

# **CHAPTER- ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

The Tourism industry in Nepal has been flourishing and growing primarily due to its incomparable tourist attractions despite having very basic and even inadequate accommodation, accessibility and other ancillary facilities and services. In general term “Tourism” denotes the journey of human beings from one place to another, where it may be within own country or second countries for various purposes. Nepal has been one of the popular tourist destinations in the global tourist market and has been offering unique tourist activities like mountaineering adventure and soft trekking and cultural tours, jungle safari, wilderness trek and other various sport and adventure tourist activities. Tourism is important and is a key industry for the development of Nepal (Thapa, 2003).

Nepal, the developing country in south Asia is considered as a visual paradise which is situated between China in the north and India in the south. Tourism has been the major source of revenue in Nepal. According to Goeldner et al. (2000) “ Tourism is a composite activities, services, and industries that delivers a travel experience: transportation, accommodations, eating and drinking establishments, shops; entertainment, activity facilities, and other hospitality services for individuals or groups that are travelling away from home.” Though small development in tourism sector, the country can benefit by generate foreign currency and employment opportunities and hence contributing to overall development of the nation’s economy forty-two percent of total employment are created by tourism and they are totally depending on tourism for their livelihood. UNWTO define tourism as “Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in place outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purpose.

The tourism industry is one of the most dynamic and important sectors of socio-economic development in Nepal, playing a vital role in employment (Pandey, 2003). Thousands of trekkers and tourists visit Nepal’s protected areas each year to view wildlife, climb or see mountains and experience indigenous cultures and traditions.

The government of Nepal recognizes tourism as a priority sector because it is a major contributor to Nepal's economy, generating about US\$ 170 million annually (MoCTCA, 2001). Tourism is Nepal's major earner of foreign exchange dollars and represents 15% of total export earnings, which also provides direct and indirect employment for over 300,000 people. An estimated 30% of Nepalese depend on tourism for their livelihood (Pandey, 2003). However, due to the lack of effective tourism development plans, policies and strategies, Nepal has not yet achieved the optimum success from tourism (Niroula, 2003).

The word "Tourism" derived from French word 'Tour'. The word "Tourism" was for the first time described in the Oxford English Dictionary in 1811. The word "Tourism" which was originated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and was popularized in 1930s, but its significance was not fully realized until today when 'tourism' has a wider meaning and significance (Satyal, 1988). According to the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), travel and tourism: generate about 12% of global GDP, and contributes to an average of 40% of GDP in developing economies. Accounted for more than 235 million jobs in 2010 (equivalent to about 8% of total employment) and is forecasted to increase to 324 million (or 9.7% of total employment by 2012, equivalent to one in ten jobs), Account for 36% of service exports in advanced countries and 66% in developing economies, Is the main source of foreign exchange for 47 of the World's 50 least developed countries." Tourism is not only the source of foreign currency exchange; it is also the way of understanding the people and culture of the rest of the world. The small development in tourism in the particular region can benefit the local people. So the government of the Nepal should focus on promoting the tourism and at the same time they should keep in mind about the future generation.

Tourism embraces all movements of people outside their community for all purpose except migration or regular/daily work. The most frequent reason for this is for holiday but it will also include for example attendance at conferences and movement on sporadic or in frequent business purposes. Tourism is a multi-faceted industry, which promotes cottage industries trade and other services sectors. UNWTO (2002) argues that through its potential for job creation, linkages with the local economy, foreign exchange earnings and its multiplier effect, tourism can lead to economic

growth and economic development. It is also regarded as a labor intensive industry and it provides good employment opportunities at different levels.

In 1976, tourism society of England defined tourism as “Tourism is the temporary short term movement of people to destinations outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at these destinations. It includes movement of people for all purpose as well as day visits or excursions” (Ghimire, 2002). (Cited in NTB, 2011) The significance of tourism in Nepal is not confined to the economic aspect only but also to environmental and cultural aspects. Although, the country is economically poor, it is rich in its natural, cultural heritage and the economic exploitation of this heritage can only be possible through the development of tourism. The major economic activity is agriculture and the rest includes manufacturing, trade, commerce and services. The main sources of foreign currency earnings are merchandise export, services, tourism and Gurkha remittance from abroad.

The Department of Tourism was established in 1996 under the tourism development act, and the process went on after the establishment of the tourist service center and the Nepal tourism board (NTB). Over the past decade, the NTB has been strongly involved in promoting tourism, beside this; NTB has been proactively involved in farming policies and program for the regional development and the poverty reduction. NTB has been involved in the development of different tourism projects such as tourism for rural poverty alleviation program, sustainable tourism network, and marketing assistance to Nepal for sustainable tourism products, training on project facilitation and management in sustainable tourism development and training on sustainable tourism marketing linkages.

In the economic arena of Nepal, tourism plays a very important role. Tourism has been identified as an important source of foreign exchange earnings as an industry creating opportunities and generating economic growth of the country (Shrestha, 1978). Considering the historical background geographical situation and socio-cultural wealth there are enormous touristic potentialities in Nepal. It offers nature based tourism activities like trekking, mountaineering, rafting as well as culture. Considering all these potentialities, there is adequate prospect to develop tourism in

the country. Over all tourism plays a vital role in the process of national development which is a boon to country like Nepal with other limited resources.

After the election in April 2008 Nepal has been declared a republic country at on May 2008. From this point forward tourism in Nepal has been encouraged by the recent stabilization of the political situation and it is expecting more intensive growth in the tourism industry. Beside this the political parties in the parliament also committed to the tourism as the back bone for the Nepalese economy. Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) is promoting new Nepal as a new tourist brand name and the state budget for the touristic sector is also growing. The vision of Nepalese tourism is establishing the Nepal Tourism Board as the leading organization for championing the innovative practices of destination marketing and development of the tourism sector. The most important vision is to promote Nepal as the number one mountain-based tourism destination in the world as a brand. This helps to maximize the tourism benefits by developing Nepal as a premier holiday destination in the world (NTB, 2013).

Despite enormous potentiality tourism has a belated beginning in Nepal. The Department of Tourisms started to keep different data relating to tourism since 1962. Planned approach to tourism started in 1970s. Previous tourism related studies in the literature, which has a significant amount of work revolving around the impact of tourism, witnessed concepts and theories that were borrowed or adopted mainly from other branches of social science, including geography, though, many researcher failed to recognize their origin (Goeldner, 2000).

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Due to geographical and climatic variations, different ethnic varieties and their corresponding religion and culture, Nepal has great potential of tourism and which can be considered as the backbone of Nepalese economy (Nepal, 2003). Nepal is known for its engaging charm, a rich cultural heritage and a people steeped in a glorious tradition and ever willing to smile. The people of Nepal are a diverse group and attract as many ethnic group are the Tharu, who lives in the low land Tarai. In some instances, cultural resources are formally identified for touristic purpose. Tourism is a form of interaction between different cultures and customs of the visitors and the host community. This interaction has a wide range of impact not only

economic benefits but also has a social, cultural and environmental implication as well. Throughout the world, the most compelling reason for pursuing tourism as a development strategy is its alleged positive contribution to the local or national economy (Sharpley, 2004).

Since the designation of Chitwan as a national park in 1973, there has been considerable activity on the social and economic fronts in and around the nearby village of Sauraha. This has brought a multitude of transformations into the socio-economic and cultural and activities of the villagers. According to Timilsina (2007) Chitwan National park is famous for its biodiversity in terms of flora and fauna, plus for its outstanding natural features. Since the establishment of Chitwan National Park and its declaration as a world heritage site in 1984, it has become part of the “tourist gaze” (Urry, 1992), and has attracted many domestic and foreign tourists. In the meantime, tourism has pulled hill-based peoples away from the hilly regions of Nepal, and the local people have been displaced from their homelands due to the tourism development initiatives.

According to Cukier (2004), tourism creates a multitude of employment opportunities in both the formal and informal sectors, and in this regard, tourism in Nepal has encouraged investors to invest in tourism businesses, creating employment opportunities since the establishment of the national park. However, the local community has not benefited that much in comparison to other hill dwelling migrants, as it has distributed power unequally and the local people have been marginalized. Local people are not able to compete with the hill migrants due to the unequal power relations that exist. The major tourism-related business activities are managed by the hill migrants rather than the local people, and as the hill migrants have more knowledge and are technically skilled, they have been able to gain higher position. In contrast, the local people have found them working in lower position due to their inferior economic power.

In the context of Nepal, resources have been distributed very unethically both from the state policy level and the local level. There were many possibilities in the field of tourism. The country has been able to show economic growth rate that might be considered sufficiently high and sustainable to take care of the chronic poverty, unemployment and lack of economic opportunities. Nowadays, Nepalese people are

involved in many sectors, and certainly, tourism is one of the key industries for developing countries like Nepal. The problem is mainly due to conventional type of tourism growing in tourism field. This type of tourism has led the inequitable economic development where only the investor are getting benefit but local are not getting as much benefit as hoteliers. So have an equitable socio-economic benefit for all i.e. local people and entrepreneurs tourism should be developed in the area which not only uplift the socio-economic condition of the local people but also promote of the environmental protection of the local area thus helping in multi-dimensional sustainable development.

In this backdrop, a number of questions could be raised with regard to the tourism-related activities and their social, economic, environmental impacts in Sauraha. The questions were as follows.

- a) What are the tourism- related activities in Sauraha?
- b) How do the local people participate in these activities?
- c) What are main benefits from the participations in these activities?
- d) What are main efforts made so far towards promoting tourism in the area?
- e) What are social, economic and environmental impacts of the tourism related activities in the area?
- f) What are the future prospects of the development of tourism activities in the area?
- g) What are the main problems associated with the development of tourism in the area?

A micro level study of tourism related activities and their impacts on the lives of the local people of Sauraha would perhaps answer the above questions.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The general objective of this study was to analyze the tourism related activities and their social, economic and environmental impacts in Sauraha. The specific objectives of the study were set as follows:

- a) To prepare the current profile of tourism in Sauraha;
- b) To analyze the participation of the local people in the tourism related activities;  
and
- c) To assess the socio-economic and environmental impacts of tourism in the area.

### **1.4 Rationale of the Study**

This is a sociological study of socio-economic impact of tourism in local level. Various efforts have been made for the development of tourism in Nepal. Visit Nepal year 1998 and 2011 is also such an effort in order to develop and enhance the image of Nepal in the world tourism market. In this respect many studies on tourism have been carried out by various agencies, tourism the master plan 1972, review of master plan in 1984, Nepal tourism development programmed (1997) carried out by Asian development bank are the major studies on tourism. These studies, however do not seem to address economic issues adequately. Thus, this study is carried out to identify the economic impact of tourism in Nepalese tourism market and suggest strategies to solve the problem for the continuous and sustained development of tourism in the country.

This study will be helpful theoretically as a literature to the forthcoming and those who are interested to accumulated knowledge of this issue. The present study has to be academic as well as practical significance. Academically, this study has made an effort to analyze the existing socio-economic impact, especially in the tharu community of that particular area and their present socio-economic status. This is a way will reveal the relationship between the nature, the indigenous people and the outside interventions. In addition this the finding will also have some practical utilities. Practically, this research would be informative to policy maker, student of the related field.

## **CHAPTER- TWO**

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

World tourism organization has defined "Tourism" imprecise tend as "Any person who travels to a country other than that is which he/she has his/her the usual residence, but outside his/her usual environment, for a period of at other than the exercise of an activity, remuneration from within the country visited. Term includes people traveling for, leisure, recreation and holidays, visiting friends, relatives, business and professional, health treatment, religion, pilgrimages and other purposes."

Tourism is an important source of foreign exchange for many developing countries. In Nepal, tourism is important not only because it is an important source of foreign exchange but also it is a major employment generating industry. Foreign exchange earnings from tourism stood at US\$ 192.8 million in 2003. It emerged with a general consensus that it not only increase foreign exchange earnings but also creates employment opportunities. Similarly international tourism receipts reached US\$ 1,075 billion worldwide in 2012, up from US\$ 1,042 billion in 2011 (UNWTO, 2013). Despite of increasing importance of tourism, it has attracted relatively little attention the literature in general and economic impact analysis in particular. Tourism comprises the activities of persons traveling to and staying in places outside, their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes (WTO, 1999).

In Nepal, despite the belated start of formal tourism after the restoration of democracy in 1952, it gained remarkable growth over the years. Nepal has been paying an increased attention for the development of tourism from the very beginning since it welcomed foreign visitors after the advent of democracy in 1951. Therefore, tourism has a belated start in Nepal compared to other countries. In 1962, 6179 tourists travelled Nepal by air (MOTCA, 2010). It is estimated to be around one million in 2011 including the arrivals of foreigners by land. Nowadays, Nepal caters more than half million tourists and earns foreign currency equivalent of about NRS 16,825 million. The most frequent reason for this movement is for holiday, but it will also include for example; attendances at conference and movement on sporadic or infrequent business purpose. Direct employment through tourism industry in the



world is believed to be 212 million. Every ninth person in the world is engaged in tourism and travel industry for livelihood (Sharma, 2000).

## **2.1 Development of tourism in Nepal**

The history of tourism in Nepal is not so long. After the advent of democracy in 1951 Nepal followed on open door policy. On May 29, 1953 late Mr. Tenzing Norgay and Mr. Edmund Hillary scaled Mt. Everest and world's attention was focused to Nepal and subsequently a tourism industry began to develop. When the department of tourism was established in 1966, under the tourism development act 1964, the systematic recording of tourism started in Nepal. Although the tourism administration machinery has existed since 1956 tourism sector was further promoted only after the former royal Nepal airlines corporation (now known as Nepal airlines cooperation) came into being in 1958 (Pradhan, 1995).

