

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Ecotourism is a form of tourism involving visiting fragile, pristine, and relatively undisturbed natural areas, intended as a low-impact and often small scale alternative to standard commercial (mass) tourism. Its purpose may be to educate the traveler, to provide funds for ecological conservation, to directly benefit the economic development and political empowerment of local communities, or to foster respect for different cultures and for human rights. Since the 1980s ecotourism has been considered a critical endeavor by environmentalists, so that future generations may experience destinations relatively untouched by human intervention. Several university programs use this description as the working definition of ecotourism.

Generally, ecotourism deals with living parts of the natural environments. Ecotourism focuses on socially responsible travel, personal growth, and environmental sustainability. Ecotourism typically involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Ecotourism is intended to offer tourists insight into the impact of human beings on the environment, and to foster a greater appreciation of our natural habitats.

Responsible ecotourism programs include those that minimize the negative aspects of conventional tourism on the environment and enhance the cultural integrity of local people. Therefore, addition to evaluating environmental and cultural factors, an integral part of ecotourism is the promotion of recycling, energy efficiency,

water conservation, and creation of economic opportunities for local communities. For these reasons, ecotourism often appeals to advocates of environmental and social responsibility.

When we talk about the potential Eco-tourism, Nepal is a country of paradise to its peculiar topography. Diverse climate and culture heritage. Nepal has many tourist destinations and exploitation of these destination offers a wide range of comparative advantage the most spectacular mountains in the world, people of different races, religious, and culture, a wide variety of flora, fauna and varied climatic are the ornament of the major sources of attraction to the large and growing tourist world. To develop the sustainable tourism and achieve the optimum socio-economic benefits of activities like eco-tourism, community based tourism and village tourism should be highly promoted. Though ecotourism is the best tourism in comparison no other tourism due to availability of great deal of natural beauty and cultural diversity in Nepal.

The major tourist destination for sightseeing in Nepal at present are the Kathmandu and Pokhara are obvious choice. Lumbini by vastness of being the birth place of local Buddha also attract a sizable number of tourist every year. As a trekking destination the major areas frequented by tourist are Annapurna, Manang, Jomsom, Everest and Langtang. A better destination of tourist across the country is most desired specially for reducing the concentration and association these location and for spreading tourism earning to other less visited areas. I think Surkhet has emerged as another major tourist destination because of its Bio-diversity, historical and natural places. This study concern of Birendranagar city in mid-western Nepal, located in the Surkhet District of Bheri zone. Birendranagar is so named in honor of the late king Birendra, who planned and established it has the first planned town

in Nepal. The major tourist areas are Deuti Bajai temple, Kalce Bihar, Bubule tal, Bheri rafting, palagliding places and city museum in Birendranagar.

In Surkhet, many places are potential for tourism destination but the national wings of tourism still it has not giving priority as national level. In this study has conceded about Kakre bihar and Bubule Tal of tourist destination as per concept of Eco- tourism. I think this study help to focus on related bodies and raised the importance of this area in eco-tourism sector as tourism.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Nepal is a country of paradise to its peculiar topography, diverse climate and culture heritage. Nepal has many tourist destinations and places these destination offers a wide range of comparative advantage the most spectacular mountains in the world, people of different races, religious, and culture, a wide variety of flora, fauna and varied climate are the ornament of the major sources of attraction to the large and growing tourist world. To develop the sustainable tourism and achieve the optimum socio-economic benefits, and activates like eco-tourism, community based tourism and village tourism should be highly promoted. Though, ecotourism is the best tourism in comparison no other tourism clue to availability of great clean of natural beauty and cultural diversity in Nepal.

Tourism is a industry based on human motives over last two decades, tourism has grown to become the begged and fastest growing industry in Nepal. Concerning this fact, it is now essential to extend an promote tourism industry and associate actives and various program tourism provides Cirect and indirect employment to three people it's helps to east a major part of foreign exchange and represent 15 percent of total expert earning (NTB, 2001).

In 21't century in the important and major smokeless industry which generate reveille for the national development. In our context it is one of the potential sectors for development of rural as well as remote area, so silrdies of tourism of Nepal are many and varied. The review of these studies reveals that village tourism is one of the major source for forcing exchange earning tax served as economic force in the development of Nepal as well as rural economy.

There are very few studies regarding potentialities of tourism. I want to contribute on tourism sector through Eco-tourism concept in Suklici of this thesis study. Mainly, it is concerned: 1) through study finding the lack of eco-tourism sector, ii) raised the potentiality of eco -tourism in Local area, iii) informally tourist way might change in formal way.

This study help to identify the present situation of tourism in Surkhet district which will help the tourism planner and policy makers to frame appropriate policies and program in order to improve the tourism industries.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to analyze the prospects of eco-tourism development in the study area of Surkhet district.

The specific objectives are :

- i. To identify the attractions and prospects of eco-tourism in Surkhet.
- ii. To examine the traditional culture of indigenous people and benefit of tourism to local community.
- iii. To analyze the possible challenges.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Tourism is output of modern civilization of human society where human need and interests are unlimited. It is raised as significant part of economic and need of civilized human. Nepal is a reputed destination of interactional eco-tourism and it has taken important place in national economy. It is a major source of foreign exchange earning in the country. Surkhet district has wide potential for the development of eco-tourism but there are not enough overall study in related to eco-tourism. It has all the necessary elements to develop as an eco-tourism destination. Therefore we need some specific type of recommendation in order to upgrade the eco-tourism in study area. Study on this subject will be an attempt to investigate the issues relating to the eco-tourism promotion at micro level. Thus, this study is proposed to improve development problem identified regarding eco-tourism. Surkhet is famous for its own natural resource which many attract the tourism although it is not so developed as Kathmandu, Chitawan, Pokhara. It is an ideal place for tourism therefore this study will be helpful for finding potentialities of eco-tourism in Surkhet.

1.5 Selection of the Study Area

Surkhet is a mountain district covering 2123 sq km 50 VDC and 1 municipality include in Surkhet district. It is bordered on the eastern side by Salan and Banke, south by Bardiya and Kailali, west by Doti and Achham and north by Dilekh and Achham. Although the area of Surkhet is small, it supports a wide range of biodiversity which is nationally and globally important. This study has mainly two places have selection for study on this thesis, which are following:

Kakre Bihar

Kokre Bihar is a small hillock in the middle of the Surkhet Valley. On top of this hillock is a ruin of a 12th-century stone temple, which shows that the On top oithis hillock people of the region practiced Hinduism along with Buddhism. The carved stones and bronze statues reflect the images of Buddha, and many Hindu gods and goddesses including Saraswati and Ganesh. This Hindu-Buddhist temple is protected by the government and there is a plan in place to re-erect the structure to its original shape. Architects are working hard to put all the pieces together so as to come up with a model of the temple. Thousands of people come to the area for religious purposes as well as to experience the rejuvenating atmosprere of nature.

Bulbule Tal

Bulbule is a pride of Surkhet as it carries the legendary identity of this place in the one of the most popular folk songs "surkheta bulbul taal maya maisaano hunaaale chhutyo mayajaal". Located in the south of Surkhet bazaar, this beautiful lake has a recreation park. Peoples of nearby cities and countries are greatly attracted by the beauty of the bulbule tal. Having natural and scenic peculiarity, the pond area covers the land with recreational picnic spot serving great water source to valley. Gulbule of water rise up to form big pond, that's what it name means Bulbule. Because this is one of the constant sources of fresh water, a pipe system is installed to pump-supply drinking water to the village of Latikoili, that lies in the south of the lake. Park transforms the city into natural feel with various flower and plants. Boating, fishing, swimming to cultural rituals organized inside the park area.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

Finding of the study may be applicable to similar district of Nepal. Any kind or research works are done within certain area of limitation. It determines it's nature need situation and area of study. Due to limited time and budget, the study is

concerned to explore and identify the indigenous ethnic culture, conservation area, religious place, beautiful land copes, lake, falls, flora and fauna and other tourist attraction. The Study is fully depends upon the field visit testing as well as the interviews data response of responded study area.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This Study is divided into six chapters. The first chapter includes introduction, statement of the problem, objective of the study, signification of the study, assumption and limitation of study and organization of study. Like, wise the second chapter of study includes review of literature. Similarly, the chapter three includes research methodology which deals source of data and information, method of data collection, data processing, method of analysis and limitation. The chapter four deals description of study area, main prospective and challenge of eco-tourism in the study area and main challenge. The chapter five includes analysis and discussions. Finally the chapter six deals summary, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Review of literature enables to explore the research problems on different variables it may also guide to new researcher to gain the techniques of data collection and interpretation. The review literature process can be helpful to plan and conduct the present study systematically and more scientifically. On the process of reviewing the related literature the researcher would not find enough materials and completely research work based on Nepal especially in the field of ecotourism full In Surkhet environment. A few studies have been completed in the field of ecotourism full in Surkhet environment in the past, which are reviewed in the following ways.

2.1 Theoretical Review

Ecotourism is a form of tourism that involves visiting natural areas-in the remote wilderness or rural environments. According to the definition and principles of ecotourism established by The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) in 1990, ecotourism is "Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people"(TIES 1990). Martha Honey expands on the TIES definition by describing the seven characteristics of ecotourism, which are:

- Involves travel to natural destinations
- Minimizes impact
- Builcls envirorunental awareness

- Provides direct financial benefits for conservation
- Provides financial benefits and empowerment for local people
- Respects local culture
- Supports human rights and democratic movements'

The Definition

The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) has revised its Definition and Principles, created by the founding members in 1990. Leading up to the 25 year anniversary celebration in 2015, ecotourism experts from around the world connected to re- evaluate TIES principles of ecotourism as an initiative led by Hitesh Mehta' Judy Kepher-Gona, and Dr. Kelly Bricker'

As the TIES existing definition included only two (conservation and Local communities) of the three pillars of ecotourism, the inclusion Interpretation now holds its place. Therefore, TIES revised definition is " responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well- being of the local people and involves interpretation and education" with the specification that education is to staff and guests.

Principles of Ecotourism

Ecotourism is about uniting conservation, communities, and sustainable travel' This means that those who implement' participate in and market ecotourism activities should adopt the following ecotourism principles:

- Minimize physical, social, behavioral, and psychological impacts.

