	-
11	26/6/022	35	-	-	-	-
12	27/6/022	36	-	-	-	-
13	28/6/22	21	1	-	1	1
14	29/6/022	34	-	-	-	-
15	30/6/022	35	-	-	-	-
16	1/7/022	32	-	-	-	-
17	2/7/022	20	1	1	-	1
18	3/7/022	38	-	-	-	-
19	4/7/022	37	2	-	2	1
20	5/7/022	33	-	-	-	-
21	6/7/022	32	-	-	-	-



SN	Date	Total Content	Children Coverage			
			Total	Front Page	Inner Page	Photos
22	7/7/022	35	-	-	-	-
23	8/7/022	31	-	-	-	-
24	9/7/022	19	-	-	-	-
25	10/7/022	42	-	-	-	-
26	11/7/022	32	-	-	-	-
27	12/7/022	34	1	-	1	-
28	13/7/022	37	1	-	1	3
29	14/7/022	41	-	-	-	-
30	15/7/022	44	-	-	-	-
31	16/7/022	24	2	-	2	-
32	17/7/022	37	-	-	-	-
33	18/7/022	36	-	-	-	-
34	19/7/022	37	-	-	-	-
35	20/7/022	33	1	-	1	-
36	21/7/022	31	-	-	-	-
37	22/7/022	44	-	-	-	-
38	23/7/022	17	-	-	-	-
39	24/7/022	29	-	-	-	-
40	25/7/022	39	-	-	-	-
41	26/7/022	33	1	-	1	1
42	27/7/022	41	-	-	-	-
43	28/7/022	33	-	-	-	-

SN	Date	Total Content	Children Coverage			
			Total	Front Page	Inner Page	Photos
44	29/7/022	36	-	-	-	-
45	30/7/022	25	1	-	1	-
46	31/7/022	42	2	-	2	-
47	1/8/022	35	-	-	-	-
48	2/8/022	27	-	-	-	-
49	3/8/022	26	-	-	-	-
50	4/8/022	36	1	-	1	-
51	5/8/022	28	1	-	1	3
52	6/8/022	19	-	-	-	-
53	7/8/022	31	-	-	-	-
54	8/8/022	40	-	-	-	-
55	9/8/022	39	-	-	-	-
56	10/8/022	36	1	-	1	1
57	11/8/022	44	-	-	-	-
58	12/8/022	31	-	-	-	-
59	13/8/022	20	-	-	-	-
60	14/8/022	43	1	-	1	-

*Table 20: Coverage of children-related contents in Kantipur daily (16th June, to 14th August, 2022)*

## **ANNEX- III: CONTENT TITLES PUBLISHED IN PRINT MEDIA**

### **Annex 3.1 Content titles published in Gorkhapatra daily**

#### **June 16, 2022**

1. Commitment to make a child-friendly municipality (3 columns, 1 photo)

#### **June 17, 2022**

No children related content.

#### **June 18, 2022**

1. Corona vaccination for children (1 column, no photo)
2. Lactation room in government agency (2 columns, no photo)

#### **June 19, 2022**

No children related content.

#### **June 20, 2022**

1. 2.2 million doses of vaccine for children arrived (2 columns, 1 photo, included on the first page)
2. Class new, book old (3 columns, no image)
3. Child dies in car accident (1 column, no photo)

#### **June 21, 2022**

1. Immunization of children (1 column, no image)
2. Demand to end child labor (1 column, 1 photo)
3. Three children begging for a living (3 columns, no photo)
4. Children's news com (3 columns, 1 photo)
5. Students regular after lunch (3 columns, 1 photo)

#### **June 22, 2022**

1. Child marriage protection campaign (3 columns, 1 photo)
2. Vandalism at children's correctional facility (1 column, no photo)
3. Children of salaries in government (1 column, no photo)

**June 23, 2022**

1. Immunization for children from today (2 columns, no image)
2. Corona vaccine for children (2 columns, no photo)
3. Children's hospital closed for years (4 columns, 1 photo)
4. Urlabari to be made child labor free (2 columns, no photo)

**June 24, 2022**

No children related content.