Chhetri et al. in 1993 made a case study of Chitwan on 'effects of tourism on culture and environment.' The study revealed that RCNP Chitwan is the third most important destination of the tourists visiting Nepal. Tourism as per the study has played a main role in employment generation in Sauraha. Variety of jobs in resorts and lodges ranged from room guide work, cooking, dining room, room boys. Bhaju (1987) has made a comparative study on tourism in Nagarkot and Dhulikhel. In this study she has analyzed the situation of tourist inflow and its environment and socio-economic impact in the study area. This study shows that the numbers of visitors in Nagarkot and Dhulikhel has been in increasing trend. She also found that development of hotel in these places is directly to tourism and tourism has provided job opportunity to the local peoples.

Regmi (1991) had made a study on the prospects of tourism development in and around Tansen from the study he found Tansen as a prospective tourism center in Nepal. Natural beauty of Tansen and surrounding areas were found to be quite favorable for tourism development. Tourists were mainly found to visit for sightseeing and recreation and majority of them were between 16-45 years in age. Art and architecture of old temples are also found equally important for promotion of tourism. Besides this, the study also found the potentiality of Tansen as a base camp for trekkers in future.

Shrestha (1995) argued the concern of the level of use in related to the carrying capacity of the local tourism resources and congestion for the locals and tourists as well. Over use of an area may result in several adverse effects on local environment, thus reducing user's satisfaction. One implication of the information on use level is that it facilitates managers to take necessary steps to maintain a balance use so that the users draw optimum satisfaction from their trips.

Pradhan (1995) made a study to examine tourism planning in Nepal and conducted a case study of tourism in Nagarkot. Specifically, the study examined the concepts and theories of tourism, the efforts made by the Nepalese planners for the development of tourism, the legal framework and institutional arrangements for the tourism development in Nepal, and the growth of tourism in Nagarkot. The study shows that tourists generally visit Nagarkot for mountain viewing, sightseeing, peace and relax, viewing sunrise, visiting tribal village, ecotourism trekking and bird watching. Thus the study reveals potentiality to develop tourism in Nagarkot due to these different tourist attractions.

Baral (1998) has studied on the prospects of ecotourism in began and Rupa lake watershed area. In this study the natural resources such a lake, forest, wildlife as well as unique local culture of these areas were found suited for expanding and promoting ecotourism. During the study the impact of tourism is seen to have influenced to some extent in the employment, education, transportation, agriculture, communication, culture, and industry business sectors.

## **2.2 Current profile of tourism in Sauraha**

Tourism is a multidisciplinary activity corresponding several industries and creating a variety of impact. It ultimately increase the foreign exchange earnings, generates employment opportunity and increases income again the resultant income flows being circulation in the economy encourages for other economic activities to take place including many rounds of income. Tourism may have some costs in the economy and prominent one can be the environment pollution. In addition, other potential costs include seasonal employment; availability of low status jobs; inflation; crime; leakage of revenues and over dependency on tourism etc. (UNESCAP, 2001). In Nepal, tourism is important not only because it is an important source of foreign exchange

but also it is a major employment generating industry. Foreign exchange earnings from tourism stood at US\$ 192.8 million in 2003. Contribution of tourism to the GDP of the nation was 2.6% and it also provides 8.2% of the total foreign exchange earnings during 2002/2003 (MOF, 2004).

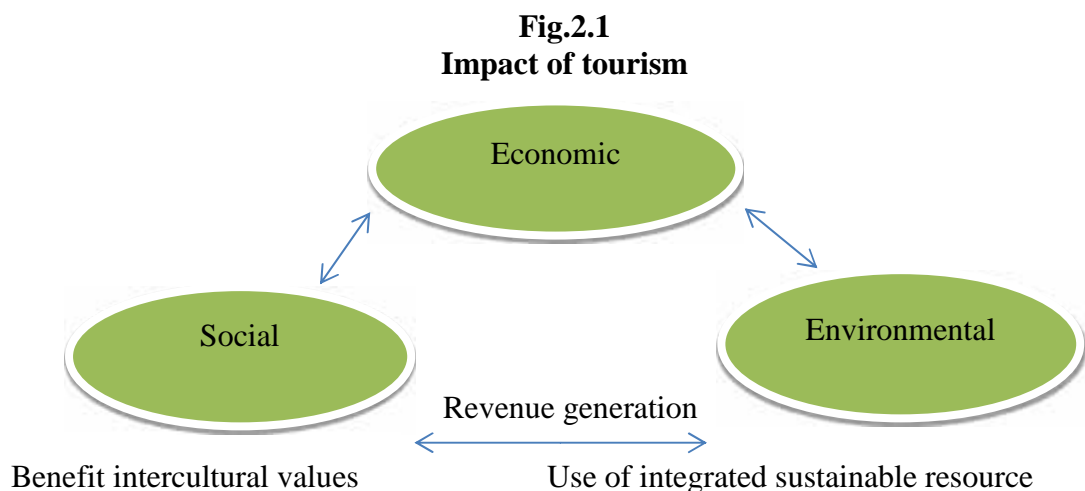
Chitwan has its unique image in the world tourism destination as nature, wildlife and exceptional culture. Chitwan National Park and unique Tharu culture is the center of attraction of Chitwan district. The village of Sauraha, located in close proximity to Chitwan National Park, is connected with Tandri village by a six kilometer seasonal road. Sauraha is the name given to settlement located in and outside the national park. The importance of Chitwan National Park as a tourist destination and therefore of Sauraha is indicated by the growing number of tourists visiting these place. Since the designation of Chitwan as a national park in 1973, there has been considerable activity on the social and economic fronts in and around the nearby village of Sauraha. Chitwan National Park (932 sq.km and buffer zone: 750 sq.km) is the first national park of Nepal. Along with this Chitwan is very famous with two distinct cultures, Chapang at north hilly region and Tharu at southern plain (Subedi, 2010).

A number of non-indigenous peoples arrived in Chitwan after the successful eradication of malaria from Chitwan in the mid 1950's. The Land Settlement Commission of 1964 resettled 22,000 people in the Chitwan Valley (Gautam, 2005). As soon as the migrants arrived in Chitwan, some of them took over the lands of the local indigenous people and subsequently forced them to be bonded laborers (a system of keeping each generation of people at home for the purpose of workers and servants). Consequently, that domination of the hill migrants over the indigenous people not only displaced them, but marginalized and made them landless. As a result of immigration, the Tharus of Chitwan were largely landless. Following the establishment of the CNP in 1973, the park policy of resource restriction further marginalized the Tharu.

### 2.3 Impacts of tourism

Tourism reaches into the varied aspects of Nepalese life and it generates employment opportunities and helps in the promotion and conservation of art and culture. As it has multidimensional effect on the economy (Gautam 2008b) it is believed that tourism has enormous potential to be an engine and dynamo of economic growth in the country. Tourism sector has distinct link with other sector of the economy. It eventually helps for the industrial and commercial development as well as conservation of heritage and environment. Recently, tourism development in Nepal has become more relevant as the state is engaged in drafting a new constitution and transforming every sector of the economy. In fact, tourism is one of the pertinent sector of the Nepalese economy with comparative advantage and potential of transforming the economy.

The rapid growth of tourism and its potential as a development tool has given rise to increasingly pronounced economic, social and environmental effects. Mathieson and wall (1994) state that impacts of tourism are viewed as being more than the results of specific tourist's events. Impacts emerge in the form of altered human behavior which stems from the interactions between the agents of change and the subsystem on which they impinge. It means that tourists, local communities and environmental interactions create the impacts and all elements of tourism activities are affected by this interaction. Impacts can be positive as well as negative to tourists and host destination. It can be further divided into three components: economic, social and environmental.



The above mentioned fig. depicts the impact of tourism and they are commonly linked with each other.

### **2.3.1 Social impacts**

Having unexpected tourism growth in recent year, Nepal is now one of the most popular destinations around the world. Massive increases in tourism in the particular field generate economic as well as social benefit. At the same time the young generation is westernized, this may harm the uniqueness of the nation. Nepal, one of the developing countries in south Asia is now facing a massive problem with child prostitution. As already mentioned above, huge numbers of women and under aged-girl are working in dance restaurants and dance bar and has been a major problem for years. This is somehow linked with the poorness of the people as they are compelled to do such things for their livelihood ( (Pandey, 1995).

If the tourism development is focused on a particular place or only on the urban area, this may result the urban migration, which has negative impact on the economy as well as on the local environment. For example Sauraha, a small city in western development region in Nepal is one of the most visited tourism destination of Nepal. Many people want to buy land there and establish a hotel; consequently, the price of land is much higher than elsewhere in Nepal, this definitely results in economic imbalance. Secondly, the local people have to leave that place as they sold it although they get money instead of land. The money they get will be misused often for alcohol consumption and of course identity of local culture is lost (Pandey, 1995).Tourism also reduce negative perception and increase the self-esteem of the host community and the visitor.

### **2.3.2 Economic impacts**

There are a number of techniques to measure the economic impact of tourism as there are various concepts and concerns associated with expanding the economic benefits of Tourism (UNESCAP, 2001).Vast development of infrastructure and inflows of foreign currency into the host region shows that the tourism has been growing rapidly in recent years. Tourism has a wide economic impact on the host region and it can be classified on two levels. Firstly, the host region can benefit from foreign exchange earnings directly through transportation, lodging and from food. Secondly, tourism

makes a greater contribution to the host region through the taxation and employment created by the tourism industry. Tourism stimulates the trade income and entrepreneurship and helps to maintain the regional development. Tourism also generates money from the taxation, royalty and visa charges from the foreigners (Bista, 2006). A concept of homestay is being developed nowadays in Nepal so the visitors do not need to look for the hotel, they can stay anywhere even in the village instead. This is now creating an opportunity for house wives in Nepal to make some money in their own locality (NTB, 2011).

Wall and Mathieson (2006) argue that several factors contribute to the economic emphasis of the majority of tourism impact studies. Firstly, compared to physical and social impacts, economic impacts are relatively easy to measure where as physical and social impacts are difficult to quantify. Few researchers try to assess the qualitative aspects of tourism impacts. Secondly, there is a lack of availability reliable data on expenditure, employment, income and tax revenues should be readily available. So research on economic impact of tourism dominates the tourism research.

### **2.3.3 Environmental impacts**

The impacts of tourism are commonly linked with each other; when the mass visitation is occurred, it does not only affect the local culture and tradition at the same time this also has a greater negative impacts on the local environment. The environmental impact can be further divided into three areas; natural, manmade and cultural. The effects of tourism on naturally available resources include the effects on flora and fauna and as a result it degrades the local environment. Similarly, a concept of hunting tourism is getting wider and as a result the distinct and rare animals are having the worst situation. In Nepal, tourism attractions include some of the national parks, reserved areas and hunting sites.

As we all know the vast development of tourism may create environmental problems on the host region. This has been a major problem in developing nations. Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal, has about three and half million inhabitants and therefore the number of vehicles, hotel and restaurants has to be more but the manpower to maintain the waste and pollutants are less in comparison with the population. So the huge environmental problem has arisen and the same in Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh. Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world and located in Nepal. The

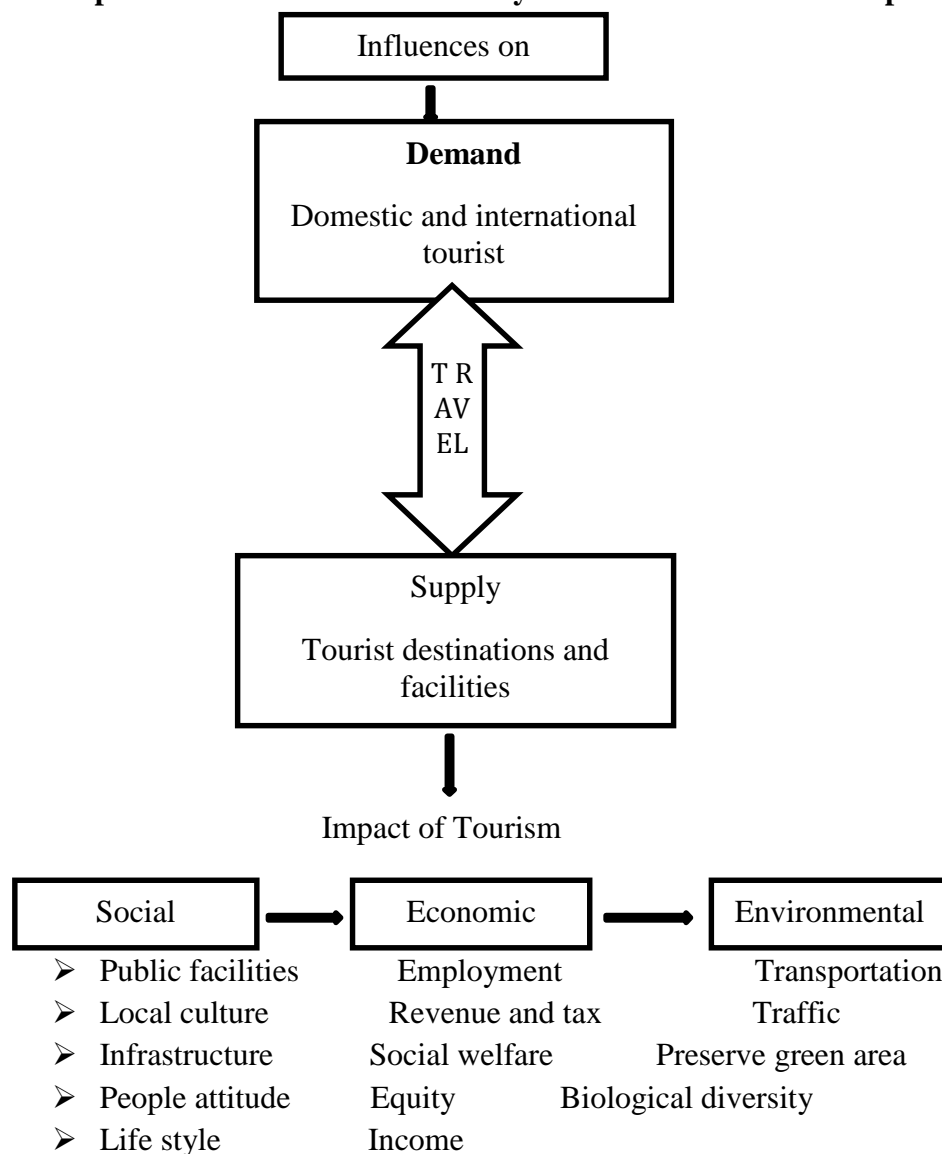
base camp of this peak is the holy place for climbers, but today the massive environmental problem has arisen, the base camp is littered with oxygen cylinders, debris and the dead bodies of failed climbers can be seen on the trail which mean the Mount Everest needs help and attention. It creates a Negative impact on environment.