- Build environmental and cultural awareness and respect'
- Provide positive experiences for both visitors and hosts.
- Provide direct financial benefits for conservation
- Generate financial benefits for both local people and private industry'
- Deliver memorable interpretative experiences to visitors that help raise sensitivity to host countries, political, environmental, and social climates.
- Design, construct and operate low-impact facilities'

Recognize the rights and spiritual beliefs of the Indigenous People in your community and work in partnership with them to create empowerment

Ecotourism society Pakistan (ESP) explains "Ecotourism is a travel activity that ensures direct financial support to local people where tourism activities are being generated and enjoyed. It teaches traveler to respect local cultures of destinations where travelers are visiting. It supports small stakeholders to ensure that money must not go out from the local economies' It discourages mass tourism mass consumptions of hotels, tourism resort and mass activities in fragile areas" for many countries, ecotourism is not simply a marginal activity to finance protection of the environment but is a major industry of the national economy' For example' in Costa Rica' Ecuador' Nepal, Kenya, Madagascar and territories such as Antarctica, ecotourism represents a significant portion of the gross domestic product and economic activity.

Ecotourism is often misinterpreted as any form of tourism that involves nature (see Jungle tourism). In reality, the latter activities often consist of placing a hotel in a

splendid landscape, to the detriment of the ecosystem. According to them ecotourism must strive to sensitize people to the beauty and the fragility of nature' They condemn some operators as green washing their operations: using the labels of 'green' and 'eco-friendly', while behaving in environmentally irresponsible way.

Although academics disagree about who can be classified as an eco-tourist, and there is little statistical data, some estimate that more than five million ecotourists-the majority of the eco-tourist population-come from the United States, with many others from Western Europe, Canada and Australia'

Currently, there are various moves to create national and international ecotourism accreditation programs, although the process is also controversial' National ecotourism certification programs have been put in place in countries such as Costa Rica, Australia, Kenya, Estonia, and Sweden

Eco-tourism is responsible traveling to natural areas that conserves environmental and sustains the well being of local people (Epler-Kirkwood, 1996):

The King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC) in Nepal is perhaps the leading organization in this direction which is working closely with local communities to integrate. Eco-tourism in the environmental conservation and overall sustainable development of the Annapurna Conservation and Boudhanath Village in the Bufferzone of Royal Chitwan National Park are the examples of conservation and communities well beings. So the KMTNC has emphasized local participation in the planning and management of natural resources, eco-tourism development overall local development plan of the area. So mechanism has been developed for resource preservation. Although, many organizations in the Asia

(Thailand, Indonesia) Africa and tropical endeavor; but none of them seem to go as far as the KMTNC has gone in this respect (Shrestha, 1998)

Some idealistic advocates of eco-tourism depict it as a "better" form of tourism. Some claim the 'Eco' means it should be confined to nature based tourism. Others use the terms in general way as a catch all for the various different styles of tourism associated with nature, wild life adventure culture, village and indigenous communities' The meaning of the term tends to vary according to the perspective of the individual or organization making the definition within the world's tourism industry' eco-tourism may be casually used as a marketing slogan or it can describe a select' highly responsible style of tourism operation overall, the most common tenets of eco-tourism are that it enhance rather than depletes the conservation of environment and culture and enables local communities reap benefits (BNES, 2001).

Eco-tourism is the one part of the sustainable tourism. 'the increasing popularity of eco-tourism is a positive development for a country like Nepal. Eco-tourism has tremendous potential to help our tourism industry. Endowed with a wealth of natural beauty and rich cultural heritage our country is ideally suited to take advantage of evolving situation and changing interests and preferences in the tourism market. There are inherent risks involved in many tourism or eco-tourism initiatives. The vulnerability of our natural and cultural resources being promoted must be carefully assessed to make certain that they are not threatened by any planned activities. A sound tourism and eco-tourism strategy should provide and promote for the environment economy sustainability, culture integrity and enhancement of education value (NTB, 2001).

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has designated 2002 as the international year of eco-tourism. Two UN agencies, the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), are preparing supportive activities on a global scale. An eco-tourism summit is being held in Quebec, Canada, from 19-22 May, 2002. To prepare for the summit, WTO and UNEP have suggested that all country governments should, among other things, define and disseminate a national strategy and specific programmes for the sustainable development and management of eco-tourism (NTB, 2001).

Nepal has a comparative advantage for tourism development based on its spectacular natural landscapes and unique cultural heritage. More than 20% of the land area of Nepal is within protected areas. 50% of tourists visiting Nepal visit at least one of these areas. The development of eco-tourism ventures clearly has huge potential and importance (STN, 2003).

Tourism is still one of the most promising industries in Nepal, with a great potential for increasing the country's scarce resources. Sustainable tourism is still possible if proper environmental conservation consideration is given by both the government and the private sector. The recent initiative (Mustang and Ghalegaun Sikles Project) by the Ministry of Tourism shows that the government is taking steps to develop environmentally sensitive tourism. Responsibility must be taken by all the users, both the private sector and the government. Past seven years' experience in the ACAP has led the authors to believe that an area's depleted natural and cultural environments can be restored from the revenue generated from tourism, if tourism is properly managed. Blaming tourism for deforestation, litter and inflation will serve no purpose (Gurung, C.P. and Coursey M. De., 1994).

Batal (1998) has studies on the prospects of eco tourism in the Begnas and Rupa Lake watershed area. In this study that natural environment is found to play a major role for the prospect of eco-tourism. The natural resources such as lake, forest wildlife as well as unique local culture of these areas were found suited for expending and promoting eco-tourism. During the study the impact of tourism is seen to have influenced to some extent in the employment, education, transportation agriculture, communication, culture, industries and business sectors.

2.2 Concept

There are many scholars, academician, tourism professionals, and researcher who gave their own view and contribution to the prospects and challenges of eco-tourism. The definition varies from a description of natural tourism to a broader definition whereby not only the activities of the tourist are involved but also elements such as the conservation of eco-tourism and sustainable development. For tourism to and in natural areas, recently a new concept 'eco-tourism' is introduced. The use of the concept is not unambiguous. In the past few years, different definitions of eco-tourism have been introduced (Kunwar, 1997). It's the catchword that means ecologically sound tourism; nature tourism and a force sustaining natural resources. Its nature travels the advances conservation and sustainable development efforts. Since the tourism represents tourist's movements to and from the destination and origin or it's the tasks concentrate on the consequential elements which consist of tourist satisfaction drawn from the visitation of the area, and various impacts on destination environment. Similarly eco-tourism concerned with the natural-cultural environmental components. Mainly its systematic planning and development involved places of origin and destination, motivation of travel, travel features, factors influencing the selection of travel destination, assessment of tourist satisfaction and impacts on destination

environment. The determinants of carrying capacities of the tourist area and facilities are stressed because tourism often threatens natural environment of overuse and over development. It's essential a high level of environmental quality to ensure sustainability of tourism. A suitable environmental planning is necessary to meet the growing demand of the area. Both regional environmental principles and tourism environmental ethics must be applied to minimize tourism's negative impacts (Inskeep, 1987).

According to D'Amore (1990) "Eco-tourism is a form of culturally and environmentally sensitive travel which fosters an environmental ethic among travelers and also contributes to the conservation and management of natural areas for long term, sustainable, economic development. Eco-tourism is particularly advantageous to developing countries. It attracts persons who are tolerant even interested in experiencing small scale, locally operated accommodations, built by local people with local materials. Eco-tourism emphasizes the employment of local people as managers, interpreters and custodians of protected areas because of their experience and knowledge accumulated and handed down over centuries (Gurung, 1993).

'Carrying capacity' is a key concept in planning for sustainable tourism development the concept refers to the maximum use which can be made of a site without carrying detrimental effects on its resources diminishing tourists satisfaction travels or generation socio-economic problems for the local community. As mentioned above carrying capacity refers to maximum use of the any site without causing negative effects on the resources reducing vi satisfaction or exerting adverse impact upon the society, economy and culture of the area. In another sense it can also be said that carrying capacity is a well established concept

in the general field of resource and in the particular subject of recreational resources (O' Reilly 1986) describes the various carrying capacity as follows:

- a. Physical carrying capacity: The limit of site beyond which wear and tear will start taking place or environmental problem will arise.
- b. Psychological/Perpetual Carrying Capacity: The lowest degree of enjoyment tourist is prepared to accept before they start seeking alternative destinations.
- c. Social Carrying Capacity: The level of tolerance of the host population for the presence and behavior of tourist in the destination area or the degree of crowding users and prepared to accept by others (tourists).
- d. Economic Carrying Capacity: The ability to absorb tourism activities without displacing or disrupting desirable local activities (Kunwar, 1997).

It's important to acknowledge that tourism is an industry, a form and agent of development and change. It includes low use of resources and operates on a sustainable basis with proper control and management. The ACAP of Nepal has promoted mass tourism on a sustainable basis by managing both tourism and tourism commodities with help of local inhabitants. The prime objective of this management approach is to inject revenues received from tourist entry fees back to the region to promote its socio-cultural, environmental conservation values and economic growth (Gurung, 1993). According to Father of 'Eco-tourism, Prof. Lars Eric Indblacl, "Eco- tourism is a multi disciplinary equity approach where all disciplines can be allies rather than inevitable adversary and can avoid negative dimensions" like where,

"The fisherman becoming a trinket sales man the pretty young girl becoming the prostitute, the beautiful estuary the garbage dump." Such an approach can explore

the possibilities of looking at quality as a strategy rather than quantity. All the disciplines involved in eco-tourism planning should give each other enough strength to fight off the merchants of quick optimum profit and exploitative politicians. In the world there are some examples which can inspire and many more can serve as a crystal ball of disaster. So, it has no single meaningful approach attitudinal overhaul. Putting more policies on the street is the solution of crime. The only way to reduce crime is to raise the standard of people's existence. Similarly in tourism the mountains of regulation are not going to ultimate upgrade. Hence, priority should be given for better ideas which ultimately can be portable. The ideas motivated by moral values are very fruitful for this approach (Nilam, 1992).

Eco-tourism is of interest not only to those in the tourism industry, but also to development professions, policy makers and local communities as a potentially uncreative mechanisms for conserving the natural resource base objectives of eco-tourism, despite often ambiguous, it to attract tourist to natural areas use the revenues for local conservation and economic development activities (Erika et al. 1993).

