

CHAPTER-ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background

Everyone agrees, Nepal is a country with patriarchal society. Males have better socio-cultural, economic, political, religious position in society. Women are taken as the second class citizen and are deprived of the fundamental rights as well in practice. Not only In Nepal, women are facing various types of violence throughout the world. Because of the violence, women are living in a measurable condition. The world has embarked on the 21st century but the women are facing various domestic and other types of violence. There are various types of violence against women in some forms. It is seen as a cruel behavior whereas in other forms, it is manifested as exploitation, repression and control on their freedom. Domestic violence is caused either by the males or by the females on the other females. In most of the cases of domestic violence in Nepal, the women are the sufferers of the behavior of the males. Women are the victim of violence physically, mentally, socially, religiously, politically and legally. Women are suffering from the violence from the outsiders as well as the family members. According to World Bank Report, (1993), 20% of the women have to tolerate unwanted behavior and bullying from the same person with whom they are living. In most of the cases, the husbands are found to be beating the wives. In the context of Nepal, women are the victim of violence from women as well. This has now become a global issue in social science and has to be taken seriously.

In 1993, United Nation announced to abolish the violence against women. In the World Women Conference in Beijing (1995), a 12-points agenda was made in which 'Women and violence' and 'Women and poverty' were the important issues raised. (Acharya, 2058).

Domestic violence is defined as the ill practices or abuses done by the males over the females or females over the females which can be physical, psychological and sexual. Domestic violence includes dominance by a husband over his wife, physical torture by in-laws, intimidation or other violence. A son scolding his mother, not giving

proper respect, discrimination and not making others involve in decision-making also come under domestic violence. (Rijal , 2065).

For individuals all over the world, home is a safe heaven, yet it is at home that many people are subjected to heinous crimes of terror and violence and even death at the hands of family members who are suppose to love and protect them. They are victimized physically, sexually and psychologically. However, when the abuse is inside the home, it is condoned by a large part of the society, State and law enforcement machinery. Though domestic violence is a form of violence that occurs inside the home, in context with Nepal, like in almost all the South Asian countries domestic violence is one of the many forms of gender based violence. Gender based violence is present in every country, though there are variations to the patterns of violence. It cuts across boundaries of countries, class, caste, age, education, income, ethnicity and culture. Even though most countries have criminalized violence against women, domestic violence against women is still prevalent and sanctioned under the disguise of cultural practices or through the misinterpretation of religious texts. It not only needs to be eliminated because it is detrimental to the physical and mental health of women, but it also violates the basic fundamental human rights of women. Other reasons for eliminating domestic violence are the cost to society: directly through use of social services, police investigation and medical care; and also indirect cost because of decreased productivity level (economically) and decreased participation level (socially). It is also insidious because of its inter-generational effect, reducing enjoyment of life for the future generation and transmitting violence to the next generation. The prevalence of domestic violence against women in the country is an open secret. However, Nepal does not have separate law addressing domestic violence against women.

Violence against women, like all other historical phenomenon of violence, has to be seen in the socio-economic and political context of power relations. It is produced within class, caste and patriarchal social relations in which male power dominates. A narrow view of domestic violence does not go beyond an act of illegal, criminal use of physical force. But "violence" includes exploitation, discrimination, upholding of unequal economic and social structures, the creation of an atmosphere of terror, threat or reprisal and all forms of religio-cultural and political violence. While violence

against women is part of general violence inherent in all social structures of class, caste, religion, ethnicity etc. and in the way the State control people, the specificity of violence against women underlies aspects of structural violence and forms of control and coercion exercised through a hierarchical and patriarchal gender relationship in the family and society. Women specific violence has the function of keeping women where they are i.e. within the house in powerless position. Consequently, women become instruments through which the social system reproduces itself and through which systemic inequality is maintained. This is achieved through women's resourcelessness and economic and emotional dependence. Women are considered men's property, their sexuality, fertility and labour are systematically controlled. Violence against women and the consequent submission and subordination of women are further strengthened and maintained over time by the socialization process. Familial structures embody hierarchic gender relations that women have little or no independent social existence. These tend to establish the possessional rights over women which men have as husbands or fathers or older male relations. Such possessional rights appear as the exchange of promise of protection (whether actually fulfilled or not) in return for submission and exclusive use. In the process of economic development, family violence has not been taken as a serious matter; hence provisions do not exist for prosecuting perpetrators of domestic violence such as wife batterers. This lends to the notion that domestic violence is invisible, and only occurs in the 'private sphere'. The majority of cases of domestic violence and especially rape go unreported because of the women's reluctance to compromise family relationships by going to the police. However, now the situation is being changed. To achieve the gender equality, demand is raising to stop domestic violence against women as well. Being the party to various International Human Rights Instruments including UDHR, ICCPR, ICESCR and CEDAW, Nepal has also made the commitments to protect rights of women in every sphere, either public or private in its constitution 2063. To combat this kind of crime, there should be an effective mechanism which can punish the perpetrator as well as can provide effective remedy to the victim. Besides the introduction of specific law to deal with these forms of violence state mechanism should also be make responsible to tackle these kinds of crime seriously. Due to the nature of violence which occurs within the intimate relations like husband and wife, father and daughter etc., it needed to be resolve very tactfully and should not be prosecuted as the case of homicide or theft.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Violence against women is the violence against the humanity. It has been long since people raised the voices to end this impunity. Many world women conferences have been conducted to eradicate the violence and discrimination against women. This problem is not limited to a few countries and communities. It is prevalent throughout the world many different religious and cultural tradition have encouraged the violence against women in Nepal. Example:- accusing women of witchcraft, believe in the traditional ways of treating people with magical power. We can see many examples, when women are accused of practicing witchcraft and are treated badly and even killed.

Similarly, in the Deukee custom, the Deukee girls cannot get married and have to spent their whole life in the temple only. Some districts in the far western region are still practicing the Chaupadee custom in which the women are kept in dark rooms or cowsheds during the menstruation and delivery periods. They cannot look at the male member of the family as well as the community and are not supposed to touch. The women are suffering because of the superstition. Many people link this custom with the religion therefore this system has not ended yet. Women are bound to tolerate different types of violence because of these custom. The women receive different forms of violence according to their age. The male behave the females as female commodity and take them as means of entertainment. One of the forms of violence is foeticide, the girl children are from the problems like rape, trafficking, unmatched marriage etc. (Dhangadhi municipality, 2066)

The women face the violence even after the marriage like unwanted sexual behavior from the husband pressure in the name of dowry, discrimination in the food and care, Different approaches and measures have been taking place around the globe with a view to eradicate this type of violence, discrimination and impunities. Various conferences are being organized over different time for the same, worldwide.

In Nepal, women from Dalit Community are accused of witchcraft and given physical torture. ‘ Deuki Pratha’ is another evil practice in which a girl spends her entire life in a temple. The women of Far- Western Nepal are kept in cowshed, untouched during their menstruation cycle. Abortion is another vivid instance of women violence.

Needless to say, women violence is an ubiquitous problem. So apart from the physical torture, religious and legal coercion should be studied under the category of women violence. This study has attempted to find out the trend and the situation of domestic violence against women of Dalit community of Dhangadhi Municipality, Kailali Nepal. The major issues which are dealt in this study are as follows:

-) What types of domestic violence occurred in the Dalit family against woman?
-) What is the situation of violence as per the status of the woman?
-) What is the perception of the victim women towards the violent behavior against them?
-) Do they want to take action against the violent behavior against them?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this research is to study the nature and causes of domestic violence against Dalit women of Dhangadhi Municipality, Kailali. The specific objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To find out the major causes of domestic violence against Dalit women of Dhangadhi Municipality.
2. To find out the nature of domestic violence against Dalit women of the study area.
3. To study the level of awareness of the laws against domestic violence among Dalit women of the study area.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Women are taken as the central figure of the national building process in many developed countries but in context of Nepal, they are still believed to be involved in household sanitation, collecting firewood, fodder and grass. Men are the one who always attend meetings and make decision. In many communities women are taken as the tool to satisfy the need of men. Such as: Nepal, India, Pakistan etc. Women participation in decision making process is very poor in Nepal. Not only those, women from marginalized and backward communities are still taken as to be confined into four wall of the house. Even though they do hard work throughout the day till late

night, they are not given respect. Now a day's Nepal is inching towards the action and some initiative to fight against these problems.

