

**PROSPECTS OF ECO-TOURISM IN NEPAL:
A CASE STUDY OF BASANTAPUR- GUPHAPOKHARI CORRIDOR
IN TEHRATHUM**

**A Thesis Submitted to
Central Department of Rural Development
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Partial Fulfillment of
the Requirements for the Degree of Masters of Arts in
Rural Development**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that thesis entitled **PROSPECTS OF ECOTOURISM IN NEPAL: A Case Study of Basantapur-Guphapokhari Corridor in Tehrathum**, submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I have made acknowledgement to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of preparing this thesis. This thesis have not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purposes. I assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in myfrom before.

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Date: 2073/11/20 B.S. (03/03/2017 A.D.)

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled **PROSPECTS OF ECOTOURISM IN NEPAL: A CASE STUDY OF BASANTAPUR-GUPHAPOKHARI CORRIDOR IN TEHRATHUM**, has been prepared by **Mr. Rajesh Dahal** under my guidance and supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master of Arts in Rural Development.

I hereby, recommend this thesis for its final evaluation and approval.

.....
Prof. Dr. Chandra Lal Shrestha
(Thesis Supervisor)

Date: 2073/11/20 B.S. (03/03/2017 A.D.)

APPROVAL LETTER

The thesis entitled **PROSPECTS OF ECOTOURISM IN NEPAL:A CASE STUDY OF BASANTAPUR-GUPHAPOKHARI CORRIDOR IN TEHRATHUM** submitted in practical fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree (MA) in Rural Development has been approved by the evaluation committee.

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Rajesh Dahal

ABSTRACT

*This thesis entitled **PROSPECTS OF ECOTOURISM IN NEPAL: A CASE STUDY OF BASANTAPUR-GUPHAPOKHARI CORRIDOR IN TEHRATHUM** has been prepared and presented as the academic requirement of the master degree program in Rural Development.*

Tourism has become an important sector in the economy of Nepal. It is the main source of foreign currency earning also, development of tourism sector has contributed to increase employment, income generation and to improve the balance of payment of the country. Nepal has become the attractive destination for ecotourism from all over the world. Basantapur area is being popular tourist destination in Nepal. It has great potentiality for the development of tourism. This study gives both positive and negative effects of tourism in society, economy and environment.

Basantapur area has great potentialities to develop ecotourism. It is rich in natural beauty and Limbu cultural. Sightseeing, Village tour, Bird watching, trekking, jungle of Rhododendron forest, etc. are the main potential tourism at the study area which attracts the domestic as well as foreign tourists. The number of tourist visiting from eastern part of Nepal is the highest. The majority of tourists arrive directly in Basantapur area by public bus, reserve bus by group of student, educational tour, private car and motorcycle. The accommodation facilities are found to be insufficient to serve the visiting tourists demand on the peak season essentially for the month of Falgun to Baishak and Aswinto Mangshir. Most of the tourist visiting this area for watch Rhododendron forest and ideal climate, environment. The duration of tourist stay in this area ranges from 1 day to 3 days.

Hotels are not benefited by all tourist, who are national and international. It is found that most of the visitors in this area are Nepali rather than foreigner. Foreign tourist were visit only main season of like Sept to November and June to August, this information provide by hotel ownes of Basantapur.

Ecotourism has brought positive impacts on economy, society and environment of Basantapurto Guphapokhari area. Ecotourism helps to develop the infrastructure like road, electricity, water supply, health, education and communication brings changes in living of people, behavior pattern of people, dresses, life style, language and food habit are positive impact of tourism. Also, the local people of the study area have got opportunities to learn the language of the different countries. Ecotourism has created employment opportunities for local people.

Disruption of the family and social relationship, hospitality, decline in morality and value, acculturation, alcoholism are negative impacts of tourism. It has also created serious environmental problems such as degradation of Rhododendron forest, water pollution, garbage, problem etc. However, negative impacts are not beyond control. They are manageable. They can be minimized by proper management of tourism activities and resources.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ACE	:	Adventure Culture and Ecotourism
AD	:	After the Death of Christ
ACA	:	Annapurna Conservation Area.
ACAP	:	Annapurna Conservation Area Project.
CNP	:	Chitwan National park
CTREDP	:	Circuit Trekking Route and Ecotourism Development Project.
CTREDP	:	Circuit Trekking route and Ecotourism Development Project
FM	:	Frequency Modulation
GSEP	:	GhaleKharkhaSickles Ecotourism Project
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
HMG	:	His Majesty of Government.
HAN	:	Hotel Association of Nepal
HDI	:	Human Development Index
ICIMOD	:	International Center for Mountain Development
INGO	:	International Non-Government Organization
IUCN	:	The world Conservation Union
MA	:	Master of Arts
MOCTCA	:	Ministry of culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
MTCA	:	Ministry of Torsion and civil Aviation
NEAP	:	National Ecotourism Accreditation Program.

NATO	:	Nepal Association of Tour Operator
NTB	:	Nepal Tourism Board.
NATTA	:	Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents
NGO	:	Non-Government Organization
TIES	:	The International Ecotourism Society.
TAAN	:	Travel Agent Association Nepal
TU	:	Tribhuvan University
UK	:	United Kingdom
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Program.
US	:	United State
USA	:	United State of America
VDC	:	Village Development Committee.
WTO	:	World Trade Organization
WWF	:	World Worldwide Fun

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background

Nepal is a small landlocked, Federal Republic country with an area of 1,47,181 sq. km. which lies in between of two Asian countries India and China. This is a 885 km length from east to west and 193 km. breadth from north to south. It occupies 0.003 percent of area of the world and 0.03 percent of Asia. It lies between 80⁰4' and 88⁰12' East longitude and 26⁰22 and 30⁰27' North latitude. Nepal has a wide altitude variation range from 60 m south to 8848 m in the north. Topographically, Nepal is divided into three regions i.e. Hill, Mountain and Terai. Climatically, Nepal is broadly divided into tropical, warm temperature, cool temperature, alpine and tundra. Nepal is such a country where 30 percent of people live below the poverty line (HDI, UNDP, 2010).

This small country Nepal is very rich in natural beauty. Nepal has many more beautiful types of scenery like bio-diversity, lake, white river, green forest, mountain waterfall, gorge cave, beautiful flowers orchid rhododendron etc. Nepal has become known to outside world as a country of Mt. Everest and the birth place of Lord Buddha which is gradually gained popularity among foreign visitors. Various traveler and writers have described Nepal is a country in the following way: 'Nature Amphitheatre', 'Land of heritage' and 'Eco-tourism' (TGDB, 2004: p90).

Offering excellent respite from city life, the diverse landscape includes terraced fields as well as the plains covered with different types of vegetation. The mixed pasture, hills of colorful rhododendron and jasmine, beautiful sunrise and sunset, friendly people and rich Limbu culture offer additional appeal. Basantapur also hosts trekkers on the way to Taplejung and Mt. Kanchanjha Mt. Khumbhakarna.

1.1.1. Basantapur Surrounding Areas and Guphapokhari Corridor

Basantapur is in the boarder of Hille, Dhankuta and Sankhuwashavaso, in regarding to ecotourism it is inseparable part of Dhankuta. Dharan-Dhankuta- Hile- Basantapur is a same single bus route. Basantapur Village Development Committee which is about 35 Km north from Dhankuta bazaar and about 22 Km north from Hile Bazaar is in Koshi zone at the Eastern Development Region of Nepal. Basantapur VDC has been encircled by the LambuKhola of Terhathum district in the east, Marekhkathare VDC of Dhankuta district and Tamaphok VDC of Sankhuwasabha district in the west, Tinjuree VDC of Sankhuwasabha in the north and Fulek and Dangapa VDC of Terhathum district in the south.

Since time immemorial, Basantapur Bazaar has remained as the transit point for Terahthum, Sankhuwasabha and some parts of Taplejung district for those crossing from Dharan and Dhankuta. Similarly, the trekking activity in most parts of the Eastern Region also commences or terminates at Basantapur VDC.

Basantapur being a little higher than Dhankuta Bazaar and the district headquarters Mayanglung, the climate is slightly cooler than these two places. However, it lies almost at the same elevation as of Hile Bazaar. The month of June to August will have the maximum precipitation totaling almost 2000 mm. The winter is cool and pleasant with the temperature in between 10 - 20° C as maximum and -2 - 3° C as minimum. Gurung, Rai, Limbu, Tamang, Magar, Brahmeen, Chhetry are the main inhabitants of this VDC.

However, Tharu, Newar, and Marwadi are also seen in and around Basantapur. Mostly they rely on agriculture. Basantapur and its surrounding areas have many tourism potentialities such as mountains, lakes, enchanting views, greenery's, sunrise and sun set views, good weather, hospitable people, and easy access which make this one of the potential tourism destination in the kingdom. The landscape at Basantapur and its nearby areas is diverse. Terrace slopes, and some flat lands, which are covered by different types of vegetation. Most of the lands are occupied by cash crops.

On the way to Basantapur from Sindhuwa (Dhankuta district), there exists a Pond known as Marg Pokhari. The natural pond on the lap of the hill is very attractive. Similarly about one and half hour walk from Basantapur a hill situated on the west and popularly known as Phattekdanda is equally beautiful for sun-rise and sun-set

view and also magnificent views of Himalayas. Basantapur Bazaar is linked with the border of other two districts Dhankuta and Sankhuwasabha. However, the entry point with the motorable road linking Terhathum district starts from Basantapur.

The road, which links Basantapur from Dhankuta, is in good condition. The other route from Basantapur goes further on to Terhathum the district headquarters Myanglung and to Chainpur and Arun valley the potential site for Arun III Hydro Project. Though the road from Dharan to Hile blacktopped, the road linking Basantapur from Hile was blacktopped but now there is no sign of blacktopped because of regular maintenance only graveled. Similarly, the roads joining the district headquarters that leads further on from Basantapur are earthen and still under construction. Because there is very little movement of tourists in this VDC there are no good tourism facilities. Small hotels and restaurants serving mostly local passers-by are the only facilities available in Basantapur. Most of the trekkers passing through this place use public land, which is closer to the market as camping site. Besides the natural attractions, Basantapur can add numerous tourism products at various places. Such products need to be developed in keeping with the natural environment, and according to the availability of the manpower and technical resources.

Existing Products at that place and surrounding areas are; Tinjure Danda, Milke Dada, Gupha Pokhari, Pattek Danda, Marg Pokhari Sukrabare Bazaar, Panchakanya Pokhari. Gupha Pokhari is a very famous tourist destination of eastern part of Nepal. Where their lots of tourist visit every year. This is also a transit point to go to Taplajung and Shankhawa and different famous destination. Near about Gupha Pokhari there is a hill-peak "Manchyam", which is same height as Tinjure Dada.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Tourism is one of the foremost economic activities around the world, is an agent of change and dynamic in nature. Nepal is a country with enough tourism resources. There are several attractions which are potential for the tourism development bringing foreign currency in national economy. For instance, beautiful and historic place in the world for majestic snowy Himalayan, beautiful lakes and rivers, panorama landscape and famous National Parks and reserves with verity of rare flora and fauna. Although

there are several attraction and scenic beauty mountain in Nepal there is no expected tourism transformation in the country is a problem of the study.

Most of the regions of the country cover by mountain and hill. In this situation mountaineering development is significant for the development of nation. Population mobility can brings change; development is not possible without mobility of local people i.e. development is not possibility without participation of local people. But productive people of the rural areas are out migrating either to urban areas or to foreign country for their occupation and employment which is a problem of the study. Lack of awareness and value identification we lost our belief, customs, traditions. Cultural heritage are the civilization of past and windows of the future. Preservation and conservation of the cultural, historical and natural environment is essential for the sustainable development. But nowadays these assets are going to be damage which is a problem of the study. The main problems of the study are summarized as follows:

- a. What is the socio-cultural situation of the study area?
- b. Is Study Area potential for tourismdevelopment?
- c. Is tourism development of the study area sustainable?
- d. Is Their Natural resource management is good condition? ,
- e. Is there any rural development practices?
- f. Is Government has prepare any development plan?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The general objectives of the present study are as follows:

- To examine thepossibilities, potentiality, opportunity of ecotourismsurrounding tourist village trekking trial.
- To assess problems and challenges of these area.
- To explore the appropriate program and institutional arrangement for the development of eco-tourism in the selected area.

1.4 Rational of the Study

The eco-tourism plays great role for the development of mountain village. Rural people of Nepal out migrate for their occupation and employment. They could not achieve national goal without mobilizing of rural productive group. Tourism is foremost economy change all over the world. Rural tourism is relatively new concept in the field of tourism which can bring change to rural life standard and farm, but it may also bring negative impact in any destination area. Human resources are powerful and potential sources for development they can bring change. Labors migration has been important source of the livelihood for mountain people in Nepal as elsewhere this revenue will expand further with the decline in substance agriculture. As an expositive of natural grandeur mountain area have much potential for tourism activities (Gurung, 2005:134). The main issue of watershed area management thus involvement of the activities of local people (Paul, 1987 : 219).In this background to develop the study area as protected area and rural development through tourism development this study is significant.

Tourism brings both positive and negative impact on society and culture. Mobility which is prerequisite of tourism is necessary for contact of different culture and society. That mobility brings change as well as population growth of the destination. The growth of population influence the consumption patterns and associated economic activities is placing great stress as the earth's environment on the environment have led to land degradation (Champain, et al 2000 : 17). As the result of population growth, farming, logging, construction, overgrazing by livestock, off road vehicle, deliberate burring of vegetation, and other activities that destroyed plant cover alive soil vulnerable to erosion, which makes water pollutant and the destruction of natural lake and pound (Miller, 2002: 223), this kind of problem above mentioned also found on river, pounds, and lakes of Nepal. Similarly TMJ is also not far from these above mentioned problems. Different reports show so. In this background this study is significant for the sustainable rural tourism development on

the study area. At last this study will help to know and provide essential information for the problem solving and guideline to the related area.