**June 25, 2022**

1. Girl injured in earthquake (1 column, no photo)
2. Malnourished children in nutritional rehabilitation homes (1 column, no photo)

**June 26, 2022**

1. Two children drowned while swimming in the pond (1 column, no photo)

**June 27, 2022**

1. Lack of educational materials in child development classes (2 columns, no photo)

**June 28, 2022**

1. Difficulty going to school for HIV infected people (1 column, no photo)

**June 29, 2022**

1. Students addicted to drugs (4 columns, 1 photo)

**June 30, 2022**

1. "Increase investment in nutrition improvement" (4 columns, 1 photo)
2. Support to girl child by municipality (1 column, no photo)
3. Children learning to plant (2 columns, 1 photo)

**July 1, 2022**

1. Child goes missing while swimming (1 column, no photo)

**July 2, 2022**

1. Injured girl dies in hospital (1 column, no photo)
2. Specialized children's hospital to be run in Damak (4 columns, 1 photo)

**July 3, 2022**

1. Banganga child labor-free (1 column, no photo)
2. Five-year-old girl raped (1 column, no photo)

**July 4, 2022**

1. 5 to 12-year-olds vaccinated against covid (1 column, no image)
2. Child dies after falling into ditch (1 column, no photo)

**July 5, 2022**

1. Against the standards of children's homes in the city (4 columns, 1 photo)
2. Child dies due to electrocution (1 column, no photo)

**July 6, 2022**

1. Life in the palm of your hand, focus on reading (3 columns, 1 photo, published as original news on the first page)
2. Commitment to create child labor free municipality (1 column, no photo)

**July 7, 2022**

1. Father in jail, children abandoned (2 Columns, 1 Photo)
2. Death by drowning in a drum (1 column, no photo)
3. Two girls missing in Koshi (2 columns, no photo)
4. Making Kosi child labor free (2 columns, no photo)

**July 8, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 9, 2022**

1. Death of a young climber (2 columns, 1 photo)

2. Strategies to Prevent Child Marriage (2 columns, no photo)

**July 10, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 11, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 12, 2022**

1. Allowance for unaccompanied children (1 column, no image)
2. Students are carried on their shoulders and drawn open (2 columns, 1 photo)
3. Child injured when mother beats him (3 columns, no photo)

**July 13, 2022**

1. A wave of progeny (2 columns, no photo)
2. A pencil stuck in the trachea was removed (2 columns, photo of a 6-3-year-old child's news)

**July 14, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 15, 2022**

1. Free heart test for children (1 column, no image)

**July 16, 2022**

1. Two children drowned in Bagmati (1 column, no photo)
2. Malnutrition treatment service launched (1 column, no photo)

**July 17, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 18, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 19, 2022**

1. Families hoping to find missing persons: more than a thousand women and children without contact (2 columns, no photo)

**July 20, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 21, 2022**

1. Arrested on girl child abuse charges (1 column, no photo)
2. Two children drowned in water tank (1 column, no photo)
3. Safe rescue of abducted girl child (2 columns, no photo)

**July 22, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 23, 2022**

1. Educational material for children (1 column, no image)
2. Death of three children (2 columns, no photo)

**July 24, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 25, 2022**

No children related content.

**26 July, 2022**

1. Students from Thami community have difficulty reaching high school (1 column, no photo)
2. Punishment for students (3 columns, 1 photo, article)
3. Birthday at the orphanage (1 column, no photo)

**July 27, 2022**

1. Adeno infections in children (1 column, no image, included in first page)
2. Campaign against child marriage (3 columns, 1 photo)

**28 July**

No children related content.

**July 29, 2022**

1. Five-five thousand in the account of 56 daughters (1 column, 1 photo)

**July 30, 2022**

1. Patient pressure in the hospital: fever and respiratory problems in children (3 columns, no photo)

**July 31, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 1, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 2, 2022**

1. Orphans growing up in orphanages (3 columns, no photo)

**August 3, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 4, 2022**

1. Malnourished children in rehabilitation home (2 columns, 1 photo)

**August 5, 2022**

1. Rescue of stranded children (1 column, no photo)

**August 6, 2022**

1. Thirty-two people drowned (1 column, no photo)

**August 7, 2022**

1. Additional cost of treatment for children suffering from cancer (1 column, no photo)
2. Child's death by drowning (1 column, no photo)
3. Free for destitute, children and elderly: hair cut Rs.50 only (3 columns, 1 photo)