Due to some technological and other development, some sorts of changes have been occurred in women's life style and society's view but they are still being victimized. The major obstacles for empowerment and development of women are illiteracy and economic dependency.

This study tried to find out and analyze the situation and trend of the domestic violence against the Dalit women in Kailali District. This research will also be helpful to the Dalit women who are unknown about the law against domestic violence against women. This will also help the governmental and non-governmental organizations working in this sector.

The importance of this study can also be shown in these points:

- 1) It will be helpful to understand the social, economic and educational aspect of the Dalit women and to know women are victimized because of domestic violence.
- 2) This study will be helpful in designing and conduction the programme aimed for Dalit women.
- 3) The people, organization and the planners who want to understand the situation of domestic violence against Dalit women will also be benefited from this study.
- 4) This study will help to understand the kinds of physical and psychological violence that Dalit women are being victimized in their family.

CHAPTER-TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the last few decades there has been growing acceptance of the gender focused approach to development. Gender analysis and project planning are essential tools in development process. Gender is the composition of the family, society and nation. So gender relation affects all sorts of development activities. The relationship between man and woman reflects the human civilization, religious attitude, cultural bond, ethical values and social norms.

Lots of researches have been conducted by the organizations and individuals related to the domestic violence against women. These literatures are categorized into two: literature related to the theory of domestic violence and literature related to the general topics of the domestic violence in our country. Some of the earlier studies related to my research, are reviewed by the researcher which is presented in summary below:

2.1 Theories of Domestic Violence

Lots of researches and studies have been done putting the domestic violence as the topic. These studies have theorized various kind of finding. These theories are reviewed by the researcher and their review is presented in terms of the summary below:

2.1.1 Psychopathology Theory

According to this theory, most violent men exhibit characteristics of personality disorder, particularly borderline personality and antisocial personality disorder. Dobash and Dobash (1979), found that 'men who abused their wives were mentally ill and could be cured through medication or psychiatric treatment'. They categorized such types of men into two; typical batter and severely mentally ill or schizophrenic.

This theory was criticized by the feminist because they believed that it excused the violent men and did not take into account the patriarchal structure of society. But today psychopathology has once again become popular theory. Researchers have been investigating the physical roots of the domestic violence. Numbers of studies have found a high incidence of psychopathology and personality disorder and borderline

personality organization (or post traumatic stress disorder) any men who assault their intimate partners.

Millon, Deis and Million (1997) conducted a study which had included Million Clinical Multiaxial Inventory (MCMI) as a personality evaluation too. They found that amongst 90% of violent men had MCMI scale elevations for at least one personality disorders or more MCMI personality scales.

Dutton and Bodnarchuk (1997) described “abusive personality” as one that is characterized by shame-based rage: a tendency to project blame; attachment anxiety manifested on rage; and sustained furious outbursts, primarily in intimate relationships. According to this theory, men become violent when they fear abandonment, given their great dependency on their intimate partners.

Davis (1997) challenged the findings of the previous researches. He found that violent men are ‘less pathological’ than expected and that too much attention has been given to pathology of violent behavior.

2.1.2 Social Learning Theory

This theory states that violent behavior is learned through child experience. The nature and behavior of men is shaped by the experience during their childhood.

After the initial rejection of psychopathology as a cause, researchers next theorized that violence was learned on a sociological prospective on the cause of violence. According to Bandura (1986) ‘men show their violent behavior towards their intimate partners because they learned violence in their families as children and that women seek out abusive men because they saw their mothers being abused’. This was the ‘learned behavior’ theory of violence.

The main weakness of this theory is that no researches proved that girls seek violent men as adult and only 30% boys who witness of battering of their mothers.

2.1.3 Biological Theory

This theory takes head injury, heredity and childhood trauma as the main factors of the violence. Originally this theory focused on genetics and possible hereditary factor.

Recently it focuses on brain and brain injury. According to Mullen (1996) researcher found that those men who have brain injury show violent behavior than those who have not. Similarly it is found that, early stress i.e. childhood trauma, on brain also causes the aggressive behavior in the men.

2.1.4 Family System Theory

This theory focuses on the function of the entire family which affects the role of the males and their behavior towards females. According to this theory family is the dynamic organization made up of interdependent components. The behavior of one family member and the probability of reoccurrence of that behavior is affected by the response and feedback of other family members.(Dutton ,1997)

Lots of researches were conducted with the perspective to look at the communication, relationship and problem-solving skills of couples where violence occurs. They found that child who had watched the father behavior towards his mother tends to reproduce the same behavior with his intimate partner. If that behavior is supported by the family members is supposed to occur throughout the life.

2.1.5 Feminist Theory

This theory states that a patriarchal society supports male power, female submission and inequity that lead to violence against women. Feminist theory provides the basics and justification for the existence of domestic violence through out the history. This theory posits that intimate partners violence grows out of the inequality with in marriage and reinforces male power and female subordination with on the home. Violent against women of any kind is part of male central.

According to Yllo (2005) power imbalance is another cause of domestic violence. Societies where structural factors prevent equal participation of women in the social, economic and political system. Imbalances in the social level are reproduced with in the family where men exercise power and control over women, one form of which is violence.

Dobash and Dobash (1979) found that patriarchy contributes to wife abuse and it is fostered by the current economic and social system. Our social system has defined the

husband on the dominant, strong, authoritarian, aggressive and rational provider for the family while wife has traditionally been assigned to dependence, passive, subordinate, soft and times hysterical role. Our societies have flourished under this model by dividing the labor force in half, encouraging woman to remain at home and care for their husband and children and while husbands leave the home to provide a 'living' to their families.

Some researchers have been conducted taking the data from Nepalese societies. So these researches are related to my study. They are reviewed by the researcher and their summary is as follow:

SAATHI (1997) prepared a report related to gender specific violence against women occurs across all strata of society, reports that violence against women in Nepal occurs in all form of societies in various forms, such as; sexual, psychological and emotional abuse, rape, incest, public stripping, harassment through language, gesture and touch, trafficking, forced prostitution etc. The study also reports that 28% of women are found to be beaten by male, 0% are found to be raped and 28% of respondents are forced to involve in prostitution. Out of all respondents 64% are victimized by polygamy male.

According to Rana (1997), domestic violence is the most sinful human behavior. Most victims face violence in their home where they have to feel most safety. Domestic violence against women is that activity which is counter to woman's right of living peacefully and respectfully in their home.

Similarly, United Nations CEDAW, Committee's General Recommendation No. 1 talks about domestic violence. According to it domestic violence against women is the oldest form of domestic violence. This is privileged in all sorts of societies. Domestic violence affects women's health.

Thapaliya (2058) states that bad treatment and misbehaves with children and women, is called domestic violence. Women are beaten, raped, forced to prostitution and treated as slave in their own home. Child marriage, forced pregnancy, unharmonious multiple marriage are the forms of the domestic violence.

Malla (2060), states that sexual violence is committed with the intense of sexual feeling. This may in the form of verbal, written and sign language.

- **Patriarchal society**

Nepal is a patriarchal society which always privilege male and legitimizes gender hierarchy within the family and the use of violence against women. The process of socialization further reinforces the norms and values of patriarchy. Even when there seems to be a close correlation between the abuse of alcohol and violence against women, it is useful to relate it to the social environment which grants such privilege to men that they can waste resources on alcohol.