Ecotourism, in Nepal has become two decades old. As it was initiated in Nepal since early 1990s, more strictly by 1992, when a model ecotourism project CTREDP was designed to be implemented in Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA). During early years, ecotourism was implemented with high enthusiasm as it was the high priority of government as well as that of private sector too. However, in the later years ecotourism could not run with the notion that was at the beginning. (Bhatta,2015: p. 243.)

1.5 Limitation of the Study

This research on tourism in a particular place may be done covering various aspects such as environmental socio-cultural and historical aspect etc. But this study is informed of multi project scope. The limitations are as follows.

- The study has cost and time limitation which cannot be ignored. The study is completed within the time limit.
- Sample size undertaken might have its own limitation. The information may or may not be enough and the conclusion drawn may or may not be accurate.
- As well as the study has covered only some Laliguras Municipality and surrounding VDC.
- The researcher has tried to cover ecotourismdestinationarea so the study is more specific.
- This study has focus on the ecotourism and potential of the study area.
- This study has focus on the prospect ofecotourism development of the study area.
- This study was applied as similar constraint for generalization.

Like other research, this research for M.A. dissertation, this is not free from its limitation. This study confines on to explore the, natural assets of the study area.

1.6 Organization of the Study

The study is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter deals with General Background, Development of Tourism in Nepal, Statement of the Problem, Rational of the Study, Objectives of the Study and Organization of the Study. Following this introductory chapter, review of literature is presented in chapter two. Chapter three describes the Research Methodology, which includes Introduction, Research Design, Nature and Source of Data, Sampling and Sample Size, Data Collection Techniques and Tools, and Data Analysis and Interpretation. Chapter Four examines the Introduction of the Study Area which includes Physical Background, Development of Tourism in Basantapur-Guphapokhari corridor and the. Chapter Five includes the Data Analysis and Interpretation. Chapter Six describes the Prospects of ecotourism in Basantapur – Guphapokhari corridor. The Last seven chapters consists the Summary of the Findings, Conclusion and Recommendations.

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CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 General Review

Review literature enables to explore the research problems on different variables. It may also guide to new researcher to gain the technique of further researcher procedures. The review literature process can be helpful to plan and conduct the research systematically and scientifically. In order to make the study more reliable and comprehensive few available, articles, bulletins, reports and books and others relevant studies have been reviewed.

World tourism organization(WTO) has defined "Tourism" imprecise tend as "Any person who travels to a country other than that is which he/she has his/her the usual residence, but outside his/her usual environment, for a period of at other than the exercise of an activity, remuneration from within the country visited. Term includes people traveling for, leisure, recreation and holidays, visiting friends, relatives, business and professional, health treatment, religion, pilgrimages and other purposes." (WTO 1996:24)

The tourism society in Britain has also attempted to clarify the concept and in 1976 defined tourism as: "Tourism is the temporary short term movement of people to destinations outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at these destinations, it includes movement for all purpose as well as day visit or excursions."

In the industrial revolution, travel is primarily relating to the trade the desire for military conquest and the performance of group rites. It is principally the traders, in the early historical period, who blaze the trail by establishing national trade routes and communication which later extended throughout the region and finally to other continents. Thus, it is trade that first motivated travel in the real sense. Later the advent of modern means of transport and communication has uplifted tourism by facilitating and encouraging travelling. This developed form of traveling in modern terminology as known as "tourism" today mass tourism started in Europe only in late

19th century but today it is a worldwide reality, today tourism revolution is sweeping the globe, a revolution promising much as delivering a great deal. Travel denotes "Journeys undertaken from one place to another for any purpose including journey to work and as part of employment, as part of leisure and to take up residence. All tourism includes some travel but not all travel is tourism.

Gyanendra Ratna Tuladhar (1993) in his Ph.D. thesis aimed to study the development of international tourism in Nepal, his main findings were, tourism is a subjective phenomenon and equally valid in resource management. Visitors continuously seek to see the combination of unusual events from more and more exotic land. In this case, Nepal is fascinating, exciting, mystic and exotic venue. For the mountain lovers, it is a red dreamland. Practically tourism is a dream industry, in this business one sells fantasy, sky is the only limit. Turning visions into missions is the prime key to success in tourism which is never ending and ever changing.

Rudra Prasad Upadhyaya (2003) in his Ph.D. dissertation entitled "Tourism as a Leading Sector in Economic Development of Nepal" has opined that many countries have made various attempts to promote tourism industry as a means of economic progress. The economy of Nepal lacks- in terms industrialization, some further alternative is to be found which can induce the process of industrialization to put the path of rapid economic development. To study the scope for global linkage of the Nepalese economy with special reference to tourism. He has suggested that tourism sector has the potential to link the backward Nepalese economy with the forward economics and to induce the other sector of the economy

Nature tourism denotes all tourism directly dependent on the use of natural resources in a relatively undeveloped state, including scenery, topography, water features, vegetation and wild life. Thus it includes hunting countryside motor biking and white water rafting, even if the use of natural resources by the tourist is neither wise nor sustainable(Butler 1992, Ceballos Lascurain 1986). Like traditional tourism this type of tourism is negatively influenced by various external factors. Remarkably, this accounts for its instability as a source of income.

Meanwhile, traditional mass tourism continues to contribute to the degradation of many areas of natural and cultural significance, entailing the loss of biological and

cultural diversity, as well as of important sources in income, clearly, what is needed is an environmentally responsible approach to tourism or “sustainable tourism”.

Sustainable Tourism, in emulation of its name scale, was and still is broadly conceived as tourism that does not threaten economic, social, cultural or environmental integrity of the tourist destination even in the long term. (Butler 1993, as cited by Blamey in Encircle. eco. P- 30) and as far as the definition is concerned WTO defines sustainable tourism “ Sustainable Tourism Development meets the needs of present generation tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for future”. Further, sustainable tourism refers to development in such a manner and at such a scale that it remains viable over an indefinite period. It should neither degrade nor modify the existing environment, rather maintaining ecological balance, biological diversity, non duration of product quality, conserving national heritage, maintaining cultural integrity and promoting responsive and value based tourism are its characteristic features and poverty reduction is its priority .(WTO 2002).(Bhatta ; 2015 P, 21)

2.2 Evaluation of Ecotourism

Evolution of Ecotourism, however, it is considered that it has been attached to remote past that is the origins of nature travel. To the origin of nature travel in detail we have to go to distant past. As Lascurain is of the view that Herodotus was one of the first nature tourists who visited Black Sea, Egypt, Athens and the Aegean Sea. (Lascurain 1996. P.22) Records of his visits show that he was interested not only in history but also in geography, the natural environment and ancient moments. Aristotle also practiced nature tourism.

In the later times Marco Polo and others visited various new lands, they discovered. More recently Charles De La Condamine, James Cook, Lois- Antoine De Bougainville, Charles Darwin, Alfred Russel, Wallace are among the dedicated personalities who visited remote areas with the purpose of discovering, studying and describing landscape, life forms and different cultures.

However, nature travel cannot be considered to have truly developed until the late 19th century. During the 19th century was essential a quest for spectacular and unique

scenery. During this time, the National Park concepts were created, and while the founders of National Parks wanted to protect the environment, rather than provided resorts. Not until the mid-20th century worldwide travel became possible for more than just elite. The technological revolution in communication and transport made possible trips to remote destinations.

After the World War II tourism exploded worldwide giving rise to mass tourism which deteriorated the image of tourism. As Lascurain points out, in the 1950s and 60s Americans became the “ugly tourist” worldwide. In the 70s it was the turn of Germans to be seen as the ugly tourist in Europe and East Africa and in the 90s, the Japanese. The ugly tourism phenomenon, as he indicates, is not based on actual personality traits, but rather is a result of the feeling of invasion by people who are different to the host community. It does not even require different ethnic groups. It is part of the nature of mass tourism (or is it simply human nature? he questions). And it has been accompanied by over development and local disruption of cultural values and economies such that tourism has developed a very bad name indeed (Butler 1992, as cited by Lascurain).

As mass tourism exploded in the 20th century, another type of tourist emerged with different reputation. In late 60s public concern about the environment increases particularly in the industrialized countries; conservation organizations became active; formed to lobby governments to set aside land not just for the tourists but to preserve the natural integrity of the whole ecosystems. The whale watching industry developed in USA keeping in view the world with depletion of whale population. Consequently, in 1966, Humpback whale was made a wholly protected species, followed by protection of blue whale in 1967. This period marks the birth of ecotourism (Butler 1992). Thus, it can be said that ecotourism phenomenon; in modern times, started by the end of late 60s to early 70s.

2.3 Definitions of Ecotourism

As far as the definitions are concerned, ecotourism is defined differently by different scientists and organizations. Over hundreds of definitions have been developed, since Ceballos Lascurain coined it, but universally accepted definition has not been stipulated so far. Scientists are not unanimous on it. However, first formal definition of ecotourism is credited to Ceballos Lascurain (1987). According to him ecotourism is

“Travelling to relatively undisturbed natural areas with specific objective of studying, admiring and enjoying scenery and its wild animals and plants as well as existing cultural accepts found in these areas”.

IUCN’s Ecotourism program has defined (similar to that of Lascrain) ecotourism as “ Environmentally responsible travel and visitation to relatively undisturbed natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature (and any accompanying cultural features-both past and present) that promotes conservation, has low visitor impact and providers for beneficially active socio- economic involvement of local population “.

The international Ecotourism Society’s (TIES) definition is similar “Ecotourism is responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of local people”.

Richardson (1993) defines ecotourism (which is the earlier definition) as “Ecologically sustainable tourism in natural areas that interprets local environment and culture furthers the tourists understanding of them, fosters conservation and adds to the wellbeing of local community.”

National Ecotourism Strategy of Australia defines ecotourism as “Nature Based Tourism that involves education intereston of the natural environment and is managed to be ecologically sustainable”.

Tickle(1994) defines ecotourism as – “Travel to enjoy the world’s amazing diversity of natural life and human culture without causing damage to either “. (Encyclo. ECO 2001).

In 2002, Quebec, Declaration (Ecotourism Year 2002;UNDP, WTO) suggested that 5 district criteria area be used to define ecotourism, namely; nature based product, minimal impact management, and environmentaleducation, contribution to conservation and contribution to community. (Fennel 2007).

However, in all the definitions above sustainability, conservation (of both nature and culture) and local people are at the focus; which are actually the basic elements of ecotourism.

Farrel and Runyan 1991(cited by Lascurain 1996) distinguish between nature tourism and ecotourism by describing the later as ‘more exclusively purposeful and focused on the enhancement or maintenance of natural systems’. Thus, we can distinguish between, for example traditional tour operators and principled ecotourism operators. The former frequently show no commitment to conservation by merely offering clients an opportunity to experience exotic places and people before they change or disappear. Ecotourism operators on the other hand, have begun a partnership with protected area managers and local people with the intention of contributing to the protection of wild lands and local development, and the hope of improving mutual understanding between residents and visitors.(Wallace 1992, cited by Lascurain 196)

2.4 Status of Ecotourism in the World

Ecotourism today is a global phenomenon. It is not restricted to any particular region of the world but has been expanded worldwide, which makes it necessary to have an over view of ecotourism world over and this marvelous job is done by E. Carter. Although a global overview of ecotourism may be over generalization, as Carter says.” A global overview of the state of ecotourism in the world regions could not only result in over generalization, but also prove to be a counterproductive exercise”. However, it give a tentative picture of *state of nature / eco-tourism* across the different regions of the world (Encyclo.Eco. p. 85). About why it may be over generalization, cater gives mainly three reasons for this.

- First, there are working differences in approaches to ecotourism between continents.
- Second, within individual continents, significant differences exist between countries and regions.
- Third, significant differences also occur within individual countries.

However, Cater is of the opinion that the regional survey provides a useful framework for highlighting similarities and differences with regard to ecotourism experience across the globe.

Thus, to overview the status of ecotourism worldwide, this regional survey, may be appropriate method *and the survey edited by carter is produced below with slight modifications received from other sources.*

In this survey, six regions are identified to cover all continents of the world and these regions have been described in detail separately. The survey is edited by Carter but contributors are different for each region (E Carter, Encyclo. Eco. P. 85) this survey, it is expected, presents a faint picture of status (position) of ecotourism across the globe. Below is the brief survey of world regions (edited by Carter Encyclo. Eco.) Which depicts the status of ecotourism worldwide.

Altogether, there are six regions all over the globe for this overview. These are as below:-

1. Kenya and South Africa
2. Anglo- America
3. Asia
4. Oceania
5. Europe
6. Latin America and the Caribbean.

(Bhatta; 2015,P42)

2.5 Principal of Ecotourism

The National Ecotourism Accreditation Program (NEAP) Australia recognizes following eight principles as eligibility principles.

NEAP; Eligibility Principles

1. Focuses on personally experiencing nature in way that lead to greater understanding and appreciation.
2. Integrates best practice for understand nature into each experience.
3. Represents best practice for environmentally sustainable tourism.
4. Positively contributes to the conservation of natural area.
5. Provides, constructive ongoing contributions to local communities.
6. Is sensitive to, interprets and involves different cultures, particular indigenous cultures.
7. Consistently meets customer expectations.
8. Is marketed accurately and leads to realistic expectations.

