

CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Nepal is a land locked country situated between two large countries, China in the north and India in the south and about one-fourth of its population living below the poverty line. It ranks 157th in the Human Development Index (HDI) with a per capita income approximately US\$ 642 (UNDP, 2011). Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy providing a livelihood for more than two third of the population and accounting for about one-third of gross domestic product (GDP). Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, underemployment, poor health, sluggish economic growth and agrarian economy characterize the Nepali society. As a consequence of these situations, child labour is widespread and it is a major socio-economic problem. Such practice has been recognized as jeopardizing children's potential to become productive adults, by precluding them from health, education and other basic rights.

Nepal has more than 75 ethnic groups with diverse socio- economic conditions and more than fifty languages are practice as mother tongues in different communities and ethnical groups (Skar, 1997). Nepali is an official language of the country and also a mother tongue of over one half of the population, but it functions as a link language for a large majority (UNDP, 1998). Around 80% of the economically active population live in rural areas; depend on subsistence farming (EIU Country Profile 1999-2000).

The life of a human being depends on the development and exposure since the early age, childhood. Not only human being but also all creatures go through the stage of childhood and it is considered as the best period of life, however a majority of our children survive in a horrible situation. Now, many families are broken due to domestic violence, natural-disaster, murder, misunderstanding of parents and miss guardianship. Poverty and illiteracy are major causes of many of children in being

compelled to live miserable life. Their innocence and basic rights are threatened and victimized by all sorts of exploitation.

The development of a child depends on various factors such as nourishing food, good education, health, sanitation etc. In Nepal, literacy rate of girls is 42 percent compared to 65 percent among boys. Similarly, that of primary school going girls is 74 percent compared to 86 percent of boys (CWIN, 2009) but 48 percent of total children are unable to get the primary education and half of children aged below 5 years were of underweight or stunted (MOHP, 2007).

Children's work in the historical perspective and in the present day context remains a reality. Children have always worked and a majority of children in developing countries continue to undertake activities that supplement family income. It is common to see children at the age of 6 or 7 years working along side their parents and other family members. Helping around the home, running household tasks, working in the fields and farms, tending livestock, harvesting crops, taking care of younger siblings, fetching water, collecting fire wood or helping to cook family meals. Girls are expected to be sharing more of the household chores with their mothers and other female relatives. Girls have to work under male dominant society.

The minimum age convention of ILO, 1973 (No, 138) has defined 'child' as a person below the general limit of 15 years or in special circumstances 14 years. Similarly, according to Nepalese Labour Act, 1992 'Child' means a person who has not attained the age of fourteen years, and a minor as a person who has attained the age of fourteen years but has not completed the age of eighteen years, but The Children Act (1992), defines a child to be a human being below the age of 16 years and prohibits employment of children below 14 years of age in a labour market (Adhikari, 2005:9).

Different organizations working with street children use and cite old data and sometimes even produce local estimates, the latest updated figures (need to be done) could show thousands of street children in the country. Over the past few decades, the standard of living of many urban Nepalese has risen beyond measure, even in the midst of political turmoil. But ironically, at the same time many poor children are struggling for survival out in the streets, sleeping on makeshift cardboard mattresses in main cities like Kathmandu, Pokhara, Dharan, Narayanghat, Butwal, and

Biratnagar (Thapaliya, 2005). The received figures however estimates that there are about 5000 children living and working in the streets in Nepal. Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal, houses the majority of the street children: between 700 and 800, followed by other cities such as Pokhara, Dharan, Biratnagar, Narayanghat, Bhairahawa, and Nepalgunj respectively. It is estimated that about 500 children are landing on the streets of Kathmandu each year now and the number of street children across the country is increasing by 1000 annually, after the start of political insurgency in 1996 (Gurung, 2004:19).

In Nepal, children are involved in all sectors of the economy and in all types of activities. They are predominating in the informal sector consisting of agriculture, small enterprise, industries, various trades and services but they may also be found informal sectors. And the children can be easily noticed walking along roads as Rag Pickers, collecting wastes fit for recycling from garbage heaps and selling them to *Kawadiwala* so as to earn a few rupees to maintain their livelihood. Such children, whose life style grows up in the street without parental love and support, are regarded at the street children. For a child nothing is warmer than a home with parental care and love, but every child has no privilege of this environment although it is his/her inherent right. Going in to the 21st century, Child labour remains a serious problem in many parts of the world.

Street children are the common problem that has been occurring through out the world for a long time. In the context of Nepal, the problem of street children has emerged as a major social problem. The change in the political system also did not bring much difference in terms of addressing this serious problem as it was expected. The public view of street children is vital. However, in many countries the public's perception and attitude towards street children is overwhelmingly negative. Street children are subjected to mental and physical abuse by police, their peers and fellow citizens. The governments treat them as a plague that is to be eradicated, rather than as children that need to be nurtured and protected. There is an alarming tendency by some law enforcement personnel and civilians, business proprietors and their private security firms, to view street children as almost sub-human (Gurung, 2004). Their experiences overlap with other categories of children, such as those who are trafficked and those involved in exploitative work, which has resulted in the growth of their numbers.

1.1.1 Issue of Street Children in Nepal

Until the late 1980s the term "street children" (Sadak Balbalika) had not become part of the vocabulary of the child welfare sector in Nepal. Today "street children" has become an established category representing a marginal group in the urban society. The development organizations, the media, the state and the children who live on the street have contributed to the construction of this category in Nepal. However, the definition of street children still remains ambiguous and contested.

The issues of street children cannot be viewed in isolation because this is a consequence of the country's exploitative socio-economic and political reality. Inequitable distribution of land, lack of people-centered and sustainable development programme, poor access of under-privileged sections to resources and environment degradation are responsible for generation of Street children. Although children are regarded as they are not traditional phenomena in our society, but it has been increasing every year as a part of our urban reality. The number of street kids in Nepal is not so big at present but magnitude of this problem is very much devastating. Poverty in our society has created many problems and it is complex more than other issues. The state of street children is, therefore, an outcome of such complexities. Street children are not of a homogeneous group. Despite their common conditions of living on the street and making their own living they are differentiated themselves based on the kinds of jobs they do or the locality they have appropriated as their social and economic space. However, they do acknowledge similarities among themselves based on their experiences of poverty, displacement, violence, and daily struggle for livelihood.

Glue sniffing which is a largely urban phenomenon among street children in Katmandu has not received much attention. There is also a significant gap in identification of high-risk children and prevention programs within Kathmandu (ACR, 2002). More than 80 percent street of children is addicted to glue sniffing, which is the current trend among street children. The issue of drug use and HIV among street children is utterly neglected by the organizations working on the issues of HIV and drug abuse (Rai et al, 2002).

According to ILO's rapid assessment on rag-picking children, there are about 4,000 children working in this sector, which is considered one of the worst forms of child labor. Among the rag pickers, 88 percent are boys and 12 percent are girls. In average, rag pickers work 6 hours a day and earn NRs. 87 per day. They concentrate in the areas like junkyards, temples, market centers, cinema halls, airports, bus terminals, hardware shops, tourist centers, etc. while they do their work. While on the street they face problems of hunger, shelter, clothes, etc. Similarly, they face problems from police, "dada" (bullies) and gang etc. With all these problems and tensions, they lead their complex life (ILO, 2001).

1.1.2 The Children Rights

According to UN convention on the rights of the child there are four major rights of children.

- **Right of Living:** It has been defined as the inborn right of the child. This right refers to the right for nutrition food and hygienic residence, clean environment, clean drinking water, inoculation and first aid services etc.
- **Right of Protection:** Every child deserves protection against discrimination, exploitation, misbehave and insulting behavior, hazardous works and separation from the parents. This should be special arrangements for handicapped and disabled children.
- **Right of Development:** This right to do with the factors co-operative to personality development. Every child has right to attain education, entertainment, sporting activities, and health care facilities etc, which are indispensable to maintain reasonable quality of life.
- **Right of Participation:** Every child has the right to participate in the decision makings which may affect them engage in creative activities, participating in social and cultural activities without interruption and discrimination.

Street children represent a phenomenon which appeal to people's feelings and awake their sympathy. Most people have through the media been introduced to different aspects of children's street life. Such reports mostly begin or end with the misery of

this urchin life. The suffering of street life has been well documented through research concerning the street children's psychological condition (Veale and Taylor, 1991). Street children and drugs to mention some of the hardship of street life should not be under estimated; neither should it be paramount interest in all coverage of street children. It is important not to neglect the abilities and resource street children possess. The focus of this thesis is how street children manage their daily life. The title socio-economic status of street children refers to different aspects of the life of street children. Firstly, street children are mostly an urban phenomenon. Secondly street children do not have a family who is fully capable of caring for them.

Street child is a concept reforming to a child living daily life on the street. It is reasonable to presume that there is a special relationship between street children and their place. Hereby the thesis presents a new perspective and hopefully contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon "Street Child". Writing the thesis from a socio-economic view point has a sense of novelty, because, within Socio-economic research concerning street children is to my knowledge is limited.

This study has been carried out in Pokhara. Pokhara is a growing city but the wall size of the city core makes it possible the gain a fair overview of the street children's situation. The number of street children in Pokhara is increasing parallel to the city growth, these conditions made Pokhara suitable for the empirical studies necessary to approach the research questions of this thesis.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Because of the low GNP, high population growth rate and limited resources for entertainment, crude birth rate are becoming significantly high as compared with other countries in the world forcing people of Nepal to survive in difficult situation. Because of the religious and cultural trends, early marriage makes the situation even worse. In the other hand, poor trend of sending girls to school and limited job opportunities, such as food and education. To cope with the ever increasing financial pressures more and more children from the low income generating family are being pushed on to the street. It is also quite common for children from middle class and rich families if they do not meet demand of their child. CWIN, an NGO in 1992 had carried out a research study on street children and since then there has not been any

research by any organization. It is therefore not known exactly how many street children are on the street and put in shelter homes in Nepal and particularly in Pokhara.

Street children are taken as a problem and social burden in every society and this phenomenon is a serious matter of concern in developing countries like Nepal. Rapid unplanned urbanization and its consequences, rural to urban migration with the multidimensional expectation of livelihood are ever adding the number of children in the streets. Due to the lack of wealth and opportunity, people come towards urban areas with their children. However, the inner reality of urban life for the poor people is very miserable. Imparting education to their children is beyond their dream as they even suffer from hand to mouth problem. There are number of factors/reasons behind the children, which pull them towards the street or push them from their house/village. Whatever the reason behind their arrival to cities/streets, they are perceived as birth children-at-risk and children-as-risk.

The statistics of children population of Nepal (CBS, 2011) showed that there is over 12 million children below 18 years. However, it is unknown that what fraction of such population are street children. It is therefore important to know about street child status, reason of being street children and their involvement depending on the age group and ethnicity background.

APCN (2011), a home for street children in Nepal showed that more than 50 percent of total population in Nepal is occupied by the children. Around ten thousands children are living at high risk in the street of different major cities of Nepal like Pokhara, Narayanghat, Hetauda, Birgunj, Biratnagar, Dharan, Butwal etc. More than 90 percent of children in the street are directly indulged in glue sniffing.

Root causes of the street child problem are family causes, Social causes, economic causes, political causes and other causes. However, the state didn't seem to be well prepared to address the deep rooted problems of poverty and unemployment of the freed kamaiyas. They were freed but they had no place to go, and no place to turn to for their survival. Kamaiyas when freed from the unjust bondage of slavery were stranded as the government did not take further steps for their welfare. It was indeed a great achievement for Nepal in the field of human rights and social justice.

This might have been an important factor to add the numbers of street children in our country. Similarly, the conflict that Nepal was mired in to far of people's war claimed the lives of so many people. So many people were made homeless, and so many of them were displaced. It might have been another important reason for the numbers of street children to rise in Nepal. A child being in a formative stage can be molded in any shape in terms of behaviors. It is the period to provide them with proper care, food affection; love, education and shelter that will help them develop their physical mental and social development. As a result, they will be able to contribute to the national development endeavor. Today's children are the leaders and the nation builders of tomorrow. Therefore, the child of today must be regarded and treated as the future of a society. The prevailing view is that child should be protected from the hazard of the adult world. The present condition of Nepali children is far from satisfactory, if we do not spend little time to think on street children there would be devastating problems to be faced by the government in the future.