- **Discriminatory laws**

Another mechanism which institutionalizes male privilege over females is the law. Not only are laws inadequate to protect women from male violence, but there are also many discriminatory provisions in the law which reflects society's values and intentions regarding the position of women and men. The study conducted by Forum for Women, Law and Development has revealed that there are 118 legal provisions, 67 schedules, spread in different laws and the Constitution that is discriminatory against women.⁸ A recent report of the high level committee formed by HMG/Nepal to review discriminatory laws against women pointed out 138 discriminatory provisions in various laws.

There is no specific legislation in our country addressing domestic violence against women. However, due to the various efforts and pressure of women rights activists and civil societies the government has drafted Domestic Violence (Control) Bill, 2057. This Bill was later improved and reformed by the Domestic Violence (Crime and Punishment) Bill, 2058 which was registered in the Parliament in February 22, 2002. This Bill was presented in the Lower House of the Parliament on March 26, 2002. After general discussion, the Lower House of the Parliament passed the Bill on April 12, 2002. The Bill was under the consideration of Upper House when the Parliament was dissolved on May 21, 2002. Due to the dissolution of Parliament the Bill was lapsed and it needed to be introduced once again in the next session.

• Culture, religion and tradition

Without exception, religion and culture have a great impact on the lives of women in this region. Although there are many positive aspects of religion and culture, many laws, policies and cultural practices are still influenced by patriarchal values that consider women as inferior to men; or which accord separate and discriminatory roles to men and women based on inflexible concepts of gender. In the life cycle of a woman there still remain many cultural practices that accentuate and reaffirm the subordinate position of the girl child and the woman. **Bernadettec . Hayes, Mcallistera, Donleyt, Studlar (2000)**, Cultural values and norms that privilege the male child and men are still prevalent in many cultural and religious teachings and traditions, and become the base of societal conditioning. Whether it is Buddhism, Islam, Christianity or Hinduism, the teachings and male interpretations are limiting and inhibiting to women. Increasingly there is a challenge to these so-called divine interpretations and cultural practices that sanction the pattern of gender power relations.

Likewise other forms of crime, domestic violence is not a problem of Nepal only, it is spread beyond the South Asian regions and is prevalent in all the part of the world. Also it is not a very new phenomenon; it was as old as the origin of the family, though its nature was changed according to place and period of time. As in the market, similarly in family the resourceful person dominate to the resource less ones, which ultimately results into the violation of the rights of the weaker one and therefore a violence. Hanson (1992), However, due to the lack of reporting of these kinds of matters in the public and also it being considered from the very beginning as something that is “private” and “non-interferable matter” was not defined as crime and therefore was not address by the procedures of the law. Now a days with the increasing trend of reporting against the violence that occurs within the domain of domestic sphere it is clearly reflected that like other acts of crime, domestic violence is a universal phenomenon prevailing everywhere from the past till to date, may it be a developed countries or the developing one.

Pradhananga and Shrestha (2005) state:

To define domestic violence is also as difficult as to define the crime, it does not always involve physical contact it may take the form of emotional as well

as physical and sexual abuse, as such it includes; punching, hitting, slapping, throwing object, pulling hair, twisting limbs, choking and other forms of physical assault, using weapons, threatening to injure or otherwise harm the victim or the children, damaging property for example, furniture or pets to frighten the partner, sexual abuse or assault and depriving a partner of basic needs – food, money, outside contact with friends or relatives, putting her down in public, humiliating her and making her feel worthless.

In conclusion, it may be defined as an action or an absence of legitimate action, committed against member(s) of the family by the member(s) of the same family, which gives rise to torture, pain, stress, suffering and discrimination. As it is the form of violence which occurs within the family, it may also be called as family violence.

2.1.6 Nature of Domestic Violence against Women

Domestic violence has distinct character as opposed to other types of violent crime. It can be characterized by at least five features Cameron (1995),

It is perpetuated by someone close to the victim, usually her partner or expartner;

-) It happens in intimate settings which are presumed by society to be sites of support and care;
-) It is a recurring form of abuse generally characterized by a cycle of violence: the abuse is followed by a period of respite after which tensions build up again and eventually explode into another violent episode;
-) The abuser uses domestic violence to control and coerce the victim;
-) The abuse has profound emotional and psychological effects on the victim, who often believes (and is often told by the abuser) that she is to blame for the violence.

Another distinctive aspect of domestic violence is that women who seek outside help to end the domestic violence usually do not come at the first instance of abuse. Often they have endured sustained abuse of years, and have reached a point where the violence has escalated or become intolerable. It must therefore be recognized that the attempt to obtain external assistance may place the victim in grave danger of extremely violence repercussions. As abuser may become even more irate at any

independent action by the victim, and many women have been savagely beaten upon attempting to leave the abusive situation. For these reasons, the point of contact with outside authorities is an absolutely critical period. Government bears a heavy responsibility to respond to the needs of the domestic violence victim quickly and effectively. This responsibility is heightened by the fact that the woman may have come forward for assistance based on the reasonable expectation that she is entitled to legal protection

In simple words, domestic violence against women can be defined as any kinds of gender based violence that occurs within the domain of house. As mentioned below, it may be of categorized into five types: Tamanoi (1990).

1. **Physical abuse:** Abuse committed with an objective of giving physical pain is known as physical abuse. This includes slapping, beating, arm-twisting, stabbing, strangling, burning, choking, kicking, threats with a weapon, murder, traditional harmful practices like female genital mutilation and widowhood abuse.
2. **Sexual abuse:** Those abuse which occurs due to women's incompetency (may be due to unwillingness or any other reasons) in fulfilling the sexual desires of men. This includes coerced sex through threats, intimidation or physical force, forced prostitution, or any unwanted sexual act.
3. **Psychological abuse:** Psychological abuse includes all intimidating and threatening behavior, persecution, abandonment or threats of abandonment, confinement, surveillance, verbal abuse and mental torture.
4. **Emotional abuse:** Emotional abuse includes causing fear, shame, public embarrassment, continued threats and taunts, isolation and humiliation.
5. **Economic abuse:** Economic abuse includes acts such as denial of funds, exploitation, controlling access to healthcare, food, basic necessities and denial of rightful income.

Domestic violence is a universal problem. It is prevalent in all races, nationalities, social classes, castes, religion, sexes and ages.

Nepal is male dominated country. Men are the head of the family and decision maker of the house. It is customary in most ethnic groups in Nepal to behave and act like that.

According to 2001 census almost 50% of the population of Nepal is constituted by women who get subordinate position to men. Female literacy is exceptionally low, only 24.95% females are literate compared to that with male which deserves 54.49% literacy.

There is discrimination against girls at birth and their rearing. Sons are given priorities in all sorts of family cares, foodings and facilities. Girls must participate in household works which is not expected from boys. Girls are taught to be patient, soft, well mannered and cultured and tolerant whereas boys are taught to be bold, aggressive and dominant. Women always have to live under the protection of men if not; they are not supposed to be good cultured.

Most women's job is confined within four walls of the house or in agricultural works. Only 8.9% of women are engaged in non agricultural work while 90.5% of women are engaged in household, agriculture and forestry works (Dhangadhi Municipality Profile, 2008). Most women have to be dependent to their husbands economically which is one of the prime cause of the domestic violence.

Poverty, illiteracy, lack of job opportunity, lack of family planning practice, lack of woman education, awareness and liberty are the leading cause of domestic violence. On top of that men tend to entertain themselves with alcohol, drugs and gambling trigger the problem of domestic violence.