Similarly Wight 1994 recognizes ecotourism principles a bit differently.

Wight 1998

1. It should not degrade the resources and should be developed in an environmentally sound manner.
2. It should provide long-term benefits to the resource, to the local community and industry.
3. It should provide first-hand, participatory and enlightening experiences.
4. It should involve education among all parties; local communities, government, non-government organization, industry and tourists (before, during and after the trip)
5. It should encourage all-party recognition of the intrinsic values of resource.
6. It should involve acceptance of the resource in its own terms, and in recognition of its limit, which involves supply-oriented management.
7. It should promote understanding and involve authorships between many players. Which could involve government, non-governmental organizations, industry, scientists and locals (both before and during operations).
8. It should promote moral and ethical responsibilities and behavior towards the natural and cultural environment by all players.(Bhatta; 2015, P27)

Wallace and pierce suggest 6 principles for tourism to be true ecotourism (Fennel 2007 P. 24)

1. It entails a type of use that minimizes negative impacts to the environment and to local people.
2. It increases the awareness and understanding of an area's natural and cultural systems and the subsequent involvement of visitors in issues affecting those systems.
3. It contributes to the conservation and management of legally protected and other natural areas.
4. It maximizes the early and long-term participation of local people in the decision making process that determines the kind and amount of tourism that should occur.

5. It directs economic and other benefits to local people that complement rather than overwhelm or replace traditional practices (farming, finishing, social system, etc)
6. It provides special opportunities for local people and nature tourism employees to utilize and visit natural areas and learn more about the wonders that other visitors come to see.

Since 1992, a number of ecotourism programs have been launched in Nepal. In this direction GSEP was launched by ACAP in Ghalekharka and sickles area in 1992, popularly known as Circuit Trekking route and Ecotourism Development Project(CTREDP) which is perhaps the first ecotourism project in Nepal.(Bhatta 2015; P143).

Rural development is as important as urban development. Alleviating the hardships of the rural people is fundamental to rural development. Efforts at developing the rural areas are aimed at creating industries and employment opportunities. Any initiative towards this end would be welcomed with open arms in Nepal. This would also reduce the population density in the cities. They would be able to prosper in the village itself without having to think about migrating somewhere for their livelihood.

Rural development in simple terms can be defined as the process of improving the quality of life and economy in the remote and rural parts of the country. These rural areas may be isolated and sparsely populated, but, in most cases, they offer a picturesque natural setting with a rich culture. These areas have generally been dependent on agriculture and natural resources for their economic upturn. Now the local communities are taking a wider perspective, where they are seeking economic growth through tourism.(Rural Development Through Ecotourism :Reagan Bhandari)

Economics of tourism in Nepal (1981) is one of the studies done by Development Research and Communication Group. This study shows that tourism is one of the crucial, potential and fastest growing sectors of the Nepalese economy. The continues increase in the volume of tourist flow has direct and indirect impacts on the process of Nepal's economic development. Despite enormous potentiality tourism has very late beginning in Nepal. It was not until the 1950s that the country had started witnessing the development of tourism in an organized manner. The study has worked out tourist

arrival and tourists expenditure. Of the total tourists nearly 80-87 percent was found visiting Nepal for pleasure purposes followed by trekking and mountaineering purposes. Almost 85.96 percent of the tourist visiting Nepal were found traveling by air. Of them 51 percent came via India, 28 percent via Bangkok and 12.5 percent via Dacca. Both Indian and non-Indian tourists have a seasonal bias, with a relatively lower preference for visiting Nepal during rainy season.

Tourism and Economic Development in Nepal (2006), written by Manoj Kumar Agrawal and Rudra Prasad Upadhyay is a comprehensive book in Nepalese tourism literature. This book has attempted to find out role of the tourism sector in economy of Nepal. This has been attempted with the view to find out activities of the tourism sector in broader perspective to speed up the process of economic development of this Himalayan country. It has also been found that through the promotion of Nepalese sector the Nepalese economy can be move faster on the path of globalization. It implies that tourism sector has the potential to link the backward Nepalese economy with the forward economies of the world. On the whole it can be argued that the tourism sector has the potential to induce the other sectors of the economy. In a way the tourism sector could be considered to play the role of leading sector in the economy. Tourism sector has strong inducement effects on other activities of the economy. Besides, the foreign exchange earning from tourism has been found to be an important determinant of governments development expenditure and regular expenditure (Agrawal and Upadhyay, 2006; 313-322).

Tourism is one of the major sources of revenue in Nepal. The gross foreign exchange earnings from tourism stood at US \$ 192.8 million, which represented an increase of 80.5 percent over the earnings of 2002 contribution of tourism to the GDP of the nation was 2.6 percent and it also provides 8.2 percent of total foreign exchange earnings fiscal year 2002/03 (Nepal Tourism Statistics 2003, HMG, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation).

According to Chettri, P.B. has studied "The Effect of Tourism on Culture and Environment, a Case Study of Chitwan Sauraha." This study, expressed that after the establishment of Royal Children National Park in 1973, there has been considerable activities and around the village of Sauraha, which has brought a lot of transformation in the socio-economic and culture life and activities of the villagers.

B.M. Dahal published articles (June 22-29, 1997) on the topic "Taking Tourists to Villages" village tourism is coming up as a new concept for the promotion and development of tourism industry in Nepal, and it can give an appropriate momentum to the tourism sector. This concept is more relevant in the context of a country like Nepal which is made up of pristine village and diverse ethnic groups with typical and unique culture and traditional life style. A part from this, village tourism is possible without building up any concrete infrastructures. So, it is a meaningful proposition which can give a boost to the Nepalese tourists.

The word 'tourism' is derived from French word 'tourism' consists of all those aspects of travel through which people learn about each other's way of life. Tourism is defined and explained various ways; according to Hunziker and Krapf: it is the sum of the phenomenon and relationship arising from travel and stay of non-residents in so far as they do not lead to permanent residents and has not connected with any earning activities. It means tourism is a temporary travel and staying in any place by people. It is temporary movement of people to destinations outside their normal places of work and residence. The activities undertaken during their stay in those destinations facilities catch their needs. To be tourist there should be journey from own native place. As the dictionary of universe, the tourist is a person who made journey for the fun of curiosity, for the fun of traveling or just to tell others that he has traveled, in this way tourist is that who travel and goes to journey without their compulsion for satisfaction and pleasure (Upadhyaya, 2006).

According to Bhatia (2000 AD), tourism is also being recognized as a source of employment, it is highly labor intensive industry. Being a service industry, it takes employment opportunities for local population. It has economic importance helps to reduce economic inequalities. It enables the wealth earned in the part of the country to be transferred in part to another.

According to Robinson, the attractions of tourism are, largely, geographical in their character. Location and accessibility are important. Physical spaces may be thought as a component for. There are those who seek the wilderness and solitude, scenario or landscape is a compound of landforms, water and the vegetation and has an aesthetic and recreational value. Climatic conditions, especially in relation to the amount of sunshine, temperature and participation are of special significance. Animal life may

be an important attraction, firstly, in relation to birds watching or viewing game in their natural habitat; secondly for sporting purposes, e.g. fishing and hunting. Man's impact on the natural landscape in the form of his settlements historical monuments and archeological remaining is also a major attraction. Finally, a variety of cultural features ways of folklore, an artistic expression, etc. provides valuable attractions to many.

Tourism sector covers very vague scope of traveling activities. So there are various kinds of purposes, style and activities in that field. Those kinds of activities are classified as types of tourism. Although there is no one accepted way of classifying different types of tourism, one could classifying tourism into four general types namely leisure tourism (shopping, general observation), recreational tourism (mountaineering, fishing, trekking, rafting etc.), cultural tourism (archaeological, historical sites) and eco-tourism (birds and wild life watching, photography, scenery, scientific tourism etc.) (ICIMOD, 1995). A type of tourism is classified as Dahal Om Prasad in his work 'Rural tourism' (2060 BS) as international tourism, domestic tourism. Tourism also classified based on purpose and destination. It is classified as 1) Eco-tourism 2) Recreational tourism 3) Cultural and Religious tourism 4) Historical tourism 5) Agro-tourism 7) Health tourism 8) Sports tourism 9) Business and conference tourism 10) Space tourism etc.

Yojan Raj Satyal (1998) in his profile 'Tourism in Nepal' has classified the Nepalese tourism in six categories:

1. Pleasure tourism
2. Recreational tourism
3. Sporting tourism
4. Cultural tourism
5. Business or technical tourism
6. Conference tourism

However, Ministry of culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MOCTCA) recognized six categories or purpose of tourism namely-pleasure/holiday, trekking and mountaineering, business, pilgrimage, official and convention/conference.

A study on "A Study of Tourist As a Leading Sector in Economic Development in Nepal" by Upadhyay (2003) states that Nepalese economy is moving gradually on the path of economic development. Recently, there has been improving economic performance particularly in the last two decades. Pace of the agricultural sector has been showed down whereas that of the industry and services gone up. The analysis has revealed that the tourism sector has been improving its significance in the economy. It has been estimated that the activities of the economy. His analysis shows that the foreign exchange earnings from tourism have been found to be an important determinant of government's developmental expenditure and regular expenditure.

2.6 Biodiversity

Biodiversity(Natural resources) make Nepal a destination of prime attraction in the world. The country has an impressive biodiversity; its Annapurna region is one of the biodiversity hot spot of the world. From the biodiversity point of view Nepal is a country having 0.03% of earth's surface where 1.3% of the species of plants and animals, hold in 49th position in the World Biodiversity Index (Groombridge and Jenkins 2002; cited by Jha et al) in the richness of flowering plant species Nepal holds 27th position it the world and 10th position in Asia (Bhatta, 2015, P97).

Although ,only 0.03% of land mass, on floral diversity Nepal harbors 2.36% of angiosperms,5.29% gymnosperms,4.72% pteridophytes, 6.9% bryophytes,2.8% fungi,2.5% algae and 3.8% lichens(Jha et al cities Shrestha K.K. Devkota a, Prasad V.N. Adhikari M.K. Oley 2008, Pradhan N, Thapa R.) In case of floral diversity, the distinguishing feature of biodiversity of Nepal is that vegetarian types range from tropical to alpine (Bhatta, 2015, P97).

2.7 Natural Tourism in Nepal

Nepal is, no doubt, rich in natural and cultural resources. But a careful study of tourism statistics shows that the development of nature tourism remained on the

background till the decade of 1970s despite the positive publicity generated by the ascent of Sagarmatha(Mt. Everest) in 1953 (Zurick 1992 as cited by Weaver,p141) the growth of nature tourism remained impeded. It is perhaps due to lack of infrastructure in the country.

The development of nature tourism could be seen during the mid 1970s when the visits to natural areas increased. The statistics shows that there were only 8 trekkers and mountaineers recorded in 1966. While the number reached to 556 by 1970 and till the 1974 the number crossed 12000 marks. These substantial increases in visitation levels during the 1970s induced the growth of nature tourism in the country. The number of trekkers/ mountaineers reached 33,000 in 1986(15% of total stay over), the number reached to 88000 in next ten years and by the year 2000 total number of trekkers/ mountaineers (excludingvisits to Terai protected areas) reached 118,000 marks (27.4% of total arrivals) however, the number declined to 59,000 by 2002, (which is 21.5% of total international arrivals) (Bhatta; 2015, P117).

In recent years trekking/mountaineering consists of 15% in average. However, during 2010-2013 it is fluctuating around 13% But the statistics shows that visit to natural areas (including Terai protected areas, wildlife viewing) is consistently increasing as 390,690Visitors visited protected areas in 2013, which shows the increased interest of visitors to nature/ Ecotourism.(Bhatta; 2015, P117)

2.8 Current Status of Ecotourism

Nepal is a natural ecotourism destination. It is among the six most popular ecotourism destinations in Asia and pacific (Encyclo Eco. P. 128). South Asia is the most popular ecotourism destination in Asian continent, next to south East Asia (Encyclo Eco. p130). In south Asia too major interest lies in the Himalayan region and Nepal occupies the central Himalayan position. The region as a whole comprises 2720 km. long arc of alpine terrain (Weaver 2001, p136)

Mountain trekking is the main tourism activity in the region. Trekking is synonym to ecotourism in south Asia and same is true for Nepal too, since Nepal is leader in trekking in south Asia. The other tourism types which are equivalent to ecotourism, comprises visit to national Parks and other protected areas for wildlife viewing.

However, whole tourism scenario is dominated by mountain tourism and wildlife viewing. Trekking is the activity concentrated along the Himalayan range and Terai protected areas.

In regard to ecotourism, as Weaver says “ *Nepal has relatively large ecotourism industry (Weaver 2001, p.135) It constitutes ‘trekkers’, ‘mountaineers’ , ‘wildlife tourists’, and other market riches (Weaver P. 142) . But, the formal distinctions between ‘trekkers’ and ‘mountaineers’ have not been made.* clearly trekkers and their alters constitute a crucial force in the Nepalese tourism industry. Trekkers are inevitably attracted to the *landscape and biodiversity*. These two constitute the main resource base of nature (ecotourism) tourism in Nepal.”