**August 8, 2022**

1. Milk for children at school (3 columns, has photo)
2. Children's garden in the temple premises (1 column, no photo)
3. Unprotected children to be managed (2 columns, no image)

**August 9, 2022**

1. Two girls lost in river not found (1 column, no photo)

**August 10, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 11, 2022**

1. Education camp for children (3 columns, 1 photo)
2. Monkey pox in children too (1 column, no photo, foreign news- Germany)

**August 12, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 13, 2022**

1. Vaccination against Covid for children (3 columns, no image)

**August 14, 2022**

1. Supporting educational materials for children (1 column, no image)

## **Annex 3.2 Content titles published in Kantipur daily**

### **June 16, 2022**

1. 79 people committed suicide in 11 months (3 columns, no photo)
2. Girl's death by drowning (1 column, no photo)

### **June 17, 2022**

No children related content.

### **June 18, 2022**

1. Woman sentenced for infanticide, man acquitted (3 columns, 1 photo)
2. Flooding in classrooms, studying in libraries and laboratories (6 columns, 1 photo)
3. Children targeted by leopards (3 columns, 1 photo)

### **June 19, 2022**

No children related content.

### **June 20, 2022**

1. Vaccination for children aged 5-11 years (1 column, no image, included on first page)

### **June 21, 2022**

1. Debate on lowering the age to reduce child marriage (5 columns, 1 photo)
2. Indoor confinement in chains (4 columns, 1 photo)

### **June 22, 2022**

1. Malnourished children are losing their lives, the government is spending cores on the temple (5 columns, 1 photo)
2. Sale of Nobel medals to help war-affected children (1 column, no photo, Russia/foreign news)

**June 23, 2022**

1. Out-of-school education for children (2 columns, 1 photo, opinion page article)

**June 24, 2022**

1. The children's correctional center is the arena of crime and drugs! (4 columns, 1 photo)

**June 25, 2022**

No children's content

**June 26, 2022**

No children's content

**June 27, 2022**

No children's content

**June 28, 2022**

1. Abortion laws trap women and girls (6 columns, 1 photo, and full page in third page)

**June 29, 2022**

No children's content

**June 30, 2022**

No children's content

**July 1, 2022**

No children's content

**July 2, 2022**

1. "What is the drug that gives birth to a son?" Stories of mothers who gave birth to seven, eight, nine and ten children in hopes of a son (2 columns, 1 photo, main news, included in the first page)

**July 3, 2022**

No children's content

**July 4, 2022**

1. Even though there is a budget, when Kanti does not buy the machine, the patient gets 'whole blood' (3 columns, 1 photo)
2. An additional 2.3 million vaccines arrived for ages 5 to 11 (3 columns, no image)

**July 5, 2022**

No children's content

**July 6, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 7, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 8, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 9, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 10, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 11, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 12, 2022**

1. Family in child rearing (1 column, 1 photo, open page article)

**July 13, 2022**

1. "Younger players need to be protected" (3 columns, 3 photos)

**July 14, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 15, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 16, 2022**

1. Two children drowned in Bagmati (1 column, no photo)
2. Malnutrition treatment service launched (1 column, no photo)

**July 17, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 18, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 19, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 20, 2022**

1. Baby born on stretcher (4 columns, no photo)

**July 21, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 22, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 23, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 24, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 25, 2022**

No children related content.

**26 July, 2022**

1. Dormitory facilitates studying (4 columns, 1 photo)

**July 27, 2022**

No children related content.

**28 July**

No children related content.

**July 29, 2022**

No children related content.

**July 30, 2022**

1. No investigation into drug use at juvenile correctional facility (3 columns, no photo)

**July 31, 2022**

1. Juvenile arrested on charges of raping 6 girls (1 column, no photo)
2. Adenovirus in children (3 columns, no image)

**August 1, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 2, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 3, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 4, 2022**

1. 16-year-old in jail for 9 months (1 column, no photo)

**August 5, 2022**

1. Incomplete breastfeeding (5 columns, full page news story, 3 photos)

**August 6, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 7, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 8, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 9, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 10, 2022**

1. Life-world for young students (2 columns, 1 photo, published in view column)

**August 11, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 12, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 13, 2022**

No children related content.

**August 14, 2022**

1. Child separation after parents leave (2 columns, no photo)