Violence against women in the family stems from the concept of male superiority and power. In most countries, the male has been historically and traditionally considered the provider and more powerful figure, and that is the basis for the exercise of control over the female.⁷ The failure to perform prescribed duties (male frustration at his inability to provide for his family or the inability of a woman to run the household efficiently) by both men and women is a common cause of domestic violence. The prevalence of violence against women is the consequence of women's subordinate position in their family and society, and is indicative of their devalued status as a social group. It is critical that the subordinated status of women is seen as a common thread that runs through the lives of all women, and that it is not the experience of some women due to their unfortunate individual circumstances. Therefore, the factors that contributes to domestic violence against women is interrelated and interlinked to each other, however attempt has been made to clarify each issue for the sake of clarity.

CHAPTER-THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3. Selection of the Study Area & its Rationale

Dhangadhi Municipality is situated in the center of the Kailali District. This is supposed to be a developed area of this district. Multi caste, class, religion people stay here. Especially Jugeda is the focus area where majority of Dalit family reside. Almost 70% of Dalit People is covered by the place, DEO Kailali annual Report (2009). So this study is focused to these places of Dhangadhi Municipality.

Majority of the population in this area is Dalit and there is lack of schools in their locality which has caused them to be superstitious. They also follow the conventional norms of the Hindu society giving more importance to males than females. Gender studies and violence related research has shown that women from uneducated and conservative society are prone to face violence from the husband and family members. Therefore the researcher selected this particular area for the research. Another reason for selecting this area is that there is hardly any research done in this locality on the topic of Domestic Violence against Dalit women.

3.1 Research Design

Both exploratory and analytical research design has been used for this study. In doing so the social, economic, educational status of the Dalit women and the type of violence by which they are victimized has been explored and analyzed. At the same time the causes of Domestic Violence against Dalit women has also been analyzed on the basis of data collected from the field.

3.1.1 Sources of Data

Both primary and secondary data has been used in this study. Interview, observation have been used to collect the primary sources of data from Dalit family in Dhangadhi Municipality, Kailali. Data collected from central bureau of statistics (CBS) documents received from Dhangadhi municipality and district development committee, books and articles related to the study area have been used as the secondary sources of data such as:

- Dhangadhi Municipality profile-2008
- DDC Kailali report and profile-2008
- DEO Kailali annual report-2009
- District Health Office Kailali-2008
- NDSWO, NGO working in the field of Dalit welfare service-2010

3.1.2 Universe and Sampling

Out of the 6233 people in Jugeda, 3233 people are female and 3000 people are male. There are 621 households in Jugeda. Out of 621 households, 89 households are covered by Dalit community. All 89 married Dalit women each one from one households are selected in this study.

3.2 Tools for Data Collection

The researcher used the following tools to collect required data for the study:

3.2.1 Interview schedule: In this interview, interviewer has prepared the outline of the questions i.e. major questions. All the questions to be asked are not be pre-specified. Questions are raised by the interviewer on the field but they do not go beyond the outline already prepared. This interview was conducted with 89 Dalit women.

3.2.2 Observation: In this method, researcher has watched the surrounding activities very minutely and collected required information. Also observed the life style activities of the family members, especially the behavior of the spouses.

3.2.3 Case study: It is the in-depth study of the particular case. The researcher selected five violated Dalit women who are economically very poor. Detail study was carried related to the case.

3.3 Data Analysis

This study is based on exploratory research design. So the required data is collected from the field visit. Some of the data is quantitative so simple statistical tools have been used to analyze the data, such as frequency table. Qualitative data are analyzed in simple manner.

3.4 Limitations of the Study

This study is related with the domestic violence against Dalit women of Jugeda. Regarding the domestic violence this study is limited within the causes, nature and awareness of domestic violence only. So this study has not explained the other aspects of Dalit women of Jugeda. At the same time this study may not represent the women of other community of the same place and the Nepalese women at large.

CHAPTER-FOUR

NATURE AND CAUSES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

4.1 Field Area Description

Jugeda is situated at the Eastern part of Dhangadhi Municipality. Dhangadhi Municipality covers Dhangadhi town which is the main city of Far-Western Development Region. This place is taken as a developed area of Kailali district. But there are many places which are very backward in terms of development and civilization. Jugeda is very close to Dhangadhi town but very far backward in respect to the development indicators. The total number of household is 621. The total population of this village is 6233. Out of them 3233 are women. The literacy rate of this village is 55% in total and women literacy rate is 32% only. Out of total population, Dalit population is 70%.

Name of village	: Jugeda
Total Population	: 6233
Male	: 3000
Female	: 3233
Adult literacy rate	: 55%
Population living income less than \$1 US	: 4234

Source: Dhangadhi municipality profile, 2008

Religion

Most of the people in the study area are Hindus. They believe in traditional religion (*Sanatan dharma*) which has classified the society in different castes. The cause of low socio economic status of the Dalit people is this caste based structure. Apart from Hindu, there are few Muslims, Christians and Buddhists also. But their number is significantly.

Caste:

Since most of the people follow the Hindu religion there is a strong belief in the caste system in this locality. The majority of the population is covered by the Dalit community. Dalit population covers 70% of the total population (6233). The number

of chhetri community is second in number followed by Brahmins and Muslims respectively.

Origin

Most of the people in this area are immigrants from various hilly districts of the Far-Western Development Region. Mostly the people from Doti districts reside in this locality. There are also people from Dadeldhura, Baitadi, Bajura, Achham and Bhajhang. Most of the people are first generation immigrants, the rest are second generation of the immigrant parents. Therefore, we can conclude the people in this area don't have a long history of living in the present place.

Household

There are 621 household in this village. Most of the families are joint and extended families. Because of the strong belief in the family system the number of nuclear families is very small.

Population

The total population of this village is 6233. Out of this the male population is 3000 and the female population is 3233. The total number of children is 2420.

Language

Almost all the people speak Nepali language in these villages. The doteli dialect is the dominant language in most of the occasions. But during the formal conversation, they mostly use Nepali language.

Educational and Social Status

The Dalit community has low educational and social status as compared to the non-dalit communities. Because of the caste system and discrimination caused because of this, the dalits are living under severe poverty and they lag behind in social status also. They are considered to be of low strata in the social system and are taken as untouchable people. The literacy rate of the villages is 55% in total and women literacy rate is 32% only. This shows the severity of the problem among the people in this area and women in particular.

The researcher visited the respected villages and established the rapport and conducted the study. He found the domestic violence instances in those villages. According to the plan he visited the individual women and collected the information related to them and compiled their opinions and perspectives. They participated in the research process spontaneously and excitingly. The general information of the respondents is presented below:

4.2 Socio-economic background of Dalit women

The researcher collected the background information of the sample population. The researcher collected the general information related to the respondents visiting respective field of study. The categories of the information are education, number of children they have, occupation, family income, participation in family decision making process and trend of drug use by husband. The research was carried out in the age group of 10-50 which were mostly from the joint family. The background information is summarized in the form of following table:

Table No. 1. Age and sex wise description of women Family

Age group	Male		Female		Total	
	Total No.	%	Total No.	%	No.	%
0-15	18	10	23	12.78	41	22.78
16-30	30	16.67	33	18.33	63	35
31-45	15	8.3	17	9.44	32	17.78
46-60	13	7.22	16	8.9	29	16.11
60+	9	5	6	3.33	15	8.33
Total	85	47.19	95	52.78	180	100
Source: Field study, 2068						

Table no 1, shows the total family no of respondent women is 180. In which the number of male is 47.22% and women number is 52.78%. Out of the total population, in which 0-15 age group male are 10% and female are 12.78%. There are 16.67% male and 18.33% female are in the age group of 16-30 year. There are 8.33% male and 9.44% female are in the 31-45 year age group. In the same way 7.22% male and

8.90% female are in the 46-60 year age group. There are 5.00% male and 3.33% female are under the age group of 60 above.