The analysis about the relationship between tourism earning and economic growth exhibited the significant relationship between the variables. Using the concepts and methods of the unit root test, co-integration, Granger casualty teat and error correction method, the study confirms that there exists short-term dynamic relationship as well as long- run integrating relationship between tourism income and GDP. It is consistent with the results of Balaguer and Cantavella-Jorda(2002) that used the data for Spain and also with Khilil et.al(2004) that used data for Pakistan. In addition, the evidence seems to verify the notion that tourism growth granger causes economic growth and tourism growth. It is clear that tourism growth increases economic activities and economic growth also facilitates for the expansion of tourism activities in the country. Our findings suggest that policy should be focused to develop tourism sector in order to achieve high economic growth. (Tourism and economic growth in Nepal:Gautam Bishnu2011 P;Ph.DP.27).

2.9 ACE Tourism

Although trekking is the main ecotourism activity in the Himalayan region, but it is not the trekking alone, that represents ecotourism in Nepal. Actually, the ecotourism in Nepal is the mixture of adventure, culture and ecotourism blended together. The ecotourism in Nepal is the hybridization of adventure tourism, trekking and culture tourism. Since mountaineering is the non-trekking ecotourism and wildlife in near to ecotourism. It is adventure tourism, culture tourism and ecotourism which overlap

each other and this blended form, (Fennel termed is ACE tourism as cited by Weaver) is called ACE tourism (like in USA).

Figure 3.1: ACE Tourism

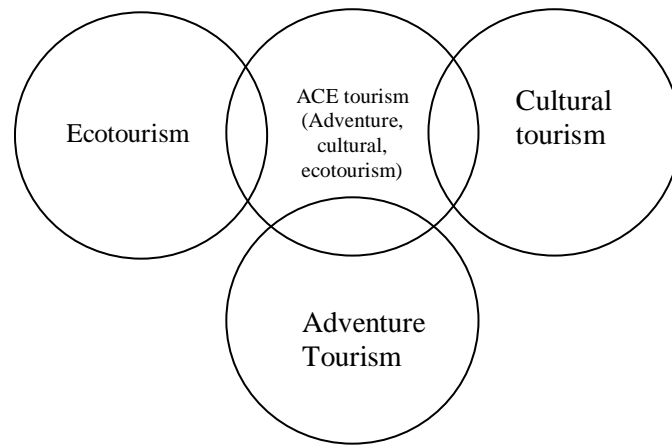


Fig 6.4 ACE tourism; source (Weaver 2003, Encyclo.Eco.)

Since the adventure tourists e.g. rafters and trekkers who visit Nepal are also interested in indigenous culture and two are often indistinguishable from each other, all three types of tourism are mixed together. It is very difficult to demarcate which tourists are ecotourists. But one thing is clear that it is very difficult to find 'hard' ecotourists in Nepal and most of the tourist visit Nepal are, in actual sense 'soft' ecotourists and only soft ecotourism could be successful in Nepal like Kenya and Costa Rica. South tourism, as Weaver termed it 'mass ecotourists'.

This overlapping is also in the destinations like Muktinath and Gosaikund area where ecotourists and pilgrims both are interested in culture, nature(environment), religion and other traditions.(Bhatta; 2015, P118)

As far the '**Spatial Distribution**' of ecotourism and ecotourists is concerned, trekking activity is concentrated to 3 major Himalayan regions (now extended to other regions too)and terai procted areas. It is evident that ecotourism, at present, is spatially distributed along these regions.(Bhatta; 2015, P119).

In recent years, statistics (2009-2013,) show that 13% of tourists (in average) are trekkers, while about 65% visitors visit protected areas. That is the combination of

trekking, jungle safari, rafting and other nature and adventure tourism activities. Thus the combination of visitors to N.P.s, trekking constitute nature/ecotourists in Nepal. In 2013, out of 797,616 total arrivals 390,690 visitors visited protected areas and 102001 to trekking which makes 492,691 total visitors to the nature/ecotourists that is about 80% of total international arrivals in Nepal.

Thus, it is evident that ecotourism in Nepal is spatially differentiated into two main regions; one is the Himalayan region (concentrated mainly in three major trekking regions Annapurna, Sagarmatha and Langtang) and other is Terai region, that encompasses the wilderness tourism; visit to protected areas particularly for the purpose of wildlife viewing.

For wildlife viewing it is Terai region that constitutes ecotourism zone in the country. The Terai region constitutes a number of protected areas but the ecotourism activities, at present, are centered mainly in Chitwan N.P. The no of visitors received to CNP(in 2013) is the highest number of tourists (153,749) of all protected areas. The establishment of specialized wildlife viewing sites within park such as Tigertops, Elephant Camp and Gaijda wildlife Camp are attracting high income visitors in the park. The tourism in other Terai protected areas is gradually improving in current years. It can be further improved, if the infrastructures developed there, in future. The protected areas like Bardia National Park and Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve may best be developed as significant ecotourism destinations.

Nepal tourism policy 2009 identifies tourism sector as an important vehicle for economic and social development. Following directions set by the policy effort has been put for development and expansion of tourism activities quality improvement for tourism service increasing revenue and expansion of expansion opportunities to improve the living standard of Nepalese people. Vision 2020 of tourism envisions increasing tourist arrival to two million and tourism related employment to one million.

Trends of tourist arrival was in increase order up to which declined their after. Year 2015 seems most socking having decreasing by 32 percent compared to 2014.

Out of total tourist arrivals, excluding Indian citizens arrived through land transportations, five countries 48 percent. The Proportions of tourist from these countries are; India (14%), China (12%), USA (10%), Srilanka (8%), and Thailand (6%). Higher no of arrival is observed in March following general trend but sharply declined in May contradicting to the past. By sex male (54%) and by age category 35-45 (29%) are following past trend of higher share.(P. 11; Nepal tourism static 2015).

Ministry of cultural and tourism; annual development program 2073/74 has mention following tourism related development program which are listed below.

1. Tinjure R. R. garden and Kailash hill steps foot path improvement program (Laligurans Nagarpalika). Budgeted amount Rs.7,00,000.
2. Hatrung Jharana area. Budgeted amount Rs.1,000,000.
3. Tourism infrastructure development program; Jaljale VDC Shiva Panchyan Mandir Budgeted amount Rs.5,00,000.
4. Renovation of Tashidhing Gumba of Shreejung VDC.and make tourism destination. Budgeted amountRs.5,00,000.
5. Construct Patlepokhari Sahidpark foot trial of Laliguras Nagarpalika.Budgeted amount Rs.10,00,000.
6. Construct Basantapur Park and Phatak Dada foot trial of Laliguras Nagarpalika. Budgeted amount Rs.10,00,000. (Annual Development program, Ministry of Cultural and Tourism, 2073/74, pp. 7-29)

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Research methodology is the most important aspect of research work and away to systematically solve research problem. In order to achieve the objectives of the study. It is needed to adopt certain methodology which is explained in the following paragraphs presented below:

3.2 Research Design

The present study was based on descriptive and exploratory type. Both qualitative as well as quantitative approach was adopted and the study has focused on obtaining and revealing information about existing condition of socio-economic and environmental impact of tourism in study area. For this fulfillment of the study probability sampling as well as non-probability sampling methods were adopted. Specifically, simple random sampling and purposive sampling method were used under the probability sampling and non-probability sampling methods respectively. Structured questionnaire was used to collect the qualitative and quantitative information.

3.3 Nature and Source of Data

This study has been based on the case study. So the primary data were mainly used and secondary data was also of great importance in this study. The primary data were collected by interview, observation, case study, household survey methods from hotel and lodges owners, tourist(domestic no foreign tourist has found), local people, different community, New Town Project Coordination Office, Laliguras Municipality (former Basantapur and other four VDCs Solma VDC, Sungnam VDC, Dagapa VDC, Phulek VDC) and Nepal Tourism Board statistics 2015.

The secondary data were extract from books, journal, dissertation, newspapers, magazine ministry of tourism, Nepal Tourism board, National Planning Commission, Annual Statistical Report of Tourism Department, Central Bureau of Statistics and

other relevant material and available. The secondary data were collected from these following secondary sources.

- Nepal Tourism Board.
- Tribhuvan University, Central Library, Kirtipur and others.

3.4 Sampling and Sample Size

Random sampling method and purposive sampling method were used for the study. Sampling unit for this study is the tourist of Basantapur and Gupha Pokhari, Local people were selected by purposive method and hotel owners of Basantapur-Guphapokhari has been selected by random sampling. The logic behind using random sampling for the study were to get a better result. The sample size of this study was 10 tourists domestic, 15 hotel owners, local business person and other professional person and 10 local people of local community. As total 35 respondent has answered for this survey.

3.5 Data Collection Techniques and Tools

Various techniques for data collection have been employed to obtain different types of data and information. Secondary data were collected from the concerned agencies, library, and much kind of related, journal, dissertation, article books, newspapers, research, report etc., according to the nature of study.

Most of statistical data and required information have been collected through primary sources. The primary data were collected by following techniques and tools.

• Interview

In this regard, structured interview were taken with tourist(domestic), hotel owner, local people, stakeholders , government officers and local community people and other local employee of study area to collect quantitative data i.e. demographic information, source of income, employment and consumption of fuel wood (Rhododendron), situation of ecotourism of Basantapur- Guphapokhari.

Similarly unstructured interview were taken with key informant's i.e. local political leaders, oldest persons, teachers and chairman of New town development commission and others related persons and concern agencies to get qualitative information i.e. general historical development of tourism, socio-cultural aspects and changes and present tourism situation of study area.

- **Questionnaire**

In this study, both structured and constructed questionnaire were used to get essential information from local residents, tourists, local hotel and lodges owners, local community. The respondents were requested to fill up the questionnaire, in case of these respondent who can't fill up the questionnaire the questions were asked to the respondents and answer were filled up to collect the required data.

- **Observation**

Both participant and non-participant observation were applied to collect essential information. But the participant observations were given highly priority to being a same community member and I fully participate with various activities in hotel owners, local. community, local people, stakeholder, different professional people and I was talk informally with them about their about places of Basantapur to Guphapokhari and environment condition i.e. deforestation, pollution, development, Natural disaster, Limbu Culture, government vision, employment, income, fuel wood consumption and sanitation and non-participant observation were apply if there needed and contextually and also the study area were observed the component of tourism of study area i.e. attraction, accommodation, access and amenities.

- **Data Analysis and Interpretation**

After the data were collect from the field survey data has been checked clearly and edit if necessary the different software were used whenever needed simple statistical tools like tables, graph bar diagrams, measure of central tendency, dispersion, frequency tables, percentage, etc. analysis were done for data analysis. Descriptive method has been used for analyzed to the qualitative data.

CHAPTER IV

INTRODUCTION OF STUDY AREA

4.1 Introduction

The geographical location of Basantapur is 87.24° 28.21' longitude and 27.8° 4.18' latitude. The shape of Tehrathum Sankhuwava and Taplejung looks like a triangle. It is located between Mahabharat Hills. Tehrathum Sankhuwava and Taplejung has tropical and sub-tropical monsoon climate with high humidity and four main seasons- spring, summer, monsoon and winter.

It is situated at eastern part of Nepal at an altitude of 2323m. It is famous for its natural beauty, diverse culture, beautiful landscape and cool climate. Basantapur – Guphapokhari areas is home to one of largest rhododendron forests in Nepal. This is long and high forest ridge that divides the Arun and Tamor valleys in the eastern Nepal. For visit to the region can be started from Basantapur, Tumlingtar, Taplejung to (Sanghu, Sobwa VDC). The visit can be expanded from 2-4 days up this ridge, which offers views of Makalu (8463m.) to the west and Kanchenjunga (8586m.) to the east. There are huge forests of rhododendrons along the ridge. The forest is home to different species of rhododendrons, the national flower of Nepal.

4.2 General Information of Study Area

Today tourism is a major industry in the world. Major income of the big country like USA, China, and UK France is tourism industry. Like this Nepal has also such countries where lots of tourist destination.

Among them Basantapur Gupha Pokhari area is also a virgin new destination for ecotourism. Basantapur- Gupha Pokhari area has its own scope in ecotourism sector. As this study is focused to define focused to study in Basantapur to Guphapokhari surrounding area. There are many points that prove this area to be a ecotourism area. Basantapur-Guphapokhari has its own importance in many terms. They are as follows.

1. Natural Resources
2. Weather
3. Trekking
4. Sight seeing
5. Panoramic Views

Nepal government Ministry of Urban Development, New Town Project Coordination Office had announced ten cities of mid-hills highways for development. They are Patan (Baitadi), Safebagar(Achham), Rakam Karnali(Dailekh) Chourjhari(Rukum), Burtibang(Baglung), Dumre(Tanahu),Galchi(Dhading), Khurkot(Sindhuli) and Basantapur(Tehrathum) and Phidim(Panchthar). These ten towns are very small some are municipality and some are Village Development Committee (VDC). Among them Basantapur is being famous in eastern part of Nepal. Lots of domestic and external tourists are visit every year. Basantapur VDC is transform as a Laliguras Municipalities withjoining otherneighborsVDCs Solma, Sunganam, Phulek, Daganpa and Basantapur itself. Now Laliguras Nagarpalica 90.27 SQ KM of area of Tehrathum.

Basantapur is located between boarder of Sankuwasava and Tehrathum district. It's height 2283 m. from sea level. People can visit through Koshi Highway from Dharan-Bhedater- Dhankuta –Hilethrough Basantapur. Up to Basantapur, highway was good pitch but without regular maintenance the road is now like gravel and it is very difficult to travel at raining season. Around 20 hotels are providing service for domestic and foreigntourist. Only few hotels are following rule of Nepal government, some hotels are out of rule, out of standard

According to New Town Project Coordination Office; Population of Laliguras Municipality has 19936 among them 7728 male and 9206 are females. Lowest places of this place 600 M to 3034 M Highest peak Tinjure. Total 3777 houses are in Laliguras Municipalities. Being a small town one FM radio Laliguras FM broadcast every day, one local newspaper 'Tinjure' published every day, around 20 hotels are in Basantapur but tourist class hotel are very few, only one Yak Hotel is little different for them but not sufficient . Around 100 beads are available in Basantapur. Normally Nepalidishes with local vegetables can available every hotel.