The "Father of Eco-tourism" concept is simple, more global and wide, so his concept and definition are used. According to him the meaning of eco-tourism in a single word is "Respect". Respect is the root of everything worthwhile and good. Respect to nature, local people, culture, history, community, aspirations and tourists themselves (Lindblad, L.8., 1993).

Many developing countries like Nepal has a myriad of natural attractions and many have tourism industries which generate significant amount of employment and income. A large portion of tourism revenues are neither spent within the host

country nor remain in the area due to high foreign ownership and weakly enforced business regulations. Therefore, the challenge is to redirect tourists towards, natural attractions while ensuring economic development and environmental protection (Nilam, 1992).

Tourism is one of the major sources of revenue in Nepal. The gross foreign exchange earnings from tourism stood at US \$192.5 million, which represented an increase of 80.5% over the earnings of 2001. Contribution of tourism to the GDP of the nation was 2.6% and it also provides 8.2% of total foreign exchange earning fiscal year 2002/03 (Nepal tourism, 2003, HMGN, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation).

2.3 Empirical Studies

Nyauparre (1999) has made comparative evaluation of eco-tourism conducting a case study of the ACAP Nepal. This study compared an officially designated eco-tourism area with an established trekking area in terms of environmental, economic and socio-cultural costs and benefits and tourist experiences. The study shows the designated ecotourism area has experienced slightly less marketed negative impacts on the natural and socio-cultural environments and fewer negative economic impacts than the established trekking/tourism area. However, the designated eco-tourism area also found to experience slightly fewer positive impacts on the natural and socio-cultural environment and significantly fewer economic impacts in terms of employment generation than the established trekking area. In addition the study shows that tourists visiting the eco-tourism area indicated more positive experiences from their visits to the eco-tourism area than in the established trekking area.

According to the Ninth Plan of FIMG, "Tourism will be developed as one of the key sectors enhancing employment and as a key sector for economic development. The expansion of tourism to village will contribute more to the economic development" (9th Plan of HMG, P. 64) clearly the tourism sector is considered by HMG as a key to strengthening the national economy improving living standards and reducing poverty Ninth Plan's policy and implementation strategies include promotion of eco-tourism program such as development of model tourist villagers, development of new trekking areas comes under these strategies (Nirola, 2003).

The 10th plan is focused to review tourism, policies, assessment of net contribution to economy from tourism, review of institutional performance Nepal's tourism policy, regulation and institutional arrangement. It will also focus to develop tourism infrastructure in remote area which will ultimately help to develop domestic tourism in Nepal. (Nirola, 2003). The United Nations designated the year 2002 as the International Year at Eco-tourism (IYE). The UN's focus on the issue is in recognition of eco-tourism's potential as a development tool that can advance the three basic goals of it's convention on biological diversity.

- a. Conserve biological and cultural diversity.
- b. Promote the sustainable use of bio-diversity by generating income, jobs and business opportunities in the eco-tourism and related business network.
- c. Share the benefits of eco-tourism development equitably with local communities and indigenous people.

The definition (IYE) put forth by eco-tourism society eco-tourism is "Purposeful travel to natural areas to understand the cultural and natural history of the environment taking care of the eco-system while producing economic

opportunities that make the conservation of natural resources financially beneficial to local citizens. In this regard, the sustainable tourism network (STN) based in NTB has brought about a number of programs and events to celebrate this event World Tourism Organization (WTO) and Trekking Agents Association of Nepal (TAAN) (LIN, 2002).

The WTO describes sustainable tourism development as development that meets the needs of present tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the further. It is envisaged as leading to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity, and life support systems. Eco-tourism is planning and management the institute of forestry. (Second Draft Pokhara, July, 2003)

Eco-tourism focuses on local cultures, wilderness adventures, to volunteering, personal growth and learning new ways to live on our vulnerable planet. It is typically defined as travel to destination where the flora, fauna and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Responsible eco-tourism includes program that minimize the adverse effects of traditional tourism on the natural environment and enhance the cultural integrity of local people. Hence, in addition to evaluating environment and cultural factors, initiatives by hospitality provides to promote, recycling energy efficiency, water re-use and the creation of economic opportunities for local communities are an integral part of eco-tourism. (Pleumaron, Anita 02 July, 2005).

Ecotourism in Nepal

Based on the eco-tourism, many projects have been implemented in Nepal some which are below:

Annapurna Conservation Area Project

This project is established in 1986 covering vast area of almost five district of western development region of the country. The project, supported by many national and international al organizations, is well-known for its outstanding model for natural resource conservation and community development (MoCTCA,2002). Its principal objectives are:

- Sustainable resource management
- Maximum participation of local people
- Promoting alternative energy to minimize the negative impacts of tourism
- Poverty alleviation
- Integrated agriculture and livestock development
- Environmental awareness for both host and guest communities.
- Agro- forestry and community development
- Heritage conservation with control tourism
- Self-sustaining tourism

Ghalegaon Sikles Ecotourism Project (GSEP):

It is also one of the successful ecotourism projects of the country, established in1992, designed by KMTNC and ACAP, and funded by Asian Development Bank for tourism infrastructure development. The main aim of the project is to contribute conservation of natural resources and local community development through responsible tourism. The project has been doing various significant tasks in the

field of nature conservation such as foot trail construction, forest zoning, river training, sustainable forest harvesting, promoting alternative energy device from solar, micro hydro projects and fuel efficient ovens.

The project also actively involves with other various activities like sustainable infrastructure development, school education, community toilets and drinking water programmes, various trainings related with tourism, vegetable production and leadership training. It also focuses on capacity building of locals with maximum participation for promoting local cultures and environmental preservation. According to MoCTC A (2002), the project also support for various research works for identifying important and rare flora and fauna and non-timber forest items, socio- economic survey, and biodiversity conservation research with for utilization revenues collected from entry fee from the tourists.

Kanchenjunga Community Based Ecotourism Project

The project initiated its major plan since 1998 with 84 tourists. However it facing overcrowd with trekkers whom leave out much garbage and rubbish. Thus the project has major duty to manage wastes and conserve natural environment with the help of maximum involvement of locals. In the area, there two major projects, the Kanchenjunga conservation project and Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation program which are working together for sustainable development of infrastructure, nature and culture conservation, ecotourism development, agro-forestry, and capacity building for local people .

Manaslu Nature Based Ecotourism Project:

The project was established 1999 with special purpose of conservation and community development. The area is now being managed by KMTNC to develop

the area as Annapurna Conservation Area Project model to manage the area effectively for the promotion responsible tourism to provide the maximum benefit to local people through their genuine involvement . To conserve the area and develop ecotourism in the park, there is a project named Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program which is working for environmental conservation, participation of local people, supporting local economy, development of infrastructures, and supporting disadvantaged gender, ethnic groups.

Upper Mustang Biodiversity Conservation Project:

It is established in 2000 with key aim of preserving biodiversity and cultural heritages through sustainable tourism management. The project also basically focuses on capacity building of local for their active participation in planning, management, and monitoring of the project which can enhance the lifestyle of local people and conservation of local environment. The project was supported by ACAP in various aspects to gain the required success of the projects. The key achievements of the project are:

- Training for local people to enhance their skill in plantation, wildlife management, survey techniques and biodiversity database arrangement.
- Conducting awareness about importance of ecosystem and cultural heritages and cleanliness
- Training for various aspects related with responsible tourism for generating income
- Encourage both tourist and locals to respect local environment and culture.
- Maximum local involvement of local people

Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program (TRPAP):

The project is funded by great international organizations such as IINDP, DFID, and SNV keeping major goal of alleviating poverty in Nepal through sustainable tourism development policy. Project major focus on basically disadvantageous and underprivileged men and women, lower castes, and marginalized ethnic groups. The program also emphasizes for maximum participation of grassroots for decision making in policy making so that they can get maximum benefit. The program is always aiming to design such remarkable tourism model in various touristic areas to promote sustainable development by enhancing local economy through promoting various ecotourism activities such as tour guide, local products, home - stay, cottage industry etc. the project has been successful in its objective in various tourism sites like Pokhara, Chitwan National Park where local people are more active in their income generation.

Simikot, Humla Development Package:

The project mainly emphasizes on conserving Buddhist cultural and religious heritages and natural resources of north- western region of the country which comprises trekking route to Mt. Kailash and Mansarovar Lake a centre of pilgrimage. The package is getting financial support from Netherland Development Organization (SNV) and local networks in Humla to run various significant works such as paving the trails, management of waste, sanitation and drainage, improving different lodges and religions heritages. And it also conducts skill development training to viilage guides, porters, local lodge owners to increase the involvement of locals.

2.4 About Study Areas

Birendranagar is a city in mid-western Nepal, located in the Surkhet District of Bheri 1one. This city is located in the Surkhet Valley, and is a principal township in the western hills region of Nepal. Birendranagar is so named in honour of the late King Birendra, who planned and established it as the first planned town in Nepal.

Surkhet is a mountain district covering 2123 sq km 50 VDC and 1 municipality include in Surkhet district. It is bordered on the eastern side by Salan and Banke, south by Bardiya and Kilali, west by Doti and Accham and north by Dilekh and Accham. Although the area of Surkhet is small, it support a wide range of biodiversity which is nationally and globally important. The vegetating types primarily include Sal forest, Sal savanna, which is part of Continuum between climate, forest and grassland that is maintained by fire and floods. Surkhet many areas have potentiality for eco-tourism but in this study two places have selection for the study which are as following:

Kakre Bihar

Kakre Bihar is a small hillock in the middle of the Surkhet Valley. On top of this hillock is a ruin of a 12th-century stone temple, which shows that the people of the region practiced Hinduism along with Buddhism, The carved stones and bronze statues reflect the images of Buddha, and many Hindu gods and goddesses including Saraswati and Ganesh. This Hindu-Buddhist temple is protected by the government and there is a plan in place to re-erect the structure to its original shape. Architects are working hard to put all the pieces together so as to come up with a model of the temple. Thousands of people come to the area for religious purposes as well as to experience the rejuvenating atmosphere of nature. important

archaeological, cultural and religious exhibits can be found in the city museum, which preserves facts about the place.