Table No. 2. Number of Children of Dalit Women

S/N	Number of Children	Total No.	%
1	One	3	3.37
2	Two	11	12.35
3	Three	61	68.53
4	More than three	14	15.73
	Total	89	100

Source: Field study, 2068

Table no. 2 shows, 14 i.e.,15.73% of families had more than three children, 61 (68.53%) of families had three children, 12.35% i.e., 11 women's family had two children and 3.37% i.e.,3 out of 89 women had one child. Therefore, most of the families were found to be having three or more than three children. While carrying out research, the researcher could easily estimate the causes of this higher number of children as illiteracy, lack of family planning, poverty, superstition and mainly the occupation agriculture. Most of the families had the superstitious belief that the children are the gift of gods. They have the concept that the more the children are, the more sacred will be the living. Moreover, many families are attracted to more number of children because they get more manpower in their field of traditional agriculture.

Table No. 3. Education of Dalit Women

S/N	Education	Total No.	%
1	Master	-	-
2	Bachelor	2	2.247
3	Intermediate	9	10.11
4	SLC	12	13.483
5	Literate	21	23.51
6	Illiterate	45	50.56
	Total	89	100

Source: Field study, 2068

Regarding educational status of the women, the table no.3 above shows that 45 women (50.56%) were illiterate, 21 women (23.51%) were just literate. In the similar manner, 12 women (13.483%) passed SLC, 9 women (10.11%) completed intermediate and only 2 women out of 89 i.e., 2.247% completed bachelor degree. Till the date of data collection, no woman completed master degree. Conclusively, the participation of Dalit women in academic activities is minimal. The sole cause of this very problem is lack of knowledge about the importance of education in ones development. Due to poverty, many women couldn't continue their educational career.

Table No. 4. Addict husband of Dalit Women

S/N	Addict husband	Total No.	%
1	Always	62	69.66
2	Sometimes	18	20.22
3	Never	9	10.11
	Total	89	100

Source: Field study, 2068

Similarly, the drug abuse among the husband is also critical. The data shows that 62 out of 89 women's husband (69.66%) use alcohol everyday, 18 women's husband which is 20.22% of the total number use sometimes and only 9 women's husband (10.11%) never use alcohol. This clearly indicates that most of the males were found to be indulged in alcoholism. The intoxicated husbands were found to be often violent to their wives.

Table No.5. Occupation of Dalit Women

S/N	Occupation	Total No.	%
1	Household and Farmer	77	86.51
2	Officer	2	2.247
3	Teacher	3	3.379
4	Students	-	-
5	Business	7	7.865
	Total	89	100

Source: Field study, 2068

According to the table no.5, out of 89 women, 77 women i.e., 86.51% of women were working in the various household activities and farming. Only 2 women (2.247%) were working in different offices. Similarly, 3 women (3.379%) were working as a teacher in private schools and 7 women forming 7.865% of total women were working in family business. So, analyzing the above data, it is found that the most of the women were involved in household activities and the farming. The mode of agriculture is very traditional with which they can hardly sustain their lives. In the similar way, the minimum percentage involved in other economic activities like small scale business clearly indicates the low economic profile of the Dalit women.

Table No. 6. Family income of Dalit Women

S/N	Family Income	Total No.	%
1	Based on husband	85	95.506
2	Based on wife	4	4.494
	Total	89	100

Source: Field study, 2068

The research result regarding the source of family income tabulated in the table No. 6 above shows that 85 women (95.50%) and their families were dependent on the husband's income and 4 women's (4.494%) families were dependent on wife's income. Thus, many women were found to be entirely dependent upon their males for economy which is also the cause for their exploitation. To sum up, the status of women was found to be far worse than their male counterpart.

4.2 Nature of Violence

4.2.1 Husband's attitude towards wife and vice versa

In this category activities of husbands focused to the wives were taken into consideration. Similarly wives 'response to the husbands' behaviors were also put into observation. Information related to this category given by the respondents is presented below:

Table No. 7. Husband's and Wives' Attitude towards Each Other

Attitude	Regularly	Very often	Sometimes	Never	Total
Husband to wife					
Insulting, treating badly	80	7	2	-	89
	90%	7.86%	2.247%	-	100%
Controlling from going to work, seeing family members or friends, spending money, threatens and blames	57	16	12	4	89
	64.04%	17.97%	13.48%	4.49%	100%
Wife to husband					
Feeling of helpless, cursing herself	41	16	19	13	89
	46%	18%	22%	14%	100%

Source: Field Study, 2068

Table No.7 clearly shows that most wives 80 of 89 i.e., around 90% are insulted and treated badly every day, followed by 7.86% (7 women) very often and 2.247% (2 women) sometimes. Likewise, 57 of 89 women i.e., 64.04% of the women are threatened, controlled from going out to work and see their family members regularly. 17.97% are behaved like that very often and 13.48% sometimes. Very small percentage (4.49%) answered they are never behaved like that. On the other hand, 46% of the wives feel helpless and curse themselves regularly followed by 18% doing so very often, 22% sometimes and only 14% never having that kind of feeling. Conclusively, every aspect of women, may it be physical, economic or social is under the control of male. The behavior of male is found to be authoriotive. The women are treated very cheaply. The male violence and dominance against the women is still prevailing.

4.2.2 Physical violence and related activities

Physical pain, damage, and hurt caused by the husband intentionally are taken as the acts of domestic violence. So the researcher tried to trace out the information related to this category. Based on the research carried out among 89 women, the information collected in this category is presented below:

Table No. 8. Physical Violence on the Wives by the Husbands

S. N.	Physical Violence	Yes	No	Not expressed	Total
1	Bad and unpredictable temper, hurts/threatens	67	14	8	89
2	Threatens to take the children away or harm them, to commit suicide if she doesn't love him	13	20	56	89
3	Destroys and acts jealously to her belongings	52	21	16	89
4	Controls and checks her activities	78	6	5	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

Table No.8 is clearly states that majority (76%) of the wives are hurt and threatened by their husbands and only 16% are not behaved like that. Likewise, 14% husbands threat their wives of taking the children away and of committing suicide if not loved, followed by 22% husbands not doing so. Surprisingly, 64% wives didn't want to express it to the researcher. In the same way, majority (58%) wives said their husbands act jealously and try to destroy their belongings, followed by 24% saying they don't behave like that. 18% wives didn't like to comment about it. Similarly, a vast majority (88%) of the husbands were found to be controlling their wives' activities compared to a small portion (6%) not doing so. This clearly indicates that there is excessive physical violence on the wives by their husbands. The women were found to be physically and mentally tortured. Due to the social bondage, they were obliged to silently endure all the exploitations against them. They see no point in complaining about their husbands' and other family members' attitude towards them.

4.2.3 Economic abuse

Different researchers found that restriction of women from having free access to the monitory activities is a kind of domestic violence. Husbands are found to have involved in such types of activities. Here, the researcher collected information related to economic abuse by husband to wife, after the close research among 89 women which is presented below:

Table No. 9. Economic Abuse by the Husbands

S.N	Economic Abuse	Yes	No	Difficult to observe	Total
1	Rigidly controls /withholds her finances	68	16	5	89
2	Restricts and withholds basic necessities (food, clothes, medications, shelter)	50	14	25	89
3	Controls her from working or choosing her own career	73	10	6	89
4	Steals from her or takes her money	73	2	14	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

From the Table No.9, we come to know that more than a fourth (76%) of the husbands control the finances of their wives and only about one fifth (18%) don't control it. Likewise, Majority (56%) of the husbands (24%) restrict even the basic necessities of their wives. Only 16% don't do so and about a fourth showed behavior difficult to observe related to this type of violence. In the same way, vast majority (82%) of the wives are prevented from working and choosing on their own by their husbands. Surprisingly, the same degree (82%) of the husbands even steals money or takes it from their wives.

The data clearly demonstrates that the wives receive economic violence from their husbands in different forms. The husbands were found to have control over all the financial aspects of women. They are not even given the property which their parents have given them as dowry. They don't have freedom of choosing the profession which befits them. They are forced to do only those things which their husbands make them do.

