CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General background

In the field of women empowerment, social inclusion of women is one of the most burning issues since women have the greater roles to make a society more inclusive and just. Nepalese society is a male dominated society, where incidences of female marginalization and deprivations are wide-ranging. Though, they are playing their roles and responsibilities very sincerely as mother, daughter, sister, wives, etc, they are not able to make their self-identity. The discrimination of women is widespread not only in the form of gender but also witnessed among caste and ethnicity.

Because of their low participation, the status of women is not well, they are complied to face various types of injustice. Women lag far behind men in social, economic, political and legal aspects thus, restricting them from leading complete and dignified life (Pradhan, 2006:7). There are various socially constructed supposed systems, which are the main responsible factors to create discrimination, prejudice against women in our society (Pandit, 2003: 4).

The status of women is not well, they are complied to face various types of injustice; these all because of their low participation. Women lag far behind men in social, economic, political and legal aspects thus, restricting them from leading complete and dignified life (Pradhan, 2000:7). The right of women to own or inheritance property is limited in many countries. Women frequently lack the right or the power to make personal decisions or to participate equally with men in family decision-making. Women are seldom equally represented in political or economic power structures, even in wealthier, industrialized countries (AGI, 1995:4).

Women's empowerment means reinforcing their capacity to participate as equal partners in cultural, social, economic and political system of a society; without empowering women, actual and effective development impossible (Baral, 2004:62). So, women's empowerment must involve women making choices that enhance their individual as well their families and communities.

Women's empowerment is a prominent issue in Nepal because of the continuing deprivation of Nepalese women. In spite of Nepal's constitution and International agreements signed by Nepalese government has guaranteed women freedom from discrimination (ESP, 2000: 1). Therefore, empowerment process cannot become sustainable without eliminating entrenched socio-cultural norms as discriminatory practices.

Hence, social inclusion of women is the way to reach their empowerment. where," Inclusion is about reducing inequalities between the least advantaged groups and communities and the rest of society by closing the opportunity gap and ensuring that support reaches those who need it most" (http://www.scotland.gov.uk accessed on 3rd June 2008).

Women's empowerment is a prominent issue in Nepal because of the continuing deprivation of Nepalese women. In spite of Nepal's constitution and International agreements signed by Nepalese government for guarantying women freedom from discrimination (ESP, 2000;1). Therefore, Empowerment process cannot become sustainable without eliminating entrenched socio-cultural norms as discriminatory practices.

Sustainable empowerment is defined as a situation where people are empowered socially, economically and politically (UNDP, 2004:12). The Nepalese women's situation is not indicating that they are empowered. In the context of empowerment Nepalese women have limited gains in the last couple of decades. Women's educational status and visible economic participation have improved in absolute terms. But on the other hand, gender disparity in access to modern resources and power structure is increasing (Acharya, 1997:1). Therefore the proposed study has an aim of obtaining information from Runtigadhi Rural Municipality of Rolpa district on the social exclusion of women and their deprivation.

1.2. Statement of the problem

Women's empowerment refers to enhance the capacity of the women, which is only possible by increasing their participation in every sector. Social inclusion of women eliminates the inequalities and barriers. Women's empowerment itself is a challenging job in male dominant social structure. Empowered women can take more active roles in the household and community to confront the challenges of poverty, improve family health as well being and increase household income (Dhakwa, 2001).

For the sustainable development, the empowerment of women is very essential because men and women are two wheels of a cart; in absence of one, it cannot be driven. Women in Nepal live in an oppressive, backward and feudal environment, which is caused by patriarchal system, unequal power relation, and socio-religious and cultural norms and traditions. The religious, cultural as well as existing laws of Nepal permit male to be superior, which set free to man to govern over women. Therefore, women are largely excluded from education, legal aid and feel to have lost their own identity. Whereas half of the population is represented by women but is still, women are treated as second citizens.

The reality is that without social inclusion of women or equal participation of women, empowerment and equality of women are not possible; and without equality and empowerment of women, the sustainable development of nation is entirely impossible.

Women have remained voiceless and their representation in social, economic and political life has been minimal. Problems related to women in power and decision-making have qualitative and quantitative dimensions. The First dimension involves the capacity of women to assert and exercise their rights, and the lack of an enabling environment in which to do this. On the other hand, some quantitative improvements have been made with the introduction of reservation of local election. The overall participation of women in decision-making position is very low and remains unsatisfactory. The statutory provisions alone do not adequately facilitate women's entry in to these positions. Quantitative growth has been horizontal and only observed at the lowest levels of representation. Higher levels, of both local and national politics, are still regarded as the "Male sector". Thus far, the political parties and legislature have failed to substantiate their commitment to ensuring women's access to powerful decision-making positions (Gurung, 2007: 4).

The main purpose of this study is to show that how the social inclusion of women plays a vital role to improve their status and also to show how inclusion is the way of empowerment. This research is guided by the following research questions:

1   What is the condition of women in education, occupation, employment and income sector?

2   What is the social inclusion status of women in local organizations, household decision-making, household ownership, parental property and political participation?

3   What are the causes and consequences of exclusion of women?

4   How can be women empowered?

1.3. Objectives of the study

The general objective of this study is to examine the social exclusion and inclusion of women in terms of social and political participation, and decision-making. The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- To explore social economic status of women included in local level organizations,
- To explore status of women at different local organizations and
- To bring out challenges women faced in these organizations.

1.4. Significance of the study

Women population in Nepal is more than half but their participation in social, economic and political sector is very pitiable though they have equal rights to be participated. Without participation of women, it is impossible to achieve the expected goals of development of the nation. Empowered women are able to perform their own duty with an honorable way. In our society, the Hindu culture is the root of the patriarchal systems; women are excluded from participation in social, economic and political area. Therefore to empower the women, all the barriers and inequalities should be eliminated which is possible only through their social inclusion in every aspect. Social inclusion of women improves their confidence and decision-making power.

Many studies have been conducted on the issues of women's inclusion and empowerment by various national and international agencies of organizations, freelance researchers, NGOs and university students. It is hoped that this study will also be another foundation in the field of social inclusion of women and their empowerment. This study focuses in women's inclusion and their status in socio-economic and political area in local level of the study area.

The specific significances of the research are as follows:

1 This study has analyzed the socio-economic inclusion and status of women,
2 It has explored the political awareness, participation in social activities and household decision-making power of women.
3 It will be useful for the concerned planners, policy makers, GOs/NGOs/INGOs, academician, scholars who are working in the same field.
4 It may be reliable and useful for the students of researchers who are interested to study in this particular field.

1.5 Limitations of the study

This study aims to find out the socio-economic political and demographic characteristics as well the major causes and consequences of the exclusion of female in the study area. It was also micro study, which attempted to explore the major processes of inclusion and status of women in the process of their empowerment. Moreover, this study aims to find out the socio-economic as well as political participation of women in local organizations, which are the indicators of women empowerment and their extent of social inclusion.

This study has some of its limitations; which are as follows:

1 The limited and general social variables, economic variable; and political variables were chosen.

2 Since, this study has been based on a small sampling area; it may not show the macro view of socio-economic and political status.

3 This study has been concentrated to analyze the participation of women in social activities and household decision-making power.

4 This study has focused in Runtigadhi Rural Municipality of Rolpa district.

5 This study has been taken only 60 respondents.

6 This study has covered only married women of aged 15 years and above.

1.6. Organization of the study

This research work is divided into six chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction of the study, general background, statement of problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study and limitation of the study and organization of the study as well.

The second chapter deals with the Literature review, which includes meaning and definition, theoretical literature, empirical literature, conceptual framework as well women's empowerment issues under UN and women issues in Nepal five year plan.

The third chapter deals with research methodology adopted for this study. It includes sample procedure, data collection techniques and tools, data processing and analysis techniques and ethical issues of the research.

The fourth chapter analyses the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents,   age composition of the respondents, caste/ethnicity of the respondents, age at marriage of the respondents, marital status of the respondents, family types of the respondent etc.

The fifth chapter deals inclusion of women and their socio-economic status, of women in different local organizations, and challenges faced by women in these organizations, socio-economic challenges, legal challenges, women violence/ harassment, cultural and religious challenges, low level of educational opportunity, family support etc.

And finally the sixth chapter represents the overall summary of the study, conclusions and recommendations of the study.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

This chapter presents literature on social exclusion/inclusion and women's empowerment based in available reports, articles and some web-based information prepared for particular purposes of the study. It is mainly based on reports and research works on the related issues by national and international agencies, research institutes, research scholars and human rights organizations.