Bulbule Tal

Bulbule is a pride of Surkhet as it carries the legendary identity of this place in the one of the most popular folk songs "surkheta bulbul taal maya maisaano hunaale chhutyo mayajaal". Located in the south of Surkhet bazaar, this beautiful lake has a recreation parl. Peoples of nearby cities and countries are greatly attracted by the beauty of the bulbule tal. Having natural and scenic peculiarity, the pond area covers the land with recreational picnic spot serving great water source to valley. Bubbles of water rise up to form big pond, that's what its name means Bulbule. Because this is one of the constant sources of fresh water, a pipe system is installed to pump-supply drinking water to the village of Latikoili, that lies in the south of the lake. Park transforms the city into natural feel with various flowers and plants. Boating, fishing, swimming to cultural rituals are organized inside the park area.

Above the two places which are most potential for tourism development, until these places have not formally studied as concept of eco-tourism, so that this study might be had to take place of literature for future generation.

Table 2.1 : Finding of Biodiversity of study area

Spices	No.	Spices	No.
Flora Diversity	286	Relites	6
Fauna Diversity	32	Butterflies	26
Birds	200	Mammal Wild Animals	4

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

There are various methodology that applied to get related information and fact for the specific research. However, there is not only one method to collect the information related to all aspects of human society and use more techniques is also not be a partial in terms of costs, time on so or1. Various research tools and method will be utilized to make the research studies more scientific, reliable, partial and systematic which are mentioned in this chapter.

3.1 Research Design

The study has been designed to find out the problems and prospects of eco-tourism in Bulbule Tal and Kahrebihar of Surkhet. Descriptive and exploratory research design has been used to analyze problems and prospects of eco-tourism of this area. The research design will be helpful to interpret the qualitative and quantities data findings. The purposed study is exploratory as well as descriptive research in nature. 'This is a study, which finds prospect and challenges about Eco tourism. 'There are three areas of concert in the conducted research. First, the attraction and prospect of Eco- tourists, secondly, highlighting the traditional culture and benefit of local tourism and finally analyze the possible challenge of eco tourism. In this way, the study is il surrounding in the three areas of eco-tourism in surkhet which concerns as raised up as an objective as an entry and ending point.

3.2 Nature and sources of data and Information

The sources of data and information were of two types as: Primary data and secondary data. Primary data were taken from direct visit to study area with active involvement of researcher himself through survey and observation by using questionnaire and checklist. Secondary data were taken from various books, research report, journals, Articles of NTB, and DDC, VDC profiles which include both published and unpublished report. The sources of data and information are mainly then by primary and secondary way from tourists (domestic and international), local people and hotel members who interested to the area subject matter. The VDCs, DDC Surkhet study area, the local people and tourists were the information respondents.

3.3 Universe and sampling technique and size

The study area included 2 VDCs and I municipality (Latikoili, Utterganga, and Birendranagar municipality). The study area contains approximately 55000 total populations. Among those population households, the researcher applied purposive and accidental based sampling for the area selection on the sizes.

Table 3.1: Universe and sampling technique and size

S.N.	Description/Streams	Total Population (approx)	Sampling
1	Tourists during study period (National+International)	40 Accidental based	40
2	Local People	250 HHs	20% (=50 HHs)
3	Hotels (Small+big)	50 HHs	20% (=10 HHs)
	Total	500	20% (=100)

There is 50 local hotels (big and small) out of 50 hotels has taken 10 hotels with had applied purposive sampling and local people has taken on surrounding near of study area which are latikoli village, Jurnal road and Pipira where as thick living of Tharu and Raji cast. In this study has involved 50 HHs People out of total 250 HHs from Tharu, Raji and other community with had applied purposive sampling. In case of tourist had applied accidental base sampling because 40 tourists has met during study time.

3.4 Data Collection Techniques and Tools

Necessary data was collected by using suitable tools and techniques through primary and secondary data collection methods. In this study primary and accurate data the structured questionnaire, unstructured interview and non participant observation with photo, documentary and focus group discussion methods were applied.

3.4.1 Questionnaire Survey

Household survey was conducted by developing structured questionnaires which was both open ended and close typed. The local, elite, tourists, hotel members were requested to fill up it. In case of inconvenient, the researcher himself assisted to fill up the questions as per response.

3.4.2 Key Informants Interview

The key informants interview was conducted by developing key information's guideline as tool to collect information related to the subject matter' The VDCs member' local people, teachers, students and elites were the key informants selected for the purpose of collecting data.

3.4.3 Field visit and Observation

While field visit and observation, the researcher concerned with the prospects and challenges of eco-tourism. In the study area mainly helped by tourists, locals, hotels, camera (Movie/digital), purposive visited selected household non participant observation technique applied and the contribution-of local people as well as tourists in the study area.

3.4.4 Focus Group Discussion

Focus group discussion in study area with in active participants (man, women, students, teachers, ethnic group) and then where there searcher raised the focus questions and guided them lastly they accepted the conclusion and end the discussion.

3.5 Methods of Data Analysis

In order to analyze data for the study, the researcher used both secondary and primary sources data. The primary data collected from the local, tourists, hotels, elites, field observation and group discussion were analyzed. The different grades are used to measure the level of satisfactions. The answers from the structured, open, close etc. questionnaires in the field are kept in systematically and presented in tabular form for the result. The power point or computer, formulate from statistical subject, maps etc. used for analysis. The methods of analysis used according to the nature of data information. Almost help from different tools and movie camera had taken. Within the study area in self analyzed to from a real material.

CHATER FOUR

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

This chapter has been devoted to analyze the description of the study area which is expected to serve the fundamental information and floor fbr the analysis of the collected data. It has been organized as:

4.1 Major tourism attraction in the study area

The study area includes only 2 VDCs and 1 municipality. Besides, eco-system or bi- diversity/ecological system conservation covered 200 sq.kms area Bulbule tal and 200 km area Kakrebihar.

There has been managed a committee with the help of DDC of Surkhet in 2059 B.S. for up to 2069 B.S. and it has 11 members and its purpose to care bi-diversity or herbal plants, collect finance and use for development for the area protected. It has made rule regulation fort the persons who entry the area. (Source: profile of DDC Surkhet) there are so many attraction areas. The tourists flowed according to their interest and individual expenditures.

Table 4.1: Table Tourist flow of year 2069-2070

Year in Nepali	Year-2069	Year-2070	Remarks
Baisakh	5	56	The rate of foreign tourists flowing less by less according to this comparison which was taken the DDC and laiticoilee VDC office, surkhet
Jesth	10	15	
Ashad	20	15	
Shrawan	114	45	
Bhadra	212	70	
Ashoj	168	117	
Kartik	82	86	
Mangsir	6	4	
Poush	-	-	
Magh	-	-	
Falgun	15	20	
Chaitra	13	-	
Total	554	428	96 tourists decreased

Source: DDC and VDC report 2070 B.S.

4.1.1 Study Area

In this topic, the study areas are given below:

Kakre Bihar

Kakre Bihar is a small hillock in the middle of the Surkhet valley. On top of this hillock is a ruin of a 12th-century stone temple, which shows that the people of the region practiced Hinduism along with Buddhism. The carved stones and bronze

statue reflect the images of Buddha, and many Hindu gods and goddesses including Saraswati and Ganesh. This Hindu-Buddhist temple is protected by the government and there is a plan in place to re-erect the structure to its original shape. Architects are working hard to put all the pieces together so as to come up with model of the temple. Thousands of people come to the area for religious purposes as well as to experience the rejuvenating atmosphere of nature. Important archaeological, cultural and religions exhibits can be found in the city museum, which preserves facts about the place. Sheep, Goral, musk deer, leaper, wild dog marmot, weasel, mouse hare, and longer monkeys.

4.1.2 Bulbule Tal

Bulbule is a pride of Surkhet as it carries the legendary identity of this place in the one of the most popular folk songs "surkheta bulbul taal maya mai saano hunaalechhutyo maya jaal". Located in the south of Surkhet bazaar, this beautiful lake has a recreation park. Peoples of nearby cities and countries are greatly attracted by the beauty of the Bulbule Tal. Having natural and scenic peculiarity, the pond area covers the land with recreational picnic spot serving great water source to valley. Bubbles of water rise up to form big pond, that's what its name means bulbule. Because this is one of the constant source of fresh water, a pipe system is installed to pump-supply drinking water to the village of Latikoili, that lies in the south of the lake. Park transforms the city into natural feel with various flower and plants. Boating, fishing, swimming to cultural rituals are organized inside the park area. It has more than 286 flora species of botanical importance sheep, heral, musk deer, leapoar, wild dog marmot, weasel, mouse hare, thesus, and longer monkeys, region is habitat of the rare snow leopard over 200 species of birds

Table 4.2: Biodiversity of Bubule Tal Area

Spices	No.	Spices	No.
Flora Diversity	286	Relites	6
Fauna Diversity	32	Butterflies	26
Birds	200	Mammal Wild Animals	4

Sources: DDC Surkhet, 2010

4.1.3 Flora and Fauna

The flora and fauna found within the study area is extremely diverse. Kakre Bihar is a small hillock in the middle of the Surkhet Valley. On top of this hillock is a ruin of a 12th century stone temple, which shows that the people of the region practiced Hinduism along with Buddhism. Sheep, heral, musk deer, leopar, wild dog marmot, weasel, mouse hare, thesus, and longer monkeys.

Bulbule Tal having natural and scenic peculiarity, the pond area covers the land with recreational picnic spot serving great water source to valley. Bubbles of water rise up to form big pond, that's what its name means bulbule. Park transforms the city into natural feel with various flowers and plants. Boating, fishing, swimming to cultural rituals are organized inside the park area. It has more than 286 flora species of botanical importance. Sheep, heral, musk deer, leopar, wild dog marmot, weasel, mouse hare, theses, and longer monkeys, region is habitat of the rare snow leopard over 200 species of birds (DDC, 2008).

4.1.4 Scenic view/ natural view

Kakre Bihar is a small hillock in the middle of the Surkhet Valley. On top of this hillock is a ruin of a 12th-century stone temple, which shows that the people of the

region practiced Hinduism along with Buddhism. The carved stones and bronze statues reflect the images of Buddha, and many Hindu gods and goddesses including Saraswati and Ganesh. Thousands of people come to the area for religious purposes, as well as to experience the rejuvenating atmosphere of nature. Important archaeological, cultural and religious exhibits can be found in the city museum, which preserves facts about the place. Sheep, Heral, musk deer, leopard, wild dog marmot, weasel, mouse, hare, and longer monkeys.

