

**LIVELIHOOD PATTERN OF STREET FOOD VENDORS IN
LALITPUR SUB-METROPOLITAN CITY**

**A Dissertation Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social
Sciences, Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Degree of Master of Arts
in Sociology**

**By
Yashoda Bhattarai
Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
2014**

CHAPTER - ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Among the different types of street vendor, large numbers of people are involved as food vendors. They serve to the people by providing different food items with low price such as curry, tea, bread, fish, meat, mo.mo, chowmin, chana chatpante etc. The street food vendors are those people who sell pre-cooked, or cooked food on the spot can be defined as the street food vendors. Most of them come from the rural areas. Food vendors are common in many urban centres in Nepal. However, the process of its development and its combination in livelihoods are less understood. It is in this context that this study was proposed.

Generally, livelihood means the way of living of individuals and households. There are different options of livelihood. According to DFID (2001) livelihood strategies are the range and combination of activities and choices that are undertaken to achieve their livelihood goals or the way of using assets. It includes productive activities, investment strategies, reproductive choice and much more. Such choice mainly depends upon the human capital and natural capital. To some extent, the choice is also shaped by the social norms and values. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with recover from stress and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future.

In the context of Nepal people are involved in self-employed work such as agriculture, wage labour, different types of carvings street vending of goods and services. Due to the rapid growth of population in the urban areas, many new types of livelihood options are developed. So rural people migrate to the nearest urban centre to find alternative ways to sustain their livelihood. Due to the regular

movement of the people as well as lack of the employment opportunities in urban areas, they have started to engage in the different informal economic activities which use open urban resource such as street, road sides and open areas or bus park of urban areas where pedestrians flow is high. All the people those engaged in different activities in those public areas are known as street vendors (Poudel, 2011).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The study on street foods vendors and their livelihood in the changing urban scenario as well as the occupational sustainability is a burning issue of the present day. Very few studies have been made on the street food vendors' livelihood. Therefore it is necessary to study the likelihoods of street foods vendors within the urban morphology.

The vendors are from different caste/ethnic religious background and socio-economic background of the vendors is diverse. Some vendors have changed socio-economic condition by the vendoring. Due to the limited skill and low access to the resources majority of the vendors are occupying footpaths and streets of the busy city areas. In the absence of planned development the street food vendors cause troubles to pedestrians, local shopkeepers and local residents by displaying their selling goods and materials in the busy flow of traffic. They are also blaming for making noise and garbage during their business unlimitedly whole urban environment.

Definitely, all the seasons and months are not favourable for the street occupation. So the income is not equal in all seasons what the level of income of the foods vendors is and its seasonality are important aspects. The vendors have also other problems which are facing now. The problem may be the physical problem, social problems, environmental problems etc. Nevertheless the foods vendors are selling

to the consumers in cheap price. In this context some relevant research questions relate to the study of street food vendors are as follows.

- a) What is the socio-economic background of the street foods vendors?
- b) Why did they choose the street food vending?
- c) What are the problems and prospect of this occupation?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objectives of the study are to discuss the livelihood pattern of street food vendors in Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city. The specific objectives of the study are as follow:

- a) To understand the process of being street food vendors;
- b) To discuss the socio-economic conditions of the street food vendors; and
- c) To assess the vulnerability and benefits of the street food vending occupation.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The haphazard development of vending shop has threatened the urban ecology and environmental quality of the city. Maintaining city environmental quality is one of the priorities of balanced development of the city as whole. The conservationist should have some insight into the relative condition of existing vendor activities for formulization plan and policies for solving the environmental problem of city.

The study is necessary to provide employments opportunities by exploring different livelihood options on the one hand and maintain environmental quality of the urban centres on the others. The results of the presents proposed study could provide basis for the development of urban centres and people in sustained way.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

There are more street vendors who sell different things to earn the livelihood but this study selects only the food vendors who sell the food continuously. To study the livelihood of other street vendors is out of the scope of this study. The study area is confined to. Jawlakhel, Lagankhel and Krishna Temple of the Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city. This study is limited these three areas because of time and budget.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This dissertation is organized into different chapters with different dealings. The organization of this dissertation paper is presented as follows:

Chapter first gives introduction of the study. Similarly, objectives, statement of the problem, significance and organization of the study are included under this chapter.

Chapter second deals about the literature review focusing on the street vending and their livelihood pattern.

Chapter third is organized on methodology of the study. Methodology includes the study area, sample population, selection procedure, questionnaire design, and data analysis procedure.

Chapter fourth included socio-economic characteristics of street food vendors, which includes age and sex structure, family size, marital status, educational

status, caste and ethnic group, assets of origin place, previous occupations, income vulnerability context of street food vendors, problem of the street food vendors and occupational sustainability.

Chapter fifth is the conclusive chapter. It gives the summary and conclusion of the thesis.