2.1. Meaning and definition of the social inclusion/exclusion

The term social exclusion and inclusion were introduced at first in France and then popularized in social polity discourse in Europe in 1970s to crisis of the welfare state and then used in other regions especially in development paradigms based on poverty reduction (Silver, 1994). Though the forms of exclusion and inclusion were emerged at first in 1970s but lots of studies have shown that social exclusion and inclusion exist from the very beginning of civilization.

Social inclusion is a concept that can describe, on the one hand, a condition or outcome, and on the other, a dynamic process. As an outcome or condition, is a state in which excluded individuals or groups are unable to participate fully in their society resulting from their social identity such as gender, ethnicity, caste or religion or from their social location such as areas that are remote, stigmatized or suffering from war, conflict or with their origin (DFID, 2006). Social exclusion is thus is used to refer to the various types of social disadvantages related to social problem arising from economic crisis and crisis of the welfare state, long term unemployment, growing instability of social bonds and lack of integration on the basis of origin (Pradhan, 2006). Therefore, social exclusion said to be occurred when a group is excluded from rights or entitlements as a citizen, where rights include the social right to a certain standard of living and to participation in society (Gurung, 2007: 31).

2.2. Theoretical literature on social inclusion/exclusion

The concept of social exclusion is about all those individuals or groups that are excluded from basic means of livelihood, but it is also about those excluded form the process of political and economic decision making, and those excluded from any conceptualization of

social security. At wider level it may refer to exclusion from education health care and ultimately the freedom that and individual must have to organize or control his/her life in a given social settings (Nayak, 1995).

Social exclusion is, thus a complex and multi faceted notion. It refers to both individuals and societies and to disadvantage, alienation and lack of freedom (Bhalla and Lapeyre, 1997:415). However, de Haan and Maxawalle (1998) have identified the key arenas of social exclusion and inclusion. They have emphasized that people are basically excluded from their rights, resources and relationships. Social exclusion refers to exclusion in the economic, social and political sphere. It goes beyond the analysis of resource allocation, mechanism and includes power relations, agency, culture and social identity (de Haan, 1998:12).

Social inclusion and exclusion are contested concepts defined from the perspective or framework of different social science paradigms and disciplinary and theoretical perspectives, political ideologies and even national discourses (Pradhan, 2006:1). Social exclusion is the root cause of disempowerment of women. Empowerment is seen as occurring at the individual and group level and, to an important extent has to do with increasing their access to assets, capabilities and voice; and helping them to realize he power, they gain from collective action. Indian sociologist Kamala Bhasin defined, "Empowerment means the enhancement of social aspect, self dignity, self reliance and going control over resources"(Chaulagai and Others, 2003:36).

Empowerment refers transforming existing resource and power relations in favor of those marginalized, deprived and disadvantaged groups and more generally women, who have faced sever limitations in exercising power and making voluntary choice (Shrestha, 2007: 58). So, unequal power relations or lack of power is the hindrances to women's empowerment. Equality and participation of women in all sphere is mostly needed. That is why; social inclusion is as the key pathway to empowerment of individuals and has at times tended to conflate empowerment and participation (http://hdr.undp.org accessed on 3rd June, 2008).

Women are named as vulnerable, marginal and excluded groups worldwide. Gender based exclusions from access to resources i.e. in particular land rights and common property resources, employment opportunities and income control, knowledge are mainly due to

patriarchy values. Exclusion of women from the public arena and devaluation of their work have been highly realized for long. It was realized that their subordination is embedded in their role as care – taker and nurturer (Pokhrel and Mishra, 2001:3). Furthermore, women are being deprived socio-cultural, economic, legal and political rights. Economic discrimination against women is responsible for socio-cultural, legal, educational and political backwardness of women in the context of Nepal (Pradhan, 2000:62).

DFID/World Bank (2006:9) defined, as "social-inclusion is the removal of institutional barriers and the enhancement of incentives to increase access of diverse individuals and groups to development opportunities. And Empowerment is the enhancement of assets and capabilities of diverse individuals and groups to function, and to engage influence and hold accountable the institutions that affect them".

Hence, Social-inclusion and empowerment are closely related but separate concepts that through the social inclusion process, the empowerment process operates. Bennett put her statement that social inclusion and empowerment play their contemporary role for equity and development (Bennett, 2005).

2.3. The women's empowerment

On the issues of women's empowerment various conventions and conferences are held. Gender equality has become a motto for all international conventions and conferences sponsored by the institutions under UN-umbrella. All UN conferences and conventions have emphasized women's participation and their empowerment and mainstreaming. Since the 1975 UN conferences on women (Mexico) the world community has acquired or great deal of knowledge about the situation of women worldwide and gained valuable insight into process of development from a gender perspective (Acharya, 1997: 1,7).

The Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 1979 is the first legally binding convention on the women's issues. It concerned to eliminate the obstacles to the participation of women, on equal terms with men in the political, social, economic and cultural life. This convention purposed to ensure the human rights of women and their fundamental freedom in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. It focused the full movement of women such as education, employment, marriage and maternity field and political, which ensures their empowerment (Surethri, 2002: 214-223).

The fourth world women conference (1995) was held in Beijing, was the milestone in the field of women's issues. It has identified the twelve critical concerns area of women. It has focused on women empowerment and development by promoting their social, economic and political participation. The critical areas of concern of Beijing, emphasizing that the advancement of women and the achievement of equality between women and men are a matter of human rights, social justice and women's empowerment. All the actions of Beijing and Beijing+5 review has given main focus on women's right and empowerment through their equal participation in all aspects of production, employment, income-generating activities and social activities, full involvement in decision-making and policy making activities.

The MDGs (2000) has focused that by empowering women, the sustainable development will be achieved. It forced to ensure the women's education, their reproductive, productive rights as well as combating all kinds of discriminations against women. Therefore," promote gender equality and empower women" is one of the goals of the MDGs.

2.4 Empirical literature on women status

Although women are economically active, and female labor participation is underreported, many women are excluded from economic activities. Women are over represented in activities on land holdings often as unpaid family workers a sphere, which tends to disappear with the monetization of agriculture. Women are also active in the urban labor market, which is highly segmented and where barriers to entry are much greater for women than men. Thus, female labor market participation may mean inclusion, access to gainful activities (de Haan, 1995).

In many parts of the developed regions, there have been increases in women's economic activity rates over the past two decades. women's highest shares in wage and salaried employment are in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, something that could change as new economic policies create wide spread unemployment there. Women tend to be in clerical, sales and domestic services. Women hold a mere 10-20 percent of managerial and administrative jobs worldwide and less than 20 percent of the manufacturing jobs (UN, 2004).

Women are poorly represented in the ranks of power policy and decision-making, women make up less than_5 percent of the worlds heads of state, heads of major corporations and top positions in international organizations. Women continue to be denied equal access to high-status and high-paying positions but there has been some progress since United Nations Decade for women began in 1976. Many countries have set up special offices to review complaints of discriminatory practice in political parties, parliaments, Unions and professional organizations (UN, 2008).

Women's political participation at the political level is very less even in highly developed countries such as America, Europe. The United State of America, which has been preaching practices of democracy, equality and human rights to the world, is very conservative regarding women's participation in politics. The participation of women in the world politics, there is only 13.7 percent. As per UNDP statistics, there is 43 percent women participation in politics in Sweden, 37 percent in Netherlands, 35.8 percent Norway and 30.4 percent in Finland. Women's participation in politics has become an issue of serious contemplation since the UN World conferences on women and Development in 1975 to the fourth world women's conference in Beijing, China in 1995 (Dhital, 2005: 97-100).

In recent times, the social and political participation of women has slightly been increased when the state formed a policy of positive discrimination but which is not in a satisfactory condition. The interim constitution of Nepal 2007 has provided 33 percent reservation in all ate mechanism based on the caste/ethnic composition of women through the amendment of relevant laws and policies. It has also repealed of all discriminatory laws as according to the Nepalese international commitments. The state has taken the policy of increasing the access to and control over natural resources, making National Women Commission (NWC) autonomous, eliminating all discriminatory social norms to women and building women's capacity by providing modern skills and training are some positive actions to improve the condition of women in Nepal. Furthermore, property rights, sexuality rights, abortion rights and marriage and family laws after the 11th amendment of Civil Code in 2002 and further improvisation by Interim Constitution 2007 are important benchmarks in the process of women empowerment.