Between Basantapur to Guphapokhari some beautiful places are there. Among them Tuta Deurali is one of them. It little highest then Basantapur. Height of this place is 2496 m from sea level. From Tute Deurali road is divided through Sankhuwava – Chainpur and to Gupha Pokhari.

Being lots of possibility of eco-tourism no more development has been done by government. As such condition some information about some places is explain below.

- **Basantapur**

Basantpur is set up in the enchanting surrounding of mountains and greenery. Offering excellent respite from city life, the diverse landscape includes terraced fields as well as plain land, which are covered by different types of vegetation. The mixed pastures, hills of colorful rhododendron and jasmine, beautiful sunrise and sunset, friendly people and rich Limbu culture offer additional appeal. Basantpur at 2,283 meters also hosts trekkers on the way to Mt. Kanchenjunga in Taplejung and the popular Teenjure Milke-Jaljale Trail. Basantpur is in Tehrathum district of Koshi zone. It can be reached via Hile in Dhankuta district. Buses are available at Central Bus Station, Gongabu, in Kathmandu. Another option is to fly to Biratnagar and drive over to Basantpur.

Budget hotels and moderate accommodation facilities are available in Basantpur Bazaar. Increasing foreign and internal tourist there are some modern hotels are being construct and some are ready to open , e.g. hotel Yak being expand for a big hotel. There are many small hotels and restaurants in the area to cater to local passersby. Camping sites are also available for trekkers. Other facilities are also available in Basantpur Bazaar.

The best times to visit are autumn and spring, between October-December or from February-April. The weather is cool and temperate here most times of the year, which makes Basantpur ideal for visit anytime. Summers are pleasant with temperatures ranging from 10 to 20 degree Celsius, while winters are not extreme even though temperatures could sometimes fall below 0 degree. Ethnic groups that reside in the area are Gurung, Rai, Tamang, Brahmin and Chhettri, Tharu, Newar and Marwadi people also live here. Most of the people are farmers by occupation. In the surrounding areas of Basantapur, Limbu culture is predominant.

- **Teen Jure Danda**

Tinjure Dada is at 3,066 meters from where one can see magnificent views of sunrise and sunset, and majestic view of mountains. 34 varieties of rhododendron are found here. Teen Jure Danda is about two and half hour away from Basantapur Bazaar.

- **Gupha Pokhari**

Guphapokhari (2895m.) is a natural pond that lies on the trekking trail to Taplejung from Basantapur. Picturesque views of mountains, sunrise and sunset can be seen from here. This pond is culturally significant and is also a good resting place for trekkers to Taplejung.

Gupha Pokhari located in boarder of Nundhaki and Shreejung VDC of Sankhuwasava and Tehrathum District. Gupha pokhari is now being famous for visit in purbanchal. But without proper guidelines, transpiration for new comer it not being easy to visit there. People used to go from Basantapur by foot; a 1 day trip to Gupha pokhari visiting Ghurmise, Tinjure, Chouki, Mangalbare, Shreemane to Guphapokhari. As same from Jirikhimti VDC to Tinjure through Gupha Pokhari is another way. People of Taplanjung can visit to Sanghu VDC through Gupha Pokhari. People of Sankhuwasava can visit Nundhaki VDC, Oyirang VDC to Mangalbare through Gupha Pokhari.

- **Chouki**

Chouki(2680m.) is located between Tinjure Dada and Mangalbare. It is also a beautiful place surrounding by Rhododendron jungle. Around 20 houses are their one sub-police station (Chouki) is there. A few small tea shops including lodge are there. This place is famous by trekking internal and foreign tourist visit from Basantapur to Guphapokhari.

- **Mangalbare**

Mangalbare (2635m.) is also a small station it is a half an hour walk from Chouki. Around 15 cottage and houses are there, people use to stay for taking snacks and tea most of travel time. It is boarder of Sankhuwasava and Terthum District. Being a nearby Chouki it is not so facilitated and famous then Chouki. But it is a transit for four different ways to Morahang, to Rambani to Basantapur and to Guphapokhari.

- **Lampokhari**

Lampokhari (2923m.) Lampokhari is situating at Morahang VDC of Tehrathum district. It is a cattle hut of past period. By located on the travel way of people it is used to rest for some time to travel from Basantapur or Guphapokhari and apart from this destination.

4.3 Possible Surrounding Places for Ecotourism

Hatrung Fountain(Jharana): Hatrung is a highest fountain (Jharana)of Nepal .Which is situating between Samdhu and Isibu VDC. Which height is 365m and it is highest fountain of Asia and 2nd highest of the world. It located to 4 hours ride from Basantapur - Tehrathum to Khamlung Samdu road. Which is also nearby midhill road of Atharai – Manglung(Tehrathum Part), another way to go to their by a half day trek from Mangalbare or Gupha.

Goukhari Dham: Goukhari Dham is a cave. Where a god called ‘Bhakaari’, and a stone statue of goddess ‘Cow’ inside the cave. Every 1st day of Magh called Makar Sankranti a lots of people used to visit there. People can visited their by vehicle from Basantapur to Jirikhimti- Morahang road which is around 30 Km. from Basantapur then after an hour trip by foot. At Morang a few lodge are available of taking shelter in village.

Chichiling Pokhari: Chichiling Pokhari is ideal pound of Tehrathum. This is situating between Jaljale and Isibu VDC. People can visit from Basantapur-Atharai Road up to ‘Aausidada’ and a half hour trek. It is always clean by nature.

Manchayam Hill: Manchayam Hill is 2nd highest peak of Tehrathum which is situate nearby Gupha Bazar, It is famous for it ideal heights then surrounding places. From

this hill a panoramic view of Tehrathum, Taplajung, Panchthar, Sankhuwava, districts.

Pattek Danda at 2,500 meters is equally beautiful for sunrise, sunset and a wide view of the Himalayas including Mt. Everest and Mt. Kanchanjunga. Pattek Danda is ideal for short trek and is also a good area for picnics. There is a popular Kali temple 2 hour-walk west from Basantapur Bazaar. Pattek Danda, about 3 kilometers away from Basantapur can also be reached via Chaitra that is 15-minutes' driveaway. From here Pattek Danda is 30-minutes trek away.

Marg Pokhara is another natural pond on the lap of the hills. The pond holds religious value and scenic beauty. It is situated at a height of about 2,600 meters. The pond has contributed to keep the surroundings green. Marg Pokhari watershed area has a dense forest that habitats popular species of rhododendron and precious plants. Marg Pokhari is on the way to Basantapur from Sindhuwa, which is 5 kilometer from Basantapurbazar.

Panchakanya Pokhari is another popular tourist site. Also known as Chhathar Pokhari, Panchakanya Pokhari is approximately 2-hour walk further down from Sukrabare Bazaar. Among the many ponds the biggest pond that lies in the area is Panchakanya.

4.4 Potential for Tourism

For any areas to be potential for tourism development, it must consist of 4 A's these four A's are the component of tourism.

1. Attractions.

Natural: - Flora and fauna, Lake and pounds, Mountains Limbu Cultural attraction, Rhododendron forest, Village trekking,

2. Accessibility

Transport, i) Road transport

ii) Air transport.

3. Accommodation

- i) Hotels, Home stay, Lodge etc.
- ii) Self-catering (Camping, tent service), rented accommodation, restaurants.

4. Amenities/ Comfort/ facilities.

- i) Facilities provided by Government i.e. Passport, visa, money exchange etc.(for foreign tourist).
- ii) Financial institutions: Credit cards, Money transfer, Travel cheque.
- iii) Communication system – Newspaper, Magazine, E-mail, internet fax, phone etc.

Tourist area to be popular and likeable above 4 a's are the basic requirement. Regarding Basantapur-Guphapokhari, more or less these 4 elements are present which acts as a motivating factor for tourist to visit the area.

Basantapur-Guphapokhari has its own scope in ecotourism sector. As this study is focused to define prospects of tourism in Basantapur-Guphapokhari, there are many points that prove Basantapur-Guphapokhari to be tourism (ecotourism) area.

1. Natural Resources

Basantapur Guphapokhari is an area gifted with natural resources. There are different kinds of orchid(Sunakhari), Rhododendron flowers, hills, highlands, flora, fauna, rivers, lowland covered by green forest with foot trail for trekking. From Basantapur-Guphapokhari we can view the snow peaked Himalayas all around and get lost in the lap of natural panorama. This area motivates the tourist all around the world for an overnight stay just to view the sunrise and sunset from the place where they accommodate. The Rhododendron forest and high altitude flowers are make more valuable destination of this place.

2. Weather

The weather and climate in Basantapur-Guphapokhari area is seasonally different, at summer it is very suitable then winter, mainly in season September to November and February to May is good. The temperature is of subtropical type (i.e. maximum 26 to min- 0) and there are 4 defined season, i.e. spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

3. Trekking

Basantapur – Guphapokhari is famous for trekking. Basantapur is also famous for entry gate of trekking to Kanchanjunga and Kumbhakarna Himal. It is also a famous for Rhododendron forest trekking area. People can visit different surrounding places like Hatrung Jharana, Goukhari Temple, Limbu Village, to Dovan VDC of Taplajung.

4. Infrastructure

Being a developing city there is facilitated by drinking water, road (is being improved), hospital and clinic, school, colleges electricity etc. which are main essential infrastructure. Out of Basantapur other places are being improved and facilitate by local government.

5. Hospitality Resources

In case of hospitality in Basantapur – Guphapokhari area are being developed. Yak hotel of Basantapur is renovate and targeted as a high level tourist hotel. New hotel and lodge are being improved and facilitate like wife, hot water service etc.

6. Security

Basantapur is a newly establish municipality of Nepal from security point of view there is proper service of Nepal Police, Nepal Army and armed force nearby Basantapur. At Chouki a sub police station and a police station at Gupha bazaar also.

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CHAPTER V

DATA TABULATION ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

5.1 General Information

Nepal is a beautiful country located in south Asia between Big countries China and India. Geographically total area of Nepal is 1,47,181 sq.Including elevation of the country ranges from 60m. above the sea level to the highest point on the earth i.e.8848 m. The total population of Nepal is 26,494,504 (2011 Census). It is also a small landlocked, Federal democraticrepublican country. (Constitution of Nepal 2015)This is a 885 km length from east to west and 193 km. breadth from north to south. It occupies 0.003 percent of area of the world and 0.03 percent of Asia. It lies between 8004' and 88012' East longitude and 26022 and 30027' North latitude. Topographically, Nepal is divided into three regions i.e. Hill, Mountain and Terai. Climatically, Nepal is broadly divided into tropical, warm temperature, cool temperature, alpine and tundra. Nepal is such a country where 30 percent of people live below the poverty line (HDI, UNDP, 2010).

Major populations live in rural areas and depend mostly on agriculture. Nepal is economically backward due to the cause of low productivity of agriculture. Industry and service sector has not been expanded sufficiently to reduce unemployment as a result absolute poverty remains widespread. Nepal has not utilized its mineral, water resources, forest resources as it is industrially and agriculturally backward. Our major challenges are poverty reduction, unemployment reduction, up liftmen of backward communities.

Nepal is a scenic beauty country. It has been well accepted as one of the most fascination countries in the world. Many tourist are tempted to see, touch and feel the white Himalayas, green forest, roaring falls and many others. Nepal is also known as possibilities of eco- tourism country. It is center point of attraction for the different types of scenarios like beautiful lake, rivers. Panoramic landscape and famous national parks, wildlife reserve and conservation areas with a variety of rare flora and

fauna. Being a natural beauty Nepal has more possibilities of eco-tourism. Among them Basantapur Gupha Pokhari Corridor is also a possible area of eco-tourism.

Nepal is being suitable destination for mountaineering, trekking, rafting, para-gliding, Bunjee Jumping, Rock climbing. Nepal is one of the richest members of the world in cultural heritage. It is also a homeland of many ethnic people with cultures, multi-religious beliefs and multi-languages. These natural and cultural heritages have become attractive tourist place to Nepal. All these factors have simultaneously contributed to the rapid growth of tourism in Nepal.

Tourism is an important source of foreign exchange but also a major employment generators; effect on balance of payments, external economies and inter-sector linkage. At present, the tourism sector is contributing US \$ 396,324 in the fiscal year 2066/67 Nepal Tourism Statistics 2010 (MTCA). Among these advantages of tourism, the earning of foreign currency is the most important advantage income. It has become one of the most important sources of earning foreign currency at present in Nepal.

Directly and indirectly it generates two types of employment in community. Direct employment is created for those people working in various sectors of tourism industry like, travel and tourism, accommodation, catering services, handy craft, etc. Indirect employment created by tourism refers to the job of those people who manufacture the goods and provide services which are purchased by business men and organization to serve the tourist directly. It has brought changes in socio-culture and environment. It helps to develop the infrastructure like road, electricity, water supply, health, education, telecommunication and brings changes in living standard of people, behavior pattern of peoples dress, life style, family structure, language, social structures, social norms and value, food habit, and traditional custom as well as. It helps to increase awareness for nature conservation.