Located in the south of Surkhet bazaar, this beautiful lake has a recreation park. Having natural and scenic peculiarity, the pond area covers the land with recreational picnic spot serving great water source to valley. Bubbles of water rise up to form big pond, that's what its name means bulbule. Park transforms the city into natural feel with various flowers and plants. Boating, fishing, swimming to cultural rituals are organized inside the park area.

4.1.5 Historically (Reputed) Popular Monasteries

Kakre Bihar is a small hillock in the middle of the Surkhet Valley. On top of this hillock is a ruin of a 12th-century stone temple, which shows that the people of the region practiced Hinduism along with Buddhism. The carved stones and bronze statues reflect the images of Buddha, and many Hindu gods and goddesses including Saraswati and Ganesh.

4.1.6 Local Culture and Hospitality

The inhabitants of the study area, Buddha and Hindu religion, formed the entire area where as mix cultural base. There is special of Tharu, Raji and Tibetan lama culture which is main attraction destination in terms of culture. Next major culture of the study area is the hosting innocent, happy appearance hospitality style for

guests, with flower which is really typical hospitality style of this area. So tourists can realize to different feelings and amusement. Their festivals and celebration times put hospitality and welcoming features of the area.

In this way the natural phenomenon like geographically, flora. fauna. ethnic groups of cultural-social and economic norms and values, languages, religions are mysterious tourism destinations coloring the study area for attractive tourism destinations facilities. The study area has many opportunity of tourism: trekking, mountaineering, cultural study, research, religious visit and expedition are the main activities that can implement in Study area. For the main in study area for exploring natural beauties, culture, biodiversity and the contribution of touristy area, tourists mainly go through. Hillack lands which can attract domestic and foreign tourists. The high flow of tourist has help to uplift the socio-economic status of the hotels.

4.2 Main challenges of tourism

The shortage of the following facilities created a lot of challenges of eco-tourism in this area. This information was collected from the field study. The information is completely qualitative in nature.

4.2.1 Accessibility Air service

Accessibility challenges of air service is the most hard and vital one for eco-tourism development. Accessibility air service is the backbone of tourism. There is not proper Air service because foreign tourist are tused the airplane for travel. Birendranager has airport but not availability so that there is not regular flight. Only two times planes are landed in a weekend. The visitors have to face land

travel with rough and narrow road. It has become a major constraint of eco-tourism development.

4.2.2 Accommodation

It is another challenge after of before visiting the destination. The tourist need well facilitated hotel, motels, restaurants, tea and cafe house and staying whole night facilities. Also needed resort, guest house/home stay, food items and welcoming local style. So normal negligible tea and hotels can't suitable enough, these regarding challenges to set such facilities for the eco-tourism in the study area is important to develop it the eco-tourism.

4.2.3 Trained guide

There is a shortage of trained tourist guide in the study are to solve the problem of untrained manpower. The government, private sectors, co-operative organizations and locals needed to support and participate in each steps. There needed much institutions and INGOs to give more training to the people who interested in ecotourism. Training should be about guide, hotel amenity, agency setting, and awareness training for the people who may help in the tourism sector. So these qualified tourists guide and coordination facilities promote only by well training programs in the district.

4.2.4 Pure drinking water, electricity and sanitation challenge

There is a lack of access to quality drinking water, electricity and sanitation faculty. To solve these problems is the main challenge in the tourism sector in the study area. Above mentioned facilities are very poor in the study area. Besides few tea .above mentioned facilities are very poor in the study area. Besides few tea

stalls and small hotels and opened places for came. There are no well conditions. But regarding to electricity, where also national load siding as same problem in this side. But solar project has helped this problem to some extent in the study area.

4.2.5 Health education, cooperative and Travel agencies

In this study area there is lack of proper medical, education, travel agencies or cooperative organization. So to set those facilities or promote them is the main challenging action to improve the ecotourism. There is not education center about tourism and eco-tourism sector, lack of proper facilitated health related institution and due to lack of travel agencies the foreign tourists visited hardly. So to set such facilities and minimized the problem all the sectors needed to support the eco-tourism system in the study area.

4.2.6 Marketing and recreational centre

Marketing and recreational centre are the important needs in tourism in the 21st century in all over world. Publicizing play help in information supply regarding to destination or recreational centre or what and where tourism products are located. Without having actual information, the visitor can't study their desired place. Marketing plays mediator role between consumers and product. So set well marketing system is the major challenge and regarding basic need for tourists as recreational centre is another challenge in the study area. The eco-tourism mostly prefers to get entertainment form the ecology so environment friendly recreational centers should be established. The desires of the visitors might be varied according to their intention or nature.

4.2.7 Visitor information centre and entry fee

Visitor information centre is necessary in the destination especially for eco-tourism to avoid different difficulties and accidents. Planning to visit and fulfill the desire of tourist, they need to have information about the place. It can be help through the pamphlet, booklet, brochure, and direct interaction, documentary and so on. There are some centers outside the study area like Surkhet DDC office, Bubule Tal management committee office, Kakere Bhiar as well, but not enough.

4.2.8 Nature conservation and utilization for future development

There is uncountable natural wealth. We have no conserved and not yet utilized for right order and also not helping by the government's policy, local coordination and the tourists activities. There are valuable plants and animals in the study area. It support on Suitable cultivation and protection of indigenous heritages and items. There only seen less safeguarding and poaching or hunting in the place. Tourists are thronging wastages everywhere, creating unwanted socio-cultural activities in the open place, not utilizing local items etc. are causing tourism polluted. So, to increase positive activities everybody participate to promote the ecotourism. 'Taking fee form persons for visiting, punishment for bad behavioral persons may promote the system in the study area. The researcher took more than 5 persons to find the main challenges and prospects of eco-tourism from 3 VDCs and Municipality.

Similarly due to entry fee and permission, flow of tourist is not expected amount. This constraint is the challenging force in the study area. This provision must be modified according to circumstances.

CHAPTER - FTVE

ANALYSTS AND DISCUSSIONS

By the methods of data & information analysis done by the researcher's that provides clear and whole scenario of the study. This unit analyzed through tools: table, percentage, graphs and charts. While for collection process the researcher used purposive sampling tools: transect walk ranking scoring, SWOT methods are applied one an after other quantitative and qualitative data. Remaining data or information which are explained in specific objectives based.

5.1 Attractions and prospects of eco-tourism in Surkhet

The study area includes only 2 VDCs and I municipality. Besides, eco-system or bi- diversity/ecological system conservation covered 200sq.kms area Bulbule tal and 200 Km area Kakrebihar. The main aims to help for conserve it and its elements such as eco-system biodiversity natural diversities and land structures.

5.1.1 Tourist flow of study area

There has been managed a committee with the help of DDC of Surkhet in 205g B.S. for up to 2069 B.S. and it has 11 members and its purpose to care bi-diversity or herbal plants, collect finance and use for the development for the area protected. It has made rule regulation fort the persons who entry the area (source: profile of DDC Surkhet), there are so many attraction areas. The tourists flowed according to their interest and individual expenditures.

Based on daily entre registered in Kakrehihar and Bulbule Tal, the DDC of Surkhet has recorded the number of tourist. The number of flow tourist has different number in different month. Which shows following:

Table 5.1 : Tourist flow year (2069-2070)

Year in Nepali	Year-2069	Year-2070	Remarks
Baisakh	5	56	The rate of foreign tourists flowing less by less according to this comparison which was taken the DDC and laiticoilee VDC office, Surkhet
Jesth	10	15	
Ashad	20	15	
Shrawan	114	45	
Bhadra	212	70	
Ashoj	168	117	
Kartik	82	86	
Mangsir	6	4	
Poush	-	-	
Magh	-	-	
Falgun	15	20	
Chaitra	13	-	
Total	554	428	

Source: DDC and VDC report 2070 B.S.

Above monthly based data record has shown that Shawrn, Bhadra, Asoj and kartitk months are favorable for tourist. These months have more tourist flow among the other month.

Table 5.2: Season of tourists flow

Season	No. of respondent	Percentage	Remarks
Spring	30	50	Respondents were hotels and locals of 3 VDCs and one municipality together
Summer	15	25	
Autumn	12	20	
Winter	3	5	
Total	60	100	

Source: Filed survey, 2072

As we conclude from the table that the flow of tourist were in spring 50%o summer 25%o autumn 20 % and winter 5%. So majority of tourist were used to come in spring and summer in the VDC and municipality area.

The beautiful or lovely site of hill neck of Kakrebihar and tap of Bulbule tal where next hear touch view with wildlife every green forest Herbs, shrubs and Sal-trees whose was really making the tourists to stay more than they expected. The blue-sleeps, Ghoral, Dear, Rabbit, wild mouse, birds and varieties of by making creature which are help to attract the tourists much more.

Table 5.3: Perception of the respondents about flow of the tourists

Flow frequency	No. of respondent	Percentage	Remarks
Too many	12	20	Respondents were hotels and locals of 3 VDCs and one municipality together
Many	30	50	
Medium	15	25	
Few	3	5	
Total	60 (hotel+locals)	100	

Source : Filed survey, 2072

5.1.2 Major attraction center of tourist visiting

There are many big and small tourists or attractions such as: waterfall, lakes, Himalayan ranges, and indigenous medical plants/herbs, local culture which constantly increasing tourist attraction fbr a long time. So, Surkhet became one of the best tourists destination among the Nepal's other destination sites. The main attraction centre given by local, and tourists are:

Table 5.4: Major Tourism Attractions

S.N.	Centre	Local+tourists respondents	% approx
1	Bulbul tal and taps	2	5.56
2	Temple and monastery	15	16.67
3	Statue of god	10	11.11
4	Medicinal plants herbs	5	5.56
5	Local culture and religion spots	10	11.11
6	Tal	10	11.11
7	Tyr (including all above) to visit all above at once	45	50
	Total	90	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072 (respondents : tourist + locals)

Analyzing the above table visiting all above destinations within 6 months for different purposes, but with in above destinations, the tourists and locals all said the centre of tourist attraction is Bulbule tal in the study area. It's shown in the figure below that almost tourists interested to visit all above at once as there are panoramic view of attraction

5.1.3 Socio-Cultural and natural prospects of eco-tourism (in view of hotel operator and tourist)

Here separately taken response from hotel & tourist although it has already involved in before chapter or unit. The socio-culture, nature, and economic are the necessary part of the tourism sector. The eco-tourism based on the entirely

environment friendly. To explore specially in the study area regarding to prospect of eco-tourism, the table below explain.