2.5 Institutional mechanism for the advancement of women

A number of institutional arrangements have been made as an effect of the Beijing Conference for the advanced of women. They include:-

- Establishment of separate ministry of women and welfare (renamed MWCSW).
- Establishment of the National Commission on women.
- Formation of the National Women Co-ordination Committee under the chairpersonship of the minister for MWCSW.
- Establishment of an informal caucus of women parliamentarians.
- Creation of Child Welfare Committees in all 75 districts.
- Separate women cells at the police headquarters and in some districts.

CHAPTER III

REASEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter represents overall research methodology, which had been applied for this study in order to meet the research objectives. The field work was conducted on February 2018.

3.1 Research design

The study is a based on Runtigadhi Rural Municipality of Rolpa district of mid-west Nepal. Keeping in views of the problem formulation, the design of the study is chosen as a descriptive survey design. The descriptive survey design was covered a sample of the women and description of the issues related to the social inclusion and empowerment of women.

3.2 Rationale for the selection of study area

Ward no. 2 of Runtigadhi Rural Municipality of Rolpa district of mid-west Nepal was selected for the study. The Wada has been existed 933 household and 4,470 total populations (Village Profile, 2073). It is bordered by Ghodagaun in the east, Masina in the west, and Ward no. 1 of Lapal in the North and Pyuthan Nayagaun in the south. It is the mountain slope area of Ropla district. The survey was taken from Uma tole of ward no. 2 of Runtigadhi Rural Municipality where 306 household the total population is 1423 existed in the area where the male population is 614 and female population is 809. The ward was selected for behind reason such as feasible by time and cost, inclusive settlement of cast/ethnicity. There is a curiosity of gaining more knowledge from the women of ward to seem somehow empowered in every aspect of social life. So, the researcher is also local person in this Rural Municipality and interested the self ward.

3.3 Universe and sampling procedures

Sample size is the most important and difficult task of the field study. For this study, the total sample size is 18 households of selected ward of the Rural Municipality. According to Rural Municipality Profile (2074), 306 household and total population 1423 are existed in this Uma tole of Runtigadhi Rural Municipality ward no. 2. The sample size was taken 18 married women three from each local organization (community forest user group, aama samuha, poverty alleviation fund, drinking water committee, school management committee and

farmers group). For the selection of respondent interview, researcher was self decided at time of survey that is able to provide the details information about on overall household information and women's decision issues in social activities for inclusion.

The process of the selection of the respondents from the six community organizations of the study is tried to clear by tabulation.

Name of CBOs	Total Number	Female	Sample Respondents
community forest user group	26	16	3
Aama samuha	19	19	3
PAF group	190	170	3
Drinkink water user committee	14	5	3
School management committee	16	6	3
Agriculture groups	42	29	3

3.4 Nature and sources of data

This study depends mainly upon primary data. Primary data were obtained from the field study through household survey, group discussion and informal interview. Secondary data were collected from various published and unpublished literature such as books, journals, article, etc. wherever necessary.

3.5 Data collection procedures and tools
3.5.1 Interview schedule

A set of structured and unstructured interview questionnaires were designed and apply for the study purpose. The structured questionnaire deals with the purpose of getting information about on socio-economic status of women, participation in decision making, family affairs, socio-cultural activities and women's access/control over the economic resources of the households.

The discussions on unstructured question related with their dual work burden behavioural pattern within the family, empowerment of women etc.

3.5.2 Focus group discussion

A focus group discussion had been conducted with the women members of the related households. Discussions were focused upon who makes major decision etc. In addition to these, some key informants were also provided information on various aspects of the social inclusion issues under the study. These key informants were included political leaders, senior men and women of their community, teachers, social workers etc.

3.5.3 Observation

Observation method was applied for some related gathering field data. Physical settlement of respondent's households, socio-cultural activities, values, agricultural practices, behaviour and attitudes were observed by indirect participation. It is helped to the researcher to understand the local language, male and female communication in social activities, ceremony, and seeking behaviour, household's works.

3.6 Data processing an analysis

The collected data had been checked whether complete or not and edited for completeness, accuracy and uniformity. After editing, a code book was prepared for the semi open and multiple responses questions. All responses were assigned to a numeric code. After that the collected data were processed using simple computer software. The collected data are analyzed and statistically interpreted by using methods such as simple frequency distribution, percentage distribution, cross tabulation wherever necessary.

CHAPTER IV

INTRODUCTION TO HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

This chapter represents the socio-economic, demographic and political representative characteristics of the household population and respondents of the study area.

4.1 Household population

In this segment, the sampled household characteristics by age, sex, marital status, educational status and occupational status were analyzed of the study area.

4.1.1 Age-Sex composition of the household population

The age-sex composition of a population is important in demographic analysis. A population's age and sex composition is considered as a map of its demographic history. If age composition is destroyed, all age-specific information of vital events is eventually destroyed. The various demographic events differ in different age and sex. Therefore, age-sex composition has significant implications.

Information on age and sex of each household member were obtained from the married women of. In 18 sampled households, the total population was 108 with having 49 male and 59 female populations which is shown in following table.

Table No. 4.1: Distribution of the household population by age and sex

Age Group	Sex		Total	
	Male	**Female**	Number	Percentage
0 – 14	7	9	16	14.82
15 –2 9	10	13	23	21.29
30 – 44	13	15	28	25.92
45 – 59	12	13	25	23.15
60 and above	7	9	16	14.82
Total	**49**	**59**	**108**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The population of the study area was distributed almost equally by all age groups. The age group 30-44 years (25.92%), the lowest in age group 60 and above and 0-14 is equally (14.82%). The age group 15-29 years (21.29%) and the population of age group 45-59 years is (23.15%) of the total.

4.1.2. Marital status of the household population

Marriage is universal in our society. In Nepal, marriage is compulsion for both men and women. Marriage determines the social roles and responsibilities of the people. So it is called social institutions.

Table No. 4.2: Distribution of population by their marital status (10 years and above)

Marital Status	Sex		Total	
	Male	**Female**	Number	Percentage
Unmarried	14	13	27	25.00
Married	30	37	67	62.04
Widow	2	4	6	5.55
Divorced	2	3	5	4.63
Separated	1	2	3	2.78
Total	**49**	**59**	**108**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

In the household population, majority of the population were married 62.04%. Similarly 25.00% were unmarried, followed by 5.55% widow. The proportions of divorced and separated were 4.46% and 2.78% respectively.

4.1.3 Educational status of the household population

The higher literacy status and educational attainment affects the people's Participation in socio-economic, developmental as well as in policy making level. Education enhances the ability and capacity of human being to judge for right and wrong. Majority of the school level student were gone near schools in other wards. The educational status of the household population is given below.

Table No. 4.3: Distribution of population by their literacy status

Literacy Status	Sex		Total	
	Male	**Female**	Number	Percentage
Literate	43	48	91	84.26
Illiterate	6	11	17	15.74
Total	**49**	**59**	**108**	**100.00**
Educational Attainment				
Primary	11	17	28	27.45
Secondary	18	28	46	45.10
SLC/Intermediate	10	8	18	17.65
Bachelor and above	6	4	10	9.80
Total	**45**	**57**	**102**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Education by sex was found unequal among the study population. Female literacy is few lower than that of males. The female educational attainment was in SLC/Intermediate level and in bachelor and above, is low than the primary and secondary level. In lower level education like primary, the attainment was quite high than the male. The population of illiterate are 15.74% and 84.26% are literate. It is concluded that still women were excluded from higher level educational opportunities.

4.1.4 Household's occupation

Occupation is an indicator of economic condition of a person. The occupational status of the households population of the study area is given below table.

Table No. 4.4: Distribution of household population by their occupation

Occupation	Sex		Total	
	Male	**Female**	Number	Percentage
Agriculture	21	6	27	25.00
Student	8	9	17	15.75
Foreign Labor	5	1	6	5.56
Household work	2	28	30	27.78
Daily Wage Labour	5	4	9	8.33
Service	1	2	3	2.78
Business	3	5	8	7.40
Teaching	2	1	3	2.78
Social worker	2	3	5	4.62
Total	**49**	**59**	**108**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The table showed that the huge portion of women population is engaged in household work where as the male engaged in agriculture. The household population is engaged in many occupations. Where, household work 27.78%, agriculture 25.00%, students 15.75% daily wagelabour 8.33%, business 7.40%, foreign labour 5.56%, social work 4.62% and Service and teaching equally 2.78%.

4.2 Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents

This sub-chapter deals with the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents.

4.2.1 Age composition of the respondents

The age structure plays a significant role in demography whether it influences the values, roles, social mores, responsibilities, social relation and fundamental social hierarchy. In the study from the total sampled respondents, their ages were broadly grouped as 15-29, 30-59 and 65+ years of age.