#### 2.4 Conceptual framework for the study

Based on the review of literature as given above, a conceptual framework has been developed for the analysis of socio- economic impact of tourism.

The conceptual framework is presented in the form of a flow- chart as given in fig 2.2

**Fig 2.2: Conceptual framework for the analysis of socio- economic impacts of tourism**



As envisaged in the conceptual framework, the benefit of tourism cannot be evaluated in terms of economic benefit only. It has non-economic or social benefit also. It carries in it a range of socio-cultural, environmental, educational, political significance as well.

## **CHAPTER- THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Rationale for the selection of the study area**

The study was conducted in Sauraha, which is the part of Bachhuali village committee (VDC) in Chitwan district, located in central part of Terai region of Nepal. The distance from Kathmandu to Sauraha is 165 km. The total area of Bachhuli VDC is 23.96 sq.km and the total population of Bachhuali VDC is 10,443 that have 1,872 households (CBS, 2001). Among them the number of population of Tharu is 5,016 i.e. 48% of total population. Sauraha is also equally important from the view point of ethnic culture. Therefore this area would be appropriate for researcher to achieve the goals of proposed research. Most of the studies on the impact of tourism have been made at the national or state level and therefore are not directly appropriate to more limited geographical units. Several studies tried to measure economic impact of tourism and concluded about its significance for the economy. Thus this study will try to measure the socio-economic impact of tourism in local level.

#### **3.2 Research design**

The proposed study was adopting descriptive research design; the issue covered by the study was described in detail. Main purpose of the study is to describe the issues minutely rather than to analyze the causal sequences of the issues covered by the study.

#### **3.3 Nature and source of data**

Both primary and secondary data was used in this study. Basically, the primary data was collected from the field through observation and interview with local people. Secondary data was collected from the government and private agencies, hotel, trekking and rafting agencies, travel trade associations, ministry of finance, ministry of tourism and civil aviation, Nepal tourism board, central bureau of statistics and other published and unpublished document.



### **3.4 The Universe and the Sampling**

The universe of the study comprised all the people living in Sauraha area of Bachhauli VDC. This area is inhabited mainly by two broad categories of people they are: indigenous Tharu people and the people migrated from outsides. From the universe a sample of both Tharu and non-Tharu households was drawn by using convenience sampling technique. The Tharu or non- Tharu households whichever were available and accessible to the researcher during the field work were selected as sample. The total sample comprised 30 households.

### **3.5 Data collection technique**

#### **3.5.1 Structure Interview**

Since the main objective of the study is to assess the socio-economic and environmental impact of tourism, interview was an effective tool to investigate whether local people are benefited from tourism or not. I was standardized, scheduled interview to conduct interview with member of 30 sample households, 15 hotel owners and 15 employees and 10 tourists. For this, I was developed an interview schedule and ask questions to local people, hotel owner, employee working there and tourist. In this research a detail household survey was used to collect the information about age, sex, caste/ethnic composition, education, occupation, economic activities.

#### **3.5.2 Observation**

Both participant and non-participant observation were applied to collect essential information. But the participant observation were given highly priority to being a same community member and I fully participate with various activities in hotel owners, Tharu community, local people and I was talk informally with them about their socio-cultural, economic and environment condition. During my research, I observed the relationship between Tharu and tourist, hotel owner and tourist, local people and tourist. From my observation I found good co-operation between them. The dress pattern of local people, festivals arranged by the local people, food pattern and language of the local people are gradually changing in the study area. I observed the conversation between tourists and local people, hotel owner and Tharu people which helped me to know more about the relationships between them.

### **3.5.3 Household Survey**

Household survey technique was applied to get more information of Tharu community to collect cultural aspects, negative and positive impact of tourism and contribution to promote tourism by Tharu culture. The basic socio-demographic information of total beneficiary households such as family size, education, occupation (traditional occupation and foreign employment). The information collected by household survey has been used to analyze Tharu livelihood pattern and changing the level of education, family size, their involvement in different entrepreneurship (shifting occupation) and income, and mobility of men and women from villages.

### **3.6 Data analysis**

The collecting quantitative and qualitative data from the field was summarized and presented by using various diagrams and tables. The collected qualitative information will be presented in descriptive way.

### **3.7 Limitation of the Study**

This study was conducted for the partial fulfillment of the requirements of degree of M.A. in Sociology. The research itself is an investigation of new things; however, this study was constrained by time and resources. The study area is relatively is small in size and focus on socio-economic impact of tourism in Sauraha, Chitwan District. Therefore, the generalization outcome of the present study may not be able to generalize in the Tharu communities throughout Nepal. In addition, the study findings have their own specific limitations they are:

- i) Non-probability sampling design with non-random sampling procedure can be bias.
- ii) Small sample size of only 30 household may not be representing of whole Sauraha area.
- iii) The indicators of social, economic and environmental impacts may not be exhaustive.

Nonetheless, the study may pave ways for more reliable and valid research studies on the social, economic and environmental impacts of tourism in the area or other similar tourist's areas.

### **3.8 Ethical issue**

I was very much being concern about the ethical issue to my respondents during my research. I was not participate any other activities and discussion and debate that directly or indirectly harm the respondents or whole communities. Informants were not being forced to answer me and I was take permission before asking question and taking photos.

## **CHAPTER-FOUR**

### **THE SETTING AND THE SAMPLE**

#### **4.1 Setting of the study area**

##### **4.1.1 Bachhauli VDC: an overview**

Bachhauli is located in inner-Terai lowlands of the Chitwan district in the Narayani zone of south central Nepal, 166 km south east of the capital city of Kathmandu. The Bacchauli VDC lies north and east of Chitwan National Park (CNP). One of the major river of Nepal, the Rapti River lies between Bachhauli VDC and CNP. Geographically the VDC is situated in between 84°31'.30" to 84°33'.50" east longitude, 27°32'56.5" and 27°36' 10.8" north latitude. The VDC covers an area of about 2111.12 hectare. Bachhauli VDC is situated at south-east of Bharatpur municipality, south of Ratnanagar municipality, south-west of Khairhani VDC and west of Kumroj VDC. It is adjacent to Chitwan National Park and located at north of the national park.

The Bachhauli VDC lists the population of the Bachhauli VDC as 10, 905 (CBS2011) with a female and male population of 5,518 and 5387 respectively. Most residents live in traditional Tharu hosing but the numbers of concrete- built houses out are rising rapidly. According to report of the Bachhauli VDC 95% of total people depend upon agriculture. The main crops of this VDC were rice, maize, oil seed, pulse seed; wheat etc. There is good irrigation facility in study area. People keep various domestic animals to supplement their income. Literacy rate of Bachhauli VDC is 62.34%. There is one sub- health post and three medical shops providing health facilities, where people receive health services. Ratnanagar and Bharatpur cities are near from the study area. Most of the people like to come to the cities for their treatment rather than visiting the health post in village.

##### **4.1.2 Sauraha: the study site**

Sauraha, a part of Bachhauli, VDC, is located in the close proximity of the Chitwan National Park, is connected to Tandi and Chitrasari villages by 6 and 3 km respectively. However, Tandi, the entry point to Sauraha is situated on the east- west national highway, 5 km from the main city of Bharatpur. One can fly to Bharatpur

from Kathmandu and then to Chitrasari by a bus or a car. The motor able distance from Kathmandu to CNP is 165 km. Generally, most of the tourists go to Sauraha from Kathmandu by tourist bus. Tharu culture in Sauraha is the main reason for the large share of tourist arrivals over there. The distance from Kathmandu to the Chitwan National Park is 165 km and the road that connects them for the most part runs parallel to Trisuli River, a popular spot for whitewater rafting. In Tandil or Chitrasari the tourists making Sauraha their destination are taken by jeeps. It is also possible to visit Sauraha from India through the border towns of Birgunj and Bhairhawa in Nepal. According to NIDS, there are altogether 4422 Tharus and the remaining other population (5244) is composed of Brahmins, Chhetris, Newars, Khamis, Gurungs, Magars, Tamangs, Botes, Damais, Dunuwars and Dhobis in this VDC. The Tharu population of Sauraha village is approximately 200. Further to the south of Sauraha there is a dense forest and near it, there are few Tharu villages like Patna, Dhindauli and Marchauli in Padampur VDC.

Sauraha was declared buffer zone area of the Chitwan National Park in 1996. The total area of buffer zone area of The Park is 750sq.km. After the establishment of Chitwan National Park in 1973, Tharu residing inside the park were taken out and compelled to stay in the buffer zone area. Sauraha is the main tourist hub as it is the main entrance point to the park. The main reason of tourists to visit the Chitwan National Park is for wildlife tourism. Since the institution of Chitwan National Park in 1973, there have been considerable activities on the social and economic fronts in and around the village of Sauraha and this has brought transformations in socio-economic and cultural life and activities of the villagers.

## **4.2 Socio-economic characteristics of sample respondents**

### **4.2.1 Educational status**

Education plays vital role in aspects of people's life. Educational attainment is directly related to the economic status of the individual as well as the household. It is the important determinant of individual or household welfare. It has a positive impact on overall well-being of individual and society. Hence, Educational level of the respondents was considered as an important personal characteristic of the

respondents. Distribution of sample respondents by level of education is given in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1: Educational status of respondents**

Educational Attainment	Respondent	
	Numbers	Percentage
Illiterate	4	13.33
Primary level	12	40.00
Lower secondary level	5	16.67
Secondary level	4	13.33
Intermediate level	3	10.00
Bachelor level	2	6.67
Total	30	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

A large majority (86.67 percent) of the respondents are literate. The literates have received different levels of formal education. More than two-thirds (70.00 percent) of the respondents have SLC or below level of education and the rest (16.67 percent) have above SLC level of education. People who are educated are aware about tourism and related field. The literacy rate today in comparison to the late decades is seen increasing. This does not only refer to the educational development of the village but the very fact is changing the fundamental perception of the people towards tourism. People whose economic condition is poor are getting illiterate especially elder people and housewife.

People who are educated slowly left their traditional profession and engaged in tourism related activities. But some tharu farmers (elder, illiterate) are still involved in agriculture and animal husbandry. The education background of the employees is low. This is due to the economic condition of people. But the level of education among both men and women has increased these days after the influx of tourism. Local people are directly contacted with tourists so, contact between two societies with different cultures may bring about social changes to both groups.

#### 4.2.2 Occupational status

Occupation is an important socio- personal activity. It gives the social and economic personality. Occupation is the main factor that influences the people's economic status also. Most of the people in the study area depends different kind of business as a primary activity. The level of education determines the occupational level also because the person who is educated has the better living standard also. Therefore, occupation of the respondents is considered important socio-personal characteristics. Distribution of sample respondents by type of their occupation is given in Table 4.2.

**Table 4.2: Occupational status of respondents**

Occupation	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Agriculture	6	20.00
Foreign employment	5	16.67
Hotel business	3	10.00
Touristic works	7	23.33
Transportation	3	10.00
Government employment	2	6.67
Retail shop, handicrafts	4	13.33
Total	30	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Of the total 30 respondents, only 20 percent have taken-up agricultural activities as their occupation, while 80 percent are involved in non-agricultural activities. Among those involved in non-agricultural activities, majority (57 percent) have taken-up occupations which are directly or indirectly related with tourism activities and the rest are foreign employees( 16.67 percent) or government employees(6.67 percent). The occupations related with tourism sectors include touristic works (23.33 percent), retail shops and handicrafts (13.33 percent), transportation (10 percent) and hotel business (10 percent). In Sauraha different persons are involve in different occupation for their livelihood. Some peoples are involved in agriculture, business, touristic work (tourist guide, porter, elephant care taker, elephant rider (Moutes), trekking agency) and transporting occupation (driver, related to transport worker).

In Sauraha non-indigenous groups of people are directly involved in government job and other types of business rather than others. During my field work I found the people who are directly involved in tourism has high status and getting direct benefit also. Comparatively the outsiders and the non-resident Tharus of Sauraha have highly benefited from the tourism industry than the real residents of the villages. The main reason of economic gap between the natives of Sauraha is lack of knowledge and skills. Agriculture still plays an important role but since the majority of people in and around Sauraha are engaged in the tourist sector there is a serious shortage of labor force in agriculture. Since the forest was declared as park, neither are they allowed hunting wild animals for food nor can they collect grass from the National Park during the times of festivals and religious activities. Because of the lack of pasture, the inhabitants of this area are unable to keep many animals. Educational level of the respondents is gradually increased so that their occupation has been slowly changed.