Tourism industry helps to increasing national income. In poor country like Nepal, every people gains new knowledge and new technique. Thus transformation of agriculture sector into industrial sector. Tourism industry plays vital role in the economy because it is main source of foreign exchange earnings by which any nation could meet the favorable balance of payments. It creature that the key of

modernization for developing countries is their internal transformation from traditional agriculture economics into industrialized economics. Today underdeveloped countries like Nepal is on the trap by the accept foreign aid as a source of foreign capital but these aids are tied by so many policies for the implementation that is why, there is no any other alternatives except tourism industry for earning foreign exchanges.

5.2 Promotion of Tourism in Basantapur-Guphapokhari Corridor (An Immediate Need)

All these points can be made clearer from the field observation done by the researcher, along with the interview undertaken and questionnaire filled with the locals, hotels owners and the key informs i.e. tourist.

Basantapur is a small town, gradually migrate people from surrounding area are increasing day by day. Being a distance from Kathmandu and lack of promotion about this, no more foreign tourist are frequently visited. But internal visitors are increasing day by day which proved by full occupancy of hotels bed. At field study shows

For Tourist

Table 5.1

Visit Time

Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Visit Time	No. of Respond	Percentage
1.	1st Time	6	60%
2.	2nd Time	4	40%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Without visit by people how can measure how famous is this place .The table 1 shows that tourist visits Basantapur- Gupha Pokhari. 60% of responded agreed 1st time visit and 40% of responded agreed second time visit. It also shows that there are some weakness about this place because few people are only frequently visit.

Table 5.2
Focus to Visit

Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Focus	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Primary	6	60%
2	Secondary	4	40%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Table 2 shows that focus to visit Basantapur – Guphapokhari. This table shows 60 percent respondent primary visit and 40 percent responded is secondary visit.

Table 5.3
Purpose of Visit

Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Purpose	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Entertainment	4	40%
2	Sightseeing	-	-
3	Research	-	-
4	Adventure	-	-
5	Holiday	5	50%
6	Others	1	1%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Table 3 shows that propose to visit. People can visit different place by different purpose like some are pilgrimage, entertainment, etc. Basantapur –Gupha pokhari area is a new destination but lack of publicity and facility many people don't know about this area. Who knows their purpose to visit like; among them 40% responded visit that place for entertainment, 50% responded for spent holiday and 10% percent are other purpose like governmental official work, business purpose, pilgrimage etc.

Table 5.4
Length of stay at Basantipur - Gupha Pokhari
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Length of stay	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	1- days	5	50%
2	2-3 Days	5	50%
3	3-5 Days	-	-
4	More than 5 days	-	-
	Total	10	

Source: Field survey, 2017.

Length of stay of tourist is one of the most important factor to promote tourism of any place. As long as the tourist stays in any place as much benefit the host country will receive. Table 4 shows that most of the tourist length of stay in Basantapur-Guphapokhari is 1days and 2-3 days (i.e. 50%, 50%). Some tourist likes to stay few hours just to enjoy for fresh air, sightseeing, playing with snow in winter and to see rhododendron. Length of stay of tourist can be increased in Basantapur – Guphapokhari by increasing no attractions as well as facilities.

Table 5.5
Means of Transpiration Used
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Transpiration Used	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Tourist Bus	-	-
2	Helicopter	-	-
3	Public Bus	4	40%
4	Private vehicle/ Motorcycle	6	60%
5	Other	-	-
	Total	10	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2017.

In table 5.5, it shows that most of the tourist feels comfortable travelling in private vehicle, motorcycle then using public vehicle 40% respondent answer, they use public bus and 60% answer private vehicle. Now a day's private vehicle users are increasing day by day, Most of Nepali internal visitors feel comfortable use Motorcycle/ Car for

visit any destination. Basantapur-Guphapokhari can frequently visit by public bus from different places like from Dharan, Manglung-Tehrathum, Khadbari-Chainpur etc.

Table 5.6
Spent Money (Expenditure Pattern)
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Expenditure pattern.	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Less than 2000	6	60%
2	2000-5000	4	40%
3	5000-7000	-	-
4	More then 7000	-	-
	Total	10	100%

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

As much as the tourist spend in any area as much the economy of the area will increase. In case of Basantapur–Guphapokhari, 40 Percent of the respondent answered that mostly the tourist spend Less then Rs. 2000 per day (including breakfast , lunch, Tiffin, dinner, tea, water, and night room cost). Which is very good for the people in hotel business in Basantapur. The expenditure pattern of the tourist depends upon the length of stay of tourist in that area. More days the tourist stays more will they spend. According to 40 percent of the respondent in table 8, good number of tourist visiting Basantapur spends above 2000 otherwise minimum is 2000. Mostly the tourist spends in food and drinks and others in buying souvenirs.

Table 5.7
How do You Like
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Excellent	1	10%
2	Good	5	50%
3	Satisfactory	4	40%
4	Others	-	-
	TOTAL	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

50 Percent of the tourist answered about Basantapur-Guphapokhari is good,rest of 40 percent answered satisfactory. Excellent factor is of Basantapur is very low at present condition. So it also clearly shows that lots of thing should be improvement.

Table 5.8
Excellent Factor of Basantapur-Guphapokhari
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Eco environment	5	50%
2	Climate	-	-
3	Rhododendron Forest	5	50%
4	Others	-	-
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Anything in an area can be a tourist attraction. For an area to be a tourist area it must have some major attraction that motivates tourist. In case of Basantapur–Guphapokhari, most attractive excellent thing that tourist loves is the eco environment, fresh air. Then 50 percent people love the eco environment and same percent people likes rhododendron forest rather than other.

Table5.9
Possibility to Visit(Basantapur-Guphapokhari) Again
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N.	Category of tourist	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Visit Again	5	50%
2	Don't want to visit	2	20%
3	Can't Say at present	3	30%
4	No answer	-	-
	Total		

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Tourism of any place will flourish if there will be more tourist visiting that area. The place should be such that it should motivate the tourist to visit again and again. In case of Basantapur-Guphapokhari 50 percent of the tourist wanted to visit

Basantapur-Guphapokhari again whereas 20 Percent don't want to visit again and 30 percent answered can't sat at present. It shows some motivation factor are available in Basantapur- Guphapokhari.

Table 5.10
Special Things at Basantapur.
Number of Respondent (Domestic Tourist) = 10

S.N	Any spatiality for visit	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	For Rhododendron and trekking	7	70%
2	Bio diversity and forest, wild animal's habitants.	3	30%
3	Better Climate and sight seining of Himalayas	-	-
4	Jungle Safari	-	-
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Anything in an area can be a tourist attraction. For an area to be a tourist area it must have some major attraction that motivates tourist. In case of Basantapur–Guphapokhari, Specialty of this area is Rhododendron and trekking, Bio diversity and forest, wild animal's habitants rather than jungle safari, sunrise sightseeing. Then 70 percent people love Rhododendron and trekking then other specialty.

Table 5.11
Have You Encountered Any Problem
Number of Respondent = 10

S.N	Problems	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Lack of guides	1	10%
2	Lack of porters	2	20%
3	Lack of transpiration ,communication	5	50%
4	Lack of good hotels restraints	2	20%
5	Others	-	
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

50 Percent of the tourist in Basantapur-Guphapokhari complained that there is lack of transportation,communication facilities. They miss network service, internet service

at the time of requirement. Some 20 percent of tourist suffered due to lack of good hotels restraints, lack of porters and guides is also another problem from which tourist are suffering.

Local People

Table 5.12
Knowledge of Eco Tourism
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Ecotourism	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Yes	5	50%
2	No	5	50%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

In that study area people have got knowledge about tourism but few all people didn't answer about eco-environment because lack of knowledge, no such awareness about eco-environment can provided by government and non-govern organization. So 50 percent local people hardly answer about eco-tourism and same percent local villagers didn't understand about eco-tourism.

Table 5.13
Current Assess Ecotourism
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Current Assess eco – Tourism	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Highly Sound	2	20%
2	Moderate	3	30%
3	Not so good	5	50%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Being a remote eco- tourism destination lots of development work have been not develop completely. Eco- environment is good but facility for them who wants to visit freely and frequently is not properly develop. Table 13 shows 50 percent local people

(respondent) answered not so good because lots things have to do for development of eco-tourism of that place 30% percent local people answered moderate and 20 percent answered good.

Table 5.14
Prospect of Eco-tourism
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Highly Sound	7	70%
2	Moderate	3	30%
3	Not so good	-	-
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

The prospects of eco-tourism of any area depends upon the attractions which is available in that place 70 percent of the respondent answered that the future scope of eco-tourism in Basantapur- Gupha pokhari is highly sound. But 3 percent answered moderate. So it will be better to take some more steps for eco-tourism development in Basantapur-Guphapokhari.

Table 5.15
Purpose to Visit
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Sightseeing/Sunrise	3	30%
2	Pilgrimage	-	-
3	Adventure	-	-
4	Holiday	5	50%
5	Ecotourism	2	20%
6	Others	-	-
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Table 5.15 shows that propose to visit. People can visit different place by different purpose like some are pilgrimage, entertainment, etc. Basantapur –Gupha pokhari area is a new destination but lack of publicity and facility many people don't know

about this area. Who knows their purpose to visit like; among them 50 percent local people answered that tourist visit that place for spent holydays, 30 percent respondent answered that tourist visit that place for sightseeing and 20 percent percent for to see eco-tourism.

Table 5.16
Attractive Things

Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Attractive Things	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Herbal (Jadibuti)	1	10%
2	Wild animals/ Birds	1	10%
3	Rhododendron forest	5	50%
4	Others	3	30%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

New and ideal thing are attraction for people, they only feel entertain if they find new thing and environment. For Basantapur –Guphapokhari to be a tourist area it must have some major attraction that motivates tourist. In case of that place, most attractive and excellent places that tourist loves is the eco-environment, fresh air. Then 50% people local people answered that Rhododendron forest is attractive of that place, similarly 30 Percent local people answered people visit this place for other purpose like pilgrimage, local business purpose etc. A few tourist visit for to know herbal plant research and to see birds like and wild animals.

Table 5.17

Other Attraction Places (Surrounding)

Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Other Attractive places	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Hatrung Jharana	4	40%
2	Goukhari Tempal	2	20%
3	Limbu Culture	2	20%
4	Others	2	20%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Apart from Basantapur –Guphapokhari other places are also being famous , Hatrung Jharana and Goukhari temple are these. Hatrung Jharana is highest Jharana of Nepal , lack of publicity it is not so famous yet. Limbu culture is also a ideal thing of apart from Basantapur – Guphapokhari a large no of local citizen are limbu. So it also famous for Limbuwan state.

Table 5.18

Problems to Promote Ecotourism
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Problem	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Marketing	5	50%
2	Transportation	3	30%
3	Product development	1	10%
4	Other.	1	10%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Nepal is a rich in beautiful places which are possible tourism destination. But Mt Everest Pokhara, Kathmandu Chitwan places are more famous than other places. This table shows problem to promote eco-tourism which answered by local people. 50 percent respondent answered lack of publicity, like this 30 percent respondent answer cause is transportation.

Table 5.19

Benefit receiving by Local People through Eco-tourism
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Benefit by Ecotourism	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Getting Jobs(employment)	6	60%
2	Selling local Product.	2	20%
3	Preserve Environment	1	10%
4	Increase Literacy rate	1	10%
5	All of Above		
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Tourism is of course directly related to the up-ailment of the economy of any country. But the economic benefit is not only benefit of tourism. Tourism has a multiplier effect, like the sale of anything to tourist leads to the growth of business and increment in hotel rooms' demands for more furniture, food, electricity etc. Employment generation, cultural understanding or appreciation of Nepalese culture is one of the indirect effects of tourism according to 60 percent of the locals. In Basantapur – Guphapokhari due to eco-tourism development, preserve environment, literacy rate of people have been built and along with it more opportunities have appeared for the people of Basantapur – Guphapokhari. The economy of the place has increased to a larger extent and lots of people have taken eco-tourism as a money making business. Table 5.19 clearly shows all the direct and indirect effects of tourism in Basantapur – Guphapokhari.

Table 5.20
Any Disadvantage of Eco Tourism
Number of Respondent (Local People) = 10

S.N.	Disadvantages	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Pollution / Noise	6	60%
2	Destroy the local culture.	4	40%
	Total	10	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

If the population of certain place will increase for a certain time then it is obvious that problems will arise because of the scarcity of the goods and it is possible that the carrying capacity of the place is less. But in case of Basantapur–Guphapokhari, the people quite happy by movement of tourist in their area. In table 5.20, 60 percent complained pollution that some domestic tourist makes noise, no care of locals. Because no tourism culture has more develop of Nepali people. Local youth child tried copied of visitors' culture, rough fashion, rough style, rough communication and words.

Table 5.21

Peak Season of Tourist Arrival

Number of respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government officer)= 15

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	April – June	9	60%
2	September-November	6	40%
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

For the tourist arrival, season is one of the basic elements. Usually the tourist goes for outing in holidays. The table 5.21 shows that peak season of tourist arrival is April June (Beginning of Magh, Baishak) because most people visit for observational flower rhododendron forest. Basantapur – Guphapokhari is a big rhododendron forest area and famous for rhododendron. September –November is also a suitable season for visit Basantapur – Guphapokhari, because the climate so beautiful, sunrise, cool fresh air, peace environment; a different romantic situation can available at this time.

Table 5.22

Origin of Tourist

Number of Respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government Officer)= 15

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Domestic	12	80%
2	South Asian	-	-
3	European	-	-
4	American	-	-
5	Other countries	3	20%
6	All	-	-
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Man is always inquisitive by nature and travelling is a human instinct. Man always has some inner desire to explore something. Domestic tourists are more than foreigner for visit in Basantapur–Guphapokhari corridor. Among 15 different respondents answered 80 percent domestic tourist and 20 percent foreign from different south Asian, European, American and other countries visit every year.