4.3 Analysis and Interpretation of the Data

The researcher collected research information data required to conduct study from the pre proposed field and sources of information. The detail information of the research data has been presented above. In this section researcher analyzed and interpreted the data putting into different category according to the objectives of the research.

4.3.1 Nature of the domestic violence

Researcher collected lots of data related to domestic violence against Dalit women in Dhangahdi Municipality, Kailali district. Much of the data revealed the nature of the violence. The data revealed that violence was there in different form. The nature of the violence in the respective villages is as follows:

Table No. 10. Nature of the Domestic Violence Prevalent

S.N.	Nature	Regularly	Very Often	Sometime	Never	Total No.
1	Calling names, insulting, criticizing	89	-	-	-	89
2	Preventing from going to work	71	18	-	-	89
89	Stopping from seeing family members or friends	27	36	8	18	89
4	Controlling to spend money, wearing cloths and going out	80	9	-	-	89
5	Jealousy or possessiveness or accusing of being unfaithful	85	4	-	-	89
6	Violence after drinking alcohol or using drugs	89	-	-	-	89
7	Threatening	14	75	-	-	89
8	Hitting, kicking, shoving, slapping, choking	89	-	-	-	89
9	Forcing to have sex	68	16	2	3	89
10	Putting down, making embarrassed	75	9	5	-	89
12	Ignoring	80	5	4	-	89
13	Blaming for his own abusive behavior	77	7	5	-	89
14	Taking as property or a sex object, rather than as a person	71	9	9	-	89

Source: Field study, 2068

Table No.10 is clearly shows that all (100%) women are called insulted or criticized regularly by their husbands. Likewise, 80% women are prevented from going to work regularly by their husbands and rest (20%) is prevented very often. Similarly, 30% women are stopped from seeing family members or friends regularly, 40% very often and 10% sometimes. 20% women are never prevented from doing so. In the same ways, huge majorities (90%) of women are controlled to spend money, wearing cloths and going out regularly and 10% are controlled like that very often.

90% husbands have the feeling of possessiveness or accuse the wives of being unfaithful regularly and 10% are behaved this way very often. Likewise, all (100%) the husband act violently regularly after drinking alcohol or using drugs. Similarly, 16% wives are threatened regularly by their husbands and 84% are threatened very often. In the same ways, all (100%) women have to bear hitting, kicking, shoving, slapping or choking from their husbands regularly.

It was found that 76% wives are forced to have sex by their husbands regularly, 18% are forced very often and 2% are forced sometimes. Only 4% wives are not forced to have sex ever. Similarly, 84% husbands put their wives down regularly, 10% very often and 6% sometimes. Likewise, most of the wives (84%) are put down and embarrassed by their husbands regularly, 10% very often and 6% sometimes.

The research showed that 90% wives feel ignored regularly, 6% very often and 2% sometimes. Similarly, 86% husbands blame the wives for their own abusive behavior on a regular basis, 8% very often and 4% do so sometimes. Likewise, all (100%) wives feel being treated as property and sex objects rather than as a person regularly. Therefore, the scenario of women exploitation is very pathetic among Dalit community. Almost every women in Dalit community is ill-treated by thier husband. They are physically, mentally and socially tortured. Due to this, the development and upliftment of the women is hindered.

4.3.2 Cause of Domestic Violence

The data collected by the researcher contained lots of information related to the cause of domestic violence that is presented in tabulated form below. The data presented below is based on the research carried out among 89 women.

Table No. 11. Cause of Domestic Violence

S N	Category	Yes	No	Not Expressed	Difficult to Observe	Total No.
1	Drinking habit of husband	89	-	-	-	89
2	Blaming the fate being female	59	5	21	4	89
3	Dowry	77	7	5	-	89
4	Feeling of weakness	39	4	30	16	89
5	Cultural inferiority, thinking husband everything, feeling helpless	55	5	25	4	89
6	Tolerance	39	18	23	9	89
7	Feeling of helpless	77	12	-	-	89
8	No career	80	4	5	-	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

Table No.11 is clearly shows that all (100%) women consider drinking habit of the husbands as one of the major causes of domestic violence. Similarly, ‘being female’ is taken as a cause of domestic violence by 66% women and it is denied as a cause by 6%. Likewise, 86% women agree on dowry as a cause of domestic violence but 8% deny this. In the same ways, 44% women take their ‘feeling of weakness’ as a cause of domestic violence but 4% opposes this idea.

The research showed that 62% women agree that cultural inferiority and thinking their husband everything for them is a major cause of domestic violence but 6% don’t agree with this. Similarly, 44% women take their tolerance as the main cause of domestic violence but 20% deny this cause. 86% women take ‘feeling of helpless’ as the cause of domestic violence but 14% don’t take it as a cause. There are 88% women who think they have to suffer domestic violence because they don’t have any career and job but 4% women still disagree on this.

The data clearly reflects that drinking habit of the husbands, dowry system, feeling of helpless and lack of job and career are taken as the major causes of domestic violence

by women where as feeling of weakness, tolerance, being female is the other factors which also cause domestic violence.

4.3.3 Impact of Violence on the Wives' Activities

During the time of data collection, researcher observed wife's activities directly and indirectly. Observation of other's wife's activities is against the ethics so researcher faced lots of problems collecting the information. Information given below is based on the observation of the external activities of the respond in case of 89 different women.

Table No. 12. Impact of Violence on the Wives' Activities

S.N	Impact	Yes	No	Difficult to observe	Total
1	Seems afraid or anxious to please her partner, is depressed, anxious, or suicidal	61	23	5	89
2	Talks about her partner's temper, jealousy, or possessiveness; feels harassed	41	48	-	89
3	Have frequent injuries, with the excuse of "accidents"	77	-	12	89
4	Dresses in clothing designed to hide bruises or scars (e.g. wearing long sleeves in the summer or sunglasses indoors)	80	5	4	89
5	Shows major personality changes (e.g. an outgoing person becomes withdrawn), has very low self-esteem and confident	80	7	2	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

Table No.12 shows that 68% wives seems afraid or anxious to please their partners and are depressed compared to 26% wives who are not afraid and depressed. A small portion of the wives had no clear indication of this behavior on both the ways. On the contrary, only less than half (46%) of the wives talk about their partners' temper and feel harassed compared to 54% not talking about it and not feeling harassed. On the other hand, majority (86%) of the wives have frequent injuries hidden with the excuse of "accidents" compared to none saying they don't have injuries. Likewise, a huge

majority (90%) of the wives said they dress in clothing designed to hide bruises or scars from such kind of violence against only 6% who said they didn't wear such clothes. In the same ways, 90% wives also show major personality changes and have very low self-esteem and confident compared to just 8% denying it.

Thus, it is clear from the above data that impact of violence on the wives' activities is serious. There is a adverse effect in their personality development. Women are compelled to be bound within the four boundaries of house. They hesitate to come forward and become the victim of permanent backwardness. They lose the confidence and become pessimist about future and life. Finally, they give torture to themselves and commit or attempt suicide.

4.3.4. Women's perception towards violent behavior of husband

Nepalese society is a patriarchal society. Here, husbands get full access to all sorts of freedom but women are restricted to household activities and taken as the property. They are deprived from all the opportunities. Their evaluation is done on the basis of how far they obey and satisfies husband's need. Most of the wives face severe domestic violence but they hardly express their pain. Even they do not dare to do so. If they express their pain, they are taken as the stigma of the society. The researcher tried to find out the perception of the women against the domestic violence against them.