Street children are taken as problem and social burden in every society and this phenomenon is a serious matter of concern in developing countries like Nepal. Rapid unplanned urbanization and its consequences, rural to urban migration with the multidimensional expectation of livelihood, are adding the number of children in street. Due to the lack of wealth and opportunity, people come towards urban areas with their children. The inner reality of urban life for the poor people is very miserable. Imparting education to their children is beyond their dream as they even suffer from hand to mouth problem. There are number of factors/reasons behind the children, which pull them towards the street or push them their house/village. Whatever the reason behind their arrival to cities/streets, they are perceived as both children-at-risk and children-as-risk.

The study has focused on the following research questions:

- What are influencing factors of children being on to street?
- What are the major problems of street children?
- What are their economic activities for survival?
- How did they become street children?
- What is their economic and social status?
- Which age group and caste of street children is mostly influenced?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The general objective of the study is to analyze socio-economic condition of street children in Pokhara sub-metropolitan city. The specific objectives are:

- To explore the socio-economic conditions of street children in Pokhara city.
- To evaluate the existing problems faced by them along with the causes and consequences concerned.
- To explain and analyze the importance of education to uplift their economic and social conditions as per their age groups and caste wise.

1.4 Significance of the Study

It is considered that childhood shows the reflection of future life of any people. In fact this is the preparation for adulthood in this sense; it is the foundation of our life. If the foundation is weak, definitely the whole construction cannot be as strong as we desire. In the same way, if childhood is at risk one's life cannot be beneficial for the society. The status of street children has multi sector effects on their life hindrance to the place of economic development disruption of social order antisocial behaviour insecurity, violence, crime and numerous other drug related problems. We can't imagine the future of society without children. So they are our source of hope and inspiration. It is believed the "child shows the man, morning shows the day".

The condition of the street children is very critical in the Pokhara city. They are playing with dirty dumps. Most of the street children do not know their value of life. Street children have given negative impact in our society. Some of them are involved in different criminal activities and provided bad impression to the society. Street children problem with regard to their habit as well as their perception toward substance use a necessary for survival need to be challenged. The several reasons among pull and push factors are associated with migration of street.

This study gives information about street children and their rights. It provides the knowledge and necessary information concerning with the street children in Nepal. It helps to get an idea regarding current situation of the street children, which will ultimately help in the development of the children's welfare. This study also

disseminates information to the people and other organizations about the working of CWIN that can be helpful to inspire others.

But above all these, the study helps in creating awareness among people in terms of eliminating all forms of abuse, exploitation and injustice against children

Hence, the proposed research topic would be useful for further research and formulating policies for the welfare of street children in particular and poverty alleviation in general.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

This study includes the following limitations:

- This study will cover only street children of Mahendrapool, Prithvi Chowk, Amarshing Chowk, New Road, Nayabazar Lake side, Bagar and Sirjana Chowk area of Pokhara municipality.
- This study may not reveal the complete picture of the street children due to the lack of proper response from them.
- The study deals with the data of 24 Feb 2013 to 10 April 2013.
- The reliability of secondary data is not tested.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This study has been presented in five chapters. This first chapter is introductory chapter. The second chapter totally concentrates on the review of related literatures. Third chapter deals with the general methodology of making a research and the particular methodology applied in writing stage. Relevant data available have been mentioned in the fourth chapter and the last one fifth chapter focus on the findings, conclusion, and suggestions.

CHAPTER-II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Definition

There is no universal definition of child in many countries. A child is defined in terms of age limit, which differs with various activities United Nations Children's Fund declares. Age limits are a formal reflection of society's judgment about the evolution of children's, capacities and responsibilities (UNICEF, 1997).

The Children Act defines child as human being below the age of 16 years but the labour act 1992 and Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS, 2003) define the age limit of child at 14 years whereas, the Nepal Citizenship Act 1963 considers a person below 16 years of age as minor. Similarly, the civil code of 1963 considers the legal age of marriage for boys and girls at 18 years with parents consent and 20 years for boys and girls with no consent of parents.

However, the researcher has set the children's age between 5-14 years. The rationale for selection of children of this age group was to enable the researcher to interview them independently.

2.2 Perception about Children

The global discourse on childhood today defines childhood as the first seventeen years of life in which children spend their time in learning and playing in school and living with their families at home as dependent, fragile, vulnerable beings that need to be protected, supervised and controlled by adults. In this conceptualization, children are perceived as innocent, pure and malleable beings who transcend the politics of class, caste, ethnicity and religion, but who symbolize the future of each nation. The emphasis on purity and innocence places them closer to nature thereby making cultural differences among children irrelevant at the discursive level. It is, however, in each nation's interest to protect children's innocence and purity and ensure that they

are molded in to "good and productive citizens" as children biologically and symbolically embody the nation's future.

Children's wanderings are therefore circumscribed by such spatial boundaries that are justified by the ideologies of care protection and welfare, each of the designated space for children. However, comes with own particularities organization of time, and specific rules demarcating these places not just specially but also normatively. Various mechanisms-including disciplinary techniques labeling and violence are employed to maintain these boundaries that not only delimit children's physical movement behaviors and practices, but also reproduce and maintain power relations between adults and children. Hence, at the core of the process of boundary making and boundary breaking are issues of power and resistance.

Street children are assessed in juxtaposition to these normative nations of children, thereby leading to their criminalization and condemnation. In addition because many of the street children smoke, have access to money and are free and independent, they are perceived as both children-at-risk and children-as-risk. In other words, street children one a sub culture that challenges the normative concept of children and childhood and thereby pose a threat to the social and normal order constructed, upheld and propagated by the state and the urban dominant classes.

2.3 Empirical Studies

In fact there are no empirical formulas established to count to crunch the numbers why this happens or why this is not happening. It is therefore purely a theoretical approach which is verified by survey of 50 respondents.

Here, the researcher tries to find information and data from the sample that what the driving forces to become street child were. It is descriptive and explanatory type of study and thus tries to summarize reasons of being street child and their composition.

2.4 The Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989, Nepal ratified the convention 14 September 1990. The convention is a landmark treaty which sets minimum standard for the rights of the

children to survival to proper care and nurturing, to protection from disease, neglect, exploitation and abuse, to development of their full potential and to the benefits of a healthy, stimulating family environment.

In countries where the convention has been ratified, the endorsement has brought the public, the government and the media together to form a common platform for the welfare of children. While it may take decades before developing countries ensure all the rights enshrined in the convention a beginning has been made.

The convention places responsibility on governments to provide free and compulsory primary education to all. To encourage regular attendance in school and to lower dropout and repetition rates, which are greatest for girl children.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), by United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989.

- The World summit for children, convened at the United Nations in September 1990, and attended by 71 national leaders, set goals to be reached by the close of the century to ensure the well being of children.
- The world conference on education for all was held in Jomtien, Thailand, in March 1990 and was attended by some 2,000 - education professionals from 150 countries.
- The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, or Earth Summit, was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992.
- The International Conference in Population and Development held in Cairo in September 1994.
- The world summit for Social Development held in Copenhagen in March 1995.
- The International Convention of Worst Form of Child Labour, 1999, Convention 182 (Geneva).

Following are the ratifications of the CRC by the government of Nepal in 1990. The Children's Act was approved by the parliament in 1992. The Act guarantees the equal rights of children regardless of gender, caste, religion, language or social status, health, education, water, sanitation and protection.

The National Programme of Action for Children and Development for the 1990s based on the Summit Declaration and Plan of Action, describes initiatives to be undertaken related to child health, nutrition and education, as well as children in especially difficult circumstances, poverty alleviation, food security and communication. Other instruments enacted to safeguard the rights of the child and ensure their protection and development includes Labour Act (1992), The Breast Milk Substitutes Act (1992) and the Social Welfare Act (1992).

In 1994, Government of Nepal constituted the National Council for Women and Child Development, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The purpose of the council is to formulate national policies for the development of children and woman, and to monitor progress towards World Summit for Children Goals.

The most significant initiative taken by the government of Nepal is the establishment of the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare in September 1995. This ministry is charged with the responsibility for activities related to child rights and welfare.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) highlighted some critical issues of vulnerability of street children and others. The Committee also notes with concern that little has been done to address the particular health vulnerabilities and needs of children at risk, including street children, child laborers, child sex workers and Dalit children. In view of the increasing number of children living and working on the street and the state party's recognition that they are among the major victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation, the Committee regrets the paucity of information about specific programs and measures to address their situation. The Committee notes with grave concern that certain groups of children are at a particularly higher risk of being sold and trafficked, including girls, internally displaced children, street children, orphans, children from rural areas, refugee children and children belonging to more vulnerable castes (CRC, 2005).

2.5 Present Status of the Street Children

More is known about the actual life of children on and of the streets and much of this defies the negative images. It is said that they are starving. The nutritional status of street children is not well documented but there is some evidence that, in certain circumstances, they may be better nourished than some of their contemporaries. Research in Nepal measured the nutritional status of rural children and compared this with three groups in Pokhara. Street children, school children and slum children. It was found that the rural children suffered from the greatest degree of malnutrition followed by those from slums, streets and schools in that order.

One reason for this is that street children often have access to leftover food from restaurants, another they earn and spend their own money. Children working on the street and returning home have to share their money with the whole family. In Jamaica, it has been noted that some working children are in the habit of buying and eating fast food before they get home.

It is also said that they are thieves and that they have no choice but to be prostitutes. While some children may steal and prostitute themselves from time to time, this is not by any means their only means of survival. They have other opportunities for making money, such as car washing and minding, newspaper selling, street vending, rag picking and scavenging, shoe shining, running errands and carrying bags, begging. Some children specialize; others jump from one opportunity to another, often in the same day. Although some do eventually specialize in stealing and prostitution, others want nothing to do with these activities, and still more only do them when they are forced to, either from necessity or because of coercion.

In addition, it is said that they are uncontrollably violent, have lost the ability to feel emotions such as love, have no morals and do not know how to play, children living most of their lives on the streets do encounter violence on a daily basis, often at the hands of the police who are, after all, paid by society to keep the streets clean and safe. They also tend to experience violence from some older children and from psychologically disturbed street adults. Those who have experience of jails and detention centers almost always have scars to prove it. This all adds up to learning experiences that inevitably lead to fights between children. But this need not be irreversible.

2.6 Child Welfare

Child Welfare, term used to refer to a broad range of social programmes that contribute to the well-being of children, Usually adapted to the needs of children, whose families do not have the means or the inclination to take proper care of them.

In 1959 the United Nations adopted the Declaration of the Right of the Child, which affirmed the Rights of Children everywhere to receive adequate care from parents and the community. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, attempted to consolidate international law on the basic Rights of Children to survival, education and protection from abuse and exploitation.

The United Nations Children's Funds (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are working with the government of developing nations to reduce their high mortality rates (in comparison with those of the West). The UN organizations provide medical supplies and technical aid. Some progress has been made, but malnutrition and disease still cause the death of thousands of young children every year and affect many more.

2.7 Situation of Street Children in the World

The term street child refers to children for whom the street more than their family has become their real home. It includes children who might not necessarily be homeless or without families, but who live in situations where there is no protection, supervision or direction from responsible adults.

While street children receive national and international public attention, that attention has been focused largely on the social, economic and health problems of the children- poverty, lack of education, AIDS, prostitution and substance abuse. With the exception of the massive killings of street children in Brazil and Colombia, often by people which Human Right Watch reported in 1994, very little attention has been paid to the constant police violence and abuse from which many children suffer. This often-neglected said of street children's lives have been a focus of Human Rights Watch's research and action.