Table 5.5: Socio-Cultural Attraction

Attractions	No. of hot. R.P.	%	No of tour. R.P.	%
Having Tharu culture	3	30	23	57
Having Tibetan Lama culture	1	10	2	5
Having Rajee culture	2	20	5	12
Traditional local survival culture	2	20	8	20
All mixed socio-cultural in local	2	20	2	5
Total	10	100	40	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

By the response of hotel operators and tourist, concluded that both said the prospects

of ecotourism in attraction mostly on having Tharu culture. So the future is bright for having Tharu culture Tibetan lama and Rajee culture mostly in the study area.

5.1.4 Respondents' Knowledge about tourism

Tourism is very comprehensive word and its definition and perception may vary person to person and institutions. Regarding to study area. the knowledge and perceptions of local people on tourism these is variation in knowledge. perception of respondents which is presented in following table.

Table 5.6: Purpose of Visit by Tourist According to Locals

Knowledge/perception about tourism	No. of respondent	Percentage
Experiencing of knowing new place, things and knowledge	15	30
Wandering natural and cultural places	14	28
Activities of trekking and rafting	4	8
Process of leisure holiday time and taking recreation	1	2
No idea/don't know	16	32
Total %	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

Analyzing the table shows that 30o/o and 2Yo of respondents pointed that the tourism sector is experiencing or knowing new place, things, knowledge and has no knowledge about tourism respectively. It shown that people are less awareness about tourism and eco-tourism which proved by above table.

5.1.5 Respondent's knowledge about eco-tourism

The branch of tourism which concerned with entire environmental fiendly, ethnics, principles and nature based tourism. It's also known as nature based sustainable, alternative tourism and pro-poor tourism. According to landlady in 1993(father of eco-tourism), "The meaning of eco-tourism in a single word is respect." Respect is the root of everything worthwhile and good. Respect to nature, local people, culture, history, community aspirations and tourists themselves.

Table 5.7: Knowledge of respondents about eco-tourism

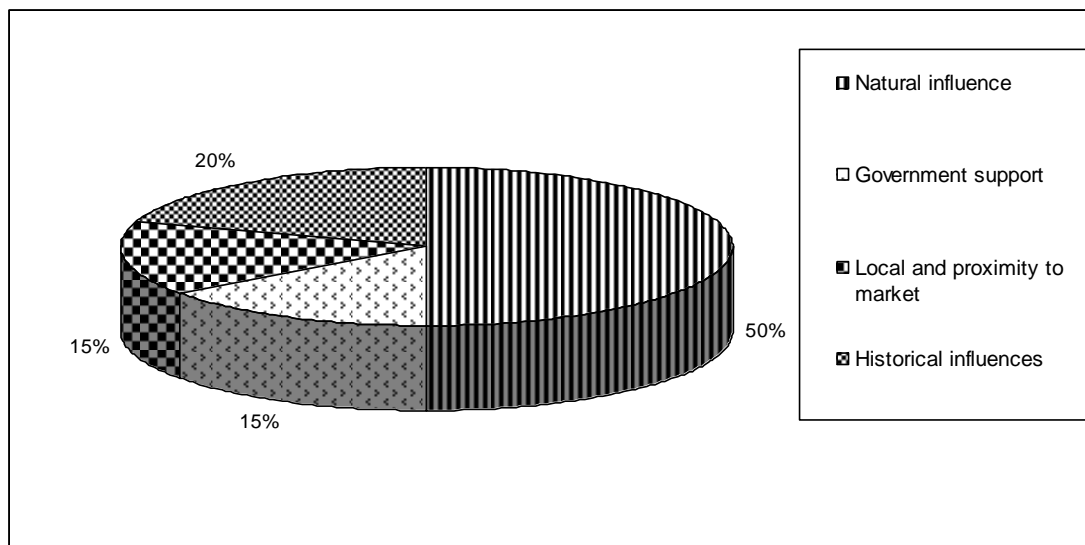
Knowledge	No. of respondent (from 4 VDCs)	Percentage
Nature tourism	7	14
Environment friendly tourism	6	12
Sustainable tourism	4	8
Alternatives other tourism	7	14
No idea/don't know	25	50
Total	50	100

Source: Filed survey, 2072

As shown in the data table, more than half percentage of respondents are unaware about eco-tourism.

Research is based on natural, historical and local cultural which has concern for impact of local environment. According to the views of number of respondents has show as below:

Figure 5.1 Knowledge of respondents about eco-tourism



Regarding the above concluded figure shows that 50% of natural influence. government support 15 % local & proximity to market 15 o/o and historical influences was 20 % of environment for eco-tourism. Among those natural influences was greater for the scope.

5.1.6 Local people view about prospect potentiality of eco-tourism

Actually eco-tourism terms it entirely related to conservation, proper utilization and management of environment or nature and its elements. Its environment friendly/nature based tourism. Thus, in connection to study area there is high prospect of eco-tourism where the cultural and natural environment has not been exterminated yet and we find same natural and cultural environment what was existed in the past.

Table 5.8: Prospect of Eco-Tourism

Response	No. of respondent (from 4 VDCs)	Percentage
Prospect	40	80

No. Prospect	5	10
Don't know	5	10
Total	50	100

Source: Filed survey, 2072

Based on above table, analyzing the perception of respondents the majority 80% said, there was for prospect of eco-tourism.

5.1.7 Natural Prospects Seen By Hotel Operators and Tourists (Hot. & Tourists)

Entire existing natural attractions in the study area have attracted many types of tourist streams. The nature is the best tourism resource among human, cultural, social and economic capital resources. Regarding to the issues in the study area, the response of respondents was as below:

Table 5.9: Natural Attraction

Response	No. of hos. Rp	%	No. of Tour. Rp	%
Bulbela Tal	4	40	20	50
Kacrebehair	4	40	16	40
Surkhet Valley	1	10	2	5
Hillnacks	1	10	2	5
Total	10	100	40	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

Form above respondent information shows that there is huge prospect for the future generation of tourists is maximum number due to natural attractions, where mainly the table clarified that having the Bulbele tal and KaKrebihar are attracting 40-50% of tourists according to hotel & tourist respondents.

5.1.8 Economic prospect of eco-tourism

Mainly, human natural socio-cultural, 'physiological and physical capitals come within economic prospects. So mainly economic development generated by different ways, such as employment opportunities, standard of living, entry fee,

funds, and different income generating ideas. The main economic is to serve of positive hospitality to the guest or tourists in the study area. So the basic elements of eco- tourism are: destination, people, and product, promotion of natural, resources, organization and market in the study area. To be awareness in practically by host person about eco-tourism might be helpful for uplift of these places. It was the conclusion from the group discussion one day in the study area.

5.1.9 Prospects of eco-tourism in study area

Having the tremendous economic, socio-cultural, and natural attractions in the study area that most of the non-formal persons said certainly high prospect of eco-tourism, but formal, view of respondent given in the table below:

Table 5.10: Prospects of eco-tourism by local’s view

Prospect	No. of hotel rp	%	No. of Tour. Rip	%
High	9	90	38	95
Medium	1	10	2	5
Low	-	-	-	-
Don’t know	-	-	-	-
Total	10	100	40	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

Here, in this study has involved the hotels and tourist respondents, most of respondents had high view of prospect about eco-tourism. 90% of Hotels and 95% of tourist respondent has seen High potentiality of eco-tourism.

5.2. Traditional culture of indigenous people and benefit of tourism to local community

5.2.1 Main festival and typical local indigenous cast

Surkhet district is also represents the national feature of soci-economic status. Here, more than 20 cast are living. The study only focus on study area where mainly Tharu, Raji ,Magar , Gurung and so on living there. Among from those cast has participated Raji, Tham and Tibaten lama and high lighting their cultural.

Table 5.11: Main festival of study area by local's view

Festivals	No. of respondents (4 VDCs)	Percentage
Dashain	-	-
Thihar	-	-
Loshar	30	60
Maghi	20	40
Other	-	-
Total	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

Due to Buddhism area, there are almost 60oh arc celebrating the festivals “Loshar” and 40% of Tharu communities are celebrating the Maghi festival in the research area. The festival occurs in February and ward, in off season. The national and international tourists are increasing day by day. The people are a little clanging according to the flow of tourism stream and time. And while Tharu community celebrating the traditional festival the tourists come to see it, as the table showed.

5.2.2 Type of dress and foods tourists mostly prefer to see (Responded by local and hotels operators)

In tourism, experiencing new things, place and knowledge gain by tourists so they want to go outside their permanent residence for acquiring knowledge and recreation. Hence, tourists want to see local dresses and foods while visiting rural areas, as this connection the response of respondents regarding the tourist interest to see as below:

Table 5.12: Dresses and foods preference of tourists

Festivals	No. of respondents (4 VDCs)	Percentage
Typical local foods and dresses	17	28
Less local foods and dresses	9	15
Mostly outside dresses and foods	4	6.67
No idea	30	50
Total	60	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

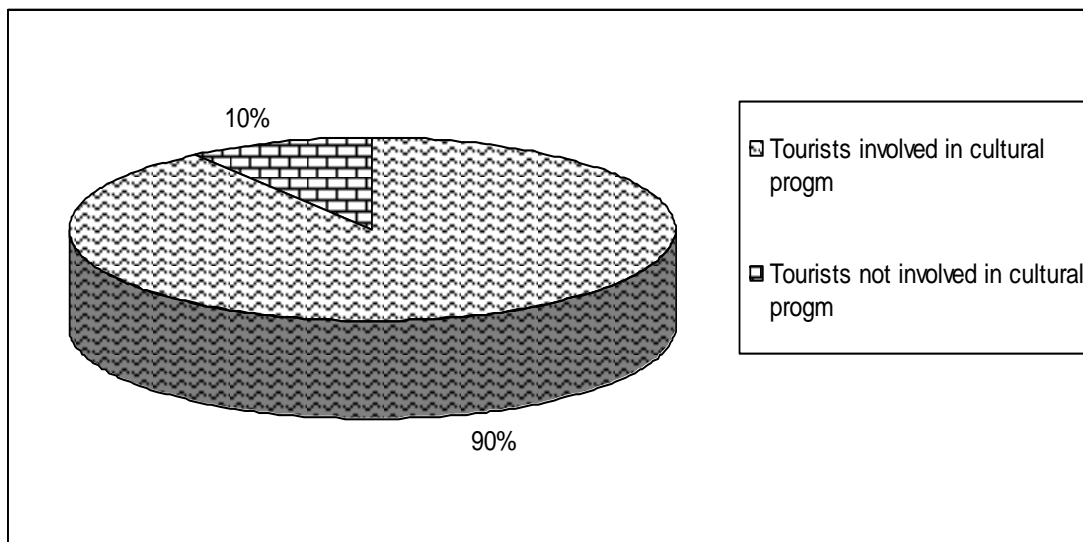
According to above response mostly interested of tourists said "no ideas" but second most response came typical local foods and dresses.