The general perception of women on the basis of research among 89 women is presented below:

Table No. 13. Women’s Perception towards Violent Behavior of the Husbands

S.N	Perception	Yes	No	Difficult to observe	Other	Total
1	She takes it as a nature of the husband and thinks he is everything	48	39	2	-	89
2	She is ready to take action against the violence	-	-	7	82	89
3	She loves her husband too much so cannot register case against her husband	5	73	4	7	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

Table No.13 shows that slightly more than half (54%) wives take violence as a nature of the husbands and that they are everything compared to 44% who don't think so. But at the same time, no wife is ready to take action against the violence. Neither do they deny the chance of doing so. Surprisingly, a vast majority (90%) of wives didn't have any clear opinion on this issue. A huge majority (82%) of the wives denied that they are not ready to take action against their husbands because of their love compared to a small portion (6%) agreeing on this reason. This clearly indicates that most of the women take the violence behavior of their husband as granted and are not willing to take any action against such behavior. But they deny it is because of their love for the husbands. Similarly, most of the women are not willing to say anything, perhaps due to the fear of rejection by the husband and the social bondage.

1 Table .No.14:-Wife’s response to husband’s behavior or towards him

Based on the research among 89 women:

Nature	Regularly	Very often	Some times	Never	Total
Felling afraid and avoiding to talk	89	-	-	-	89
Feeling of inferior	40	28	12	9	89
Blaming herself	55	25	9	-	89
Thinking it happens to every one	30	21	38	-	89
Feeling of helpless	77	12	-	-	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

All the wives (100%) feel afraid because of their husbands' behavior and avoid talking to them regularly. Similarly, 44% wives feel inferior to their husbands regularly, 32% very often and 14% sometimes. Only 10% wives never feel inferior to their husbands. Likewise, 62% wives blame themselves for their husbands' behavior regularly, 28% very often and 6% sometimes. The research showed that 34% wives regularly think the violence happens to everyone, 24% very often and 42% think so sometimes. Similarly, 86% wives have feeling of helpless regularly because of their husbands' behavior and 14% feel so very often.

So the exploitation finally creates a gap between husband and wife. Wives are afraid of their husbands and do not speak anything against their husbands. Wives, generally, blame their fate for all the exploitation and dominance. They easily accept thinking that it happens to everyone. It develops a feeling of helplessness in women.

4.3.5 Educational, Social and Economic Status of the Victimized Women

General background information of the victimized women was collected. The data revealed the educational, social and economic status of the women which is as follows:

Table No. 15. Educational, Social and Economic Status of the Victimized Women

Category	Percentage						Total
	Education	Master's	Bachelor's	Intermediate	SLC	Literate	
	-	2	10	14	24	50	100
Occupation	Household and farming	Office Work	Teacher	Students	Business		
	86	2	4	-	8		100
Family income	Based on husband			Based on wife			
	96			4			100
No. of Children	One	Two		Three	More than three		
	4	12		68	16		100
Participation in family decision	Yes			No			
	6			94			100
Drug use by husband	Always			Sometimes	Never		
	70			20	10		100

Source: Field Study, 2068

Education and Domestic Violence

The table No.15 clearly shows that illiterate women constitute 50% of the total victimized women. Literate women constitute 24%, SLC passed 14%, Intermediate passed 10% and Bachelor's passed just 2%. This clearly states that domestic violence is inversely proportional to the level of education women have; higher the education, lower the violence and lower the education, higher the violence.

Occupation and Domestic Violence

From the shown data we can clearly notice that 86% of the victimized women are engaged in household and farming, 2% in office work and 4% in teaching profession. This clearly indicates that household workers have more chances of being victimized than the ones who have a job outside.

Income Source and Domestic Violence

In the above table, we can see among the total victimized women, 96% are from the families whose income is based on husband and only 4% from those where income is based on the wives. This indicates that dependency on the husbands is one big reason for domestic violence.

Number of Children and Domestic Violence

In the above table we can notice that among the victimized women 4% have one child, 12% have two children, 68% have three children and 16% more than three children. This indicates that the women who have more children are victimized more than the ones with few children.

Participation in Family Decision and Domestic Violence

Out of total victimized women, only 6% said that they take part in decision making process in the family and 94% said they don't take part in that process. This demotes that victimized women have no access to family decision and are supposed to be inferiors in their family.

Drug use by Husbands and Domestic Violence

In the data we can see that 70% victimized women said their husbands always take drug, 20% said sometimes and only 10% said their husbands never take drugs. This clearly manifests that use of drug is a major cause of domestic violence and husbands who use drugs on a regular basis commit more violence on their wives.

4.3.4 Level of Awareness

Information related to the level of awareness of the women related to the domestic violence and laws against it. Data shows the significant information which is as follow:

Table No. 16. Level of Awareness of Women about the Violence and Legal Provision

Based on the research carried out among 89 women:

S. N.	Level of Awareness	Yes	No	Total
1	Indifference and takes it as the nature of the husband	87	2	89
2	Blame being as female	89	-	89
3	Well aware and ready to take action against the violence	9	80	89
4	Well known but cultural restriction	12	77	89
5	Well known but loves her family too much	16	73	89

Source: Field Study, 2068

The data presented on the Table No.16 is shows that almost all the women (98%) are indifferent towards the violence that they receive from their husbands and think that it is a natural feature of the males. Only 2% are not indifferent towards violence and don't take it as natural happening. Similarly, all the women (100%) blame their being female as the cause of violence. Likewise, only 10% of the respondents were well aware about the laws and are ready to take action against their husbands compared to 90% respondents who have low level of awareness resulting to a lack of readiness for such action. In the same ways, 14% women are well known about the violence and the legal provision but can't seek the legal treatment due to cultural restrictions imposed upon them compared to 90% who deny they have such feeling. Similarly, only 18% women don't want to take any legal action because of their love for the family although they are well known about this provision compared to 82% who deny having such knowledge.

Thus it can clearly be noticed that almost all the women take violence as a natural trait of the husbands and blame their being female as the cause of the violence. Similarly, Most of the women also lacked the knowledge that such activities of the husbands should be taken for the legal action. It is partly because of the cultural restrictions upon them by the society and partly because of their love for the family.

CHAPTER-FIVE

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Situation of Dalit community

Out of total population of this village, 70% are Dalit. Most of the Dalits are migrated from Doti, Dadeldhura and Baitadi. Dalit are not the indigeneous people of this village. The total literacy rate of Dalit is 42% out of them 23% are female. Three out of ten female children are admitted schools. Rests of others are involved in household works. Out of total household number of this village 328 are Dalit. 80% of population do not have sufficient land for agriculture. Only 5% of population is employed in different government and nongovernmental organizations offices. Rests of others are involved in daily wise laboring work. Almost all dalit women are confined into the four wall of the house and have to be involved in household works. They do not have access to the income and decision making level in the house.

5.2 Summary

For this study, vdc.no.3, Jugeda of Dhangadhi Municipality has been selected. For the collection of the required information both primary and secondary data has been used. Because of the limitation of time and money all the female's population could not be covered in the selected area. In this study the family background, socio-economic status of the respondent women has been studied besides the causes of domestic violence against Dalit women. it's effects and reasons for tolerating the violence.

The respondent women were found to be living both nuclear and joint family .most of the respondents were married or widows. All the respondents were from Dalit community. Most of the respondents were un-educated and having low levels of school education. only a few women were found to have attended colleges. Most of the respondents were from the families with agriculture or job as their profession whereas some were from families with business, labour or social service as their profession. Most of the women were found to be busy in household works with only a few engaged In business, job or other professional works.

Most of the women were found to be receiving violence from the husbands and the remaining from the in-laws. The widows were found to be dominated and oppressed from their own family as well as this society. The common forms of violence reported and noticed were beating, abusing, insulting, giving mental torture, forcing to abort child and rape.