Table No. 4.5: Distribution of the respondents by age group

Age group	Total Number	Percentage
15-29	5	27.78
30-59	12	66.66
60+	1	5.56
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

In the sampled population, 66.66 percent respondents were found in age group 30-59 years, where 27.78 percent respondents were in age group 15-29 years. Only 5.56 percent respondents were included in the study from the age group 60 and above.

4.2.2 Caste/ethnicity of the respondents

Caste is the system of dividing people in a society into different social classes and the a large group of people who have the same national, racial, or cultural origins, or the state of belonging to such a group. Nepal is a state of multi caste and ethnicity. In the sampled area various caste and ethnic groups were found. Among these identified caste and ethnicity, they were categorized into four broad caste groups i.e. Chhetri, Magar, Kami and Others (Brahmin, Giri & Puri).

Table No. 4.6: Distribution of the respondents by their caste/ethnic group

Caste group	Total Number	Percentage
Chhetri	5	27.78
Magar	8	44.44
Kami	2	11.11
Others(Brahmin, Giri & Puri)	3	16.67
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The above table showed that the majority of the respondents are from Magar 44.44%, secondly Chhetri 27.78%. Other caste groups are Kami11.11% and lastly others 16.67% in the study area.

4.2.3 Age at marriage of the respondents

The age at marriage is also an indicator of socio-health status of the women. In this study, the age at marriage of the respondents were categorized into 4 groups such as; <14 years, 15-19 years, 20-24 years and 25+ years.

Table No. 4.7: Distribution of the respondents by their marital age-group

Marriage age-group	Total Number	Percentage
<14	1	5.66
15-19	9	50.00
20-24	6	33.33
25+	2	11.11
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 4.1: Distribution of the respondents by their marital age-group
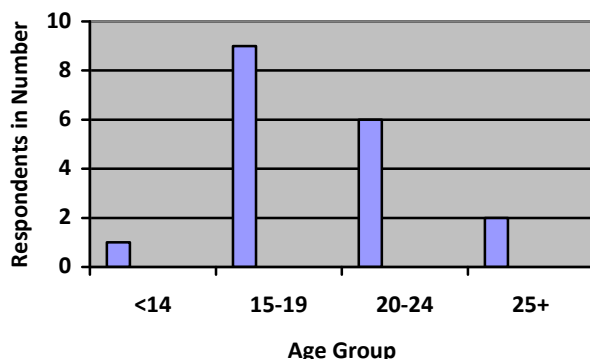
The above table and figure showed that 50% respondents had got married at the age group of 15-19 years, second portion 33.33% at the age group of 20-24, third 11.11% at the age group of 25+ and only one respondent 5.56% respondents had got married within her teenage period below 14.

4.2.4 Marital status of the respondents

Marital status is another important determinant, which changes the life cycle of a woman. As we know, marriage is essential and universal in our society. It determines women's position

within family as well as her status within society. Female's roles are increased in family only after her marriage and her decision making power is accepted if she is considered to be married.

Table No. 4.8: Distribution of the respondents by marital status

Marital Status	Total Number	Percentage
Married	15	83.33
Single	3	16.67
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 4.2: Distribution of the respondents by marital status

According to the above table and diagram, out of 60 respondents, 83.33% respondents were married followed by Single 16.67%.
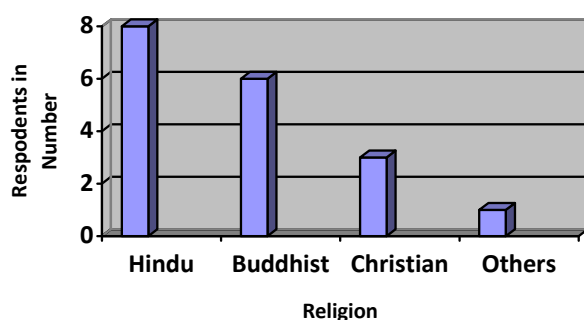
4.2.6 Religion status of the respondents

Religious composition is the important social characteristics of respondent. Religion also plays a vital role to unite a society and keep solidarity among respondents. It is also a factor that determines the role and responsibilities of a woman; because different religious groups have their own traditional values and systems which govern people beliefs.

Table No. 4.9: Distribution of the respondents by religion

Religion	Total Number	Percentage
Hindu	8	44.44
Buddhist	6	33.33
Christian	3	16.67
Others (Om Santi, Manab Dharma)	1	5.56
Total	**18**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 4.3: Distribution of the respondents by religion

In the above table and figure four religious groups are found. The majority of the respondents from Hindu religion are 44.44% followed by Buddhist 33.33%. Out of the 18 respondents, only three persons are found Christian one person from others (Om Santi, Manab Dharma).

4.2.7 Family types of the respondents

The family background determines the future of an individual. Family plays an important role to determine the career of a woman because of the social structure. In our society, a woman should fully depend upon their family, and without their permission and decision she is helpless to do anything on her own. It is believed that in nuclear family, a woman can get some extent of choices to do something freely than in a joint family. Here we know a consanguine family unit that includes two or more generations of kindred related through either the paternal or maternal line who maintain a common residence and are subject to

common social, economic, and religious regulations and the nuclear family knows a family group that consists only of parents and children.

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Table No. 4.10: Distribution of respondents by their family types

Family type of the respondents	Total Number	Percentage
Nuclear	13	72.22
Joint	5	27.78
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Figure No. 4.4: Distribution of respondents by their family types
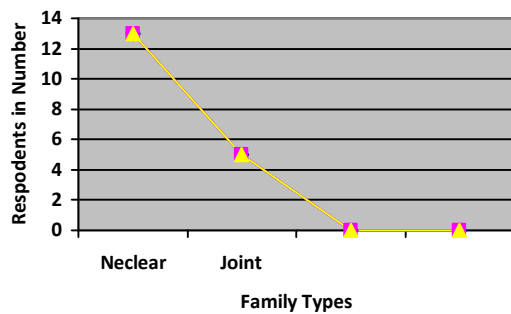
According to the above table and figure, less than one third (27.78%) of the respondents were from the joint family and remaining 72.72% respondents were from nuclear family.

CHAPTER V

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

This chapter deals with the socio-economic characteristics of women involved in local organizations, status of respondents, role and responsibility of decision making power of those women in these organizations and also deals with challenges these women are facing.

5.1 Socio economic status of women respondents

The women respondents' socio-economic and political status is very important for this study the inclusion status is given by different sub headings in below.

5.1.1 Educational status of the respondents

Education is the main part of personal as well as societal development. It has a multidimensional significance. Education is also considered to be an indicator of women empowerment. Greater participation of women in education is the backbone of their empowerment.

Table No. 5.1: Distribution of the respondents by educational status

Literacy Status	Total Number	Percentage
Illiterate	2	11.11
literate	6	33.33
SLC, IA or equivalent	8	44.45
Bachelor	2	11.11
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Out of total only 11.11% of the respondents are found illiterate. Rest of the respondents, literate 33.33%, and 44.45% SLC I A or equivalent and very negligible percent of the respondents had attained higher education bachelor level which is 11.11%.

5.1.2 Monthly income and income keeper of the respondents

The income level of the respondents and income keeper makes a valuable status about the women inclusion in economic activities in the society. The income level of the respondents was not seen well in the study are. The distribution of the respondents is given in the following table.

Table No. 5.2: Respondents by their level of income and income keeper

Income level	Total Number	Percentage
Below Rs. 5000	3	16.67
5001-10000	6	33.33
10001-15000	7	38.89
15001+	2	11.11
Total	**18**	**100.0**
Household income keeper		
Husband	4	22.22
Parents	5	27.78
Self	3	16.67
Husband and wife Both	6	33.33
Total	**18**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

For sound and healthy family life, male and female both are equally responsible. They need to share benefits in family. The study had shown that only 16.67% women kept their family income where 33.33% kept both of them. The result shows that 38.89% of respondents had earned 15,000 per month where 16.67% respondents earned only 5,000 per month.

5.1.3 Sources of income

Source of income is that factor which helps to improve socio-economic status of the people. In Runtigadhi Rural Municipality ward no. 2, major occupation or sources of income are their traditional is farming. However, they are shifted in many kinds of occupation like service, business, etc. Among the respondents who were involved in income generating activities, majority of the respondents' sources of income was agriculture/livestocks.