The public view of street children in many countries is overwhelmingly negative. The public has often supported efforts to get these children off the street, even though they may result in police round ups, or even murder. There is an alarming, tendency by some law enforcement personnel and civilians, business proprietors and their private security firms, to view street children as almost sub-human.

In several countries such as Brazil, Bulgaria, Sudan, the racial, ethnic or religious identification of street children plays a significant role in their treatment. The disturbing notion of "social-cleansing" is applied to street children even when they are not distinguished as members of a particular racial, ethnic or religious group. Branded as "anti-social" or demonstrating "anti-social behavior", street children are viewed with suspicion and fear by many who would simply like to see street children disappear.

In Bulgaria, Guatemala, India and Kenya, Human Rights Watch has reported that police violence against street children in pervasive and impunity is the norm. The failure of law enforcement bodies to promptly and effectively investigate and prosecute cases of abuse against street children allows the violence to continue. Establishing police accountability is further hampered by the fact that street children often have no recourse but to complain directly to police about police abuses. The threat of police reprisals against them serves as a serious deterrent to child coming forward to testify or make a complaint against an officer.

In Romania the street children problem was most serious when the regime of President Nicolas Ceaulescu was collapsed. Because of lack of food and poor living conditions in Bucharest, the capital city of Romania, many children were struggling to get food and massive number of children came out on the street. Their principal station place was railway station. During winter time, they managed to sleep on top of hot tap to protect them from cold. They went to market areas scavenging for food and stealing from passers. This was the normal life of street children during cold winter in Romania.

Brazilian street children are due to high level poverty and the effect of which has been created by high contrast between rich and poor. This leads to a serious family problem, which drives children to street (BBC. 2012).

A research conducted by University of Newcastle in 2001 on Homelessness in Developing Countries highlighted poor family economy as the greatest risk of homelessness. Homeless women and children are most often the victims of family abuse. Their poor economic standard places them at greater risk of homelessness in order to escape abusive situations.

Street children

- Are frequently escaping abuse, particularly from stepparents or extreme poverty.
- Are often detained or imprisoned for being on the streets.
- Mistrust adults and authority.
- Prefer to live on the streets rather than accept over authoritarian accommodation.

2.8 Situation of Street Children in Nepal

Street children are facing many problems on the street. Some problems faced by the street children are physical, psychological and sexual exploitation by adults and other street children. Street children are most vulnerable to malnutrition, substances abuses and severe health problems. Street children are engaged in begging on the street, trash picking, pick pocketing, rag picking, working in bars, restaurants and tempo buses even some children are engaged in prostitution. Those who are involved in prostitution are vulnerable to STD including HIV. The life of street children is fearful and stressful, living on the street in contact with gangs and police and without access to basic needs like food, shelter, clothes and medicine.

Street children as homeless and home based, which varies in developing countries according to location and the socio-economic and political conditions therein. In Nepal, very few children have become less through being orphaned or abandoned. Instead they tend to have had poor relations with their biological Parents/relatives (Baker, Panter-Brick and Todd, 1997:441-451). Because the experiences of these two groups are likely to differ, it is important to explore both types of children in order to assess the different programmatic needs of each group.

Street children are living an independent life nurtured and developed on the street. However while centers and services may be an integral part of street life for children that have not been the intention of organizations working with street children. Hence outreach work to recruit children to shelters, shelters acting as feeders for hostels, and training being linked to hostels (Southern & Dhakal 2003).

It is estimated that there are about 5,000 street children in Nepal and among them at least 5 percent have been sexually abused by foreign pedophiles. In the period of 1995-2001 at least 8 pedophiles have been arrested as a result of efforts from organizations working on child rights in Nepal (CWIN, 2003:9-60).

A study done by Gurung pointed out the common situation of street children as the phenomenon of street children is becoming an alarming problem in the country. Their challenges include: an increasing rate of poverty; broken families; illiteracy; human trafficking; physical abuse and torture; HIV/AIDS; socio-cultural structure and discrimination; and the government's centralized development policies and programmes (Gurung, 2004).

There are several issues, topics and subsidiary problems that become evident in the existing or related research on street children. The first pressing issue is the terminology. There is still an ongoing debate on the term "Street Children" itself. According to UNICEF over 40,000 children in Nepal are estimated to have been displaced over the course of the Maoist uprising (UN, 2006).

Street children are the most vulnerable lot. Sexual abuse is hidden but a widely prevalent suffering among them. No child is safe and away from this cauldron of suffering. Approximately 99 percent of them are physically and psychologically abused. Child sexual abuse may include fondling a child's genitals, masturbation, oral-genital contact, digital penetration, and vaginal and anal intercourse. The other ways a child can be abused with are direct physical contact, such as sex by exposures, voyeurism and child pornography, use of obscene language, also referred to as non-contact abuse, and shows a research conducted jointly by CPSC NGO Nepal, CPCS INT Belgium and VOC Nepal. Males are the predominant perpetrators of sexual abuse against street children. On average, there are three male abusers for every two female abusers. On an average, 40 percent of sexually abusive episodes are

perpetrated by street-living children and adults as well as 40 percent by non-street living adults. Non street-living adults include relatives, shop, hotel or restaurant owners and workers or any Nepali adult not living on the street. The street is clearly the major location for all types of sexual abuses, accounting for one in three incidents occurring (Rising Nepal, 2008).

Many of the underprivileged and abandoned street children come from several remote parts of the country and they run away from their home due to domestic violence and poverty. However there remain so many causes that bring children on the street. Some common causes are family breakdown, poverty, urbanization and overcrowding, dislocation through migration and civil war, child labor, lost of family members, exploitation by adults, emotional abuse or neglect. Rising of street children is a rising problem in Nepal. Although there is no data on street children, there are 5,000 to 6,000 street children in Nepal; Kathmandu alone has 1,500 to 2,000 of them, according to the estimated data of Child Workers in Nepal concerned center (CWIN) in 2010. 70 percent or more of street children are boys. The distribution of street children is throughout the urbanized cities of the country. Their number exceed in Kathmandu, Patan and Bhakatapur comparatively to other cities of the country because of being tourist places (My Republica, 2012).

The study, undertaken by children and women of Nepal, a situation analysis, 1996 in thirteen cities of Nepal, revealed the following:

- The majority of the children are boys.
- Most of the children are between the ages of 9 and 16.
- The majority have both parents alive, although not necessarily living as a family unit.
- The majority collects and sells recyclable goods for a living.
- A significant number come from families with step parents single parents or no parents.
- Lack of love care and parental guidance and violence in the family are among the main reasons to leave their homes.

No information is available regarding the magnitude and nature of the problem concerning abandoned, destitute and orphaned children in Nepal. In the absence of proper research on these children, it is hard to assess the extent and the nature of the problem.

UNICEF Categorize street children in to:

- **Children on the Street:** Those engaged in some kind of economic activity such as begging family. They may be attending school and retain a sense of belonging to family because of the economic fragility of the family. These children may eventually opt for a permanent life on the streets.
- **Children of the Street:** Children who actually live on the street (or outside of a normal family environment). Family ties may exist but are tenuous and are maintained only casually or occasionally.

2.9 Situation of Street Children in Kathmandu

CWIN 1990, in a survey study entitled lost childhood based on street children of Kathmandu revealed that there are 500 street children, and one fifth of these children were personally interviewed and asked about their personal history, current status, income origin etc. It was found that the children were of three types-run away children, squatter children and orphan children. Most of those children were engaged in rag picking, pottering, belting and stealing. They suffered from illnesses like scabies cold, fever headache, diarrhea, dizziness, tuberculosis and ENT inflections and lack of adequate and hygienic food. They were malnourished, some of them survived on food lying in the garbage bins, schooling was unknown to them. They were not only indulging in gambling, smoking and pick pocketing, but were also sometimes addicted to drinking and using drugs. Individual case histories and pictures of the street children have also been presented. The study concludes that love and care, if given to these children, could help bring them back to normal life (CWIN, 1990:1-37).

Child welfare organization SAATHI also conducted exploratory research on the needs of dendrite addicted street children. SAATHI is gathering data from Kathmandu street children in order to develop effective long term interventions for addicted children. CWIN has completed research on glue sniffing in the past and currently engages in anti-drug campaigns targeting addicted street children. "Most crucial is a rehabilitation center. Many of the street children are aware of the harmful effects. Their needs to be long term support and strong government policies to address this issue," said Suvekchha Rana, Child Program Coordinator of SAATHI. Currently,

there are no long term drug rehabilitation facilities for children in Kathmandu. Such services are only available to youth and adults. Furthermore, both CWIN and SAATHI emphasize the need for a comprehensive, long term approach to addiction among street children. Support services, long term rehabilitation centers for children, public awareness, and strong government policies combating glue sniffing are key elements in a comprehensive approach. Simply criminalizing inhalant abuse and penalizing dendrite distributors will only drive glue sniffing underground. In this situation, the more vulnerable street children would be subject to further exploitation (Karen, 2007).

2.10 Situation of Street Children in Pokhara

According a report of 50 children ranging from 6-16 years were interviewed, most of them were from the slum areas of Pokhara valley while some of them were from different VDCs of Kaski district as well as from neighboring districts like Tanahu, Parbat, Dhadhing, Gorkha, Myagdi and Rupandehi, Jhapa, Makwanpur, Nawalparasi, Sindhuli, Saralahi, Surkhet, Chitwan etc. The main habitats for them used to be street pavement, front shop of shutters. Some of them had no fixed dwelling place .Majority of them are the smoker and alcoholic and had the bitter experience in the street abuse by junky, bully friends, police and local people. The public perception on street children is found to be very negative and dismal who usually regard urchins as a problem without an explanation or concrete solution. Among the children who had purposefully left home, almost none express the desire to go back to live with their families (Chhetri, 2002).

There are five dozen of child centers in Pokhara although the condition of children was nastiest. A survey report of Muscan club of Pokhara revealed that there were 74 street children in the different child centers of Pokhara. Among them fifty percent or 37 were from schedule castes (Dalit). Within Pokhara valley the number of street children was 44, at Prithvi Chowk and Nayabazar area whereas at Chipledhunga and Amarshing Chowk it was 24 and 6, respectively. According to club vice president Fatum Kahatun 53 children were between 12 to 14 years age group. These street children were using dendrites and cigarettes as well as suffer from drug abused. According to the survey report of the club daily earning of these children was fifty to two hundred fifty and the source of earning was Kabadi collection and beggary. (Pokhara Today, 2010).

2.11 Research Gap

From the above literature review, it can be concluded that there are various studies on the topic of street children programmers in Nepal and abroad. Many studies have directly or indirectly identified various problems of street children programmers in different topics and different areas of Nepal. This study however, is related to socio-economic status of street children and its impact on socio-economic sector with reference to some specific area of Pokhara City. Such type of study was not conducted in same topic and same area before. Hence it could be the new study in relation of street children sector. During this study locations which have been selected are the most suitable locations where the status of street children can be studied. New socio-economic dimension of the street children will be explored through this study and it will play some vital role to solve the socio-economic status of the street children in Pokhara City. Similarly, this study has its rationality for fulfilling the gap of studying the socio-economic status of street children in Pokhara City. Therefore the present study contributes in value addition on the knowledge of street children.

CHAPTER-III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The general objective of the study is to analyze the socio-economic status of street children in Pokhara. This chapter deals with the approaches, research design site selection, sampling procedure, sample size, nature and sources of data, data collection techniques and data analysis and presentation, in order to achieve the objective of the study. It is discussed on the following sub headings.

3.1 Site Selection

The researcher has chosen the main junkyard and main Chowk of Pokhara .The areas were: Mahendrapool, Prithvi Chowk, Amarshing Chowk, New Road, Nayabazar, Lakeside, Bagar and Srijana Chowk. The data collection was carried out for a period from 24 Feb 2013 to 10 April 2013.

3.2 Research Design

This study aims to analyze the socio-economic status and problem of street children in Pokhara. The nature of the study depicts both explanatory and descriptive research design. The explanatory research design has been used to investigate the minimum acquaintance about street children; on the other hand the descriptive research design has been employed to identify the major problems associated with them.