CHAPTER - TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

Relevant theories and concepts of livelihood are reviews below:

2.1 Theories and Concepts

People have different ways to adopt with their local environment in the different part of the world. Different models and approaches have been developed to address the issues adoptative livelihood pattern. Sustainable livelihood approach has been discussed by different scholars.

The livelihood concept is a recent one. This concept date back to the work of Robert Chambers in the mid 1980s and further developed by Chambers and Conway and other in the early 1990s (DFID, 2001). Since than sustainable livelihood several international forums become a major issues in the Brundtland Commission in 1987 has introduced the concept and the UN Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 adapted the concept of sustainable livelihood for all. Other development agencies such as DFID, UNDP, and OXFAM etc have internalised the concept of sustainable livelihood in different programmes and then modified and developed their own framework to address in the multiple dimension of poverty. In the classic paper on sustainable livelihood in 1992, *Sustainable Rural Livelihood: Practical Concepts for the 21st century*, Robert Chambers and Gorden Conway defined sustainable rural livelihood as:

A livelihood comprises of capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living: a livelihood is sustainable which can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the

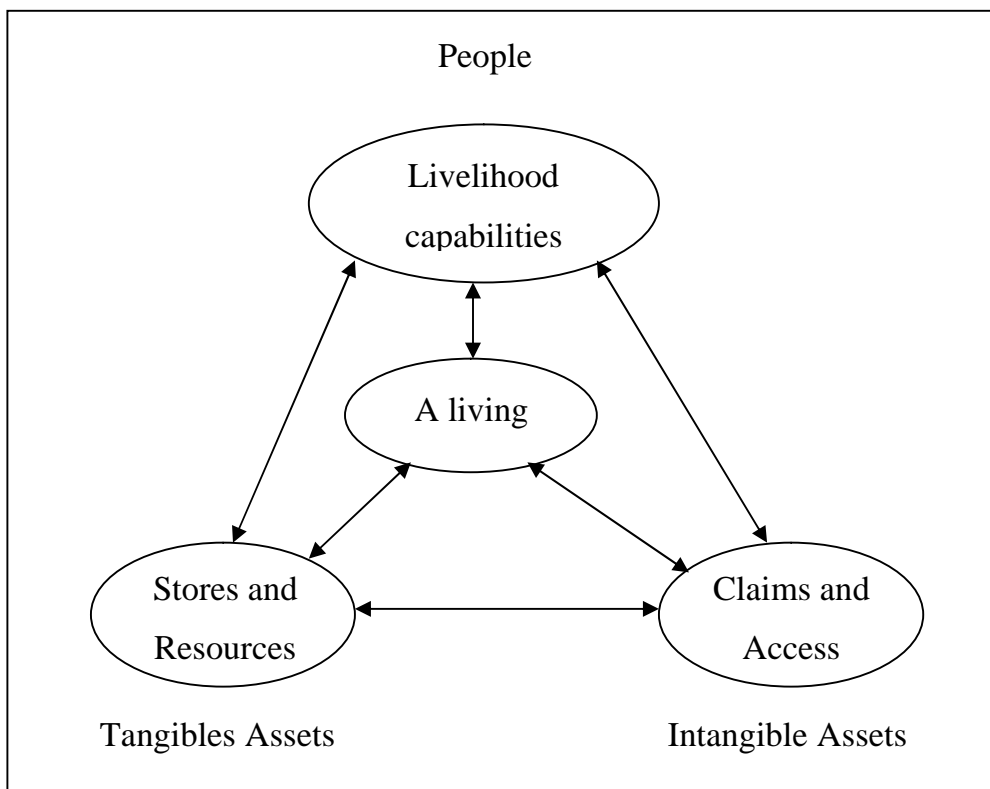
next generation and which contributes net benefits to other livelihoods at the local and global levels and in the short and long term (Chambers and Conway, 1992).

They point out three interlinked concepts, equity and sustainability as the fundamental for sustainable means of sustainable livelihood. Capability refers to ability of an individual or household to cope with stresses and shocks and ability to find and make use of livelihood opportunities. Likewise, quality implies a less unequal distribution make use of livelihood opportunities. Likewise, quality implies a less unequal distribution of assets, capabilities and opportunities. The concept of equity place especial concern of the enhancement of the most deprived ones, coming at ending the discrimination of any kind. Furthermore, sustainability refers to self sufficiency and self reliance.

Chambers and Conway (1992) have presented an approach for sustainable livelihood which has given in figure 2. The figure depicts the interaction and interplay between different assets, capabilities of households or an individual and livelihood. Households or individual have certain capabilities with which they mobilize different assets (the resources and stores they have) to make a living. A living is the output or gain from the activities (livelihoods strategy) Livelihood capability greatly influences in capturing available livelihood options and hence gaining decent living capabilities and assets are interdependent to each other. Higher capabilities of households enable them to undertake better livelihood strategies (activities for gaining a living) which in them enhance the stock of assets. Similarly, better stock of assets forms the basis for enhancing capabilities. The capabilities and assets together enable households to adopt sustainable livelihood strategies, the central idea of which is to ensure sustainable decent living. Household's assets provide material and social means to realize a livelihood. Livelihood sustainability is a function of how assets and capabilities

are utilized, maintained and enhanced in order to preserve livelihood (Chambers and Conway 1992).