Table No. 5.3: Distribution of the respondents by sources of income

Sources of income	Total Number	Percentage
Agriculture/ Livestock	9	50.00
Business	3	16.67
Wage Labor	3	16.67
Job/ Services	1	5.56
Teaching	2	11.11
Total	**18**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 5.1: Distribution of the respondents by sources of income
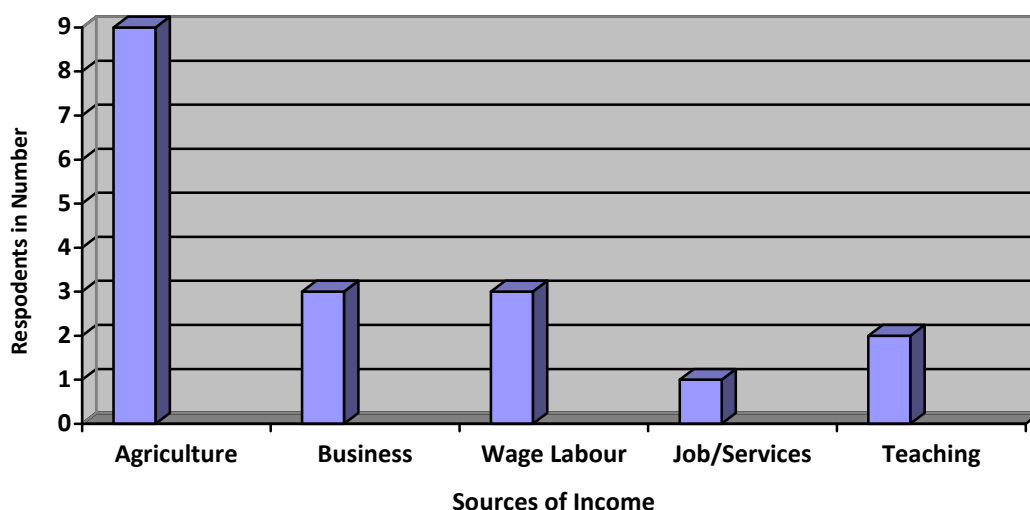
According to above table and figure the majority 50.00% of the respondents is engaged in agriculture/livestock where as 16.67% are in wage labour and business equally, only 5.56% in job/service, and 11.11% teaching profession.

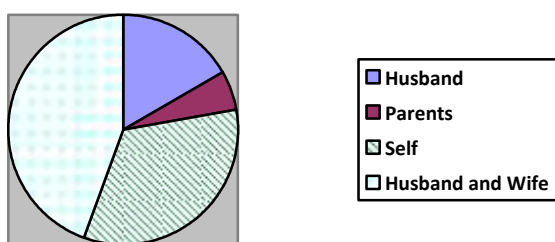**5.1.4. Reproductive health right among the respondents**

Reproductive right and taking the decision about this factor of life is essential part of women health. It can clear status of women inclusion in the society of their health access. The respondents are varied on the reproductive health right the distribution of the respondents about this issue is given in the following table.

Table No. 5.4 Reproductive health right among the respondents

Having Right	Total Number	Percentage
Husband	3	16.67
Parents	1	5.56
Self	6	33.33
Husband and Wife	8	44.44
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 5.2: Reproductive health right among the respondents

According to the above table and diagram, the majority of respondents are able to have right about the reproductive health in a combine way. Out of 18 respondents, 44.44% respondents are have in a mutual understanding with their husband, second portion of respondents 33.33% are have absolute right about the reproductive health. And remain portion of respondent's are influenced by the husband and parents 16.67% and 5.56% respectively.

5.1.5 Ownership of the house and land by the respondents

Ownership of the house and land also represents the socio-economic status and inclusion of women in economic rights. The study had shown that all of the respondents had their own house. Among the respondents having own house, small portion of the respondents are legal owner of the house. The status of house and land ownership system of the respondents is given below table.

Table No. 5.5: Distribution of the respondents by ownership of the house and Land

Ownership of the house	Total number	Percentage
Husband	8	44.44
Parents	1	5.56
Self	5	27.78
Husband and Wife Both	4	22.22
Total	**18**	**100.0**
Ownership of the Land		
Yes	7	38.89
No	11	61.11
Total	**18**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Some of respondents had ownership of house in name of their husband. According to the data 44.44% of respondents had ownership of house in the name of their husband, 22.22% with their parents; negligible portion 5.56% ownership of house only had the respondents and only the women had the house ownership 27.78%. The study also had shown that little portion of respondents had own land on their ownership. Among the respondents 38.89% respondents had land on their own name and 61.11% respondents didn't have land on their own name. Thus, it can be concluded that most of the women were excluded from their legal rights on the land holding system.

5.1.6 Political participation of respondents

In the context of women's role and influence in the society, political participation needs to be analyzed from several angles. Conventionally, politics is understood to cover the science of governance in the public arena only. But in women's context it is imperative that politics includes gender politics within family and in the domestic scene, because that is where they are intensively exploited, repressed and excluded.

Women's political participation is defined as participation in social activities, participation in decision making roles within the domestic scene as well as in the community. Involvement in

political movements and political parties forms another dimension of women's political participation. Awareness/knowledge about their rights and access to inheritance property are conceptualized as women's political empowerment. The party affiliation of the respondents is shown in the following table.

Table No. 5.6 Distribution of the respondents by their political affiliation

Name of the party	Total number	Percentage
Nepali Congress	7	39.00
CPN (UML)	4	22.00
CPN (Unified Maoist Center)	7	39.00
Total	**18**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 5.3: Distribution of the respondents by their party affiliation
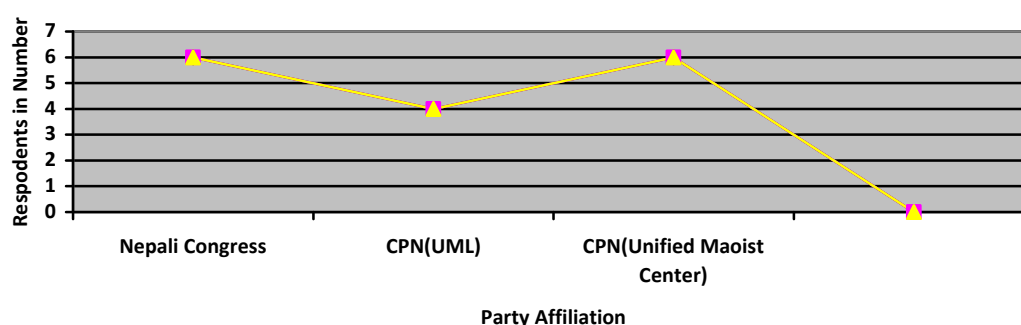
Above table and figure shows that the majority of respondents are from the Nepali Congress and CPN Unified Moist equally 39.00% and CPM (UML) 22.00% of the total.

5.1.7 Representation of women in rural municipality election 2074

The constitution of Nepal 2072 has formulated the provision for women representation in the political bodies in Nepal in all level centers to local level. The provision of the women in political bodies is the main way of the women inclusion in the main stream of the governing system. Many women in number were participated in the election but some few numbers of women were elected by the election. The status of women in the local political bodies is given in the following table.

Table No. 5.7: Representation of women in Rural Municipality election

Portfolio of the women	Participated in election	Elected number	Percentage
Vice President	2	-	-
Ward President	-	-	-
Ward Member	13	3	15.38
Total	**15**	**3**	**-**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The participation of the women in local election 2074 in the study area 15 women was participated in the election from different political parties. But only few numbers of the women were elected by the election. The elected representatives were also from the women quota provided by the constitution of Nepal. Again it is the great work for the women inclusion in the political mainstreaming and governing system of Nepal as well.

5.2 Household decision making process and status of women in local organizations

The inclusion of the women in the local organization in the study area is not in the proper order. The government of the Nepal has implemented many rules and regulations to promote the social inclusion of women in local organizations and their empowerment. Locally available organization and inclusion of the women in these organizations is tried to present here as follows.

**5.2.1 Respondents by making decision to join their child in school**

Decision power or the involvement of women about the providing the education to their children in the family is most important. By the role of women in such activities shows the empowerment and inclusion of women in the society and family as well. The distribution of the respondents in making decision to join their babies and the level is shown following table.