#### **4.2.3 Caste/ethnic composition**

Different types of caste communities have different types of social values, ethnic, customs, traditions and family structure as their own. Hence, it also plays vital role in employment in tourism. While conducting the survey in the study area, different caste/ethnicity was found. Caste of the respondents has also been observed in the study. Distribution of sample respondents by caste/ethnicity is given in Table 4.3.

**Table 4.3: Caste/ethnic composition of respondents**

Caste/Ethnic group	No. of respondents	Percentage
Brahman	6	20.00
Chhetri	5	16.67
Gurung	3	10.00
Magar	3	10.00
Tharu	11	36.67
Bote	2	6.66
Total	30	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Bachhauri VDC seems to be heterogeneous in terms of caste/ethnic composition. Of the total sample respondents, 43.33 percent are the indigenous ethnic groups, such as



Tharu (36.67 percent) and Bote (6.66 percent). Brahman and Chhetri constitute more than one-third (36.67 percent) of the sample and the remaining 20% are hill-ethnics such as Gurung and Magar (10 percent each). Tharu and Bote are the native indigenous ethnic group, whereas Brahman, Chhetri, Gurung, Magar are migrated from hilly area after the influx of tourism.

#### 4.2.4 Religious composition

Religion is a set of beliefs and practices. It exists in every society and plays vital role in maintaining social structure of the given society. In the study area, group of four religious followers found, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim and Christian. The religious composition of respondent is found in the following way.

**Table 4.4: Religious composition of respondents**

Religion	No. of respondent	Percentage
Hindu	24	80.00
Buddhist	4	13.33
Muslim	1	3.33
Christian	1	3.33
Total	30	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Of the total sample respondents, large majority (80 percent) are Hindus and the rest are Buddhists (13.33percent), Christians (3.33percent) and Muslims (3.33percent). During the field work it was found that the existence of Muslim and Christian in the area was a recent phenomenon. Until recently there were only Hindu and Buddhist in the area. In the recent year the conversion of Hindus into Muslim and Christian occurred with the tourism activities.

#### 4.2.5 Family structure

Family is a very old institution found over the world and also the most important institution. The family structure of the sample respondents is analyzed in terms of family size and family type. Family type is the prominent factor that affects the movement of people from one place to another. Out of the two types of the family,

joint family-generally comprises three descendent members’ grandparents, parents, uncle/aunties, unmarried sisters and grandchild and nuclear family- comprises merely parents and their dependent child. Distribution of the sample respondents by their family size and family type is given in Table 4.5 and Table 4.6 respectively.

**Table 4.5: Family type of respondents**

Type	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Nuclear	4	53.33
Joint	14	46.66
Total	30	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Out of the total sample 53.33 percent household found nuclear and 46.66 percent household found joint family. According to the respondents, in the past year (after starting tourism activities) joint family was in practice in Bachhauli VDC but now a day people prefer to stay in nuclear family. Mostly, new generation are interested to stay in nuclear family rather than joint family. Due to busy in work, they can’t give time in agriculture and for other activities and also they are busy in outside work such as business, tourism related activities. So they are following nuclear family on the account of the business and job outside the village.

**Table 4.6: Family size of respondents**

Family size	No. of respondents	Percent
(1-4)small	3	10
(5-8) medium	17	56.67
(9-12)large	7	23.33
13+ (very large)	3	10
Total	30	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

The table shows that the family size of respondents of the study area. 17 household were medium size, 7 household were large and 3 household were small and very large respectively. During my field study I found that most of the families that are large before are being medium because of the tourism activities. Tourism program changed the family structure of the community.

## **CHAPTER- FIVE**

### **TOURISM IN SAURAHA**

#### **5.1 Chitwan National Park: the tourist destination**

##### **5.1.1 Setting**

Chitwan National Park has occupied important position in South Asia for the conservation of rare animal and plants. It was established in 1973. It preserves the unique animal and plants of the world and it has covered 932 sq. km. area. Chitwan National Park (CNP) covers 20.01% of the total area of Chitwan district. It is the first National Park of Nepal. It was established for nature conservation by government it is situated in the sub-tropical inner Terai low lands of south central Nepal. It is included in the world heritage site since 1984 by UNESCO and government established an elephant fertility center in 1986 / 87. After that the work of rhino counting was started in the year 1992/1993 and they estimated that there were approximately 446-466 Rhino in the national park. The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation works under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and is the responsible body for managing conservation areas, hunting reserves, national parks and buffer zones in Nepal.

The average annual rainfall in the park reaches to 2600 mm and about 80% of rainfall occurs within four months of rainy season. July and August months receive maximum amount of rain. Rains are scanty in winter season although few intermittent showers take place during the period. Summer season is usually dry but instances of rains, storm with thunder occurs in March and April. Due to summer rain, water level increases throughout the park. Monsoon rains cause dramatic floods and changes in the character and courses of rivers.

CNP has unique landscape which is the amalgamation of floodplain grasslands, churia hills, riverine forest, tropical sal forest (*shorea robusta*) and the aquatic system of Narayani, Rapti and Reu Rivers along with many tributaries and various lakes. CNP boundaries extend from the west bank of the Narayani River, east bordering to Parsa wildlife reserve, north by Narayani and Rapti Rivers and south to the international boundary with India (IUCN, 1996). The combined area of CNP, Parsa wildlife reserve, their BZs and linkages is over 2,500 km<sup>2</sup> and forms the largest protected area

complex in Terai and Siwalik. Thus, the park along with surrounding landscape is supposed to be ecologically inclusive. However, CNP represents all types of habitats of the region. The aquatic habitat is not adequately included to ensure movement and long term survival of gharial genetic dolphin and other aquatic fauna. The complex, if properly managed of many terrestrial threatened species and ecological processes.

The Park People Program (PPP) for community development in buffer zones of Nepal significantly helps to resolve park-people conflict with financial assistance from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The indigenous peoples of Chitwan and several other ethnic groups inhabit the CNP buffer zone. The indigenous groups include the Tharus, Chepangs, Botes, Musahar, Darai and Kumal. The Tharus are the focus of this study because they are the largest indigenous group live in the CNP area.

### **5.1.2 Physical structure**

The park contains Churia hills, ox-bow lakes, and the flood plains of Rapti, Reu and Narayani rivers. The Churia hills elevates on increasing order from west to east from 150m to 850m. The lower but more rugged Someshwoer hills occupy most of the western portion of the park. The plain portion of it contains the fertile land. The park boundaries are delineated by the Narayani and Rapt rivers in the north and west and Reu River in Someshwor hills in the South and south west its eastern border is joined with Parsa Wildlife Reserve.

### **5.1.3 Flora and fauna**

Chitwan National Park has occupied important position in south Asia for the conservation of rare animal and plants. It preserves the unique animal and plants of the world and it has covered 932 sq.km areas.

**Vegetation:**The climax vegetation of the Inner Terai is Sal forest, which covers 70% - 73% of the park. However, floods, fires and riverine erosion combine to make a continually changing mosaic of grasslands and riverine forests in various stages of succession. Purest stands of Sal occur on better drained ground such as the lowlands around Kasara in the centre of the park. Elsewhere, Sal is intermingled with Chir Pine (*Pinus roxburghii*) along the southern face of the Churia Hills and with tree species such as Harro (*Terminalia belerica*), Satisal (*Dalbergia latifolia*), Botdhayero

(*Anogeissus latifolia*), Panchphal (*Dillenia indica*) and Dabdabe (*Garuga pinnata*) on northern slopes. Climbers, such as Bhorla (*Bauhiniavahlii*) and Sal Lahara (*Spatholobus parviflorus*), are common. Riverine forest and grasslands, which form a mosaic along the river banks, are maintained by seasonal flooding. Khair-Sissoo (*Acacia catechu-Dalbergia sissoo*) associations predominate on recent alluvium deposited during floods and in lowland areas that escape the most serious flooding. Simal-Bhellar (*Bombax ceiba-Trewia nudiflora*), with under storey Shrubs Dhaichamla (*Callicarpa macrophylla*), Bhanti (*Clerodendrum viscosum*) and Amala (*Phyllanthusemblica*), represent a later stage in succession.

*Themeda villosa* forms a tall grass cover in clearings in the sal forest; *Saccharum-Narenga* associations grow as mixed and pure stands of tall grass, Kans (*Saccharum spontaneum*) is one of the first species to colonize newly created sandbanks; *Arundo-Phragmites* associations form dense tall stands along stream beds on the floodplain and around lakes; Dhaddi (*Imperata 29ylindrical*) grows prolifically in areas within the park which were occupied by villages prior to their evacuation in 1964; various short grasses and herbs grown on exposed sand banks during the dry months and become much more prolific with the outset of rain in May (e.g. *Polygonum plebeium*, *Persicaria* spp. And sedges such as *Cyperus*, *Kyllinga* and *Mariscus* spp.); Dubo (*Cynodon dactylon*) and Kure Ghans (*Chrysopogon aciculatus*) and other short grasses grow in highest areas near riverine forest all the year round; and low-lying stands of Kans (*Saccharum spontaneum*), which are destroyed by repeated flooding early in the monsoon.

**Wildlife:** Chitwan National Park is home to almost 68 species of mammals, more than 576 species of birds, 49 species of reptiles and amphibians, 120 species of fishes and several species of invertebrates which significantly contribute to ecosystem processes in the park. Among the total species of birds recorded in the park, 120 are wetland dependent, 80 are winter migrants, 6 are summer migrants, 28 are residential and 6 are vagrant. The park is especially renowned for Greater one-horned rhinoceros, royal bengal tiger and gharial crocodile. The park harbours not only the largest mammal of Nepal (Wild Asian Elephant) but also the smallest terrestrial mammal (Pygmy Shrew) of Nepal. More than 576 species of birds has been recorded so far, including 22 globally threatened species like endangered Bengal Florican, Slender-

billed Vulture, White-rumped Vulture and red-headed vulture. The floodplain grasslands and riverine forest are habitat to rhinoceros, spotted deer and Hog deer whereas slopes with Sal and mixed forest are supporting sambar, Gaur and Barking deer. These animals Move downwards towards the valley during pinch periods of water scarcity. The flat areas with Sal and mixed forest are the domain of spotted deer, Wild boar and barking deer too. Carnivores are distributed based on prey density and hierarchy of the predator in the food web but are seen almost all over the park. Common Leopards occupy fringe habitats. Similarly, Gharial Crocodile can be found in less disturbed zone of Rapti and Narayani River whereas Marsh Mugger Crocodile are found commonly in wetlands of the park.

The park holds the second largest population of greater one-horned rhinoceros in the world. Prior to its introduction to Bardia National Park (BNP) in 1986, the park contained the last population of rhino in Nepal. This had increased from about 100 in 1960s to 612 in 2000. It is currently estimated at 503 in CNP and 534 in Nepal. Royal Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) is also in significant number in the park. The population increased from an estimated 60 individuals (>18 months of age) in 2000 to 125 individuals (>18 months of age) in 2010. Common Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) is widespread and other threatened mammal species include Wild Dog (*Cuon alpinus*), Gangetic Dolphin (*Platanistaganetica*) and Gaur (*Bos gaurus*). Hispid Hare (*Caprolagus hispidus*) is also supposed to be present in the park. The Sloth Bear population estimated in 1993-94 was 200-250. The Gangetic Dolphin population may have declined following the construction of a dam towards the Indian border. Seven were recorded in 1980 but none in 1990s.

## **5.2 Current status of tourism**

### **5.2.1 Accommodation capacity**

The history of tourism in Chitwan is relatively short. Most of the hotels are built on the bank of the Rapti River and scattered around within the circumference of about 2 km from the gate of CNP. The distance between one hotels to another is not more than 50m. Some are close to each other. Among these hotels, some are restaurant operating and bars. The available facilities and services differ from one hotel to another. The accommodation capacity of hotels is also a responsible factor for earning

foreignCurrency. The price variation of accommodation is also a crucial factor for the growth of lodges as well as tourism industry. Accommodation capacity of different hotels and resorts present below.

**Table 5.1: Hotel utilization by tourist by year (2013-2014)**

S. N	Name of hotel/ lodge	No. of visitors		Peak month	Rooms	Beds
		2013	2014			
1.	Seven star	3425	4395	Oct-Feb	48	96
2.	Royal safari	2730	3610	Oct- Nov	38	76
3.	West wood	2645	3273	Apr-May	24	48
4.	Rain forest	2400	2550	Aug-Nov	26	46
5.	Jungle vista	2650	2990	Sep-Dec	27	40
6.	Jungle Nepal resort	2255	2350	Oct-Feb	25	42
7.	Wildlife camp	2450	2355	Oct-Mar	23	39
8.	Jungle safari lodge	2675	2940	Nov-Feb	30	51
9.	Rhino lodge	2730	2677	Oct-Nov	22	40
10.	Royal park	3500	3640	Sep-Dec	32	56
11.	Riverside lodge	2185	3900	Oct-Feb	36	50
12.	Sauraha resort	1740	1630	Aug-Nov	22	36
13.	Jungle safari	1250	1200	Oct-Dec	16	25
14.	Monalisa	1700	1840	Oct-Nov	20	40
15.	Bagmara wildlife resort	3415	3645	Sep-Nov	23	35
	Total	37,750	46,895		412	720

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Hotels like royal park, seven star, royal safari, jungle safari lodge, wildlife camp, jungle vista and west wood have played an important role in bringing a large number of quality tourists and earning a huge amount of foreign currency from the package program i.e. 2 nights/ 3 days = US \$150-400 per person. Table 5.1 reveals that hotel seven stars, Royal safari, jungle vista, river side lodge, Royal Park, jungle safari lodge, Bagmara wildlife resort welcome highest number of tourist. Because tourists are attract to their accommodation facilities, their kindly behavior and peaceful

environment. The highest numbers of visitor are 4395, 3900 of seven star and riverside lodge in 2014. There was large number of visitor visit Sauraha in 2014 than 2013. Remaining visitor is under blow.