Where as in celebrating the festival they uses typical local foods and dresses and almost less used modern foods and dresses according to the respondents of study area.

5.2.3 Historical and cultural monastery

There are many historical and cultural monasteries which gives the entire value or symbol as. Kakrebihar established in the 12th century. Kakrebihar located nearby Birendranagar municipality about 12th century's historical phenomenon (DDC, 2008). There were also other very old printed Gombas and Chartens which were not seen and recorded yet. Most of are hidden paradise natural historical and cultural symbols. On the prospect of tourist visiting for studying local language and religion, it found that their curiosity to get information about religion, tradition, living style etc. seen low percentage of unconscious of the respondents were unknown about it. So visiting tourist to study ecology found less comparing to the tourist visiting to only experiences and know about the area. Where the tourist for eco-tourism almost curious to visit and involved in local cultural or religious programmers. The style of hasting or showing hospitality play vital role to flourish tourism at the particular tourist sites and also while returned going to destinations tourist get chance to know local culture as well as home stay for the tourist. With knowing the positive policy, boost up rural tourism response respondents in the study area. The following pie-chart shows the activities about cultural programmers and natural elements involvement of tourists (national & international tourists) as:

Figure 5.2 Environment fir eco-tourism (according to respondents)



Form the above chat shows that among 50 tourists 45 said 'yes' and 5 said 'no' interest in the program. So cultural programs might be attracted the different tourists.

5.3 Possible challenges of tourism development

5.3.1 Challenges of eco-tourism in study area

Special 4a accommodation, accessibility, amenity, and attraction are the components of tourism which are needed to flourished and boost up properly to increase the tourism industry. These key components would be managed well manner to develop eco-tourism in the study area.

Table 5.13: Challenges of Eco-tourism

Challenges/problems	No. of respondents local+hotel+tourist	Percentage
Lack of accommodation	48	48
Lack of accessibility	40	40
Lack of amenity	12	12
Lack of attraction	-	-
Total	100	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

From above response data clearly point out that except attraction, all 3as are needed to clear for the scope of eco-tourism. So prospects high level but the challenges are uncountable to solve. The chart is given below.

5.3.2 Availability of hotel restaurant for visitors in study adjoining areas

There is no high stranded hotel & restaurant in the study area. There is a problem of accommodation. no tea & cafe restaurant, models or no availability of highly facilitated hotel and restaurants still now. So visitors themselves should manage the accommodation of interested to go such destination and invest money. The simple opened hotels and facilities were found is the area and some examples given below as:

Table 5.14: accommodation status in the study area

Hotel name	Per meal charge rs.	No. of room	No. of bed	Charge per nights room
New bheri	150	12	5	500
Karnali	150	13	10	850
Manswar	150	12	6	600
Deuti bajai	150	12	7	750
Satkar	150	15	4	1000
Hotal pahuna	150	14	8	800
Hotel Jaya Nepal	150	11	6	850

Source: Filed survey, 2072

The area has so many qualities less hotels & restaurant but few popular were given above. There mostly uses food as rice, potato curry, meat curry, bread, salty-tea local and sugar tea. Most of tourist used their own feats on the ground for stay. Now days there are 2-3 villages managing “the stay home” for tourists within the study area,

5.3.3 Availability of air transportation facility in the study area

It's very sad and difficult situation that there is no Air facilities wide. Really, the foundation of tourism still not been improved due to go up to Nepalgunja by bus to

Surkhet to take time 4 hours to reach destination. So this area still so far back from this access of air service. It's sorrowful, tragic situation and bitter truth that unable to provide basic facility for the tourism in this area. Hence, the scope would not be flourished properly.

Table 5.15: Transportation Facility

Facility	No. of respondents	Percentage
Availability of Bus and Air service	20	40
No. availability of Bus and Air Service	30	60
Total	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

The table proved that there is 4% transportation facility (plane and bus) and (60%) as mentioned above which the obstacle is to enhanced eco-tourism. So it needed to remove those challenges in permanent way.

5.3.4 Availability of hospital in study area

Hospital facility is vital necessary to enhance the tourism sector but we found regional hospital beside that the hospital provide the inefficient service. However, those were also not working well except.

Table 5.16: Availability of hospitals

Hospital	No. of Hospital
Regional hospital	1
District hospital	1
Nursing home	2
Health post	2
Total	6

Source : Filed survey, 2072

In local area has regional hospital, which shows the availability of hospital but there is a lack proper services due to lack of skill full doctor's and lack proper equipment and infrastructure.

5.3.5 Tourist recreational centre

In tourism, people go one place to another for special purpose, experience and entertainment. So it's found that there is no well facilities restaurant, reports, parks, club, Casino like in Pokhara and Kathlnandu except natural and cultural attractions only. So, it's realized that the recreation facility needed in and around destination area. The respondents are responded as following:

Table 5.17: Recreation center (with tourists)

Recreational centre	No. of respondents	Percentage
Available minimum	-	-
Not available	50	100
Total	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

According to respondents, in this local area has not recreation center.

5.3.6 About Tourist Information Centre

Since the study area lies within Kakrebihar and Bulbela tal, there is no proper information centre. Before there were DIDC in DDC, for providing general information.

Table 5.18: Tourist Information (with tourists)

Recreational centre	No. of respondents	Percentage
Known	10	20
Unknown	40	80
Total	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

The response of respondents that 8002 respondents said unknown of information centre. But 2AYo respondent told there is highly focus on need of information center. So it should be concern by all sectors.

5.3.7 The main challenges seen by local people

Regarding to tourism eco-tourism in the study area there are so many challenges that concern with local people and the ecotourism. It's needed to remove those challenges on time. The following points are responded by locals.

Table 5.19: Major challenges seen by local people

Challenges/Problems	No. of respondents	Percentage
Security physical	8	16
Accessibility	10	20
Accommodation	17	34
Communication	1	2
Sanitation	1	2
Natural resource management	8	16
Economic. Social, education	5	10
Total	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

The above table shows the response of respondents the major challenges seen by the locals in the study area that security 8 (16%), accessibility 10 (20%), accommodation 17 (34%), communication 10 (20%), natural resource management B (160%), and economic, social and education 5 (10%) seen.

5.4 Measures of ecological aspect for sustainable eco-tourism Management/ development

The measures of ecological aspect for sustainable eco-tourism can be managed to enhance for the further development as it interconnect with other rural development. Every eco-tourism related with the activities should avoid negative impact that damage or destroy the integrity of natural and cultural environment being visited. To educate the travelers about importance of the conservation, direct revenues form to the conservation of natural areas and management" harmony of infrastructure road, hotel and amenity. Monitoring and evaluation activity for eco-

tourism in the study area is needed. So certain measures should be taken and implement strongly for enhancing carrying capacity, molding products and promotion let the further flow of tourist.

Table 5.20: Measures to be undertaken

Measures/ activities	No. of respondents	Percentage
Making aware to local + tourists	8	16
Well management of eco-tourism	12	24
Environment friendly activity by all sides	10	20
Proper conservation and management of the area	8	16
All above activity	12	24
Total	50	100

Source : Filed survey, 2072

The major measures with respondents view with respondents view proved that in average, above all activities needed for promotion of sustaining eco-tourism development in the study area which are collected from a active, elite, hotels and teachers of 50 numbers. Beside those, there needed local, government, elite, and related department's role for the promotion of eco-tourism.

5.4.1 Role of government

For biodiversity or ecological management and protection of natural heritage in sustainable eco-tourism, in the study area the government is the principal part of the system management agent. The government should play driver within the

people, guests and other organizations. A response for the issues arises in the field survey as:

Table 5.21 : Expected Government role advised by locals

Measures/ activities	No. of respondents	Percentage
Make entire plan policy and strategies	20	40
Proper implementation of plan and evaluation	10	20
Build up tourism infrastructure road	8	16
Marketing touristic product and support	4	2
Make proper rule and regulation for all	5	10
Reduce entry fee and technical supports	5	10
Total	50	100

Source: Filed survey, 2072

Beside various issues of government role for promotion of eco-tourism system, above responses of respondents shows that mainly government should make proper holistic plan, policy and strategies in the study area.

5.4.2 Local people role

For successful development basic activity depends on joint effort co-operation efforts between governments, local, various agencies and organizations to make well support and participation. So co-ordination between government and the related sectors definitely uplift the development of eco-tourism system. The part of unity or strength for promotion of tourism industry, there must not neglect the role of local people. The local people's activities may flourish eco-tourism in sustainable way. The following in the table are major chosen views.

Table 5.22 : Expected role of Local people

Roles of local people	No. of respondents	Percentage
Keep environment clean by community organizations and local	8	16
Preserve natural, cultural and socio-economic environment	7	14
Promote tourism product, marketing and avoid negative impacts	8	16
Follow Tahiti and eradicate anti environmental activities	15	30
Showing good hospitality to guest and not to destroy nature	12	24
Total	50	100

Source: Filed survey, 2072

Regarding the issues of the roles of local people, the above response of respondents proved that they show good hospitality to tourists, preserve nature and cultural environments promote products, avoid negative impacts, and always be lover of the nature then only the eco-tourism may increase its carrying capacity in eco -tourism. Talk politely, be helpful always think tourists are god, and our happy felling certainly increase the efforts to be sustainable eco-tourism in the study area. Beside above roles other additional role may raise within the running system according to the situation and time period

5.4.3 Measures of sustainable eco-tourism management in study area

So, for sustaining the eco-tourism, some appropriate initiatives should be taken by local as well as government side in timely, otherwise the condition of eco-tourism might be deteriorated. Some important suggestions given by hotels and tourists were.