Table 5.23
Purpose to Visit.

Number of respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government officer)= 15

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Sightseeing/ sunrise	7	46.66%
2	Pilgrimage	1	6.66%
3	Adventure	3	20%
4	Holiday-Peace relaxation	4	26.67%
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Table 22 shows that propose to visit. Which is answered by Businessman, stakeholders , hotel owners among them 46.66 answered that tourist visit that place for spent sightseeing, 26.67 percent respondent answered that tourist visit that place for holidays and peace relaxation and 20% percent for adventure and 6.66 percent for pilgrimage .

Table 5.24
Expenditure Pattern of Tourist

Number of Respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government Officer)= 15

S.N.	Season	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	1000-2000	9	60%
2	2500-3500	6	40%
3	4000	-	-
4	More then 4000	-	-
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

As much as the tourist spend in any area as much the economy of the area will increase. In case of Basantapur – Guphapokhari,60 Percent of the respondent answered that mostly the tourist spend Rs. 1000-2000 per day (including breakfast , lunch, Tiffin, dinner, tea, water, and night room cost) and 40 percent respondent answered Rs.2500-3500 money can spend by tourist , who are more higher level tourist .Which is very good for the people in hotel business in Basantapur. The expenditure pattern of the tourist depends upon the length of stay of tourist in that

area. More days the tourist stays more will they spend. According to 40 percent of the respondent in table 8, good number of tourist visiting Basantapur spends above 2000 otherwise minimum is 2000. Mostly the tourist spends in food and drinks and others in buying souvenirs.

Table 5.25

Length of Tourist Stay

Number of Respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government Officer)= 15

S.N.	Length of Tourist Stay	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	1-2 days	10	66.67%
2	2-4 days	4	26.67%
3	More than 4 days	1	6.66%
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Length of stay of tourist is one of the most important factors to promote tourism of any place. As long as the tourist stays in any place as much benefit the host country will receive. Table 4 shows that most of the tourist length of stay in Basantapur-Guphapokhari is 1-2days and 2-3 days (i.e.66.67%, 26.67%) answered by Businessman, stakeholder and other officers. Length of stay of tourist can be increased in Basantapur–Guphapokhari by increasing no attractions as well as facilities.

Table 5.26

Service Provided by Hotel

Number of Respondent (Hotel Owner) = 5

S.N.	Service Provided by Hotel	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Lodging	5	100%
2	Food	5	100%
3	Transpiration	1	20%
4	Guiding	-	-
	Total	5	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

Being a small town there is no lots of hotels and standard hotel. Among them 5 hotel are respondent. They provide lodging, food service out of them Yak hotel provides transpiration facility also for standard tourist. Other hotels are provides only for lodging and food service.

Table 5.27

Prospects of ecotourism

Number of Respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government Officer)= 15

S.N.	Prospects	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Highly sound	10	66.67
2	Moderate	4	26.67
3	Not so good	1	6.66
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

The prospects of eco-tourism of any area depends upon the attractions which is available in that place 66 percent of the respondent answered that the future scope of eco-tourism in Basantapur- Gupha pokhari is highly sound. But 26.67 percent answered moderate and 6.66 respondent answered not so good.. So it will be better to take some more steps for eco-tourism development in Basantapur-Guphapokhari.

Table 5.28

Most Attractive Thing

Number of respondent (Hotel Owner/ Business Person/Government officer)= 15

S.N.	Most Attractive Thing	No. of Respond	Percentage
1	Eco-environment	5	33.33%
2	Rhododendron observation	5	33.33%
3	Birds and wild animals	3	20%
4	Others	2	13.67%
	Total	15	

Sources: Field Survey, 2017.

New and ideal thing are attraction for people, they only feel entertain if they find new thing and environment. For Basantapur –Guphapokhari to be a tourist area it must have some major attraction that motivates tourist. In case of that place, most attractive

and excellent places that tourist loves is the eco-environment, fresh air. T 50% people respondent who are business person , hotel owner, government officer answered that tourist came for to see Rhododendron forest and eco-environment ,similarly 20 Percent respondent answered people visit this place for to see birds wild animals and remaining 13.67 percent respondent answered for other purpose like pilgrimage, local business purpose etc.

CHAPTER VI

PROSPECTS OF ECOTOURISM

IN BASANTAPUR-GUPHAPOKHARI CORRIDOR

Basantapur is situated on the north of the Dhankuta and Dharan Municipality. Today Basantapur has become one of the nation's famous places for see rhododendron forest. Recognizing its unique eco environment is famous all over the country. It is an eminent place of the country which consumes the little bit number of the tourist in its lap filled with the unique and ideal eco environment. Basantapur-Guphapokhari help to increase the national economic growth by during tourist to show its different environment as well as ideal eco environment. There are many prospects associated with ecotourism development in Basantapur-Guphapokhari. The major prospects are given below:

- **Scenic Attraction**

Most the Places at Basantapur to Guphapokhari are situated in the top side of landscape. Different hills like Tinjure, Sirmane, Manchchhyam etc. and open long grassland are important places for sikh seeing of Himalayan range like Kanchanjunga to Mt Everest and a panoramic view of different places Sankhuwasava, Tehrathum and Taplejung district from the top of the hills. The groups of cattle like local cows, groups of Buffalos, groups of goats, sheep's with their cubs, different kind birds, are meeting to the side of road in threatening it shows a beautiful scene with grass lands and side of beautiful rhododendrons trees.

- **Trekking**

The trekking from Basantapur to Tinjure, Guphapokhari, Chouki, Bhalukhok, which is famous spot for to see rhododendron and watching ecoenvironment are the main destinations of trekkers at Basantapur to Guphapokhari. It is also a main trekking route to visit Kumbhakarna (7710 m.) and Kanchanjhanga (8586m.). Olanchungola and Ghunsha of Taplejung district. It is also a famous trekking places to Shava Pokhari, Milke and Jaljale area for pilgrimage and watching different kinds of rhododendron in eco environment. Trekkers can trek from Mangalbare to Morahang

to Goukhari Pilgrimage place and continue to Nepal's and Asia's highest fountain(365m.) Hatrung which is a half day walk from this area.

- **Bird Watching**

The Basantapur-Guphapokhari is also a paradise for birds or the world of birds where different species of resident and migratory birds live. Such birds are from Himalayas at the winter like Lophophoros can find in winter. The tourists encounter with many of them. Lophura leucomelanos (Kalij bird) rhythmically taps in the branches of trees and beautiful song of cuckoo, an ideal sound of eagle will catch the tourist attention.

- **Yak Watching**

Most of the winter season there are folks of yak are grazing in the grassland then the winter which are from Olanchungola of Taplajung. In winter season at Olanchungola temperature is very less and grass for cattle is almost end in winter. At that time different yak owner brings folks of yak for grazing. More yaks can see in winter than summer.

- **Pound Watching**

Pach pokhari, Guphapokhari are famous pound of Basantapur - Guphapokhari and this area, this pound are such a beautiful , tourist can enjoy nearby pound with fresh and peace environment.

- **Nature Walk**

Experienced naturalist take the tourist across the Basantapur to Tinjure and the area of Guphapokhari to see nature's gifts, the wild species of range of Himalayas and animals blended with the surrounding flora and fauna. With chill climate fresh air peace environment, different smell of flowers like verities orchid, rhododendron can make mood fresh.

- **Village Tour**

The possibility of village tour is also important prospect of Basantapur-Guphapokhari area. Lots of villages are linked through this place like Shreejung VDC through

Sangrate Besi; a village of Limbu culture where most of this villagers are British Gorkha army. From Guphapokhari to Nundhaki VDC of Shankhuwasava, Sanghu VDC of Taplejung, From Mangalbare to Madhi-Mulkharka, Basantapur to Lashune village etc. are most possible places. From this kind of tour, tourist can see the settlement pattern, people and scenic beauty of the study area.

- **Lambu Culture**

At festival and special occasion the tourists engage in fun making with drumbeats (Chyabrung,) and dance (Dhannach) performed by the Limbus people such as harvesting dance (Uhauali and Uvauli), Palam,. The rhythmic movements and the exciting drum (Chyabrung), Jhyamta and beats may urge the tourists to joint in their performance. The tourists are also welcomed to join.

- **Orchid Attraction**

Basantapur to Guphapokhari is also famous for different kinds of orchid flowers. Such flowers can see and feel good smell of orchid when travelling through the way. It also can see small different color birds are playing side of orchid plants which is very entertaining situation for tourists.

- **Rhododendron Forest**

Rhododendron is a national flower of Nepal since 1962(IUCN NEPAL 2005). It is popular flowering tree due to their large and colorful flowers. Rhododendron forest of Basantapur-Guphapokhari is extensively used without knowing their ecological significant, habitats of wildlife. Being a part of land's Tinjure, Milke and Jaljale which is capital of rhododendron, Basantapur-Guphapokhari is a valuable place. Many researchers from different countries have been to Nepal to study on different aspect of Rhododendron. The use of rhododendron plants has not been investigated yet. But some local entrepreneur is making juice of flower at every session before few years as a small and narrow level.

According to botanists, 28 out of the total 31 different species of rhododendrons are found in this forest and as such this area is one of the most important places in eastern Nepal (IUCN : 2007).

CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Summary

Eco tourism in the country can be develop with the efforts of all sector of society, However, the government and International nongovernmental organization (INGOs) should be proactive, as they are resource based and decision makers in Nepal. Therefore, it can be said that, if ecotourism fails in Nepal, It will be the responsibility of government and international organizations (involves in tourism development) for their inability to provide leadership to implement ecotourism in Nepal. But it can be expected that it will not be so, because Nepal is the country of ecotourism. (Bhatta Damador 2015, p248)

Eco-tourism being one of the major issue has effected almost every part of the world, it also a new tourist attraction slogan, it is also modern attraction way for Nepal because Nepal is rich for eco-tourism infrastructure, environment and places .Nepal , itself is recognized as a tourism including eco-tourism destination with its natural and cultural heritage.

The foot trial, the countryside view, the highland and low lands, hills and plains, the green forest, rhododendron forest, magnificent river, flora and fauna, ice caped white Himalayas are not to be missed any one, who traveled Nepal with lots of expectations. Basantapur-Guphapokhari area is one of the remote areas of Nepal. Small town and some groups of houses are their only.

Attractions, accessibility, accommodation and amenities are essential things for ecotourism. By every way Basantapur-Guphapokhari has a lots of prospects in ecotourism. Even though it is in a need of promotion, the declaration of Basantapur-Guphapokhari as a tourist destination will be fruitful for everyone because eco-tourism plays a significant and major role as a contributor to a Nepalese economy with its material benefits both in terms of income and employment generation.

Basantapur-Guphapokhari is listed as an important 10 major cities for development by government of Nepal which is situated Mid Hills Highway (Puspa Lal Highway). Behind the reason for develop such a rural area is; develop hills and promoting ecotourism in hills reason and through such work rural area can be developed.

Basantapur-Guphapokhari area is far from Kathmandu. It can also be best and ideal destination for the tourists who want to spent suitable time in peace and eco environment.. This place is famous to see Rhododendron forest with its peaceful environment, bird watching, trekking jungle and natural walk, which are the main tourist activities in Basantapur–Guphapokhari corridor.

The history of ecotourism in Basantapur–Guphapokhari corridor is relatively short. Tourism was developing in after the Democracy was listed as an important destination of Eastern. The domestic and foreign tourists started to arrive in Basantapur–Guphapokhari. Therefore, the old lodge Yak was built in the early 2040 (BS) decade and other hotel was started to establish. The inflow of tourists in Basantapur-Guphapokhari has been increasing which is a good symptom for eco- tourism development this area.

The present study has analyzed the Eco-tourism of Basantapur-Guphapokhari corridor by using primary and secondary tools and information. The major findings or the results obtained from the analysis are listed below.

- (1) Most of the tourist are used to travel by bus up to Basantapur and rest to Guphapokhari used to trek because regular bus service only up to Basantapur. Road up to Guphapokhari is only road track is open yet. Amateur tourist ride by motorcycle or by four wheeler jeep to visit Guphapokhari; but it is more dangerous.
- (2) The majority of these tourists stayed only for about average *1 day 2 nights* in Basantapur and each steps days.
- (3) No facilities of luxurious resorts and hotels at Basantapur-Guphapokhari corridor, some tourist used to camping by tend and unmanaged home stay (settlement) system.

- (4) The majority of tourists arrivals at Basantapur-Guphapokhari by purpose was the following: Rhododendron forest 50 percent, eco environment 50 percent,
- (5) The majority of tourists arriving Basantapur-Guphapokhari was in Falgun to Baishak were found to visit Basantapur –Guphapokhari because at that time the jungle is full of rhododendron flowers.
- (6) Roughly, 60 percent of total tourists were found to travel by personal vehicles motorcycle etc. and 40 percent by local bus during the survey period.
- (7) The higher percent of total tourists were found to stay for one -two days and a few percent were found to spend more than two days out of 10 respondent.
- (8) Some of villagers are involve in tourism sector, for save eco environment, some NGO like ‘Guras Samrakshyan program’are also evolved in preserve Rhododendron and environment.
- (9) Undoubtly, they followed joint family and collectivism before the movement of tourism in Basantapur but these days they are practicing nuclear family and individualism is becoming intensive.