Table No. 5.8 Involvement of respondents making decision to join their child in school/college

Level of Education	Total Number	Percentage
Primary	6	33.33
Secondary	5	27.78
IA or equivalant	4	22.22
Bachelor and Above	3	16.67
Total	**18**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 5.4: Involvement of respondents making decision to join their child in school
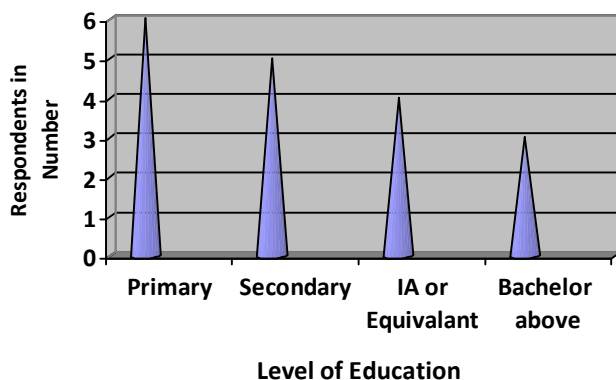
Above table and figure showed that the inclusion of women in decision making process in their home is considerably good. Where, 33.33% of respondents can make decision of joining their children in primary level of education which is followed by 27.78% secondary level. To provide the I A and above level of education to the children; the role of women in decision making significantly low. Where to join their children IA and equivalent 22.22% respondents can involve and only 16.67% of respondents are able to involve in the process of making decision to join B.A. and above.

**5.2.2 Decision on using of family planning methods**

The decision on using the family planning is also a most important factor to indicate inclusion of women in health sector in the society. The varies of the respondents about the making decision on using family planning is given by the following table.

Table No. 5.9 Decision on using of family planning methods

Decision Makers	Total Number	Percentage
Husband	2	16.67
Self	4	33.33
Husband and Wife	6	50.00
Total	**12**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018 * Only 12 women had used family planning methods.

Figure No. 5.5: Decision on using of family planning methods
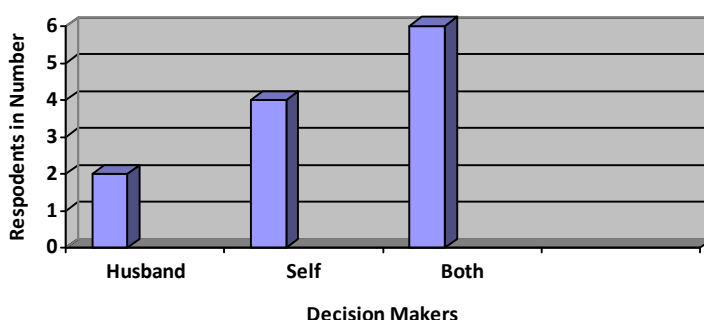
Above table and figure showed that out of total respondents only 12 respondents had used family planning devices. Among the 12 respondents, 50.00% couple had made decision together. Rest of the respondents had made the decision 16.67% by husband and 33.33% by respondents themselves.

### 5.2.3 Involvement of women in community forest user group

The involvement of women in the community forest user group indicates the inclusion of women and their position in the local organization in the study area. Respondents' involvement and the real status in CFUG is given in following table.

Table No. 5.10 Involving status of the women in community forest user group

Name of CFUG	Total Number	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage	Percentage
Dhunge Bisauna CFUG	11	5	45.46	6	54.54	100.00
Dhanrok CFUG	15	5	33.33	10	66.67	100.00
Total	**26**	**10**	**38.47**	**16**	**61.53**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 5.6: Involving status of the women in community forest user group

Women involvement in CFUG
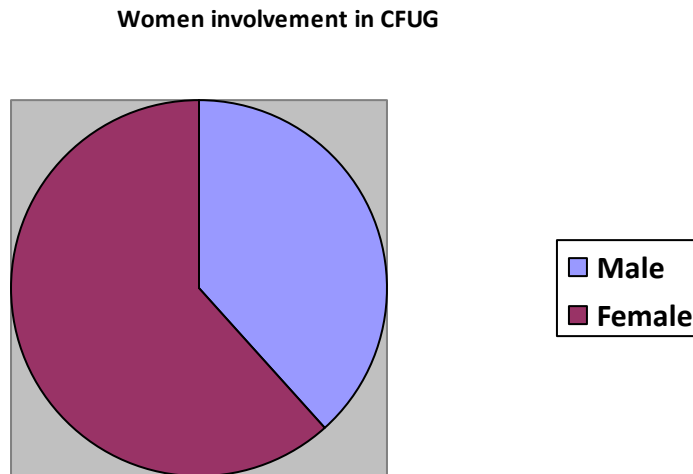
Above table and chart showed that majority there are two CFUGs in the study area. Where 61.53% of the members are female and rest of the portion 38.47% are male. The female position in the community forest user group is in Dhunge Bisauna CFUG one treasurer and five members. Whereas in the Dhanruk CFUG secretary one vice secretary one and eight members.

5.2.4 Participation of women in aama samuha

The status of the women in aama sumaha indicates the real picture of the inclusion of women in social activities based on the women right. In the study area most of the women are active in the aama sumaha. The status of the women in the aama sumaha is sufficient level in the study area. The dhorenidada aama samuha is formed by only women 19 members (presidents to members) all (100.00%) members are women and their role also active in the samuha.

5.2.5 Women's involvement in poverty alleviation fund

Government has been implementing many programmes under the poverty alleviation fund in Nepal to reduce the poverty throughout the country. In the study area, eight PAF groups also running some activities of poverty alleviation fund. The status of the women in poverty reduction fund in study area is given below.

Table No. 5.11 Involving status of the women in poverty alleviation fund

Name of group	Total Number	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage	Percentage
Mirmire Agriculture Co-ooperative	35	5	14.28	30	85.72	100.00
Pani dhara CO	15	2	13.33	13	86.67	100.00
Sunaulo CO	24	3	12.50	21	87.50	100.00
Salghari CO	21	-	-	21	100.00	100.00
Namuna CO	23	-	-	23	100.00	100.00
Dhandada CO	28	8	28.57	20	83.33	100.00
Aampokhara CO	19	-	-	19	100.00	100.00
Dhoren CO	25	2	8.00	23	92.00	100.00
Total	**190**	**20**	**10.52**	**170**	**89.48**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The table showed that the there are eight PAF groups in the study area. Most of the groups are handled by the women leadership. Only three Panidhara, Dhanadada and Ampokhara Dhoren groups are leaded by the male. The three groups are formed by the all women members and others are by the participation of few male members. In the total eight groups the member number is 190 where as the male number is 20 (10.52%) and rest of the members are women 170 (89.48%) in the study area.

5.2.6 Status of Women by involving in drinking water committee

The involvement of the women in the local organization like drinking water committee can be an example of status of the inclusion of women in local organizations. The women in the study area only few numbers belong to the drinking water committee which is tried to clear by the following table and figure.

Table No. 5.12 Involvement of the women in drinking water committee

Name of group	Total Number	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage	Percentage
Chemna DWUC	5	3	60.00	2	40.00	100.00
Gorineta Lifting DWUC	9	6	66.67	3	33.33	100.00
Total	**14**	**9**	**64.28**	**5**	**35.72**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

According to the above table there are two drinking water user groups in the study area. In both groups the women position is treasurer and members only the leadership is belong to male members. Total members of the two user groups are 14 where, 64.28% members are male and 35.72% members are female.

### 5.2.7 Women by involving at school management committee

Government has been implementing many programmes to improve the education system and make a quality education in the country. The participation of the women in the school management committee is an inclusion of women in education management system. In the study area very low level of women are related to the school management committee which is cleared by following table.

Table No. 5.13: Women by involving in school management committee

Name of SMC	Total Number	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage	Percentage
Uma Bhakta Pra. Bi.	8	5	62.50	3	37.50	100.00
Silk pokhari Pra. Bi.	8	5	62.50	3	37.50	100.00
Total	**16**	**10**	**62.50**	**6**	**37.50**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Figure No. 5.7: Involving status of the women in school management committee
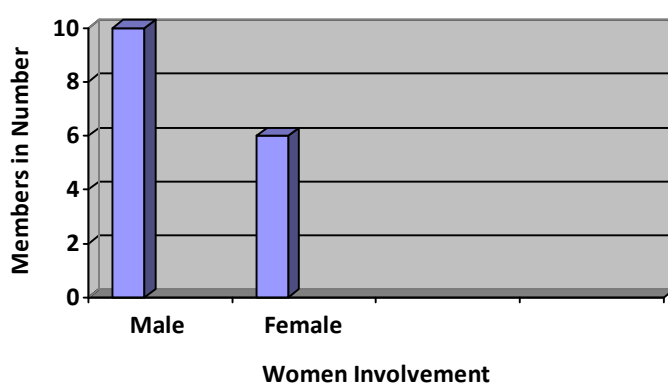
The table and figure showed that the involvement of the women in school management committee. There are two primary school management committees in the study area. 16 members are in both committees. Where 37.50% women and 62.50% are male involved in

the school management committee. The position of the women members in these committees is only member.