Most of the hotel owners said that Oct-to Feb is busy season. The above table shows that the various accommodation capacities in different hotels and resorts. But hotel seven stars have highest number of accommodation capacity, 48 rooms and 96 beds whereas, jungle safari have lowest number of accommodation capacity, 16 rooms and 25 beds.

### 5.2.2 Tourists duration of stay

Tourist length of stay is the crucial factor for the tourism development in any tourist destination region. Growing trend of tourist flow is very much important symbol of future prospect of tourism development in any tourist center. On the other hand, it is also essential to increase the length of the stay of tourist which further increases the expenditure of tourist. It is because expenditure made by tourist in various items is the source of their income which contributes the growth of tourism business. Thus, there is no doubt, arrival of tourist length of their stay and their expenditure levels are basic component for the development of tourism business. The table 5.2 shows the tourist length of stay in Sauraha, Chitwan.

**Table 5.2: Length of stay tourist in Sauraha**

Stay period	No. of respondent	Percentage
One- two days	3	30
Three- Four days	5	50
Five days-one week	2	20
More than one week	-	-
Total	10	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Majority of tourists 50% visited Sauraha for three-four days in study area because they used to go jungle safari, boating, elephant ride, elephant bathing, observing Tharu culture etc. 30% tourists visited for one- two days and 20% for five days to one week visit whereas no tourists are found more than the week to stay in Sauraha.



**Table 5.3: work and workers**

S.N	Type of works	No. of workers						
		M	F	Full time	Partial time	Local	Migrant	Total Employee
1.	Waiter	53	7	60	0	52	8	60
2.	Cook	27	0	27	0	5	22	27
3.	House keeping	9	26	12	23	29	6	35
4.	Manager	15	0	15	0	9	6	15
5.	Front office	6	28	34	0	12	22	34
6.	Account	14	6	20	0	16	4	20
7.	Marketing	24	0	7	18	4	20	24
8.	Management	26	8	34	0	25	9	34
9.	Gardener	5	15	16	4	20	0	20
10.	Security Guard	22	0	22	0	22	0	22
11.	Driver	55	0	55	0	46	9	55

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Majority of local people are employed in the low level management like cook, waiter, housekeeping, driver, security guard etc. In the top level management employees of the resorts or hotels are from Kathmandu. The data presented in the table therefore indicate that the working pattern have been variation between local resident and migrated residents. The main reason of economic gap between the native of Sauraha and the migrated residents is lack of knowledge. Sauraha become the Centre of attraction to the tourists but the local residents are not getting any economic benefit from the tourist industry. Few Tharus expressed the view that their area is ultimately going to be dominated by the outsiders who have come to run the lodges there. These reveal that the non-tharu is getting direct benefit from tourism and Sauraha is becoming more a village of heterogeneous groups.

The working pattern of different field involved local as well as migrant people for their subsistence and overall livelihood. One of the most ubiquitously noted effects of tourism is its impact on the division of labor, particularly between the sexes. Tourism draw into the labor force part of the local population previously outside it- specially,

young women and men who find employment either in tourist services; such as hotels. The industries have been employing local youths. However, it is interesting to note that the salary pattern of employees is low and the employees having relatively higher salary patterns are from outside the local area. After SLC most of the students have leave their studies and try to get employment in tourism business like naturalist, managers, cooks, waiter and housekeeper etc. comparatively the outsiders and the non-resident Tharus of Sauraha have highly benefited from the tourism industry than the real residents of villages.

### 5.2.3 Tourists Visiting Purpose

The tourists visiting Nepal have different purpose such as holiday pleasure, trekking and mountaineering pilgrimage official conference and other. The tourist arrival by purpose of visit gives the major guideline for the policy formation in the tourism sector. Table 5.4 shows the tourist arrivals by purpose of visit. The trend of tourist's arrivals by purpose of visit is clear from the following table.

**Table 5.4: Number of tourists by purpose of visit**

Purpose of visit	No. of Respondent Tourist	Percentage
Sightseeing	1	10
Holiday pleasure	2	20
Jungle safari	3	30
Tharu culture	2	20
Wildlife	2	20
Business	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	10	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Most of the tourists in this area are attracted for jungle safari, tharu culture and wildlife. The data shows that tourists have multiple purpose of visit such as sightseeing, jungle safari, wildlife, holiday purpose etc. in the study area. After visiting in the study area their perception was very positive. 30% tourists are loved jungle safari whereas, 10% of tourist liked sightseeing, and 20% tourist loved other purpose of visit.

## 5.2.4 Number of visitors

The growth in the number of national parks and reserve in a short span of time shows the country's commitment to conservation of natural resources and the development of human settlements around them. Tourism development has been an essential part of this whole process and hence tourism and the PA system reinforce each other. Comparison of the inflow of tourists to CNP with the information of tourist to other national park/wild life reserves is presented in table 5.5.

**Table 5.5: Number of foreign visitor to National Park and protected areas (2009-2012)**

National park and protected area	Year							
	2009		2010		2011		2012	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Bardiya National Park	3,087	2.28	3,727	2.56	4,765	0.24	5,760	2.15
Chitwan National Park	78,682	58.16	84,518	58.26	122,332	63.01	126,484	47.32
Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve	21	0.01	26	0.0017	28	0.014	47	0.017
Khaptad National Park	2	0.001	12	0.0082	22	0.011	6	0.002
Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve	231	0.170	456	0.314	181	0.093	441	0.16
Langtang National Park	10,535	7.78	10,315	7.11	13,838	7.12	12,649	4.73
Makalu Barun National Park	1,828	1.35	1,323	0.91	1,501	0.77	1,520	0.56
Parsa wildlife Reserve	49	0.036	-	-	14	0.007	48	0.017
Rara National Park	146	0.10	135	0.095	174	0.089	49	0.018
Sagarmatha National Park	29,036	21.46	32,084	22.11	34,645	17.84	36,518	13.66
Shey phoksundo National park	325	0.24	558	0.38	512	0.26	679	0.254
Shivapuri National park	11,178	8.26	11,798	8.13	15,921	8.20	82,935	31.02
Shuklaphata wildlife Reserve	161	0.11	115	0.079	190	0.097	144	0.05
Total	135,281	100	145,067	100	194,123	100	267,280	100

Source: Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation, 2012

Of the total tourist inflow in Nepal, Majority of tourist have visited Chitwan National Park. The numbers of the tourist visiting CNP were 58.16% in 2009, 58.26% in 2010, 63.01% in 2011 and 47.32% in 2012. Whereas minimum number of tourist visits Khaptad National park. Chitwan National Park (CNP), the country's first National Park, is the top revenue generator among the 13 national park and wildlife reserves and conservation areas in Nepal. The number of visitor's in CNP is increased in every year.

### 5.2.5 Infrastructure development

Facilities and services play vital roles in facilitating tourists by bringing them to the attractions and allowing them to use the attractions. The facilities and services also contribute largely to magnify the value of attractions. With the increase in the number of tourists visiting Sauraha, investment in infrastructure development such as water supply, road construction, electricity distribution, communication etc. have increased, although the increase is not in direct proportion. In this regard to know the perception about the various facilities available in Sauraha, respondents were asked to choose from the scale which they think is the actual situation in the place.

**Table 5.6: Response of local people (in %) about the facilities available in Sauraha**

S.N	Factor	Excellent	Good	Bad	Very bad	Don't know	Percentage
1.	Road condition	13	71	10	6	-	100
2.	Sanitation	30	40	17	13	-	100
3.	Communication facilities	18	67	9	3	3	100
4.	Water supply	13	56	25	6	-	100
5.	Transportation	25	55	15	5	-	100
6.	Security	40	47	5	6	2	100

*Source: Field survey, 2015*

Above mentioned facilities are good in sauraha. Out of the total respondent 71 percent rates that the road condition as good, while 13 percent rates as excellent, 10 percent as bad and the rest 6 percent rated as very bad. Overall, road condition, security

communication facilities, and transportation facilities are good in study area. However the infrastructure development such as road facility, telecommunication, electricity etc. is not the same for the whole Sauraha area. Only a few villages have such benefits, others do not. Every villager therefore, wants to have such facilities for utilizing them.

## **CHAPTER –SIX**

### **IMPACT OF TOURISM IN SAURAHA**

Tourism is one of the fastest expanding human activities which change the socio-economic, cultural and environmental condition in every community of the world today. Tourism in Sauraha has brought several remarkable changes in the local community. The impacts of tourism are noticed both positive as well as negative. Mainly, social, economic and environmental impacts of tourism in Sauraha are analyzed in this chapter.

Before declaration of the park and the introduction of the tourism in Sauraha, the Tharus were leading a peaceful environment with district tharu identity. In fact they were isolated not only from the tourist but also from the non-tharus. After 1973 most of the non-tharus started to shift either from hill regions or outside of Sauraha to the premises of this area in the expectation of acquire good opportunity for the job in tourism industry.

In socio-cultural sector, it helps to develop the infrastructure like road, electricity, water supply, health, education and telecommunication and brings changes in living standard of people, behavior pattern of peoples, dress, life style, language and food habit. According to Sharma 1998, tourism brings changes in people's ideas, behavior pattern, norms, expectations and other manifestation of material and non-material culture, economically; it helps to improve the economic condition of the local people in community directly and indirectly by providing the foreign exchange earnings, income generation and creation of employment. It encourages the commercialization or traditional cultural practices, pollution of sacred places, interdiction of alien architecture styles and building materials. These are negative changes in society. Likewise, decline in morality and value, Acculturation, prostitution, alcoholism are the negative impacts of tourism. The tourism has some serious negative effects, which encourage bringing to imperialism and neo-colonialism like other sectors the tourism has adverse effected to environment condition of the community. This issue has been taken as serious problem by the environmental tourism researcher. The decreasing of forest as fuel wood hand wood for hotel building, effects on the natural habitats of Flora and Fauna, Tin, can, plastic bags and degradable materials left by tourists in

routes have created serious environmental problem which has brought the problem in health and sanitation condition of local people and tourists. Instead of these negative impacts, it encourages ecological awareness, conservation measure and awareness of sanitation to the people. Tourism has been affecting directly and indirectly the environment. The most obvious direct effects are in forest depletion and pollution. As a result, deforestation problem of sanitation and landslide and decreasing of natural Flora and Fauna have been brought (Gurung, 1998).

## **6.1 Social impacts**

### **6.1.1 Changes in Tharu social system**

The Tharus have their own social system. It is found that the social structure of the natives have changed drastically in recent days.

**House structure:** Previously each and every household of the Tharus were made of cow dung, straw, soil, bamboo etc. There used to be no window in their house. Besides, most hotels and resorts were also built in the traditional Tharu style in Chitwan. According to my field data among 15 hotels and resorts, 6 hotels and resorts were found to build in traditional tharu style. Gradually the natives are attracted towards the construction of their homes in modern style. According to Laxman mahato, 50, "*before six, seven years half of the tharu household had small house with thatched roof*". Now he involved in tourism related activities and well settles in study area. Build new house with cemented wall and zinc paper. Apart from that the hotel owners have already started to build their hotels and resorts in a modern style which can give tourists feeling of safely than the Tharu type of hotels. According to Ganesh Parajuli( owner of jungle Nepal resort), "*Most of the tourist wants to stay in traditional types of hotels*". From the field survey, it is found that the natives who are entirely indulged in the tourism profession have built their houses on modern style though their parents do not agree with their ideas opinion. So it can be said that the house owners who have built their houses on modern style are more renowned and counted as an elite group as well throughout the village.

It is also found from the field survey that most of the new generation wants to stay in the modern type of house and they never accept the compulsion of staying in the traditional type of house. But it doesn't mean that each and every house of the Tharus

is on modern style. Sagar Chaudhary, 19 says that *“the young generation will be able to earn some money that they build their houses on a modern style”*. Tourism represents a form of the process of social modernization which can be interpreted as diffusion or as a form of social change because the structure and function of the social system can be modified through the invention, behavioral patterns etc. External factors are usually the main force driving social change, renewal and innovation.

**Family structure:** The total 30 households experience the impact of tourism in family structure, 14 household are joint families 16 household are nuclear families. Agriculture being the main occupation most of the families are based on the joint family. But some joint families that are involved in tourism are now changed as the nuclear family. According to Tulsī Narayan Rahut, (name change) 45 says he could not do anything special in his life, his house is small and lived 12 family member together but when he worked as guide in Sauraha than he was able to construct new house. They lived happy life with their children.

Earlier, the native's household was composed of more than three generation. It reveals that there was a largely extended joint family in the Tharu society. But it is learnt that there is a dramatic changes in the view of the native regarding the family structure. According to Gita Rahut (name change), 39 said that *“Most of the native especially new generation is to be interested to stay in nuclear family instead of joint family because of the members of the native seen busy in tourism profession directly or indirectly. So they cannot give their time for agriculture and other activities from which the quarrels might be created in between the member of the family besides, the natives have followed the nuclear family on account of financial crisis.”*

The Tharus who were recognized as a "Dawn to Dusk" but nowadays in spite of it most of the young generation have just paid attention on how to earn money. Thus, it can be found that the native whose subsistence was based on agro-pastoral profession have abandoned the activities because of their inclination towards tourism.