3.3 Population of the Study

Pokhara is the regional headquarters of Western Development Region of Nepal .It is the second largest city in Nepal with the population of 492098 (CBS 2011). Many people from surrounding districts and villages come to Pokhara in search of work and better life. According to the survey (CWSUK 2010) there were around 262 children working and living in the street in Pokhara. But a survey report of Muskan club of Pokhara revealed that there are 74 street children in the different child centers of Pokhara. Out of these numbers of children, only 50 street children have been taken for the study on the basis on the snowball sampling method. The population for this study comprised of children who are living in the street in Pokhara.

3.4 Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

This study is intended to investigate the extent of street children in Nepal. All street children in an aggregate are the target population. Since street children are most exploited persons in our society, so it is chosen for this study.

It is not possible to cover all children scattered throughout the district. Depending upon the availability of children, the following nine street children prone areas were selected purposively to visit the children. Since, street children are of mobile nature, every child is not interviewed in each cluster. Snowball technique was implied to interview 50 street children from aforementioned selected nine locations. A special caution was maintained that the selected children would be between the ages of 5 to 14 years.

3.5 Nature and Sources of Data

In this study, both primary and secondary data have been used for required information. Primary data have been collected by interview with street children during field visit.

The secondary data were obtained from different sources, published books, journals, periodicals and other publications.

The main sources of secondary data were:

- Publications and reports of different national and international organizations.
- Journals, research reports, newspapers and magazines.

3.6 Data Collection Technique

To meet the objectives of the study, the required data and information are gathered through primary data collection techniques which are as follows:

3.6.1 Questionnaire

Structured questionnaire have been prepared to get the detail information about street children. Since, street children have no fix living place; they are interviewed where ever they met. Keeping in mind that the target of the questionnaire schedule (Survey

format) is to obtain the personal land, family characteristics, caste work experience, income, saving, expenditure health and hygiene, sexual harassment attitude towards work and future aspirations.

3.6.2 Interview

The primary data required for the study have been acquired by face to face interviews with street children with the help of interview schedule. To supplement the collected information, informal interviews have been conducted with the leaders of local NGOS for key information.

3.6.3 Observation

Beside interview, partial observation is also carried out parallel for their behavior analysis, age group classification with whom they are extending their friendship, fooding and clothing that they are using.

3.6.4 Internet and website

The researcher has extensively used relevant website and internet to acquire secondary data and information. Case studies of different countries have been abstracted from internet and website to make study more rational. Definition of street child, root cause of street child, age and sex, activities and their involvement area are taken and referred as per requirement.

3.7 Data Processing Procedures

This study is based on both quantitative and qualitative analysis. Existing rules and regulations, available documents and studies related to child labour and street children are reviewed. Similarly, studies on economic condition of street children, reasons to go the street and socio-economic changes are analyzed. Discussions are more on the existing policy and programme to protect and promote children.

This study mainly focuses on the street children and tries to study about demographic and socio economic situation of the street children of Pokhara. Fifty street children were chosen for the interview from some main cities of Pokhara like Buspark, Prithvi Chowk, Srijana Chowk, Nayabazar, Mahendrapool, Newroad, Bagar, Amarshing

Chowk and Lakeside. The researcher wherever found the street children around these cities of Pokhara valley, interviewed and collected the required information. The data for the various characteristics of street children are analyzed and presented. The quantitative data obtained from structured questionnaires are first processed through validation, editing and coding. Secondly, the processed data have been presented in tabular form. Finally the data are interpreted with additional information.

In short the nature of this study is basically descriptive and explanatory simple statistical tool i.e. percentage, mean, median and ratios have been used to present data, which has enabled to present a scenario of the prevailing condition of street children.

Frequency distribution tables

A display of the frequencies of a scale is known as frequency distribution. Frequency distribution of a quantitative variable can be presented in either tabular or graphic form. This study is a part of master's degree requirements. So the graphic presentations were avoided. The table of the quantitative frequency distribution is known as frequency table. A number of information related to the children's castes, age, sex, location, literacy level of education, their interest etc. are presented by using frequency table.

Cross Tables

A cross table generally shows the data of two or more variables in horizontal as well as vertical order. From this table we can compare data by cross matching its value. In this study cross tables are frequently used to visualize the comparison between family size and caste, occupation and caste, income and occupation, nature of work and age, earning money and expenditure, reason of leaving home and age group, caste, family size.

Data analysis of the respondents about their various objects is done during the field survey. The analysis is done by using various statistical approaches and data are analyzed by using, mean, median and standard deviation of different questionnaires with different components in the table.

CHAPTER-IV

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

Children below the age of 15 years who are found at street, leaving their usual place of residence, are supposed to be street children for this study. These street children neither stay with their relatives nor do they have any permanent residency. They spend their whole daily life at street alone or with similar other street children. These children either beg money or food from people walking around the city or collect money or food by doing vulnerable jobs like rag collecting load carrying etc.

The millennium development goal (MDG) number one makes a commitment on eradication of extreme poverty. Nepal is also one of the member groups to make the commitment and the huge number of street children is a threat on the commitment made.

There are many INGO's/NGO's working on such orphan and ultra poor. Country itself allocates some money for such social welfare. But, the follow up of street children remains as it is. It is a serious issue and thus needs to be studied.

Children in Nepal are not supposed to do any economic activities. Child labor is prohibited by law. National and international commitments on the favor of child right are enough as needed but the functional part is very poor. As a result most of the children are compelled to be either child labor or street child. A brief interpretation on data analysis is given as follows.

4.1 Characteristics of the Respondents

4.1.1 Caste of Street Children

Economic status of different caste groups varies according to their belongings. In general, higher caste groups have better economic condition than the lower caste groups, but it is just a general hypothesis. This might reflect on the background condition for children coming into street.

Among total 50 respondents, majority (54.0%) belong to dalit communities followed by Janajaties (26.0%). Only 20 percent of the respondents belong to higher caste groups.

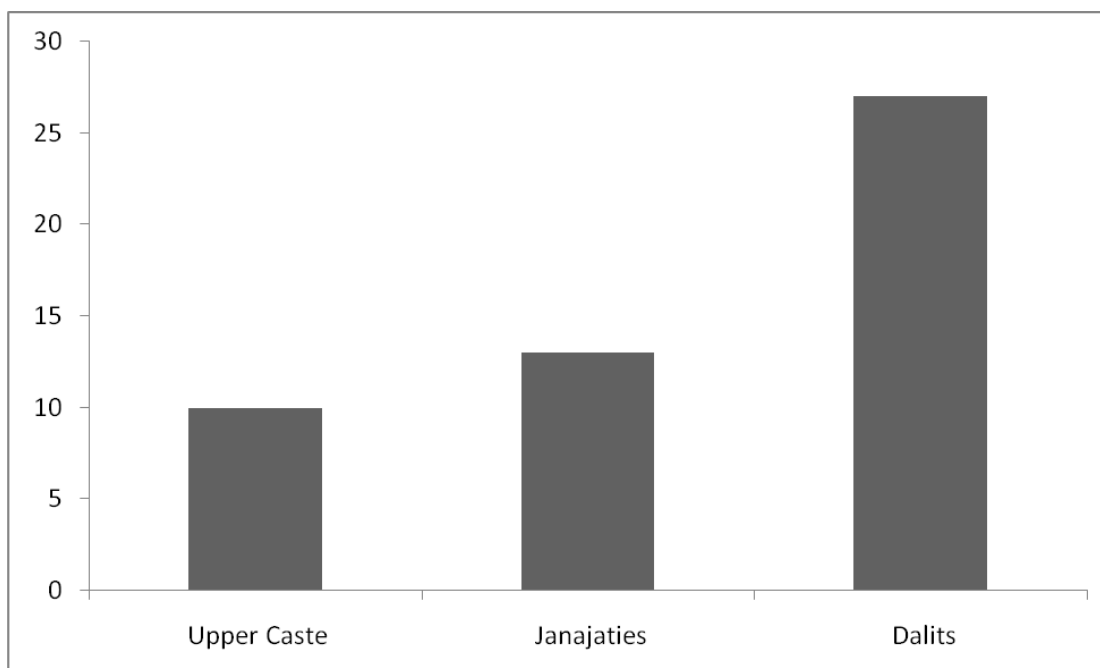
It reflects that children from lower caste groups have higher chances to become street children compared with the children from higher caste groups. So poverty is the main cause to come children in street.

Table: 4.1 Caste of Street Children

Caste of Respondents	Number	Percentage
Upper Caste	10	20.0
Janajaties	13	26.0
Dalits	27	54.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.1 Caste of Street Children



4.1.2 Age of Street Children

Age is one of the important factors of an individual for their personal as well as social life. When a person is economically active he or she may not be lost in street. However, some of the children even they are not liable for any kind of economic activities, are compelled to street vulnerable works. The age distribution of street children is very important for their vulnerability. Children below 10 years are considered as the age of learning not for doing physical works.

Age range of the sampled street children was found 8-14 years. Most of the children were comparison early adolescent period. The mean age of the children was observed to be 11.36 years with 1.97 standard deviation and the median age was 12 years. Among 50 street children 40 percent were of age between 10 to 12 years, 34 percent were of 12 to 14 years and 26 percent were less than 10 years.

Children after the age of 8th year have maximum probability to come to street due to various reasons. Before they become 8 years old might not have any knowledge about street life and spend their life at usual place of residence.

Table: 4.2 Age Groups and Their Statistics

Age Groups	Number	Percentage
Less than 10 years	13	26.0
10 to 12 years	20	40.0
12 to 14 years	17	34.0
Total	50	100.0
Age Statistics		
Mean		11.36
Median		12.00
Std. Deviation		1.977
Minimum		8
Maximum		14

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

4.1.3 Residential Place of Street Children

Most of the street children gather at the main chowk and market areas where high movement of people exists usually. In Pokhara sub-metropolis, certain location is identified for usual location of the street children. In this study, street children were taken from different 9 locations for the interview.

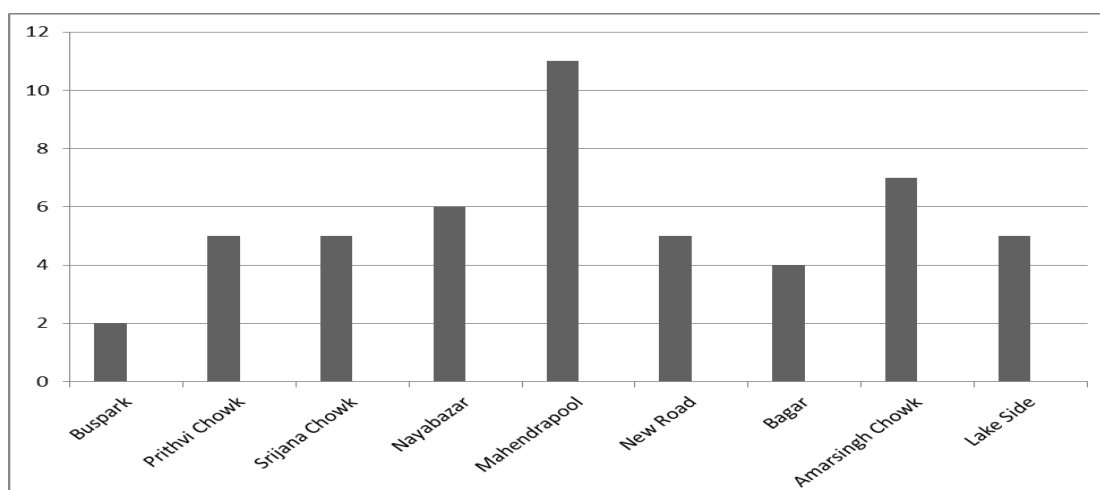
Table: 4.3 Residential Place of Street Children

Location	Number	Percentage
Buspark	2	4.0
Prithvi Chowk	5	10.0
Srijana Chowk	5	10.0
Nayabazar	6	12.0
Mahendrapool	11	22.0
New Road	5	10.0
Bagar	4	8.0
Amarsingh Chowk	7	14.0
Lake Side	5	10.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara, 2013

Majority of the street children were found at Mahendrapool (22.0%) followed by Amarsingh Chowk 14% of them only. Four percent were found at Buspark and eight percent at Bagar. Street children prefer the economically busy city basically marketing area for their residence and other activity. These places were quite productive to them for their street vulnerable jobs.