5.2.8 Involvement of women in farmers group

Involvement of women in the farmers group also indicates the inclusion of women in the local organization in the study area. The participation of the women in the farmers group in the study area is cleared by the following table.

Table No. 5.14: Women by involving in farmers group

Name of FG	Total Number	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage	Percentage
Kuirepani FG	17	7	47.00	9	53.00	100.00
Banrepani FG	25	5	20.00	20	80.00	100.00
Total	**42**	**12**	34.00	**29**	66.00	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The table showed that the involvement of the women in farmers group. Where 53.00% women are involved in the Kuirepani farmers group and 80.00% women are involved in the Banrepani farmers group in the study area. But the lead position of the women as president is only in one groups.

5.3 Challenges faced by women in these organizations

In the study area the women respondents are facing many more challenges inside the house and outside. Involving periods to the local organizations like community forest user group, drinking water management committee, saving and credit cooperatives, school management committee, aama samuha, poverty alleviation fund etc. The challenges and insecurities women experienced surrounding their work under this organization had a significant effect on their political economies, mental health, and physical wellbeing. The society of Nepal is not wide for the women inclusion to the local organization. The challenges, which are facing by the sample respondents in the study area is given below point wise.

5.3.1 Socio-economic challenges

The women's inclusion to the local organizations the socio-economic challenge is most decisive point. In the study area plays vital role to discourage women from seeking employment and better opportunities. In the study area respondents reported that mobile phones were increasingly being used as an instrument to increase a feeling of security but also posed new threats to women's security. The economic factor of the women is playing negative role in the women's involvement of local organizations. The male dominated economy of this area the female are not free from the economic point of view to participate and invest to the wellbeing of those organizations.

5.3.2 Legal challenges

The legal challenge of women in the study area for the participation in the local organizations is most important. It is a great problem of social inclusion of women in the study area. It is a problems to work freely and the treatment after any kind of harassment in the work places and out because of the weak implementation of law and order in our society. Most of the respondents are agreed to the law of Nepal for women are not implemented because of the male dominated society. According to the 18 respondents women are not able to report issues of workplace harassment to the police. According to the respondents legal provision of the nation as well as study area is immature.

5.3.3 Women violence/ harassment

Women violence is also reported by the respondents in the study area. It is the most affective challenge of women inclusion to the local organizations of the study area, which they are facing in their day to day life. The male dominated society and lack of proper level education in the study area, the women violence and sexual harassment to the women is still being a problem in the study area.

According to the respondents working together with the male in the local organization, women are feeling habitation and the situation also not in women's favor. They ask for the friendly environment to work in the society rather than the congested one. Respondents reported the use of abusive language by the male in the study area.

5.3.4 Cultural and religious challenges

Respondents reported that because of cultural and religious restrictions, the dual workload that women face posed a tremendous challenge to their successful employment and promotion at work, and respondents reported this as one of their central concerns relating to their lives at home and ability to work. According to them, the religion is guiding the society towards the male dominated society since the beginning. The society takes the women as helper and the property of the man. The disagreement of the respondents also go to this point that how we are the just a butterfly of the man? The question is raised. The women are not free from the religion of Nepal and the study area as well.

5.3.5 Low level of educational opportunity

The women have no more good opportunity of the higher education in the study area. Women are deprived from the opportunity of higher level education in the study area. Low level of education is a strong challenge to the inclusion of women in involving to the local level of organization. According to the respondents they are not able to make competition with the male because the low level of the education than the male in the study area.

5.3.6 Low access of political participation

The women's political participation is a most important to the women inclusion. In this study, area the political participation of women and their status is very low. The main decision making place is political body where, the involvement of the women is negligible. Without the bold participation of women in the local political body no more laws and regulations will formulated for the favor of women. And without the proper law and provision for the women we cannot make the higher level of women inclusion in the local organization. So the poor political participation is the challenges of women inclusion in the study area.

5.3.7 Family support

In the study area respondents from study area reported that, without the support of their husbands and families they would not have been successful in their work, suggesting that families not only play a large role in whether women are likely to work but also in their success at work. According to the respondent's husband and family couldn't handle the pressure coming from the community and no longer allowed his wife to work outside the

home. According to respondents women need the permission from their husband and family to work outside the home. Regardless of women's work outside the home, they were also expected to complete all of the duties that are assigned to them as daughters, wives, and mothers.

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents the summary, of the findings of the study, includes conclusions of the study, and it policy recommends to the related stakeholders.

6.1. Summary of the findings

This study is conducted to show the situation analysis of social inclusion and women empowerment of Runtigadhi Rural Municipality of Rolpa district of Nepal. The objectives of the study is to explore social economic status of women included in local level organizations, to explore status of women at different local organizations and to bring out challenges women faced in these organizations.

Keeping in views of the problem formulation, the design of the study was chosen as a descriptive survey design. For this study, the respondents were married women. All the sampled households respondent was selected by random sampling method and applied interview schedules.

This study is depends on both primary and secondary data. The collected data were checked whether complete or not and edited for completeness, accuracy and uniformity. The data was analyzed and presented by simple frequency table, percentage wherever necessary.

The population of the study area was distributed almost equally by all age groups. The age group 30-44 years (25.92%), the lowest in age group 60 and above and 0-14 is equally (14.82%). The age group 15-29 years (21.29%) and the population of age group 45-59 years is (23.15%) of the total. majority of the population were married 62.04%. Similarly 25.00% were unmarried, followed by 5.55% widow.

The population of illiterate are 15.74% and 84.26% are literate. The occupation of household population is household work 27.78%, agriculture 25.00%, students 15.75%   daily wage labour 8.33%, business 7.40%, foreign labour 5.56%, social work 4.62% and Service and teaching equally 2.78%. Majority of the respondents are from Magar 44.44%, secondly

Chhetri 27.78%. Other caste groups are Kami11.11% and lastly others 16.67% in the study area.

50% respondents had got married at the age group of 15-19 years, second portion 33.33% at the age group of 20-24, third 11.11% at the age group of 25+ and only one respondent 5.56% respondents had got married within her teenage period below 14. Out of 60 respondents, 83.33% respondents were married followed by widow and separated in each 11.11% and 5.56% respectively. The respondents from Hindu religion are 44.44% followed by Buddhist 33.33%. Out of the 18 respondents, only three persons are found Christian one person from others. Less than one third (27.78%) of the respondents were from the joint family and remaining 72.72% respondents were from nuclear family.

Out of total only 11.11% of the respondents are found illiterate. Rest of the respondents, literate 33.33%, and 44.45% SLC I A or equivalent and very negligible percent of the respondents had attained higher education bachelor level which is 11.11%. only 16.67% women kept their family income where 33.33% kept both of them. The result shows that 38.89% of respondents had earned 15,000 per month where 16.67% respondents earned only 5,000 per month. 50.00% of the respondents is engaged in agriculture/livestock where as 16.67% are in wage labour and business equally, only 5.56% in job/service, and 11.11% teaching profession.

Out of 18 respondents, 44.44% respondents are have in a mutual understanding with their husband, second portion of respondents 33.33% are have absolute right about the reproductive health. And remain portion of respondent's are influenced by the husband and parents 16.67% and 5.56% respectively.

Out of total, 44.44% of respondents had ownership of house in the name of their husband, 22.22% with their parents; negligible portion 5.56% ownership of house only had the respondents and only the women had the house ownership 27.78%.

Respondents are from the Nepali Congress and CPN Unified Moist equally 39.00% and CPM (UML) 22.00% of the total. 33.33% of respondents can make decision of joining their children in primary level of education, 27.78% secondary level, IA and equivalent 22.22%, and only 16.67% of respondents are able to involve in the process of making decision to join B.A. and above.

Among the 12 respondents, 50.00% couple had made decision together. Rest of the respondents had made the decision 16.67% by husband and 33.33% by respondents themselves. 61.53% of the members are female and rest of the portion 38.47% are male. The female position in the community forest user group is in Dhunge Bisauna CFUG one treasurer and five members. Whereas in the Dhanruk CFUG secretary one vice secretary one and eight members. Dhorenidada aama samuha formed by 19 members (presidents to members) all (100.00%) members are women and their role also active in the samuha.

In the study area there are eight PAF groupsand most the groups are handled by the women leadership. Only three Panidhara, Dhanadada and Ampokhara Dhoren groups are leaded by the male. The three groups are formed by the all women members and others are by the participation of few male members. In the total eight groups the member number is 190 where as the male number is 20 (10.52%) and rest of the members are women 170 (89.48%) in the study area.