### **6.1.2 Changes in moral behavior**

Among the various impacts of tourism in Sauraha, social impacts of tourism like prostitution, crime, gambling has been studied during the field research. In this regard, the researcher followed oral interviews with the 10 respondents though they did not



respond positively, 7 people said that, there was no incident of crime before the production of tourism in Sauraha. Ram Bilas Mahato(name change), 40 said “*some violent activities and crimes have occurred on different occasions on the recent days*”. Regarding the involvement of the Tharus in the criminal activities in Sauraha, no respondents blamed the natives. In most tourist destination, there is increased rate of crime after the influx of tourism. It is also noted that domestic and very few foreigners are indulged in such events.

The violence generally occurs when the people gather to observe their festivals like New Year and some local festivals when they got drunk in the evening. However, the people of Sauraha do not take these incidents seriously. They consider it as natural phenomena in the tourist destination.

### **6.1.3 Displacement of local people**

As sauraha become very popular for tourism, many people are attracted to run a hotel and to take interest in buying land. Consequently, the land has become quite expensive. Since the land was in demand and the price was high, the Tharus sold their land for financial reasons as well as attraction for large sum of money. The outsiders and the non-tharus used the land as diamond and the Tharus misused the money as iron. They spent money only on alcohol. As a result, many tharus lost their homes and land. But, it does not mean that there are no tharus at all in Sauraha. According to Suman Ghimire( 1<sup>st</sup> vice president of Hotel Associaton Chitwan) “ *Nowadays a large portion of the tharu habitation has been replaced by the non-tharu groups. Non-tharus are getting direct benefit from tourism and Sauraha is becoming more a village of heterogeneous groups*”. In this regard, the report of KMTNC also shows that due to concentration and continuous flow of tourism industry in Sauraha, the land price is encouraging the Tharus to sell their land. The result of this is that the Tharus are being dislodged. This could be harmful to the tourist industry, as they and their culture is one of the main attractions for the tourists.

### **6.2 Economic impacts**

Tourism has changed the local people economic status within the short period of time in Sauraha local employment is generated by the tourism. It was observed that the traditional dependence on agriculture has been reduced in heavily used in tourist area

the village economy is being altered by labor needs of the Tourism industry. Tourism can bring a profound economic change of the tourist spot as well as the whole nation. Tourism is a major revenue generation sector of Nepal. Income generation, employment, and the other occupation related to tourism are the economic sources of the study area. The important thing is that today in proper Sauraha most of the peoples economic standards is very well and the standards of the peoples is quiet good in the comparison of the past because they can afford the modern facilities, goods imported dresses and essential things in their daily life. The economic benefits of tourism include the foreign exchange earning the generation of employment, the improvement of economic structure, the generation of income and the encouragement of traditional artistic industry. Similarly, incomes generation, employment, and the other occupation related to tourism are the economic sources of the study area. Therefore, economically, tourism has helped to improve the economic condition of local people. As a negative impact in the economic sector the some local people have been abandoning their indigenous farming practices, cultivated land has been used for hotels construction and camping side. Due to the use of land as hotel construction, campsite, establishment any kind of shop, the price of land is highly increased which is not affordable for local people. The people who are involved in tourism are becoming richer than other people. As result, it has been creating the problem of economic inequality in the study area.

### **6.2.1 Income**

Tourism industry in Sauraha becomes job oriented industry by which a number of young men in Sauraha have been secured financially. Employment ranges from the manpower working for the lodges or resorts, to those engaged directly or indirectly in the tourist sector. The number of trained guides in Sauraha are about 360 persons but presently only to 240 were found working. The landless people (by serving firewood), the farmers (by supplying vegetables and foods), the farming industries (Like fish farming, livestock farming, fruit farming) are highly benefited by tourism in Sauraha. Tharu people have poor financial condition. Due to lack of investment capital, they are unable to run their own business. One of young boy Akash mahato, 23 from Malpur said “he worked in hotel as waiter; he has negative feeling toward tourism because the hotel owners use them for low level works like preparing fences, roofs

and for cutting grass of the hotels”. Tharu are comparatively less educated. Therefore they cannot avail of government jobs or other private job opportunities even available. In such situation, tourism is a better option to overcome financial challenges for a family. Tourism in Sauraha has changed the economic status as well as the living standard of people in Sauraha village as well as neighboring villages.

In study area a profound change in economic condition of the local people can be noticed. Tourism is the main income source of the study area. There are also other types of income sources such as agriculture, business, foreign service etc. Among these, the income from tourism business has played more important role than other sources in terms of uplifting the economic condition of the study area. However, the respondent reported that their income has been increased due to influx of tourism in Sauraha. They involved in tourism related activities like guide, elephant ride, jeep driver, canoe ride, moute etc. The main economic source of the natives is their culture; tourists are attracting to see their local tradition. My field data shows that among 30 household, 22 household are affianced in tourism related activities. They said tourism is their seasonal profession. Besides, agriculture is also their source of income. According to Sankar Chaudhary, 42 *“I worked as a guide for hotel; i am a literate person. At the starting I tackled difficulty due to lack of knowledge. Tourism is the primary source of income of our family”*.

### **6.2.2 Employment generate**

When asked about the involvement of Tharu people of Sauraha in tourism activities an owner of hotel royal safari Dilip Mali reported that there were very few Tharu people involved in hotel businesses in Sauraha. Only 6 out of the total of 100 hotels in Sauraha (outside the park boundary) were owned by Tharu people. Further interviews indicated that there were a total of eight hotels inside the CNP boundary and only one hotel was owned by Tharu. Tharu hotels were not seen as successful in their businesses compared to the non-tharu hotels in Sauraha. The reasons for the unsuccessfulness of Tharu hoteliers, according to Mali were the lack of marketing knowledge and ideas and strategies on how to run hotel businesses.

Tourism in Sauraha has been an important employment generator. Employment ranges from the Manpower working for the lodges/resorts to those working in the wild

life, park and others engaged directly or indirectly in the tourist sector. Tharu respondents were asked about their income source and the types of work that they were engaged in. Results showed that at least one person in each household were engaged in some type of job. The common types of work related to CNP and tourism in Sauraha are park guards, nature guides, *mahouts*, canoe rowers, CNP jeep drivers; elephants care takers, cooks, waiters/waitresses, Jeep drivers, hand crafters, local teashops etc. Average male employment in both wards was found to be almost similar and the average female employment was less than male employee. The percentages of male and female employment in CNP and associated tourism in Bachhauli Ward were 73.98 percent and 26.01 percent respectively. 87.28 percent and 13.00 percent workers are full and partial time employee respectively. Besides there are large number of local as well as migrant worker who are directly involved in tourism related works. 69.36 percent employees are local and 30.63 percent employees are migrated. Ref: Table 5.2

A number of standard resorts have given permanent job to the tharu women for laundry on a salary basis. The resort which has hired the women for the same work gives Rs.160 on daily wages basis. Washing clothes and taking care of laundry is confined only to women. The data provided by the nature guides of Sauraha helped to explore the situation of wage rate for nature guides in Sauraha and also to reveal data on the number of tharu tourist guides in Sauraha. As of December 2014, there were a total of 260 tourist guides in CNP. They reported that about 40 percent out of the total were tharus. Reported in the tourism data was that 80 percent of the total 66 Tharu tourist guides in Sauraha were from Ratnanagar Municipality and Bachhauli VDC. Only 20 percent of tourist guides were non-Tharus. The salary of private tourist guides used to be based on the category of tourists they were handling, and also on the types of packages bought by tourists. That means that the tourist guides who used to be hired by an individual tourist or by hotels used to get random wages. Those wages used to be based on the nature of tourists giving tips or additional money to the guides.

They reported that of the total guides in Sauraha, about 50 percent were affiliated with hotels whereas the remaining guides worked under private tourist guide firms (not associated with hotels). The guides who worked for hotels were provided a monthly

salary paid by the hotel. The income of private tourist guides depended upon the number of tourists they got and the rates they could fix by bargaining with the tourists. One of the respondents furiously stated: “They send their tourists to see us, our art, our living style, culture and everything. They take money from tourists by sending them here to see our stuffs, but we are not given anything in return either by the hoteliers or by the tourists. In fact, if they provide us some percentage, we would use that money for our development”.

The average monthly income of a private tourist guide did not exceed 12,000 per month. Data also revealed that the salary of each hotel tourist guide was about NRS. 9000. The inconsistency of salary depended upon the services guides provided to the tourists, such as half-day guiding and full-day guiding. The rate for the full-day guided service was nearly NRS.800 per person and the rate for half-day guided service was about NRS. 500- 600 per person. Salary-based tourist guides used to get NRS.200 as tips or allowances excluding salaries.

### **6.3 Environmental impacts**

Regarding to environmental sector, tourism has brought some positive impacts on local environment in the study area such as sanitation awareness, plantation program, environmental awareness and environmental education. The local body, local people have been formed committee for the forest management, which has played on important role in preservation of forest resources. Gita Rahut, 48 (member of mother group) said “In the sanitation and plantation sector, mother group has a significant role. We have made rules and regulation for sanitation and plantation program. Environmental education has been included in the course to give the environmental knowledge for the students in school, Due to involvement of local people in different activities related to environment; people have become more conscious and educated as compared with the past.

It is very difficult to find out the environmental impact by tourism in Sauraha. Before 1971, the jungle was destroyed recklessly and after the establishment of CNP in 1973, the government started to preserve the jungle as well as wild animals by using the Nepal Army. The natural beauty of CNP was being destroyed by deforestation resulting from camp fires for tourist every night, over grazing of animals and

agricultural practice by local people. No additional plantation resulted thus the deforestation led to landslides and gradually the natural beauty of Sauraha (CNP) was being degraded. The tourism has affected adversely the local environment. The forest degradation, Pollution, sanitation and flood problems are the adverse problem of tourism in Sauraha. In this context, the study area is also not exception. As a whole, there is a satisfactory environmental condition but a little bit, the serious and dangerous negative impact can be observed in the environmental sector in the study area and it will be most serious and dangerous in future time.

### **3.3.1 Pollution**

There is absence of water pollution in the study area. But sound pollution is a little bit found by the crowdedness by tourist, and tourism industry in the study area. Same, every hotel have generator due to the cause of load scheduling problem. In most of the time they used to start generator to provide electricity thus sound pollution is going to be serious problem in the study area. 30 percent of the ward 2 and 40 percent of the ward 3 people said sound pollution due to motor able road. It helps to destroy the peace environment of this area. As a result, the pollution has brought health problems to the local people and tourists. According to Prakash Chandra bhattacharai( local shopkeeper) *“There is no such pollution before the influx of tourism”*.

The willingness to expose natural and cultural treasures to the general public by means of tourism and recreation may adversely impact the resource themselves. Such damage may be caused by such factors as infrastructure overload, building and accessibility, air/water/noise pollution, solid waste problem, damage to land resources, flora, fauna and archeology sites, and visitors' density or overload. This section describes analyses and discusses the environmental impacts perceived by the local residents and hotel owners mainly due to tourism in the study area. It includes sanitation, solid waste disposal, deforestation, air/noise pollution, landslides, and wildlife population and behavior.

## **6.4 Cultural impact**

Tourists not only bring money to region, they also carry along with them a strong and visible life-style. Their dress, food habits and merry-making style all bring some newness and uniqueness to the area of their visit. By nature, human adopts new things

or manners in which they feel comfortable. Sometimes, new habits are acquired from strangers just to get new taste. Tourism represents a form of the process of social modernization which can be interpreted as diffusion or as a form of social change because the structure and function of the social system can be modified through the invention, expansion, and adoption of new ideas, values, norms, behavioral patterns etc. External factors are usually the main force driving cultural change, renewal, and innovation. 60% of the Tharu respondents from ward 3 agreed that there was a change in the way they dressed compared to their traditional and cultural costume when asked about changes to Tharu clothing and style in Sauraha said they liked modern clothes because they were comfortable to wear and fit in. Tharus noted in interviews that they thought that their traditional clothes would look strange and odd in modern times. Manoj Sunar (the office secretary of hotel association) said that performance of Tharu cultural dance, celebration of Tharu festivals and rituals, and Tharu costumes were gradually disappearing. He also reported that there were very few old Tharu people who followed typical Tharu tradition on special celebration days. Many local traditions and habits have come under the influence of tourists in Sauraha. Influence of old customs and traditions has diminished in many areas.

This is more common among the Tharu and non-tharu boys and girls, restaurant employees and naturalists of Sauraha who come in direct contact with the tourists. They have started wearing modern dresses and many of them speak good English. Tourism has maintained good social relationship with the western people who provide the opportunity to know western society and culture. The local people of the study area have good friendship with different countries people like japons, Britain, America and Germany. Due to friendship, some local people have got a chance to visit Europe. The marriage is the main backbone of the social relations. They crave to go to the west and to work there through establishing marital relation with the tourist's girls. Recently, a Tharu boy of Bachhauri got married with an Australian lady and went to Australia along with his wife. The chairman of hotel association of Sauraha remarks both positive and negative aspects of tourism in Sauraha. According to Gyanendra kumar bista(President of regional hotels association, Chitwan) the economic level of the village has improved; level of education among both men and women has increased; health center has been improved with better equipment; skill development training for women is provided so that they can be financially

independent. In the context of negative aspects, they write, culture is vanishing slowly among the youngsters by imitating the ways of tourists; use of drug intake has increased compared to before.

Traditional clothing for women consists of a short white skirt and a white shawl or length of cloth which is tucked into the waist at front and thrown over the shoulder to cover the breast. A short, dark blue or black bodice, either sleeveless or with short sleeves, is also worn at times. Because of recent influences, younger women now tend to wear saris. Very young girls today wear western- style short skirts or pants, sometimes with a top, as other Nepali girls do. Jewelry traditionally consisted of tharya, heavy bracelets worn above the elbows on both arms, and a horseshoes-like neckband called a hansuli made of silver or an alloy; tharya and hansuli are not often seen nowadays. Decorative silver rings are also worn in noses and ears. The traditional dress has been totally abandoned by the people of Sauraha. The women have almost left wearing their traditional ornament. Only the old women have their lower legs and occasionally their arms tattooed, often with peacock designs. Mainly for decoration, these tattoos are usually done before marriage. Tattooing was a must for women till recently but nowadays they do not want to have a tattoo marks in order to preserve the beauty of their figure.