Fig. 4.2 Residential Place of Street Children



4.1.4 Educational Status

Education up to high school level is free of cost in Nepal. Legally, high school level education is ensured to make free of cost for all in the "Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2063". However, there is no other accommodation provision for poor and ultra poor students. So most of the students are affected by economic crisis in student life and compel to go in search of alternative way of earning.

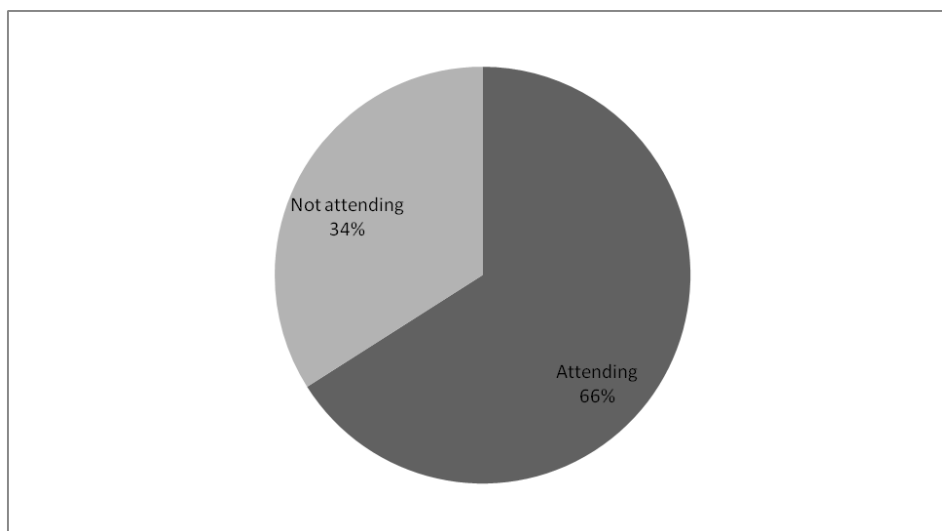
It may be assumed that most of the street children may not even see any kind of school. But due to various other reasons a child joined at school also left his or her study

Table: 4.4 School Attendances

	Number	Percentage
Attending	33	66.0
Not attending	17	34.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.3 School Attendance



Two third of the respondents were found that they attended school at least one time in their life. As mentioned earlier, due to various constraints may be economic or social most of the children were compelled to leave their study.

Rest one third was not attending school up to the date of interview. These children did not get any chance of joining school due to various reasons like no support of guardian, no supportive wealth, no awareness of education etc.

Fundamental need of children for their education is lodging, fooding and money for the educational commodity. Besides, parental awareness on education and positive direction for study are also essential for a student to continue his or her study.

4.1.5 School Attending Situation and Interest

Physically, mentally and socially growing period in human life is childhood. Educational level of an individual can be raised via school life in childhood period. Knowingly or unknowingly children enjoy their school life. But, if a child does not know anything about education then he or she may reject the school life and choose the alternative life. However, some children are very serious on this issue. They prefer student life as far as possible in their child age. This study tries to get the keen interest on school life of street children whether they want to join school or not.

Table: 4.5 Ever been School and their Interest of Rejoining

Ever Been to School	Want to Rejoin School		Total Number
	Want to Rejoin School (%)	Do Not want to Rejoin School (%)	
Ever Been to School	24.2	75.8	33
Never Been to School	23.5	76.5	17
Total	24.0	76.0	50

Source: Field Study Pokhara, 2013

There was no meaningful difference between the children who ever have been to school and never. About one fourth of children from both cases were still interested to rejoin school for further study. But 75.8 percent children who have ever been to school and 76.5 percent who have never been to school did not prefer to rejoin school. These children have already habituated in living in street rather than at school and they had no idea about education and its impacts in their life.

It is very difficult to say that children having legal right to get high school level education are not able to attend school even they have keen interest in studies. It is the duty of nation to take care of these voices and to protect the constitution where it is mentioned.

Table: 4.6 Ever Been School by Caste Groups

Caste	Ever been school		Total Number
	Ever been school (%)	Never been school (%)	
Upper Caste	60.0	40.0	10
Janajaties	84.6	15.4	13
Dalits	59.3	40.7	27
Total	66.0	34.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

The majority of street children who have ever been to school belong to Janajaties (84%) followed by Upper caste (60%). Only 34 percent of street children from Dalit did not attend school even for a single day. Out of 27 street Dalit children, only 59.3 percent have ever been to school but could not continue their study. This data shows that Dalit children have low chance of joining school among other children ethnic groups.

4.1.6 Causes for School Dropout

As discussed earlier, there are various reasons for street children that they are unable to join school. About 24 percent of street children still want to join school (Table 5). There are some constraints like poverty, lack of school around, negligence of parents, death of parents etc which are responsible for not allowing the street children to join school.

Table: 4.7 Cause for not Joining School

Cause for not Joining School	Number	Percentage
Poverty	17	34.0
Lack of School around	2	4.0
Not Interest	17	34.0
Death of parents	4	8.0
Negligence of Parents	10	20.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

About 34 percent of street children did not join school due to poverty and the same number of children due to no interest in studies (Table 7). Twenty percent of children could not attend school due to their parents' negligence and eight percent of children due to death of their parents. Only four percent of children could not join school because of remoteness of school. This data shows that still there is little problem of school access in some communities of our country. The majority school dropout and not attending school is due to poverty and lack of awareness.

4.2 Family Status

4.2.1 Parental Status

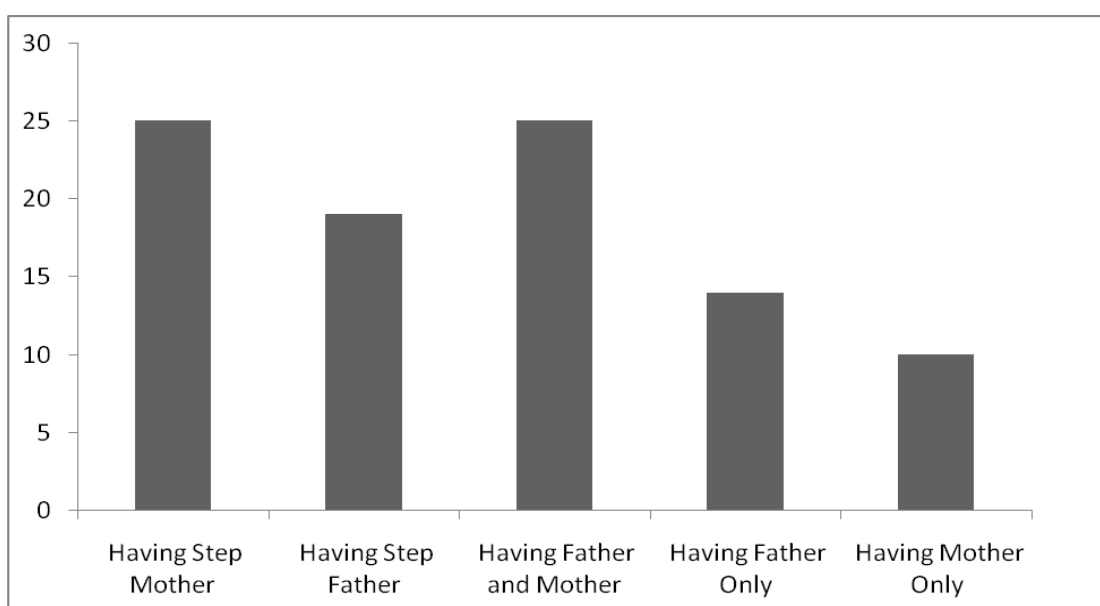
Most of the children who have missed their own father and mother may experience frequently the corporal punishment by other people with whom they spend their life like step father, step mother, boss of the job etc. The small children could not tolerate such corporal punishment and either they leave their home for child labor or to street. Some children do not get love from their parents and are always forced to do hard work. In this situation too, children prefer to leave their home and come to the street to get rid of such difficult physical works. Thus, parental status is one of the important factors that push the children to the street.

Table: 4.8 Parental Status

Parental Status	Number of Response	Percentage
Having Step Mother	25	50.0
Having Step Father	19	38.0
Having Father and Mother	25	50.0
Having Father Only	14	28.0
Having Mother Only	10	20.0
Total	93	186.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig.4.4 Parental Status



Majority of street children (50%) had step mother and thus they did not get a suitable environment at home and similar case is with 38 percent of children because of step father. Fourteen children lost their mother and ten of them lost their father. Fifty percent of children had both mother and father also came to street. This shows that there is lack of love and parental care to the children from their parents and thus they are compelled come to the street.

4.2.2 Family Size

Family size is indirectly proportional with economic status of the family. As family size increases the economic status decreases. Family size plays the vital role in socio economic growth of people. Parents cannot afford the basic needs of their children in large family. Due to lack of basic needs children are compelled to come in the street.

Government also focuses on small size of family in its policy. Family planning programme is one of an example of government to control the family size. Thus, the structure of family size and number of street children can be compared to study the effect of family size in economic status and factor of making a child leaving his or her home.

Table: 4.9 Family Sizes of Respondents by Caste Groups

Family Size			
Caste Groups	Small Family size up to 4 members (%)	Large family size more than 4 Members (%)	Total Number
Upper Caste	50.0	50.0	10
Janajaties	38.5	61.5	13
Dalits	48.1	51.9	27
Total	46.0	54.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Family size was quite better in upper caste as compared to the other castes. Fifty percent of street children from upper caste had adequate family size of four members (Table 4.9). Whereas only 38.5 percent of street children from Janajaties and 48.1 percent of street children from Dalit had the proper family size of four members. Large family was reported from Janajaties (61.5%) followed by Dalits (51.9%).

4.2.3 Parental Occupation

Better occupation of people can earn a lot and they can invest for basic needs of their children. Similarly, lower level occupation can't earn a lot so they can't fulfill the basic needs of their children. Children are deprived of the means to meet basic needs. So they are doomed to leave their home. Parental occupation is the main factor for knowing the problem of street children.

Table: 4.10 Parental Occupations by Caste

Parents Occupation					
Caste	Agriculture (%)	Service (%)	Porter/Workers (%)	Domestic service (%)	Total Number
Upper Caste	30.0	30.0	40.0	0.0	10
Janajaties	15.4	15.4	38.5	30.8	13
Dalits	18.5	14.8	66.7	0.0	27
Total	20.0	18.0	54.0	8.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Most of the parents of street children were either porter or workers on wage. Among three caste groups (Upper caste, Janajaties and Dalit), most of the Dalits were exposed to the work of porter. There was no presence of Upper caste and Dalit in domestic service as still our society do not permit Dalit and Upper caste for domestic work. Upper caste people are not supposed and Dalits are not allowed to do domestic service. But the parents of Janajaties are working as domestic servant, porter etc. A very low proportion of parents are working on service and the service is also a low level or class. Comparatively high proportion of Upper Caste parents was involved in service (30%) as compared to Dalits (14.8%) and Janajaties (15.4%). The same situation was observed in case of agriculture occupation too. This shows that among the parents of street children, Dalits were more backward in case of occupation. However, the majority of parents' occupation seemed to be low level worker in an average.