7.2 Conclusion

Being developing country, all sector and organs of Government are developing stage among them tourism sector is one of them in Nepal. From the study of Nepal prospect of ecotourism of Nepal is very bright. Being a Himalayan Country and a different geographical condition; e.g. Mountains, hills and plains places, different climate, agricultural country, different type of green forest are the main attractionfor ecotourism in Nepal.

Among them Basantapur- Gupha Pokhari is ideal for ecotourism destination. Main attraction of this reason is different climate, Rhododendron forest, Limbu culture, Natural environment, small Pounds, flora and fauna, birds, panoramic view of Himalayan range of Kanchangha to Mt Everest..

Nepal is a country potential tourism destination including ecotourism one of parts of attract tourists. Among various destinations Basantapur Gupha Pokhari is one of the

possible destinations. Eco environment of this area is ideal with Rhododendron forest with fresh and peace environment.

Being rich in possible destination ecotourism country Nepal there are some problems also such problems has been affecting for promoting ecotourism. Government policy is first, where they work in only paper but not in works. Lack of infrastructures development is also a prominent hurdle for the development ecotourism in the country. Different tourism organizations related with ecotourism like NTB, NATTA, HAN, NATO, and TAAN, international INGOS, IUCN, WWF, Local Organization, are not working jointly and effectively.

For development in hills Nepal Government has listed as new city for infrastructure development at mid hills highway (Puspa Lal Highway) in rural sector. Some development works are being done by New Town Development Commission.

Such a conclusion may at first seem to convey an optimism confidence that on a local level, eco-tourism is secure, unproblematic and wholly advantageous to the local community of Basantapur-Guphapokhari corridor. However, we should say that Basantapur-Guphapokhari ecotourism has enormous potential, and though that have made clear that its nature cannot be seen to be under threat from consumption by the luring and dominating ties of the modern world, we would also assert that as yet, it never the less remains fragile and insecure.

The assertion is perhaps difficult to justify when we look at the booming numbers of tourists, year after year. It appears that Basantapur-Guphapokhari is still able to fulfill expectations of Rhododendron watch and natural beauty. Likewise, the researcher has found that if maintain the forest as a natural beauty and preserve its environment, maintain city clean, and provide awareness program for ecotourism that place would be a good destination for ecotourism.

The land value has increased with the growth of ecotourism and mid hills highway (Puspallal Highway). Due to this the local people have found employment in the tourism sector thus they foresee a good future for ecotourism in Tehrathum and neighbor districts Sankhuwava. In other side, adverse effects on the locality have been noted too like prostitution, foreign culture effects etc. noise pollution due to the

presence of hotels inside the town and village is not helping in these matters as well as Basantapur-Guphapokhari looks a central authority to impose regulation and limits on the strategies of those involved in tourist business, ecotourism in Basantapur-Guphapokhari area must have a secure market and must also be managed so as to benefit the wider community and generate local wealth.

Unfortunately owing to a number of constraints the rate of increase of the tourists arriving in Nepal is not as high as it should have been from the very beginning. Most of the attractive places of the country are still in shadow as they have not seen the light of development. People in the rural areas are gradually giving up their indigenous life support for preserving environment and development which is valued so highly new in the developed part of the world and adopting the expensive and what immoral rural development.

The government policies are neither appropriate nor effective for the preservation of beautiful nature of the country, because every year lots of forest is being destroyed by the human kinds. The government is also not paying enough attention for the infrastructural development of the ecotourism which is a new way of tourism for such country Nepal. If all the attractive place of the country were to be developed for the ecotourism retaining the nature of the people living around them, these places could contribute more earning than what the country is annually making now. So the highest emphasis should be given for the development of ecotourism with the preservation environment and natural beauty.

7.3 Recommendations

Basantapur-Guphapokhari is attractive place for ecotourism. Tourism in this place plays a crucial role for the socio-economic development as well as the permanent source of foreign currency earnings for the country by luring the tourist showing the endangered animals preserved in the lap of the beautiful nature of Tehrathum Sankhuwava and Taplejung and also a boarder of Dhankutta. In order to promote further ecotourism development in this area, the following recommendation should be taken up.

- (1) There are few hotels, all the hotels are almost same categories. They could not provide necessary facilities to the tourists. So these hotels should be improved to provide modern facilities to the tourists. It has been found that, there are around 100rooms supplied in hotels of (Basantapur) which is not sufficient to accommodate destination bound tourist in during the peak season. Therefore, concerned agencies that make tourist to stay for longer in Basantapur along with expansion and extension of accommodation facilities. At Chouki and Guphapokhari are almost small place, only a few beds are available which are not standard. If make them standard that will be fruitful for tourist and hotel owner.
- (2) The environment of Basantapur to Guphapokhari is deteriorating due to the accumulation of wastage thrown out from hotels at the bank of Bazaar. So proper training and awareness should be provided to the hotel owners, local people and their staffs to manage the wastage properly.
- (3) The most valuable things like Rhododendron forest and is being destroyed by the people. So such destruction must be stopped at any cost, attraction ofBasantapur -Guphapokhari is peaceful environment. So, thedestroy should be stopped.
- (4) Facilities are most important factor for the attraction of tourist and to extend their duration of stay in Basantapur-Guphapokhari. So, hot water service for bathing,entertain by Limbu cultural program. Menuof local agricultural productshould be provided by all hotels and should be manage grading of hotels it is most important work for development of this Area.
- (5) A publicity program should include regular publicity as "A Tourist Area" with eco environment for main place Basantapur-Guphapokhari with in the national and international countries throughout the media of radio, T.V., poster etc.
- (6) Cutting rhododendron trees for fire wood of this area is destroying the natural beauties of the area every year during the winter season. So, government and different stakeholders association of this area jointly should bring a program to control the destroy Rhododendron Jungle.
- (7) Skillful staff and trained guides are essential factor for tourism development in Basantapur-Guphapokhari. There is no professional guide for tourist. The guide facility should be improved in every hotel by hiring trained people or

experts in the field. The employer should be provided the job training facilities. It makes jobs for local people helps more to preserve own environment.

- (8) The uncontrolled and unplanned settlement by destroying rhododendron jungle in the town areas caused massive pollution due to the unrestricted and regular dumping nearby road of the waste released by them which worsening the environment. To stop the further worsening of the situation, creation legal measure should be enforced.
- (9) During rainy season, it is not easily accessible to reach Basantapur Guphapokhari because of road of Sindhuwa entire through Manglung should be improved. So, make easy to reach Basantapur and Guphapokhari during rainy season and public bus service has to be facilitated from Dharan to Basantapur onside.
- (10) There are not sufficient numbers of health centers in Basantapur and Guphapokhari to provide immediate treatment to the tourist if they get sudden accident and others health problems. So, the hotel association of Basantapur and Guphapokhari should conduct joint program with the government and local people to establishment the health centers and to provide immediate care to the tourist.
- (11) The hotel association must be active in trying to implement the mentioned rule of hotel association with covering their umbrella organization.
- (12) To develop and promote the tourism industry in the desire and effective manner, a well throughout tourism policy focusing ecotourism is essential. It should include both short and long run objectives with proper planning. The government must have a clear vision with prier long run and short run plans and the way to achieve the goal. So an effective national tourism industry is essential.

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Appendix - I

Questionnaire for Tourist

1. Personal information

Name:.....

Age:-..... Sex: Male/Femal

Education:.....

Marital Status : Married / Unmarried

Occupation: a) Primary-b) Secondary:

Nationality:

For Internal Tourist Address:.....

District:..... VDC/ Municipality.....

Email:

2. Number of visit times in Basantapur-Guphapokhari including this visit.

i) 1st Time ii) Two and more time

3. Is this Primary or secondary focus to visit Bashantapur-GuphaPokhari?

i) Primary ii) Secondary

4. What is your purpose of visiting in Bashantapur-Gupha Pokhari?

i) Entertainment. ii) Sightseeing

iii) Research iv) Adventure

v) Holiday vi) Others

5. How long will you stay in Bashantapur –Gupha Pokhari?

i) 1-days (ii) 2-3 days

iv) 3-5 days (iii) More than 5 days

6. Which factor influenced you to make your decision to visit Bashantapur-Gupha Pokhari?

Source of information

- i) Advertisement
- ii) Religion Holiday
- iii) Travel agents
- iv) Friends
- iv) Others

7. What is the means of transportation you have used to arrive here?

- i) Tourist Bus
- ii) Helicopter
- iii) Public Bus
- iv) Private Vehicle
- v) Other.

8. How much money did you plan to spend in total in your stay?

- i) 2000
- ii) 2000-5000
- iii) 5000-7000
- iv) More than 7000

9. How do you like this place?

- i) Excellent
- ii) Good
- iii) Satisfactory
- iv) Others

10. What is the excellent factor of this place?

- i) Eco environment
- ii) Climate
- iii) Rhododendron forest
- iv) Others.

11. Are you thinking to visit this place again?

- i) Want to visit again
- ii) Don't want to visit again
- iii) I can't say at present.
- iv) No answer

12. Basantpur – Guphapokhari is a ideal destination for tourism?

- a) Yes
- b) no
- c)

13. Any special
- i) For Rhododendron and trekking, to observe lophophorus habitats
 - ii) Bio diversity and forest, wild animal's habitats.
 - iii) Better Climate and sight seeing of Himalayas
 - iv) Trekking and jungle safari.
14. Have you encountered any problem in the period of your visit?
- i) Lack of guides
 - ii) Lack of Porters
 - iii) Lack of Transportation Communication
 - iv) Lack of good hotels restaurants
 - v) Others
15. Any suggestion for its improvement and development to make it as eco- tourism destination.....
-

Appendix - II

Questionnaire for Local People

1. Personal information
Name:..... VDC :
Ward No: --- Age: Sex : Male / Female
Education: Marital status: Married /
Unmarried
Occupation: a) Primary..... b) Secondary.....
2. Do you know about eco- tourism?
i) Yes ii) No
3. Do you think that tourism is a source of income?
If yes, how? If no, how.....
4. How do you assess the current ecotourism activities of Bashantapur -
Guphapokhari?
i) Highly sound ii) Moderate iii) No not so good
5. Do you see any future prospect of eco-tourism in Bashantapur-Gupha Pokhari?
i) Highly sound ii) Moderate iii) No, not so good
6. For what purpose the tourists mostly visit this area Bashantapur-Gupha Pokhari?
i) Sightseeing/Sunrise ii) Pilgrimage iii) Adventure
iv) Holiday v) Eco-tourism vi) Others
8. What is the most attractive thing that the tourist finds in your area?
i) Jadibuti ii) Wild animals/ Birds
iii) Rhododendron forest iv)Others
9. What can be other possible eco- tourism attraction around Bashantapur –Gupha
Pokhari?
i) Hatrung Jharana ii) Goukhari Temple
iii) Limbu Culture iv)Others

10. What are the problems to promote the recreational tourism in this area?
- i) Marketing
 - ii) Transportation
 - iii) product development
 - iv) Others.....
11. Do you feel any necessity of any kinds of training, seminars, and awareness Program to promote the recreation tourism?
- I) If yes, what kind of?
-
12. What kind of benefit are the local people receiving due to eco-tourism of Bashantapur-Gupha Pokhari?
- i) Getting job
 - ii) Selling local product.
 - iii) Preserve environment (no importance of eco-environment).
 - iv) Increase literacy rate.
 - v) All of them.
13. Is there any kind of disadvantages to you due to eco- tourism?
- i) Pollution/ noise
 - ii) Destroy the local culture.
14. Can you give any suggestions to promote recreational tourism in this area?
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Appendix III

Questioner for Professionals (Hotel owners/ Travel and Tour Operator/Business Person/ Government Officer)

1. Personal Information
Name:
 - Age:
 - Sex: Male/Female
 - Education:.....
 - Marital Status: Married/Unmarried.
 - Nationality:
 - Name of origination:
 - Establish Date of origination :
2. What is the peak season of tourist arrival in Basantapur –Gupha Pokhari?
Month.....
3. Type of Tourist according to their origin ?
i) Domestic ii) South Asian
iii)European iv) American
v)Other countries.
4. What is the purpose of their visit?
i)Sightseeing/ Sunrise ii)Pilgrimage
iii)Adventure iv) Holidays- peace Relaxation.
5. What is the expenditure pattern of tourist per day in your hotel ?
i) 1000-2000 ii)2500-3500
iii)4000 iv) More than 4000.

6. What is the length of tourist stay in your hotel ?
 - i) 1-2 days
 - ii) 2-4 days
 - iii) More than 4 days.

7. What are the facilities served to the tourists in your hotel
 - i) Lodging
 - ii) Fooding
 - iii) Transpiration
 - iv) Guiding
 - v) Others.

8. Do you see any prospects of eco-tourism in Basantapur – Gupha Pokhari ?
 - i) Highly sound
 - ii) Moderate
 - iii) Not so good.

9. What is the most attractive things that the tourist love in Basantapur – Gupha pokhari?
 - i) Eco-environment
 - ii) Rhodendran observation
 - iii) Birds and wild animals
 - iv) Others

10. Do you think this area as one of the best destination for development of eco-tourism?

11. In your opinion what should be done to attract your tourist.

.....

12. Any suggestions to promote eco-tourism in this area?

.....

13. Please provide me your menu an accommodation rate of the room.

.....

14. What is the government plan about Eco tourism in Basantapur Gupha Pokhari Corridor?

.....

15. Any suggestion about the ecotourism and Basantapur Gupha Pokhari Corridor.

.....

16. What government can do promote about eco-tourism.

.....

17. Any thing you want to tell about ecotourism.

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