The most common cause of violence was reported to be drinking alcohol. Likewise, polygamy, poverty and economic reason, illiteracy, abortion and rape also contributed for the violence. Most of the women were found to be tolerating the violence because of pressure of the husband, lack of economic opportunities, fear of being ignored in the family and for the future of the children. Most of them said to have no other alternative than to tolerate it. The violence has both physical and mental effect on the women. Some of the women were found with scars on their face and other parts of the body because of the beating. Some of the women were found to be tolerating the violence because of the social norms and cultural. Lack of the awareness about the legal provision, faith in the judicial system, patriarchal social structure, discriminatory social values are the main causes of the victimized women reported to have stopped them from getting the justice.

This research study was carried out to find out the trend and nature of the domestic violence against Dali women in Kailali district. This research report contains many chapters. The first chapter talked about the introduction to the domestic violence in general. Furthermore this chapter dealt with the status of the domestic violence in Nepal, statement of the problem, objectives of the study and significance of the study. Second chapter deals with the literature related to the domestic violence against women. It corresponds with the theories of domestic violence as well. Chapter third corresponds to the research methods: study area, design, tools for data collection, data analysis and limitation of the study. Similarly chapter four presents the detail information of the field of study and secondary sources of the information. Fifth chapter deals with the information of the respondents and scale down analysis of the data. Chapter five presents the core picture of the study.

5.3 Conclusion

Violence against women is a part of general violence inherent in all social structure of class, caste, religion ethnicity etc. Most of the domestic violence against women are the result of male dominated society where male are given special power in all aspects such as money, prestige, decision making etc. Because of the male dominated society women are resource less and have to depend on male emotionally and economically. Women are considered men's property, their sexuality and labour are systematically controlled. Violence against women and the consequent submission and subordination of women are further strengthened and maintained over time by the socialization process.

Dalit women in Jugeda of Dhangadhi Municipality of Kailali district are found to be badly affected by the violence against the caused by their husbands. The educational, social and economic status of the women is very poor. They have to be dependent to their husband. Unscientific traditional cultures and norms confined the women into the four walls of the home and as the means of physical satisfaction of the men. Even if women are well aware about the laws against domestic violence, they cannot take action against their violent husband because of the cultural domination this is because of the discriminatory law.

Because of the severe violence that they receive, the women feel helpless and curse themselves. They are insulted and banned from the access of different facilities. They have to bear excessive physical, social, psychological and economic violence. Even after receiving such violence the women take it naturally and think that they have no option other than to live in the same condition.

The research explored that drinking habit of the husbands, dowry system, feeling of helpless and lack of job and career are taken as the major causes of domestic violence by women where as feeling of weakness, tolerance, being female is the other factors which also cause domestic violence. It was also found that almost all the women take violence as a natural trait of the husbands and blame their being female as the cause of the violence. Similarly, Most of the women also lacked the knowledge that such activities of the husbands should be taken for the legal action. It is partly because of the cultural restrictions upon them by the society and partly because of their love for

the family. Victimized women have no access to family decision and are supposed to be inferiors in their family. They have no access to family decision and are supposed to be inferiors in their family.

Dependency on the husbands is one big reason for domestic violence. The women who have more children are victimized more than the ones with few children and the victimized women have no access to family decision and are supposed to be inferiors in their family. This clearly manifests that use of drug is a major cause of domestic violence and husbands who use drugs on a regular basis commit more violence on their wives.

Domestic violence is inversely proportional to the level of education women have; higher the education, lower the violence and lower the education, higher the violence. The current trend of domestic violence against the women can be minimized through increasing the economic opportunity for women, establishing community service systems, educating through media etc.

Women are forced to tolerate the violence because of the discriminatory attitude and mis-behavior towards the widows. The research showed that the main cause of the domestic violence is the patriarchal social structure. Because of these kinds of social structure and norms women think that they are weak and dependent. This has consequently harbored the violence. Therefore, lessen and eradicate the domestic violence against Dalit women in the society. Women education should be focused, this will make the women aware the rights and remove the feelings themselves weaker.

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APPENDIX I

House Hold Survey Questionnaire

Personal Information

Name:

Caste:

Age:

Education:

Religion:

Occupation:

Village:

House No.

❖ Relationship between Husband and Wife

Husband to wife	S.N	Topics	Regularly	Very often	Sometimes	Never
	1	Calls wife's names, insults, criticizes wife or puts wife down?				
	2	Prevents wife from going to work or school?				
	3	Stops wife from seeing family members or friends?				
	4	Tries to control how wife spend money, where wife go or what wife wears?				
	5	Acts jealous or possessive or constantly accuses wife of being unfaithful?				
	6	Gets angry when drinking alcohol or using drugs?				
	7	Threatens wife with violence or a weapon?				
	8	Hits, kicks, shoves, slaps, chokes or otherwise hurts wife, children or pets?				
	9	Forces wife to have sex or engage in sexual acts against wife's will?				
	10	Blames wife for his or her violent behavior or tells wife that wife deserves it?				
	11	Wife and puts wife down?				
	12	Treats wife so badly that wife's embarrassed for wife's friends or family to see?				

	13	Ignores or puts down wifer opinions or accomplishments?				
	14	Blames wife for his own abusive behavior?				
	15	Sees wife as property or a sex object, rather than as a person?				
Wife to husband	6	Feels afraid of her partner much of the time?				
	7	Avoids certain topics out of fear of angering her partner?				
	8	Feels that she can't do anything right for her partner?				
	19	Believes that she deserves to be hurt or mistreated?				
	20	Wonders if she is the one who is crazy?				
	21	Feels emotionally numb or helpless?				

❖ **Husband's Violent Behavior or Threats and Controlling**

	S.N	Topics	Yes	No	Not expressed	Difficult to observe
Violent or Threats	2	Has a bad and unpredictable temper?				
	3	Hurts her or threaten to hurt or kill her?				
	4	Threatens to take her children away or harm them?				
	5	Threatens to commit suicide if she does not love him?				
	26	Threatens to commit suicide if she leaves?				
	27	Forces her to have sex?				
	28	Destroys her belongings?				
Controlling	9	Acts excessively jealous and possessive?				
	0	Controls where she goes or what she does?				
	1	Keeps her from seeing your friends or family?				
	32	Limits her access to money, the phone, or the car?				
	33	Constantly checks up on her?				

❖ **Economic Abuse by husband**

S.N	Topics	Yes	No	Difficult to observe	Other
34	Rigidly controls her finances?				
35	Withholds money or credit cards?				
36	Makes her account for every penny she spends?				
37	Withholds basic necessities (food, clothes, medications, shelter)?				
38	Restricts her to an allowance?				
39	Prevents her from working or choosing her own career?				
40	Sabotages her job? (making her miss work, calling constantly)				
41	Steals from her or takes her money?				

❖ **Observation of wife’s activities in the perspective of violence against her**

S.N	Topics	Yes	No	Difficult to observe	Other
Symptoms of violence on wife	Seems afraid or anxious to please her partner?				
	Goes along with everything her partner says and does?				
	Checks in often with her partner to report where they are and what they’re doing?				
	Receives frequent, harassing phone calls from her partner?				
	Talks about her partner’s temper, jealousy, or possessiveness?				
	Has frequent injuries, with the excuse of “accidents”?				
	Frequently misses work, school, or social occasions, without explanation?				
	Dresses in clothing designed to hide bruises or scars (e.g. wearing long sleeves in the summer or sunglasses indoors)?				
50	Be restricted from seeing family and friends?				
51	Rarely goes out in public without her partner?				
52	Has limited access to money, credit cards, or the car?				

53	Has very low self-esteem, even if she used to be confident?				
54	Shows major personality changes (e.g. an outgoing person becomes withdrawn)?				
55	Be depressed, anxious, or suicidal?				

❖ **Perception of the Women towards the Violence**

56	She takes it as a feature of the husband?				
57	She blames herself being in the form of female?				
58	She is ready to take action against the violence?				
59	She thinks that husband is everything so ready to tolerate?				
60	She loves her husband too much so cannot register case again her husband?				