4.2.4 Income Level in Household

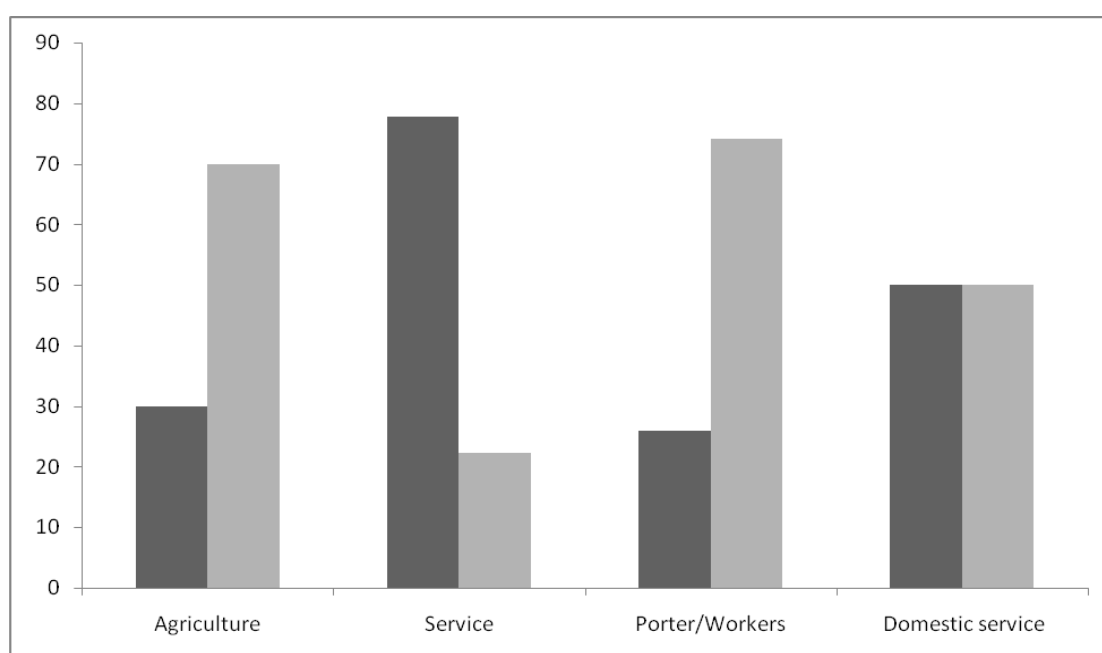
Various surveys like Nepal Living Standard Survey (NLSS) showed that income level of Nepalese people is being increasing and the rate of poverty is reduced to 25 percent from 31 percent within the period of five/six years (NLSS-II and NLSS-III). Unfortunately, the poverty level of lower income level people remains the same. For these poor and ultra poor people, it is too difficult for arranging their minimum requirement by their irregular and nominal income level. As there is no sufficient income at home and the distribution of such insufficient resources there is always scarcity. To address such scarcity, children are compelled to go for work rather than working for their career development.

Table: 4.11 Sufficiency of Income by Occupation

Parents Occupation	Income level at home		
	Sufficiency (%)	Not Sufficiency (%)	Total Number
Agriculture	30.0	70.0	10
Services	77.8	22.2	9
Porters/Workers	25.9	74.1	27
Domestic service	50.0	50.0	4
Total	38.0	62.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.5 Sufficiency of Income by Occupation



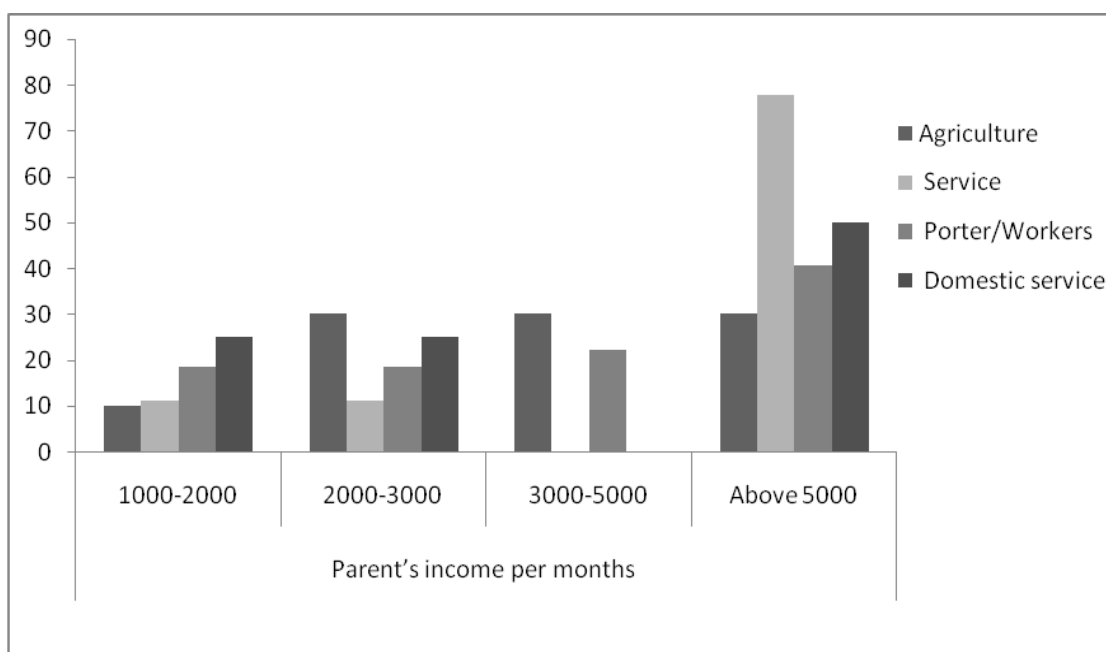
A total of 62 percent household had no sufficient income from their usual occupation. The people who were involving in agriculture production and porter were facing a serious problem of scarcity of income to fulfill their basic needs. People who were in service have little bit better income level. According to the sampled street children parents who were in domestic service have equal percentage of income sufficiency and insufficiency (i.e. 50% of both).

Table: 4.12 Parent's Average Monthly Income by Occupation

Parents Occupation	Parent's income per month (In percentage)				Total Number
	1000-2000	2000-3000	3000-5000	Above 5000	
Agriculture	10.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	10
Services	11.1	11.1	0.0	77.8	9
Porters/Workers	18.5	18.5	22.2	40.7	27
Domestic service	25.0	25.0	0.0	50.0	4
Total	16.0	20.0	18.0	46.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.6 Parent's Average Monthly Income by Occupation



Parents who were in service have maximum (more than NRs 5000) income per month which was followed by the parents who were involved in domestic service. Parents who were in agriculture and porter have monthly income between NRs 3000 to 5000. Twenty percent of parents had monthly income between NRs 2000 to 3000 and sixteen percent parents had NRs 1000 to 2000. About 54 percent parents had monthly income below NRs 5000 and which was very low for minimum subsistence level even for single person in this expensive era.

4.2.5 Land Ownership

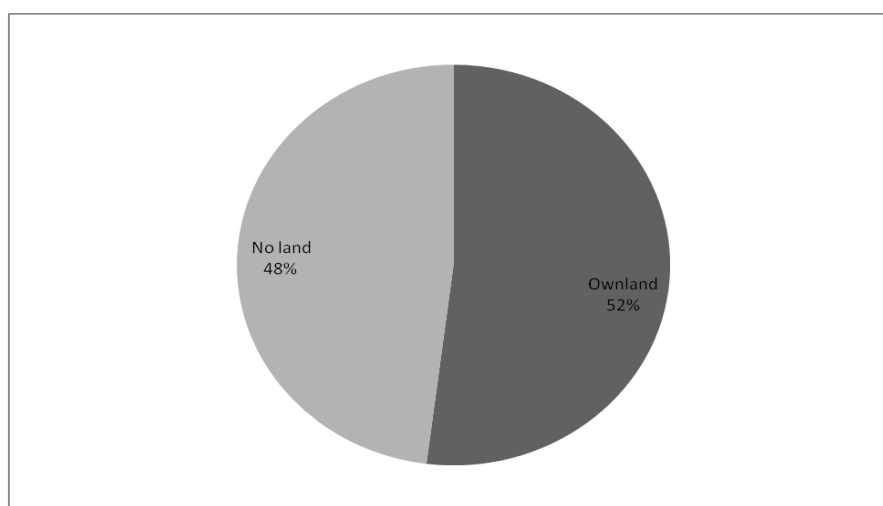
The entrepreneurship of people is not utilized due to insufficient land on their own to some extent. It is already observed that people in agriculture have not sufficient income (Table 11). Seventy percent parents of street children were suffering from insufficient income from agriculture. Main reason of insufficient income was due to the lack of ownership of land.

Table: 4.13 Land Ownership of Respondents

Land holding	Number	Percentage
Own Land	26	52.0
No Land	24	48.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.7 Land Ownership (Percentage)



Almost half of the parents of street children had no land on their own. Only 52 percent of parents had their own land but the area was very low. Out of fifty parents twenty four parents had no land at all. This was the key reason of low income of family and scarcity of basic needs. Thus children moved out from their home in search of food and other basic needs.

4.3 Working Condition

Street children generally do not work at all. Either they beg food or money from the people around the city or collect plastics and other rubbish to sell for money. Some of them earned money by carrying load and some may be involved in illegal activities

Table: 4.14 Types of Current Work of Respondents by Their Age Groups

Age Groups	Kind of Work				Total Number
	Rag Picking (%)	Begging (%)	Carrying Load (%)	Not working (%)	
Less than 10 years	53.8	38.5	0.0	7.7	13
10 - 12 years	65.0	20.0	5.0	10.0	20
12 -14 years	58.8	29.4	11.8	0.0	17
Total	60.0	28.0	6.0	6.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Majority of street children spent their daily life in collecting plastic by carrying a sack on their back. Out of 50 street children 60 percent were involved in rag picking. Some of the street children of age below 12 years did not do any type of works. Children of age between 12 to 14 years earned money by carrying load too. Twenty eight percent of street children spent their daily life by begging money. Majority of beggar belonged to the age group of below 10 years as their physical body structure was not developed enough for other job like load carrying and rag picking.

4.3.1 Working Hours and Earning

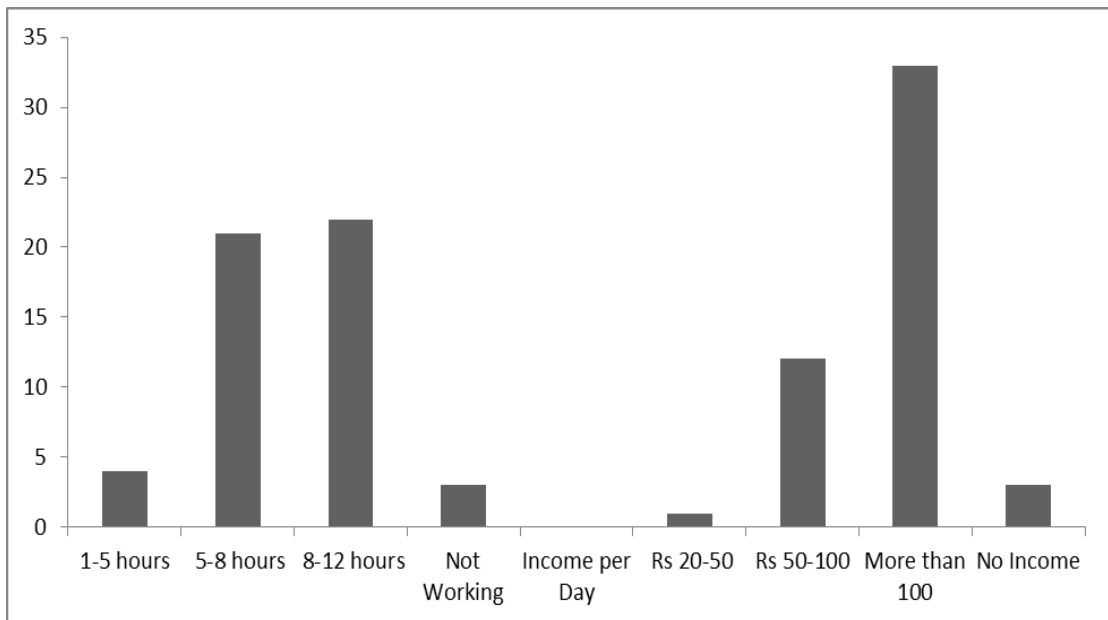
Majority of street children (44%) worked for 8 to 12 hours daily. Similarly 42 percent worked for 5 to 8 hours daily and 8 percent worked only for 1 to 5 hours daily. Three children were not doing at all. Most of them (66%) earned more than NRs 100 per day and some children (24%) earned NRs 50 to 100 and only two percent children earned NRs 20 to 50 per day and six percent children depend on their family member.