The concept of individualism is gradually increasing within the family members of the Tharus. The idea of collectivism is gradually decreasing. Previously the bullock carts were the means of their transport. Now the people of younger generation use cycle and motorbike in and around the villages. Because of the flow of tourists in Sauraha, local people frequently get a chance to go to the market of Tandi. In the past there was no system of giving dowry to the daughter. Now dowry is a must. Regarding this change, the informants express that the practice of giving dowry is not good for the poor people. Nowadays a Brahmin priest is hired to perform their marriage ceremony. Among the festivals, fagui (festival of colors), jitiya (fasting ceremony) and soharai are very popular in the tharu community of chitwan. Fagui is observed by the males whereas jitiya is observed by the females.

Similarly, the tharus who are involved in tourism profession do not want to speak their language and also hesitate to discuss their traditional way of life. The reason is that they feel backward and inferior to others. All the tharu respondents agreed that



there was a change in the way they dressed compared to their traditional and cultural costume when asked about changes to Tharu clothing and style in Sauraha. Informants said they liked modern clothes because they were comfortable to wear and fit in.

#### **6.4.1 Preservation of cultural heritages**

The local people in the study area are very careful towards their native culture and traditions. The traditional customs (birth, marriage, death ceremonies) religion cultural behaviors, folklore, languages, dress pattern and indigenous art are the cultural heritages of the study area. Tourism is promoting and preserving these. In the study area, it has played a significant role to preserve the folk culture (dancing and singing) than other cultural heritages. The youths present the folk culture when tourists come on village. They dance and sing with traditional dress. Tourists are interested to stay in the traditional type of hotels. My field data shows Among 15 hotels 6 old hotels are decorated with Tharu style. So, the local people who want to be involved in hotel business are attracted towards traditional types of hotel construction. Another question asked to Tharu respondents was about the level of impact that Tharus perceived on changes of Tharu culture as a result of CNP establishment and resulting tourism. 45% respondents in both wards perceived a moderate role of CNP and associated tourism to bring changes to Tharu culture. In Bachhauli Ward, 60 percent of the sampled population perceived that CNP and associated tourism had a moderate role to bring change to Tharu culture. 20 percent of the Tharu respondents believed that the role was “some” 15 percent reported that the role was “a lot” and 5 percent reported that there was no role of CNP and tourism to bring change on the Tharu culture.

Sometimes, tourists buy traditional Tharu dress, other ornaments and many kind of handy craft. On the one hand, it has preserved the traditional local culture and the other hand it has helped to improve the economic condition of the local people. Many of the Tharu respondents thought that their culture would get promoted and become sustainable if they exhibited their traditional art, crafts, practices, culture through different means of demonstration to the visitors. On the other hand, a very few Tharu respondents argued that Tharu cultural shows to tourists had nothing to do with sustainability or promotion of the Tharu culture. 75 percent of the Tharu respondents

of Bachhauli Ward 2 and 81 percent of the Tharu respondents of Ward 3 viewed that the Tharu cultural shows to tourists would help sustain and promote Tharu culture.

#### **6.4.2 Host-guest marital relationship**

It is found that some indigenous have got married with the guests who are free individual tourist have accompanied them to their house country. It could be observed that the ten Tharu boys of both wards got married with the tourist girls. After getting married they went their wife's countries and after two, three years, three people out of ten had got divorced and come back to Sauraha. The reason of getting married was economic benefit from the foreign wife. From this marriage some Tharus boys are also seem benefited. It reveals that the married boys were influenced by the expectation of building their good career abroad and some want getting money from the wife. But it does not mean that there is no sacred love. Yes, some couples are happy with their partner who got married without getting any assurance from the guests. A man named Mohan of Malpur village is getting US \$ 75 per month for his study in Kathmandu. More than 100 people of the Chitwan National Park are getting regular help from the tourists. The researcher met one native who had just come back from Japan; he said "thought I cannot stay with her for a long time because there is no similarities in between their and our culture, nature behave etc. So we separated and I don't regret at all" truly speaking, culture plays a vital role to separate the partners from different cultural upbringing. It shows that some family are benefited from this kind of relations and some are wasting his valuable life time by the commodity love and nominal marriage relationship.

#### **6.4.3 Linguistic acculturation**

There are 58 ethnic caste groups and 70 dialects in Nepal. Out of them, the Tharu speak their own dialect. Actually, the Tharus inhabitants in different regions of Terai speak different languages. The Tharus of Chitwan have their own language called Magadhi. The Tharu of Chitwan communicate their ideas each other in their own language. As we know the Tharus are recognized as preliterate community. After the introduction of tourism in Sauraha, the people involved in tourism can communicate their ideas easily with the tourist but the ability to communicate in English does not prove their literacy. The Tharu boys who are working in the capacity of guide should

speak English and other foreign languages. Similarly, those who have operated resorts, restaurants and bar, hotels have to speak foreign language. It is also indispensable for them to speak other languages like Japanese, German, and Spanish etc. The most important thing to be noted is that the man who does not know English alphabet like a, b, c... can speak English fluently. According to Shyam Narayan Rahut (*local people*) “*I am literate persons, and I am a tourist guide. I faced many more difficulties in starting. Now I can speak fluently*”. Furthermore, almost all the Tharu male and female members can understand Nepali language as well, but still there are some old groups who do not speak Nepali. But the fact cannot be ignored that the youngsters have gradually forgotten their language and cultural terminology. The question arises who is responsible for all this linguistic acculturation. It can be said that the change in the young folk is because of the schooling while the people involved in tourism are enabled to speak English in course of their business.

#### **6.4.4 Religion**

The Tharus had strong belief in their religion till before the in production of tourism in Sauraha. Being the forest dwellers, they had to face several problems. Some time they had epidemic their cattle were attacked by wild animals. In order to solve those problems they had to depend on the guruwa or faith-healer and sorcerer, actually, they were not so busy in the past, so they spent lot of time worshipping their deities but nowadays they don't have more time to spent on all those process because they are busy in their profession as room boy, gardener, naturalists, hotel owner etc. But after the tourism was introduced in Chitwan and the forest was declared as park, urbanization also occurred in Chitwan and consequently several schools as well as modern hospital and health post were established in different villages of Chitwan. And the institution of guruwa is getting weaker in power and when they need to help the guruwa they consult with the doctor and nurse instead of guruwa. It reveals that tourism is not directly responsible to bring about the change in the society. Besides, it can be said that modernization and urbanization motivate the local people to change their traditional beliefs. 80 percent of people followed Hinduism and 13.33 percent of people followed Buddhism rest 3.33 percent followed Muslim and Christian respectively. Ref: Table 4.4

They had observed different kinds of colorful festivals in the study area. Especially they had observed Pitri Ausi, Jitiya, Pawani, Yamasha, Budhawa, Yatawar, Soharai, Barcho Ekadasi, Chaitya Nawmi etc. But it does not mean that all these festivals have been ignored, they also observe these festivals. But it is found that there is being changed in the process of observing the festivals. Before introduction of tourism in Sauraha, the people were busy in agriculture and animal husbandry, so they had more time to spend for observing the festivals but nowadays most people of the Sauraha are involved in tourism industry directly or indirectly, so they are of the opinion that it wastes their time thus they do not want to spend their valuable time in the celebration of festivals. Previously, they celebrated their festivals with long process but gradually they started to observe the festivals in short for instances, soharahi is the festival which was observed for three days involved by both man and woman but these days only women are seen in observing the festival due to the time constraints. According to Ganga Maya Mahato, 35(local people) *“Each and every festival is associated with different kinds of deities. It reveals that the belief of people on religion has been diminished day by day”*. Beside their own festivals, they also observe Dashain, Tihar and other festivals that hill migrants and other groups. So it reveals that on the one hand they have abandoned to observe their own festival and on the other they have been observing festivals of hill immigrants. So, it cannot be said that only tourism is responsible to bring the change in their view of religion. In this way the Tharu's culture was assimilated with dilute of the tourists culture and non-Tharus culture.

#### **6.4.5 Demonstration effect**

The natives are highly impressed by their belongings and they start to imitate what the foreigners were and what they do. In order to purchase these things, the Tharus have no problem because most of them in this area are directly or indirectly involved on tourism industry. So it can be said that illustrative effect can be noticed in Sauraha. The Tharus are tempted to follow these without giving much thought to the consequences. In such cases hybridization takes places. It is seen that the new generation of the community are blindly accepting the lifestyle of tourist and they endeavor to achieve those things. All the above matters indicate that traditional dresses of Tharus are gradually worn out. 40% of respondent of both wards agreed

that original dresses make them ugly and they have inferiority complex. Besides dresses, Tharu ornaments are more popular not only in Nepal but also in the world.

As far as the demonstration effect is concerned in Sauraha, the Tharu people have left out their traditional dresses and ornaments entirely. Very few old folk are seen in their traditional dresses. Kachhad or longautis are only one the traditional dress of male in Chitwan and Dhoti is the traditional dress of woman. Indeed the Tharus were not exposed before the introduction of tourism in Sauraha. They were fond of using their traditional attire. In the process of urbanization and modernization the non Tharus started migrating Chitwan. The travel agencies included the village tour for their guests. Similarly researcher could see the boys and girls in their school dresses. In this way the influences of demonstration in the young generation affected greatly in the choice of dresses. Furthermore, to promote national park, most of the youth are seen in the T-shirt printed with national park. This reveals that the local people are directly influenced by the products of the national park. The printed vests are sold to the tourists at Sauraha as a Souvenir. The naturalists are also obliged to wear the green dresses as well as the children have their school uniform. Tharu village tour is also a kind of tourist activities in Sauraha, therefore, most tourist visit Tharu village with their several belongings like camera, watch, sun glasses, tracksuit, modern type of dresses etc.

Besides dresses and ornaments, the Tharus have abandoned their identity markers called tattoos, previously, all Tharu women should be tattooed on their body but these days they don't want tattoo marks on their body due to the new concept of beauty. When researcher asked them regarding this tattoos they expressed that tattoo affects the skin. It is found that some Tharus girls make tattoo in the name of their boyfriends on their body instead of traditional marks. In fact, the tattoos are called "Dadaune" for men and "Teeka paraune" for women as tattoos. If there is no tattoo in the dead body, nail was to be pierced on his/her chest with the belief that if the dead body looks tattoos marks one will not take his rebirth. But the young generations don't consent with these superstitions.

These days, all Tharu girls and women are seen in Pahadi dress (hill peoples dress) and other modern dresses. So far as demonstration effect is concerned the Tharus are remarkably changed not only by the tourist demonstration but also by other forces. It

is partly by the tourists, partly by the national park and media and partly by the schools and hill people.

#### **6.4.6 Commercial hospitality**

Nepalese people are highly appreciated for their perfect hospitality. Regarding the hospitality, the Tharus are traditionally considered as an egalitarian group. Culturally, the Tharus have their own type of hospitality; their way of welcoming to the guest varies from one place to another. In this context, it is very important to know people residing in the vicinity of tourist destination and to observe whether they are maintaining original hospitality or not. According to the principle of tourism, hospitality has a new meaning where the hosts exhibit the commercial hospitality. In the case of Sauraha, there is difference in the dealing of the hill people and the Tharus. The hill people who have operated lodges and hotels warmly welcome the guest; show their nice hospitality for the purpose of luring towards their hotels. Whereas, the traditional hospitality can be found Tharu community in their homes. But the Tharus' nature has been changing day by day so they express the original hospitality in the expectation of getting something from the guest.

Hence they take their guest to their home where the guests are highly welcomed with their food and drink. The guests enjoy in their home and take also photos of the natives. In response to the warm welcome of the natives, the guests present a lot of goods, money, giving money to run hotel, inviting them to their country and proposal of getting marriage with the Tharu boys. This type of interaction gradually makes the natives more ambitious and commercial. Indeed, when tourism was introduced in the area, the natives had exhibited the original hospitality and when they got modern goods and chattlements that changed their mentality and later on they gradually became extravagance. This encouraged the local people to expect more from the western tourist. Consequently, their original hospitality converted into commercial hospitality. It means commercial hospitality replaced the original hospitality. But it does not mean that it is very difficult to receive the original hospitality in Sauraha most Tharus of Sauraha seen in initial stage of providing original hospitalities until now. In fact, the guests do not know either they are showing commercial hospitality or original hospitality.

Furthermore, it can be seen that not only for the tourist, the Tharus have begun to ignore original hospitality to their own guests. It is to be noted that the hosts never expect any return from their guests in the original hospitality but in Sauraha commercial hospitality can be seen delivered to the foreigners in the recent days.

## **6.5 The overall Impacts**

Tourism industry does not only bring change in economic atmosphere but it brings a number of socio-cultural and environmental changes in the local community. Changes may be both positive and negative. Tourism in Sauraha area has brought a number of remarkable changes. Number of impacts of tourism upon local society could be observed. Economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts observed during the field study.