Table 5.23 : Expected Measures of eco-tourism

Measures	Hotel operator	Tourists	Total%	Total
Making well plan about eco-tourism	2	20	22	44
Making tourist aware	1	5	6	12
Making local people aware	2	5	7	14
Lunch pro-environment programme	1	5	6	12
Request help for INGOs and organizations	4	5	9	18
Total	10	40	50	100

Source: Filed survey, 2072

Regarding the measures of eco-tourism of eco-tourism development maximum of 44 percent tourist and local said making well plan about eco-tourism followed by imitation of NGOs and related organizations (18%). Other measures were: role from government to make well plan,

Policies and strategies, well fund form INGOs and local organization co-operators.
Also everyone should be active to fulfill the aim of eco-tourism development in the
area-

CHAPTER SIX

STJMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Summary of Findings

The main objective of this study was to analyze, explore and examine the prospect and challenges of ecotourism in Surkhet district. In the research 50 local households, 40 active tourists members and 10 hotel operators were taken for sample with purposive sampling method to get authentic information regarding to eco-tourism in the study area. Primary data were collected by using household survey through questionnaire as tools for acquitting authentic and reliable information.

Moreover, by focus group discussion, simple statistical tools as table percentage graph and charts, the SWOT method also applied analyzed the collected data. The chapter highlighted the main findings and drawn conclusion about the eco-tourism management and development of specific study area and facility to locals for maximum utilization of benefits from tourism sectors. The constraints such as accommodation, accessibility, Transportation, electricity, education, health, drinking water, sanitation, trained work force, market lack of nature preservation poaching and hunting activities are bottlenecks to be managed well in right time in right manner.

In the study area these were pre-dominance of local Tharu language and Buddhist religion. Agriculture is the main occupation. Besides the tourist flow rate also was very low. The Knowledge of tourism sector of the people was poor so they don't know about eco-tourism. Lossar and Maghi are local typical festivals and it seemi to be the attraction of cultural tourism. While celebrating festivals, people used

typical local foods and dress and some of the people also wear mix dresses. Monasteries, shortens are main the centers of tourists attraction most of the respondent viewed that the climate in the study area is good.

Regarding to the prospects of eco-tourism more local respondent that there was potentiality, hotel operators and tourists responded there was more potentiality to develop the eco-tourism. Buddhist and Tharu culture and oldest Tibetan lama were major socio-cultural and historical attractive values.

Similarly, Bulbele tal, Kakrebihar, landscapes, Rafting were the major natural attractions and prospects of eco-tourism. Also almost all the respondents were of the view that accommodation accessibility, geography, climate, traditional culture, government policies, were the main challenges. Electricity, water unawareness are the additional challenges which needs to the solved for tourists attraction. There is also no tourist recreational centre and information centre except natural beauty within the study area.

Identifying, analyzing, exploring above factors, there are much more eco-tourism prospects. However, these are many challenges to improve the tourism the study area.

6.2 Conclusion

Based on study, the study area having the tremendous socio-cultural attractions Tharu, Raji and lama Tibetan culture, oldest ancient Nepalese life surviving culture etc. and other natural beauty of Study area has been great potential for eco-tourism. Besides pictures and panoramic view of Bubule Tap, I(akre Bhiar Buddhist temple, rivulets, medicinal plants and biodiversity etc. were found to be major attraction of eco- tourism in the study area. Majority of the respondents also viewed that the

prospect of eco-tourism could be high in this area. This study has found the main challenges such as: accommodation, accessibility, communication, trained manpower, electricity, sanitation, medical facilities, marketing chief entry fee, visitor information centre, awareness, recreational centre etc. were founds the constraints of eco-tourism development for solving the challenging. aspects to promote eco-tourism majority of tourists, hotel operators, and local people suggested to make well plan about eco- tourism . Besides they also suggested for making aware to local people, tourists and need to lunching pro-environment programs in the study area for sustain eco-tourism.

Analyzing the whole scenario of socio-cultural and natural attraction in nutshell it can be concluded that the prospect of eco-tourism in future is absolutely high if proper plan, policy and law could be made and implemented. By means of eco-tourism it can be possible to uplift all civic society's status, livelihood pattern, establish merit of small industries, and other scrotal developments in qualitative and quantitative way. it is necessary to activate all related departments to develop physical, mental, social, nature and infrastructure for eco-tourism.

6.3 Recommendation

Based on study and the collected information from the tourists, local people and the hotel operators and elite recommendations can be put forwards:

- There should be accommodation, access and amenity facilities by establishing hotel, tea and card resorts, guest house and restaurants.
- Communication and information centre should be established and connected to national wide networking point as well as international.

- The cheaper entry fee of Bubule tal and Kakrebihar should be modified, and visiting information centre should be built in the study area, so everyone can get particular information.
- "eco-tourism related" formal and informal institution center and short term awareness programs should be conduct by local body among the local people and, tourists, so that they can know what do or not do in the destination place.
- local traditional culture should be preserved and promoted
- The pure drinking water, electricity, sanitation, rule and regulation for environment conservation and health education related project should be conducted form government and private sectors for sustainable environment cleanliness and better health of visitors and locals.
- The sustainable eco-tourism related plan should be made and implemented in dedicated manner for ward, VDC, DDC, regional and central government level.
- There should be given much importance awards and supports to the local organizations and committees who are actively to involve in cultural, traditions, natural, sceneries, entertainment, and other attractive activities. So that it may help in all type of tourism.
- The government should mobilize the locals to utilize and natural resources management programs. There should be more transparency and constitutional law or policy about prospects and challenges of eco-tourism in the study area and other similar protective destinations in Nepal. Also should

be clear rule and regulation for utilizing and preserving the natural components so that it will help for bio- diversity system

The above recommendation may help to enhancement to eradicate challenges and improve the hidden prospects of eco-tourism in Surkhet local area as well as it has partly contributed for nation.

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ANNEX - I
QUESTIONNAIRES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Introduction of Respondents

Name.....	Gender
Age.....	Occupation
Religion....	Education

1. Are you familiar with eco-tourism?

- a. Yes
- b. No

2. What is your main source of income?

- a. Agriculture
- b. Business
- c. Service
- d. Tourism related business
- e. Others.....

3. Are you satisfied with your occupation?

- a. Yes
- b. No

4. Are you involved in eco-tourism related business?

- a. Yes
- b. No

5. If yes, how many of your family member involves in tourism related business?

- a. Hotel / lodges services.....
- b. Shops for tourist produce.....
- c. Trekking...
- d. Tourist guide.....

e. Others.....

6. Does your family benefited from tourists visiting this area?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know

7. In your opinion, what things attract the tourists in Kakrebihar and Bulbule tal?

- a. Natural beauty
- b. Local culture
- c. Religious monuments
- d. all of above

8. What are the things that you have benefited from the tourist?

- a. Income
- b. Get job opportunities
- c. Learn new things
- d. Enlargement of the market and increase in production
- e. Others

9. Do you feel any economic or cultural change due to tourism? If yes what and how they are?

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.....

10. In your opinion what are the potentialities of tourism in Surkhet?

In your opinion,

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.....
.....

11. In your opinion, what is lacking to develop Birendranagar as a well known tourism destination ?

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.....
.....
.....

12. What are your suggestion to increase the volume of tourists in Birendrangar?

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.....
.....

ANNEX-II

QUESTIONNAIRES FOR HOTBL/LODGE OPERATOR

Name of the Hotel / lodge.....

Name of the hotel / lodge owner.....

Establishment year.....

Situated in.....

Permanent address

1. How many staffs are there in your hotel/lodge?

.....
.....

2. How many rooms and beds are available in your hotel / lodge?

.....
.....

3. How many tourists visited / stayed in your hotel / lodge annually?

.....
.....

4. Which is the peak season of visiting tourists?

.....
.....

5. For how long the tourist stay in your hotel / lodge?

- a. One-two day
- b. Three-four
- c. Five-a week
- d. More than a week

6. What is your rent for room and beds?

- a. Double bed room.....
- b. Single bed room.....

7. What do you feel about the numbers of tourists in this area?

- a. Sufficient
- b. Insufficient
- c. Don't know

8. How much a tourist normally spends per day on average except room charge?

.....

.....

9. What is your opinion about the satisfaction of tourist after visiting this place?

- a. Fully satisfied
- b. Satisfied
- c. Dissatisfied
- d. Don't know

10. There is any changes in your economic status due to tourism?

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11. What are the major problems of tourism in Birendranagar?

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i2. Would you like to give some suggestions for the development of tourism Birendranagar?

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ANNEX- III
QUESTIONNAIRBS FOR TOURIST

Nationality.....:..... Age

Place of origin.... Occupation

Name: Sex

1. How do you know about Surkhet as a tourist destination?

.....
.....

2. Is it your first visit to Kakrebihar and Bulbule Tal?

.....
.....

3. If you are a frequent visitor which is the best season to visit Surkhet?

- a. Spring
- b. Summer
- c. Autumn
- d. Winter

4. What is the purpose of your visit?

- a. Pleasure
- b. Research
- c. Official works
- d. Other.

5. What mode of transportation you used to reach Surkhet?

- a. Local bus
- b. Car
- c. plane
- d. Motor cycle

e. Other if any....

6. Are you satisfied level available in Surkhet?7. How did you find the perception of tourists among the local people?

.....
.....

7. How do you evaluate the existence infrastructure facilities in this area?

- a. Positive
- b. Negative
- c. Not any
- c. Electricity

8. How do you evaluate the existence infrastructure facilities in this area?

Excellent: 1 Good:2 Don't know: 3

Bad:4 Very bad = 5

- a. Transportation (road condition) ()
- b. Communication ()
- d. Water supply ()
- e. Conservation of assets ()
- f. Security management ()
- g. Hotel and lodge ()
- h. Toilet facility ()
- i. Health service ()
- j. Cleanness of place ()
- k. Services ()
- l. Guest house ()
- m. Behavior of local people ()
- n. Local market/shops ()

9. Will you refer to visit Kakrebihar and Bulbule Tal to your acquaintances or others?

a. Yes

b. No

ANNEX IV

KEY INFORMANTS INTERVIEW GUIDELINE

1. What are the problems of tourism development in Surkhet ?
2. What are the ways to overcome those problems?
3. What are the potentiality of tourism in the area?
4. What is the situation of tourism development in the area?

ANNEX V

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDBLINE

1. What are the problems of tourism development in Surkhet ?
2. What are the ways to overcome those problems?
3. What are the potentiality of tourism in the area2
4. What is the situation of tourism development in the area?