Table: 4.15 Working Hours and Income per Day

Working Hours	Number	Percentage
1-5 hours	4	8.0
5-8 hours	21	42.0
8-12 hours	22	44.0
Not Working	3	6.0
Income per Day		
Rs 20-50	1	2.0
Rs 50-100	12	24.0
More than 100	33	66.0
No Income	3	6.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.8 Working Hours and Income per Day



4.3.2 Consumption of Earning

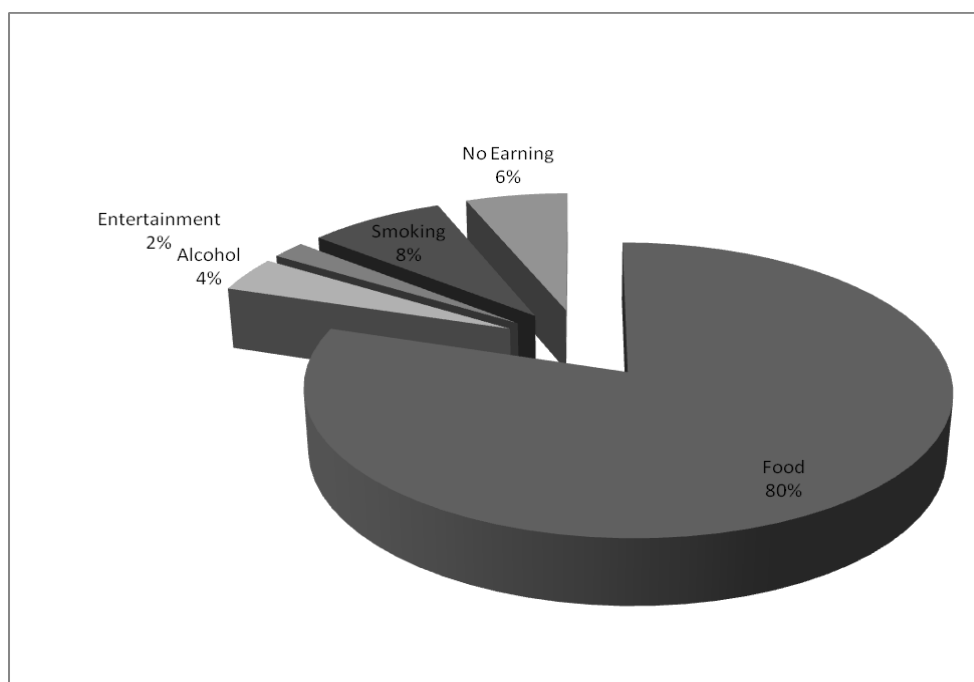
Street children not only consume their earnings on food and clothing. They also used also their income in alcohol, smoking and entertainment like movies.

Table: 4.16 Number and Percent of Respondents and use of Earning

Use of Earning	Number	Percentage
Food	40	80.0
Alcohol	2	4.0
Entertainment	1	2.0
Smoking	4	8.0
No Earning	3	6.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Fig. 4.9 Number and Percentage of Respondents and Use of Earning



A total of 40 children spent their income on food. Some children were smoker and drunkard too. Out of these 50 children 4 were smoker, 2 drunkards and 3 children had not any work.

4.3.3 Money Saving Practices and Saving Places

Saving practice is a crucial factor of a person for the secured future life. The entire respondents interviewed saved something from what they earned every day. But it

was found that most of the street children are influenced by the bad atmosphere and have learnt all types of bad habit. They earn and also spend immediately their earnings.

Table: 4.17 Money Saving Practices and Saving Places

Saving Money	Number	Percentage
Saving	27	54.0
Not Saving	23	46.0
Total	50	100.0
If Yes, saving places		
Self	1	2.0
Friends	1	2.0
I/NGO	25	50.0
Not Saving	23	46.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

About half of the street children had no saving practice as only 54 percent out of 50 street children saved money. Most of the saving groups saved their money at INGO. Only a few of them kept their money with them or gave to friend for savings.

4.4 Factors Forcing Children to the Street

Human beings are always inquisitive and want to know the new things and facts. Besides, they are always in search of better life and development in all aspects. Similarly children also are in search of better life rather than in their usual condition. As discussed earlier there are so many factors which force children to go in street. Some of the key factors which bring children at street are discussed below.

Table: 4.18 Factors to Leave Home by Street Children

Caste	Factors to leave home				Total Number
	Expectation for better life (%)	Too much work in home (%)	No schooling (%)	Maltreatment by family members (%)	
Upper Caste	30.0	20.0	0.0	50.0	10
Janajaties	30.8	0.0	0.0	69.2	13
Dalits	22.2	14.8	3.7	59.3	27
Age Groups					
Less than 10 years	15.4	0.0	0.0	84.6	13
10 - 12 Years	35.0	15.0	5.0	45.0	20
12 -14 Years	23.5	17.6	0.0	58.8	17
Family Size					
Small Family size up to 4 members	30.4	13.0	0.0	56.5	23
Large family size more than 4 Members	22.2	11.1	3.7	63.0	27
Total	26.0	12.0	2.0	60.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

A majority of children (60%) left their usual place of residence due to the maltreatment by family members. Twenty six percent of street children come at street for better life. About 12 percent children could not tolerate too much work at home and only two percent children come at street due to no schooling. Majority of children from Janajaties (69.2%) were experienced maltreatment by family members followed by Dalits (59.3%). About four percent of Dalit children were in seeking of school.

4.5 Responsible Persons to Bring Children to the Street

Children come to street by the help of other people like friends, parents. Some children came to street by themselves. Main responsible persons who brought children are presented as follows based on the field study, 2012.

Table: 4.19 Responsible Persons to Bring Children to the Street

Caste	Responsible Persons Who Brought to the Street			Total Number
	Parent (%)	Self (%)	Friends (%)	
Upper Caste	10.0	60.0	30.0	10
Janajaties	7.7	53.8	38.5	13
Dalits	11.1	48.1	40.7	27
Age Groups				
Less than 10 years	7.7	38.5	53.8	13
10 - 12 Years	15.0	50.0	35.0	20
12-14 Years	5.9	64.7	29.4	17
Family Size				
Small Family size up to 4 members	0.0	69.6	30.4	23
Large family size more than 4 Members	18.5	37.0	44.4	27
Total	10.0	52.0	38.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Majority of street children came to street by themselves (52%). Thirty eight percent of children came to street by the help of their friends and 10 percent by their parents. Caste wise distribution showed majority of Dalit came to street by their friends, majority of Janajaties by themselves and majority of Upper caste also came to street by themselves.

4.6 Health and Nutrition

Health is one of the important factors for personal life as well as national concern. In case of street children due to the shortage of nutrition of food the nutritional status was very poor. Personal hygiene and sanitation was also poor among them.

4.6.1 Management Practice

Most of the street children do some works for food. Some of them are not involved in any work and they fully depend on help of other people or organization. However, thanks god still these street people manage their hand to mouth by any means which is discussed below.

Table: 4.20 Way of Managing Food and Clothes by Age Groups

Age	Way of Managing Food and Clothes			Total
	By Doing work (%)	By Help of organization (%)	By Begging (%)	
Less than 10 years	46.2	15.4	38.5	13
10 - 12 Years	65.0	15.0	20.0	20
12 -14 Years	64.7	0.0	35.3	17
Total	60.0	10.0	30.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Majority of street children managed their food themselves (60%) by doing work, which was followed by begging (30%). Only 10 percent of street children managed their food by the help of organization.

4.7 Supports to the Street Children

There are number of INGOs and other organization working in the field of poor, ultra poor, orphan and street children. Some of the organizations support them in capacity enhancing and some to provide basic needs like food, clothes, medicines etc.

Table: 4.21 Respondents Response on Financial Support

Financial Support	Number	Percentage
Request for NGO	30	60.0
Use own earning	15	30.0
Help from Friends	5	10.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Sixty percent street children requested to NGOs, 30 percent used their own earning and only 10 percent got help from friends for financial support.

4.8 Problems of Street Children

Every human being has to struggle for survival of course there are number of problems which are facing by street children also some children are suffering frequent sickness, some lack of food, some have sexual harassment and so on. A brief analysis is done based on the field study data as below.

Table: 4.22 Number and Percent of Respondents by their Problems Category

Problems Category	Number	Percentage
Ever been sick	48	96.0
Not having sufficient food	7	14.0
Facing sexual harassment	9	18.0
Harassment of police	15	30.0
Not saving Money	23	46.0

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Most of the street children had suffered from sickness of any kind. Thirty percent of them were affected by harassment by police. Similarly, 18 percent of such children were suffered from facing sexual harassment and about 14 percent of them had not sufficient food.

4.9 Aims of Future

Children are building block of the nation. Childhood age is the foundation of life and nation as well. Every person sees the dream of future and street children too.

Table: 4.23 Future Aims of the Street Children

Age	Aims of Future						Total
	Driver (%)	Mechanics (%)	Police (%)	Soldier (%)	Actor (%)	Social Worker (%)	
Less than 10 years	15.4	15.4	23.1	15.4	23.1	7.7	13
10 - 12 Years	25.0	10.0	15.0	10.0	15.0	25.0	20
12-14 Years	64.7	23.5	0.0	5.9	0.0	5.9	17
Caste							
Upper Caste	30.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	10.0	20.0	10
Janajaties	38.5	15.4	15.4	7.7	7.7	15.4	13
Dalits	37.0	14.8	7.4	14.8	14.8	11.1	27
Total	36.0	16.0	12.0	10.0	12.0	14.0	50

Source: Field Survey, Pokhara 2013

Majority of street children wanted to be drivers (36%) in future. Sixteen percent wanted to be mechanics, 14 percent wanted to be social workers, and 12 percent wanted to be police and actors. Only 10 percent wanted to be soldier. Future aim seems to be identical in different caste groups.

4.10 Major Findings of the Study

There are various studies on the topic of street children programmes in Nepal and abroad. Many studies have directly or indirectly identified various problems of street children programmers in different topics and different areas of Nepal. This study however, is related to socio- economic status of street children and its impact on socio- economic sector with reference to some specific area of Pokhara.

The findings of the study are based on 50 the dealings of respondents.

- All respondents were boys and no single girl during field survey was recorded.
- The most influencing age wise population composition of street children is 10-12 years. After the age of 8th year there was maximum probability to come to street due to various reasons.

- Largest population is from Dalits. It reflects that children from lower caste groups have higher chances to become street children.
- Factors that forced the children to leave their home were maltreatment by family members, expectation of better life, poor economic status of family and breakdown family.
- The educational status of street children is very low.66 percent of the respondents were found to have attended school at least one time in their life.
- Majority of street children did not join school due to poverty. And others due to lack of school around, not interest, death of parents and negligence of parents.
- Majority of street children were street rag picker, beggar and load carrier. They earned nominal amount of money and only few of them saved their earning. They also used their income in alcohol, smoking, Glue sniffing and entertainment
- Personal hygiene and sanitation also found very poor. Most of them have one set of clothes.
- Agriculture, Service, Porter/Workers and Domestic Service are main parental occupations. Majority of parents had no sufficient income from their usual occupation.
- Some of the organizations support them to provide basic need like food, clothes, medicines etc.
- Circumstances and problems faced by street children were mistreatment of police, stealing of goods, suffering from sickness and lack of food.
- Major dreams of the respondents were to become driver, mechanics, social worker, soldier and police.
- Street life of children is full of trouble, challenge, complexity and hardships. Every day they did fight with the hurdles, obstacles and risk.
- From the case studies of the total street children, it was found that all the children came to street because of the poverty at home. Illiteracy, large family size, lack of awareness and expectation for better life were other factors, which had pushed them to come to street.