Two drinking water user groups are in the study area, In both groups the women position is treasurer and members only the leadership is belong to male members. Total members of the two user groups are 14 where, 64.28% members are male and 35.72% members are female.

There are two primary school management committees in the study area. 16 members are in both committees. Where 37.50% women and 62.50% are male involved in the school management committee. The position of the women members in these committees is only member. 53.00% women are involved in the Kuirepani farmers group and 80.00% women are involved in the Banrepani farmers group and the position of the women is only members in both farmers groups.

The women's inclusion to the local organizations the socio-economic challenge is most decisive Challenges to women's social security in the places of work or occur on their way home. In the study area respondents reported that mobile phones were increasingly being used as an instrument to increase a feeling of security but also posed new threats to women's security. Legal challenge of women for the participation in the local organizations is spreading out in the society. Most of the respondents are agreed to the law of Nepal for women are not implemented because of the male dominated society. Women are not able to report issues of workplace harassment to the police. Even though, the Nepal Police is capable

of addressing women's concerns, but it is seemed unaware of women's actual experiences and perspectives of security providers, especially in regard to workplace and public harassment issues.

Women violence is the most affective challenge of women inclusion to the local organizations of the society, which they are facing in their day to day life. The male dominated society and lack of proper level education in the study area, the women violence and sexual harassment to the women is still being a problem. According to the respondents working together with the male in the local organization, women are feeling habitation and the situation also not in women's favor. In our society the cultural and religious factor is standing as a strong challenge in the inclusion of women. Respondents reported that because of cultural and religious restrictions, the dual workload that women face posed a tremendous challenge to their successful employment and promotion at work, and many women reported this as one of their central concerns relating to their lives at home and ability to work.

The women have no more good opportunity of the higher education in the study area. Women are deprived from the opportunity of higher level education in the study area. Low level of education is a strong challenge to the inclusion of women in involving to the local level of organization. In this study, area the political participation of women and their status is very low. The main decision making place is political body where, the involvement of the women is negligible. Respondents from study area reported that, without the support of their husbands and families they would not have been successful in their work, suggesting that families not only play a large role in whether women are likely to work but also in their success at work.

6.2 Conclusions

This study has focused on examining the social inclusion of women in terms of their socio-economic, political and decision making process and its impact on their empowerment.

It has concluded that majority of the respondents were excluded from their socio-economic aspects as well their political and decision making participation. On an average all the respondents' socio-economic status were seen not well, majority of them were excluded from

their higher level education as well as income generating activities. They were compiled to busy in only household activities.

This study has also concluded that majority of the respondents were not participating in any local committees and other social activities regularly though they had willingness to participate.

Most of the respondents had heard about their rights, which ensured by constitution but in practice they were totally excluded from their basic rights. Due to exclusion of women, they were lag far behind to make self-decisions. However it was seen that educated women were more aware about their rights and also participated in social activities, income generating activities and decision making process than illiterate women. So, it is concluded that education is the main factor to inclusion and participation of the women. Women's participation/inclusion is a good indicator of their empowerment. Therefore, it is essential to improve educational status as well increase their participation in all sectors of the society and development then only women will be empowered.

This chapter presents the summary of the findings of the study and it also includes conclusions and recommendations of the study.

6.3. Recommendations

On the basis of findings of the study the following recommendations are made to improve the women's status and to increase their participation in socio-economic, political and decision making process. Recommendations are divided into two parts. One for policy implications and other is for research.

6.3.1. For policy implications

a. Government should give priority to increase women's educational attainment with the help of proportional policies and programs.

b. The Government as well as private sector should provide reservation system for women in service sectors to increase the access of women for gainful economic activities.

c. Equal property rights and their access over land should be ensured.

d. GOs/NGOs/INGOs concentration should be focused on awareness program about women's rights and responsibilities.

e. Empowerment program and policies should be facilitated for women to enable for them equal access to participation in social, economic and political aspects.

f. It is also recommended that family and society should encourage and provide them opportunities to participate in various social activities.

g. Policy maker should share the ideas of women and should be participate them in development activities as well as decision making process.

6.3.2 For further research area

Social inclusion and empowerment is the very vague terms however empowerment's indicators are socio-economic and political participations. This study has been taken some selected variables of social inclusion in terms of empowerment. So, this study couldn't cover all forms of inclusion. This study is mainly based on quantitative tools (used open ended and close ended questionnaires both) however also used Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) method but it is not enough for qualitative research. It has only covered 60 sampled households of Runtigadhi Rural Municipality ward no. 2 of Rolpa district.

So, upcoming researchers are requested to study on this area to find out more information about social inclusion of women and their empowerment. If time, money and manpower are favorable, it is requested to conduct various tools of qualitative methods, include more variables of social inclusion of women and their empowerment and increase the sample population to get real situation of women.

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APPENDIX

Social Inclusion and their Empowerment of Women

Survey Questionnaire

A. General information

1. Name of respondent……………..

2. Age: 3. Caste/Ethnicity …………

4. Address: Ward no……   Tole ………….

5. Religion …………

6. Type of the family: 1. Nuclear   2. Joint

B. Household schedule

SN	Name of the respondents	Relationship with Hhs head	Sex	Age	Education	Marital status	Occupation
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

C. General information for married women as identified during Hhs survey

1. What was your age at marriage/? (Age in completed years)………..

2. Who did decide your marriage?

      1. Father   2. Mother   3. Both parents

      4. Self   5. Brothers/ sisters   6. Relatives

3. What did you do at the time of marriage?

      1. Study   2. Services   3. Teaching

       4. Tailoring   5. Self activities   6. Household activities

      7. Other (Specify…

4. After marriage, have you taken any formal or informal education?

      …………………………..

      If yes who decided for your education?

      …………………………..

      If no, why didn't you get the opportunity to study?

      ……………………………

5. Are you satisfied with your education?

    ……………………………

6. Have you ever given any birth to live child? and how many?

    …………………………………

7. Who made decision to have children?

    1. Husband   2. Parent

    3. Self   4. Both husband/wife

    5. Sister/brothers   6. Other ……

8. Does your son and daughters go to school?

    ………………………….

9. Who makes decision of going to or not going to school?

    1. Husband   2. Parents

    3. Self   4. Husband and wife both

    5. Brothers/ sisters   6. Other (Specify)…

10. Have your any children got married?

    ……………………………….

11. If yes, who made decision about their marriage?

    1. Husband   2. Parents

    3. Self   4. Husband and wife both

    5. Brothers/ sisters   6. relatives

D. Property ownership and decision making

1. What is the main source of your income?

    a, Agriculture/ livestock   b, Business

    c, Labour   d, Job/services

    e, Teaching   f, Tailoring

    g, Others (Specify..)

2. Who keeps the household income?

    1. Husband   2. Parents

    3. Self   4. Husband and wife both

    5. Brothers/ sisters   6. Relatives

3. Do you have any land in your own name?

    …………………………..

4. Who owns the parental property?

    1. Husband   2. Parents

    3. Self   4. Husband and wife both

    5. Brothers/ sisters   6. Relatives

    7. Other ….

5. Who makes decision on cropping?

    1. Husband   2. Parents

    3. Self   4. Husband and wife both

    5. Brothers/ sisters   6. Other

6. Did you sell or buy any extra food by your own decision during the last year?

    ………………………………….

7. Did you buy or sell any livestock by your own decision during the last year?

    ……………………………………..

8. Who usually decide to visit the relatives?

    ………………………………..

9. Is it compulsory to ask permission to visit relatives?

    …………………………………………..

10. Is your family income sufficient for household expenses?

D. Participation/inclusion ofwomenin social activities

1. What is your participation in the social activities of social institutions?

    1. Regular   2. Sometimes

    3. Never

2. Are you a member of any social institutions?

    ………………………………….

3. If yes, who makes decision in participating on such social activities?

    ………………………………..

4. Have you ever voted to any political parties in any elections?

    ………………………….

5. Have you ever been a member of any political parties?

    ………………………………..

6. Who encouraged you to be a member of the political party?

    …………………………………….

7. Have you any willingness to be a local representative?

…………………………………..

8. Have you ever heard of our constitution?

………………………..

9. If yes, what are the constitutional provisions relating to women's welfare and empowerment?

…………………………..

10. Have you any idea about property rights?

……………………………

11. In which situation can a woman give divorce to her husband?

……………………….

12. Do you have local community organizations in your area?

………………………….

13. What types of community organizations are there in your area can you give the name of the organizations?

………………………………….

…………………………………

Thank you