### **6.5.1 Positive impacts**

In socio-cultural sector, it helps to develop the infrastructure like road electricity, water supply, health, education and telecommunication and brings changes in living standard of people, behavior pattern of peoples, dress, life style, language and food habit. Economically, it helps to improve the economic condition of the local people in community directly and indirectly by providing the foreign exchange income generation, creating employment. Tourism is the labor intensive industry, which brings the economic improvement of the local people in community giving the employment related tourism directly and indirectly. Also, Tourism encourages ecological awareness, conservation measures and awareness of sanitation to the people. Hotel industry has become the most potential industry in the area. There is increasing investment in the hotel sector. Construction of new building and hotels have been providing job to local people. Some boys have taken up the jobs like guides, porters and postcard sellers. It is found that tourism is beneficial to the local people. They have benefited from the opportunities availed by tourism.

### **6.5.2 Negative impacts**

Tourism has caused the gradual loss of land by the local population. Because of the price increase, local people are selling the land and going out leaving their original place. In study area cultivated land has been used for hotels construction. Due to the

use of land as hotel construction, campsite, establishment any kind of shop, the price of land is highly increased which is not affordable for local people. The increase in land price is encouraging the Tharus to sell their land. As a result, many tharus lost their homes and land. This could be harmful to the tourists industry, as they and their culture is one of the main attractions for the tourists. Disruption of family and social relationship, hospitality-resentment within communities, decline in morality and value, acculturation, prostitution, alcoholism are negative impacts of tourism. Some violent activities and crimes have occurred on different occasion on recent days. The violence generally occurs when the people gather to observe their festivals like New Year and some local festivals when they got drunk. Effect on the natural habitats of flora and fauna tin, can, plastic bags and degradable materials left by tourists in roles have created serious environmental problem which has brought the problem in health and sanitation.



## **CHAPTER SEVEN**

### **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

#### **7.1 Summary**

This study was carried out in Sauraha lying in Bachhauli VDC. The overall objective of this study was to describe tourism related activities in Sauraha, explore the local people's participation in tourism activities and assess the socio-economic and environmental impact of the tourism in Sauraha. To fulfill the set objectives, descriptive research methods have been designed. Qualitative and quantitative data and information were gathered from Tharu community of Bachhauli VDC using census method through frequent field observation, household survey and questionnaire survey using stratified sampling field visit and interview were used in order to generally valid data and information. . Both primary and secondary sources of data collected for qualitative and quantitative analysis.

Sauraha is the main tourist hub as it is the main entrance point to the Chitwan National Park. More recently Sauraha has become popular because it is located adjoining the Chitwan National Park. According to the data provided by the local sources, the Chitwan National Park is the third most important destination of tourists visiting Nepal. Most of the tourism businesses were concentrated in Sauraha. Tharu culture in Sauraha is the main reason for the large number of tourist arrivals there. The Tharu run many kinds of shop in Sauraha, such as small grocery shops, butcher's shops and small restaurants, but their businesses are not as well developed as the hill migrants. The main problem is that they have not been able to invest the required amount of money in their businesses due to their weak financial condition. However, tourism has given them the opportunity to set up some small businesses.

Most of the people in study area are depends on different kinds of business as a primary activity. 57 percent of people are directly or indirectly involved in tourism activities and remaining 16.67 percent are involved in foreign employment or government employment 6.67 percent. Another fact I came across was that the jobs open for Tharu women are generally seasonal; from September to December and from January to May are the tourist seasons in Sauraha. Only some hotels and resorts

provide permanent work, otherwise they are able to get jobs during the high season only. The Tharu women generally work as laundry maids, dish washers and room cleaners, while the Tharu men are engaged as room cleaners, room boys, cooks and waiters. Their salaries are very low when compared to their expectations. Therefore, Tharu people tend to play safe by shifting from one hotel to another in search of a higher salary; they are not satisfied with the one they receive.

Most of the large and medium-sized shops are owned by hill migrants; however, the grocery shops owned by the Tharu tend to be small in comparison. Many travel and tour offices are operated by the hill migrants compare to the Tharu people. Tourism has largely increased social differentiation between the hill migrants and the Tharu. Due to their limited economic power and skills, the Tharu cannot compete with the hill migrants in terms of work. The major tourism businesses in the area are controlled by the hill migrants, forcing the Tharu to play a marginal role in the touristic space, though the tourism business is booming in Sauraha. Due to the lack of essential qualifications and skills, the Tharu are forced to work in lower level positions to support their livelihoods. Similarly, most of the high standard, luxurious and high-end restaurants are owned by hill migrants, and also most of the handicraft and curio shops also. Hill migrants control the major businesses in Sauraha, whereas the Tharu have been left behind and are playing only a marginalized role in every income generating sector. During my field study, I found that most of the Tharu work as waiters, room boys, cooks and dish washers because the Tharu are generally less well educated and skilled than the hill migrants, means they work in lower positions and earn a lower salary. The hill migrants have a better knowledge of hotel management and are thus qualified for higher positions. For some of the top level positions, employees have been hired from Kathmandu and Pokhara. Tourism not only creates job opportunities it also helps them to earn money and improve their living standards as well as local arts and handicrafts.

Comparatively, education status of them is being improves gradually; the study found that most of the tharu children used to go to nearest school. Education plays vital role to improve the economic status of people. 86.67 percent of the respondents are literate, 70 percent of the respondents have SLC or below level of education and rest 16.67 percent have above SLC level of education, only 13.33 percent of respondent

are illiterate. Tourism has created investment opportunities for local people across different kinds of business.

Chitwan National Park preserves the unique animal and plants of the world. Therefore, it occupied important position in South Asia for conservation of rare animals and plants. Chitwan National park (CNP), the country's first national park is the top revenue generator because every year CNP welcome large number of visitor. The importance of Chitwan National Park as a tourist destination, and therefore of Sauraha, is indicated by the growing number of tourists visiting these areas. Every year the park is opened for the villagers so that they are collecting the products they need from the forests. The villagers collect grass, firewood and other forest products.

The economic impacts on the area due to tourism are broadly studied under following headings: employment opportunity and income generate. The local people have been benefited from the development of tourism infrastructure such as transportation, communications and electric facilities. Tourism has found to create some primary and secondary job opportunities to the locals and outsiders. The industries have been employing local youths. However, it is interesting to note that the salary pattern of employees is low and the employees having relatively higher salary patterns are from outside the local area. Mainly, three reasons were found for the involvement of low number of local people in tourism related jobs: lack of skills; lack of coordination among locals, hotel owners and tourism development committee; and low amount of salary paid for the local employees in hotels.

## **7.2 Conclusion**

The history of tourism in Sauraha is relatively short. Tourism was developing in after the Chitwan National Park was listed as an important national park of Asia. The tourist started to arrive in Sauraha. Therefore the first lodge tiger top was built in the early 1960's and other hotel started to establish. The inflow of tourists in Sauraha has been increasing which is a good symptom for tourism development. Most of the attractive places of the country are still in shadow as they have not seen the light of development. My study shows that there is less negative and more positive impact associated with tourism on the Tharu people of Bhachhauli wards. While examining the consequences that emerged as a result of park establishment, the root cause of change to tharu livelihoods turns out to be the establishment of boundaries creating

Chitwan national park. The negative impact of park establishment is that it has impeded Tharu's access to resources such as firewood, fodder, medicinal plants and fishing. Whereas; compared to the impact of park establishment, tourism associated with CNP has impact on Tharu livelihoods. In other side, adverse effects on the locality have been noted too like, foreign culture effects, noise pollution due to the vehicle from jungle drives and presence of hotels inside the park is not helping in these matters as well as Sauraha looks a central authority to impose regulation and limits on the strategies of those involved in tourist business.

A large part of the impact of tourism is perceived to have changed Tharu's cultural and economic situation. The emergence of increased cultural interaction among Tharu is clearly associated with an influx of multi-cultural migrants who came to settle in and around Sauraha after the resettlement program of government and the establishment of the park. Since 1990 very few Tharus and many non-tharus of Sauraha who invested money in tourism are benefiting from it. But the majority of the Tharu people in Sauraha are still struggling with fulfilling basic needs such as food, clothes and shelter. However, tourism related jobs have provided employment opportunities to a number of people in Sauraha. Regarding the socio-economic impact I found that tourism has created job opportunities which help them to earn money and improve their living standard as well as local arts and handicrafts. Due to tourism it brought changes in land prizes. Now days it is very expensive to buy land nearby the study area. Tourism has not brought only socio- economic changes in the area but also brought remarkable environmental changes. Because of tourism industry, the place has been kept clean. The daily wastage and dirt of the houses is managed properly.

This study revealed that Tharus are increasingly demanding access to park resources and looking for technical and financial support to improve Tharu culture. Therefore, considering the findings and suggestions provided by the Tharu respondents and key informants recommendations are provided to the CNP administration to think of providing rational allocation of resource access to the Tharus. In conclusion, from the above finding of the study, it is concluded that both positive and negative changes were found in the study area. Tourism has brought positive impacts on economy and negative impact on environment of Bachhauli VDC. However negative impacts are not beyond control. They can be minimized by proper management of tourism activities and resources.

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## ANNEXES: INTERVIEW SCHEDULES

### Interview schedule for local people

Household name:

Gender:

Respondent name:

Address.....VDC.....Ward no.....Village.....

### Socio-demographic characteristics

1.1 Caste, Ethnicity: .....

1.2 Religion: .....

1.3 Total family member: .....Male.....Female.....

1.4 Details of the family composition

S.N	Relation with respondents	Age	Gender	Marital status	Education	Occupation
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						
9.						
10.						

1.5 Did you get any benefit from park near to your village?

a) Yes

b) No

1.6 If you get any benefit than what types of benefit did you get?

a) .....





2.3 Who helps you to solve this problem?

S.N	Problem	Helping institute	benefit
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

2.4 In your opinion what thing could be obstacle for development of tourism in this area?

- a) .....
- b) .....

2.5 What are the suggestion for increase numbers of tourists and growing benefit from tourism in this area?

- a) .....
- b) .....

**Interview schedule for people involvement in tourism activities**

Respondent name:

Age:

Address:

VDC:

Village:

1. Are you native to the place or migrant?
  - a) Local
  - b) Migrant
2. If migrant than which place from you shifting?
  - a) Name of district:
  - b) VDC/Municipality:
3. In which sector does your family involved in?

S.N	Institute	Type of work	Number
1.			
2.			
3.			

4. In which field you invest your income?
  - a) Education
  - b) Business
  - c) Establishment of any institution
  - d) None of the above
  - e) .....

5. Have you done anything for tourism profession?
- a) Established hotel                      b) Establishment of any institution
- c) Guide                                      d) none of the above    e) .....
6. Does your family benefit from the tourists visiting this area?
- a) Yes    b) No
7. If yes than what type of benefit did you get?
- a).....
- b).....
8. Have you evaluate the following facilities in sauraha

S.N	Factor	Excellent	Good	Bad	Very bad	Don't know
1.	Sanitation					
2.	Road condition					
3.	Communication facilities					
4.	Water supply					
5.	Transportation					
6.	Security					

9. Have you evaluate the condition of these facilities in sauraha?

Factor	Recent condition
1)Transportation	
2)Communication	
3)Water supply	
4)Electricity	
5).....	

10. In your opinion what facilities are sufficient and what are insufficient for increasing tourists in this area?

Sufficient

Insufficient

a) .....

a) .....

11. In your opinion tourism contributes to the ecology and future economy of the place?

a) Yes

b) No

12. If yes than what types of changes do you feel?
  - a) .....
  - b) .....
13. In your opinion what things could be obstacles for development of tourism in this place?
  - a) .....
  - b) .....
14. Does tourist complain with you about the facilities of this place?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
15. What are your suggestion for increasing number of tourists and increasing benefit from tourism in this area?
  - a) .....
  - b) .....

**Interview schedule for hotel owner**

Hotel name:

Phone no:

Owner name:

Annual revenues:

1. When was your hotel established?  
.....
2. How many hotels were there when you established the hotel?  
.....
3. How many rooms and beds are there in your hotel?  
Rooms.....beds.....
4. How many workers are working in your hotel?

S.N	Type of work	No. of worker						
		Male	Female	Full	Partial	Local	Migrant	Total
1.								
2.								
3.								
4.								
5.								
6.								
7.								

5. Which months are the peak months and off season period of tourist visit?  
 Peak month.....to.....  
 Off season.....to.....
6. Generally how many tourists arrived in a month in your hotel?  
 More tourist in month.....number.....  
 Less tourist in month.....number.....
7. Does there any changes in this area before and after the development of tourism?  
 a) Yes b) No
8. If yes than what types of changes do you noticed?  
 a) .....  
 b) .....
9. Generally how many days the tourists stay in your hotel?  
 a) One night b) two nights c) three nights  
 d) one week e) .....
10. What do you think about the transportation facilities in Sauraha area?  
 a) Good b) bad
11. If bad than what is the factor for being bad?  
 a).....
12. Do you think local people get any benefit from tourism?  
 a) .....
13. Do you notice there was any change after the development of tourism?

S.N	Factor	Maximum	Minimum	Low	Don't know
1.	Air pollution				
2.	Sound pollution				
3.	Price increase				
4.	Employment opportunity				
5.	Production increase				
6.	Market expansion				
7.	Income increase				
8.	Facility increase				
9.	Acculturation				
10.	Infrastructure development				
11.	.....				
12.	.....				

**Interview schedule for tourist**

1. General characteristics of the respondents

Name:

Age:

Sex:

Nationality:

Occupation:

Purpose of visit:

2. Where do you come from?

.....,

3. Is this your first visit to here?

a) Yes

b) No

4. If no, how many times did you visit Sauraha?

a) .....

5. What are the main purposes of visiting this place?

Purpose of visit	No. of respondent
Jungle safari	
Holiday pleasure	
Sightseeing	
Wildlife	
Business	
Tharu culture	
Other	
.....	

6. How many days do you spent in this place?

Stay peiod	No. of respondent
One-two days	
Three-four days	
Five-days-one week	
More than one week	
Total	