CHAPTER-V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Summary

Children are the pillars of a nation; they are raw clay and future stars of a nation. But due to poverty, natural phenomena, mal-treatment by step parents and friends influence to see the city life drives them to the street life. Generally in the developing countries children did not get better support not only from the home even from the government. So there are many factors promoting a child to in the group of street children.

This study mainly focuses on the street children and tries to study about demographic and socio economic situation of the street children in Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City. The objective of this research study is to determine possible causes of being street child and their age wise population and their life.

For the study both explanatory and descriptive research designs were adopted. So samples were selected on the basis of snowball technique. The researcher has also used semi observation to analysis respondent's behavior and to acquire relevant information structured questionnaires were prepared and asked to make study more flexible and rational the finding of the study based on 50 respondents.

Street children mostly come from the rural areas and neighboring districts in Pokhara valley .Out of 50 respondents all were from rural areas. The minimum age of respondents was 8 to 14 age range of the sampled street children were found 8 years to 14 years. Most of the children were of early adolescent period. The mean age of the children was observed to be 11.36 years and the median age was 12 years. Among 50 street children 40 percent were of age between 10 to 12 years, 34 percent were of 12 to 14 years and 26 percent were of less than 10 years.

Children after the age of 8 years had maximum probability to come street due to various reasons. Before 8 years they might not have any knowledge about street life

and spend their life at usual place of residence. These children belong to various caste groups. Even majorities (54.0%) belong to Dalit communities followed by Janajatis (26.0%). Only 20 percent of the respondents belong to higher caste groups. It reflects that children from lower caste groups have higher chances to become street children compared with the children from higher caste groups.

Life in the street for these children is very complicated and pitiable. To survive themselves they are compelled to adopt various types of works. Begging is the most common work that these children adopted. The main reason behind adopting begging job is that this is the easiest one this interview located especially in main cities of Pokhara known as tourist place and easy to beg.

Almost half of the parents of street children had no land of their own. Only 52 percent of parents had their own land but the area was very small. Out of fifty parents twenty parents had no land at all. This was the key reason of low family income and scarcity in fulfilling the basic needs. Thus children move out from their home in search of food and other meaning of fulfilling basic needs. Street children were from the families having agriculture, service, porter/ worker and domestic service as their occupation. Among them 54 percent children were found from porter/ worker family, 20 percent were from agriculture family, 18 percent from service and 8 percent from domestic service family. Most of the children were from poor family, they had no sufficient income out of the occupations they are engaged in.

The majority of street children spent their daily life in collecting plastic by carrying a sack on their back. Out of 50 street children 60 percent were involved in rag picking. Some of them the age below 12 years, Children of the age between 12 to 14 years earned money by carrying load too. Twenty eight percent of street children spent their daily life by begging money. Majority of street children of the age group 10 years as their physical body structure was not developed enough for other jobs like load carrying and rag picking.

Literacy among the street children was found to be very low. Only two third of the respondents were found to have attended school at least one time in their life due to various constraints economic or social. Most of the children were compelled to leave their study.

Rest one third of the total number of children taken for study had not attended school up to the date of interview. These children did not get any chance of joining school due to various reasons like no support of guardian, no supportive wealth, no awareness of education etc.

About one fourth of these children of both cases were still interested in rejoining the school for further study. But 75.8 percent children who had once been to school and 76.5 percent who had never been to school did not prefer to rejoin school. These children had already been habituated in living in the street.

Fundamental needs of children for their education are lodging, fooding and money besides, parental awareness on education and positive direction for study are also essential for a student to continue his or her study.

Most of the street children were found suffering from sickness of any kind. Thirty percent of them were affected by harassment by police. Similarly, 18 percent of such children suffered from facing sexual harassment and about 14 percent of them had not sufficient food to eat.

Street children's future dreams were different. If they are supported, they can do other prestigious work. Most of them wanted to be drivers (36%) in future .Sixteen percent wanted to be mechanics, 14 percent wanted to be social workers, and 12 percent wanted to be police and actors. Only 10 percent wanted to be soldiers.

From the case studies of the total street children, it was found that all the children came to street because of the poverty at home. Illiteracy, large family size, lack of awareness and expectation for better life were other factors, which had pushed them to come to street.

5.2 Conclusion

Today street children are a burning issue in the world. Many NGOs and INGOs are putting their effort to enhance the world. Socio-economic status of children in developed countries has already been declared the child right and they have identified therefore, have started to extend it in developing countries by giving technical and financial support. NGOs are engaged in uplifting the socio-economic status of

children. In recent year these organizations have started to participate in different seminars and conferences at international level as well as have launched many awareness programmes.

This study is expected to be of a great importance in the context of the study area. The data are collected using structured questionnaire and this study has utilized both quantitative and qualitative data. It has tried to provide a new dimension perspective on street children in Nepal.

Most of these children come from rural areas, specifically from hill and mountain region and proportion of them who were of Upper caste (20%) Janajatis (26%) and Dalits (54%). This may indicate that those ethnic groups had a comparatively higher probability to resort to street child than other.

The research shows that 60 percent of street children left their home due to the cause of maltreatment by family members. 26 percent by expectation for better life 12 percent by too much work at home 2 percent due to no schooling. It means those children from poor families with little or no land left home for better opportunities. These are the main factors to promote a child to be joining the group of street children.

From the survey it was found that 60 percent of street children were involved in rag picking, 28 percent were beggar 6 percent were carrying load. It shows that street children do work but still face hand to mouth problems. So lack of opportunities and lack of interest in education are the factors contributing to the creation of street children. Another important factor is poor economic condition.

Based on the field survey, available material and extensive review the study shows that the most influenced population is of the age group of 10-12. The study depicts that there are many causes that influence child being onto street. They are maltreatment by family members, expectation for better life, too much work at home, poor economic status of the family and lack of education. Problems faced by street children were mistreatment by police, stoling of goods and belonging, lack of sufficient food and suffering from sickness. Economic status of street children was also very poor. Street children are fully self-dependent in terms of their livelihood and survival. They do not have any one to look after them and to take care of them except

for the mutual help and support they get from their friends. They have to work hard the whole day to feed themselves everyday day. If they do not work, they do not have anything to eat for that day. Rag picking, begging, carrying load are their activities for survival.

Overall discussions led to the conclusion that poor economic conditions of the family, lack of sufficient land and food, necessity to work for survival, inaccessibility of school ,influence by friends, maltreatment by family members, expectation of better life, etc. These are the main causes of children working as the street children.

In Nepal there are several laws, which can be implemented to protect children from exploitation, they are not implemented effectively. There is need for further social mobilization and public campaign on the issue of children and their rights for survival, protection and development, education training and apprenticeship are other set of policies. The extension and application of universal compulsory education and the provision of training and apprenticeship schemes can reduce the number of out- of school children as well as provide other opportunities for skill acquisition and later employment.

There is a positive hope of the light for the betterment of these street children because different NGOs and INGOs, are working in the field of welfare of the street children. These organizations are aware of street children and promoting different types of program like skill development program, awareness program and try to make them normal like other children where they can live their life independently. For this it is necessary to protect working children from exploitation and abuses. Street children deserve special and deep consideration from all people.

The necessity of today is to protect working children from exploitation, abuses, improper influences, hazardous condition, prejudices in their physical, mental, emotional social and coral development. And it is universally recognized that children are not simply small adults, deserve special consideration and treatment.

From this study it is suggested that the government agencies, NGOs, INGOs and local communities should focus their immediate attention on the causes and consequences of street children and their permanent way out.

5.3 Suggestions

- There are more children in the street and there is the need of good coordination among the organization working with the street children. In this part vital role has with the NAOSC-Nepal- networking organizations working with the street children.
- It would be better to purpose the same objectives with the street children and relevant activities as per their interest. Not to duplicate the activities among the organizations.
- Give the more options/ways to the children/youth for the selection of the vocational training and they can choose the appropriate training subject through the help of staffs/members who has its knowledge.
- Study the opportunities for the job placement in the market and purpose the training to the children/youth according to the job market and its demand.
- Motivate to the children /youth for the continuation of their work according to the training subject and reflection, it's very important and to be skillful person in one particular subject which develop the trustful relationship with the job providers also.
- Street children should be provided proper health facilities and lunched the awareness programme recently as the preliminary style of remedies programs.
- Necessary laws and acts should be formed and strictly implemented for the betterment of children and protection of their rights for street children problem.
- The main leading causes of the street children on the street are poverty caused by family unemployment, illiteracy and irresponsibility of the society or parents towards the children. Therefore, poor families should be made self-dependent providing different economic and skillful

programs with various public awareness programs simultaneously identifying the main origin places of street children.

- Need to be respect the feelings of the street children especially for the period of the rebuilding the relationship with the family.
- Free and compulsory education should be provided for all children without any discrimination.
- Gos, NGOs and CBOs should be aware on the principle causes of children leaving home.
- Preventive and protective approaches should be applied to the related agencies that work on the field of street children.
- Conflict at home and insufficiency of food were seen the influencing factors of children go to street. All related agencies should commit to prevent these situations.
- There is an urgent need to launch action programmes that generate awareness against substances and drug abuse among street children and community by related agencies.
- Free vocational and skill development training programmes as well as compulsory education should be launched in rehabilitation centers because most of them wanted to escape from street life.
- The local sellers and shopkeepers should be aware of the ill effects of substances and drugs on children. There should be strong anti drug rule and regulation for both users and sellers.
- Social security programme should be launched by the government.
- Clear cut street child policy should be promulgated to meet the CRC recommendations and child helpline should be established.

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3.7 If yes where do you save your money?

- a. Self
- b. relative
- c. bank
- d. friends
- e. NGo/INGo
- f. malik

3.8 What is the reason to leave you home?

- a. expectation of better life
- b. to much work in home
- c. no schooling
- d. maltreatment by
Parent /other family member

3.9 Who brought you here?

- a. broker
- b. parent /step parent
- c. self
- d. friends
- e. other

3.10 Do you have to support your family?

- a. yes
 - b. No
- If, yes how much? Rs month/year

Section: C

4. Family situation

4.1 Family size

4.2 Step mother Yes No

4.3 Step father Yes No

4.4 Father /Mother Yes No

4.5 Father only

4.6 Mother only

4.7 What is your parent's occupation?

- a. agriculture b. service
c. business d. porter/worker/driver
e. domestic servant f. others

4.8 Do you parents earn sufficient income for family's survival?

- a. yes b. No

4.9 How much your parents earn monthly?

- a. below 1000 b. 1000-2000
c. 2000-3000 d. 3000-5000
e. above 5000+

4.10 Does your family have own land ?

- a. yes b. No

If yes

4.11 How many month it is sufficient?

- a. < 3 months b. 3-6 months
c. 9-12 months d. above then 12 months

Section: D

5. Health and nutrition

5.1 Where do you get food?

- a. hotel b. restaurant c. bhatti

5.2 Do you get sufficient meal ?

- a. yes b. No

5.3 How do you manage food stuff and clothes?

- a. Earn little money by doing work
b. Ask for social organization for their help
c. Earn little money by begging

r

5.3 Have you ever been sick?

- a. yes b. No

If sick mention no. of episode per months

5.4 Who did you help financially?

- a. request for Ngo's b. believe on god
c. I use my own earning d. No ideas e. friends

5.5 Have you even faced any sexual harassment?

- a. yes b. No

If yes ,by whom!

- a. Local boys b. Seniors c. Tourist d. Others

5.6 Do police harass regularly?

If yes, what do they say?

- a. beg money b. punish c. others

Section: E

6.1 What do you want to be in future?

- a. driver b. mechanics c. police d. soldier
e. actor f. social worker g. others

6.2 Do you want to say something about your life?

Thank You!

ANNEX-II