Figure 2.1: Components and Flows in Livelihood



Source: Chambers and Conway 1992.

According to the livelihood approach, assets could be tangible or intangible. Stores and resources, which households command are the tangible assets. Stores include food stocks, valuable assets such as gold jewellery and saving. In the same manner, resources include land, water, livestock, tree, from, equipments and domestic utensils. Claims and access are intangible assets of households. Claims are the appeals and demands that can be generally made at times of stress and shocks or at times of contingencies or emergencies for materials, moral or other supports. The supports may t. Access refers to the practical opportunity to use resources, stores, services (transportation, education, health, shops, market etc) or to obtain information, material, technology, employment, food or income. Social capital (social network of a household and prevailing policies, institutions and process) largely determines the extent of claims a household can make and access it has to different services.

2.2 Studies Related to Livelihood Strategies

This section reviews the study in the field of livelihood strategies carried out in the past.

2.2.1 Nepalese Context

Subedi and Pandey (2002) carried out a study on the livelihood strategies of Rai community in Arun Valley. They focused on the continuity and change in the livelihood strategies of the community along with the socio-economic and environmental changes, based on their fieldwork on Sitapati and Makalu two spatial locations of different altitudinal zones. They found that in both places household had gradually reduced land under *Khoriyas*, used more public resource for left-consumption and transformed *bari* (non irrigated slopping terraces) in to *Khet* (irrigated sloping terrace), This followed additional inputs in agriculture, adoption of multiple cropping and cropping diversification strategy. On the other

hand, strategies such as wage labouring, pottering, brow wowing, crediting and livestock selling activities were the sequence of livelihood strategies adopted under pressure. They concluded that a specific sequence of change was found in land utilization pattern and conversion of land into more productive categories. The communities had also adopted several activities to fulfil their needs due to limited food supply and the agriculture was heavily dependent on nature.

Acharya (2004) has studied about the changing environment and livelihood pattern of ferrymen of Phewa, Pokhara. He found that about 48 percent of the spouses of ferryman are to be engaged in different occupation. Among them 50.9 percent are involved in agriculture works and animal husbandry followed by 14.5% each in shop and boating, 10.9 percent in hotel service and 1.8 percent in restaurant, boat making, tailoring and electrical works. He has mentioned a significant proportion of ferrymen are rowing boat in Phewa Lake for a long time. But improvement in living standard is not encouraging.

Shakya et al. (2007) studied on the petty vending shops in Kathmandu and their access of the formal credit because of their illegitimacy. As such they were victims of various interest rates, which is like the water for the thirsty. So without the credits there is no survival of any kind of business will survive or flourish. So the vulnerable state of the vendor are not concerned any one but to put pressure to them by the authority as cause crowed to the traffic and making city untidy. Therefore researcher tried to make aware the concerned authority upon the state of this petty shop vendor.

Poudel (2009) studied small petty vendors and their activities in Pokhara town. His study analyzed the spatial distribution pattern of foot-path shops, its seasonal variation, and composition of goods sold and the socio-economic status of foot-path vendors. He selected 132 samples from five different locations of the centre and surrounding areas of Pokhara. He considered 15 items related to the foot-path

shops including vegetables. He found out the representation of the vegetable seller occupied the highest position accounting for 19% of the total shops, he concluded that there is seasonal variation of the grocery shops.

Dahal (2009) studied the activities of the small entrepreneur in cities of Lalitpur sub-metropolitan. He stated that street hawkers were serving the poor and middle classes people of the city and its peripheries selling varieties of good at relatively cheaper prices than register shopkeepers. At the same time the hawkers self employed being were assisting the government in solving the problem of unemployment and alleviating poverty. On the one hand, they were making unnecessary noise and dirt which disturbed the pedestrian and local residents, and considering them as the agent to worsen the look of the city beauty. He showed that some of the hawker was also being suffering from problems from pedestrians, customers and local authorities affecting their business. The author concluded that they are also important part of the city growth and suggested that instead of banning them, they should be rehabilitated or shifted to some other parts of the city.

Rayamajhi (2009) in his study in the socio-economic condition of the newspaper in Kathmandu focused on the child labour cum child newspaper hawkers in the city. He found out that the number of the child labour are increasing rapidly in the city areas as it was only confined to the rural areas only. Due to the hard ship and the economic crisis the rate of migration is growing toward the urban areas. According to his finding about the involvement of the children the number of the boy child are more compared to girl child and the predominant age group was 12 years old and they had excluded from many of the boys newspaper children were dropped out and some were those who never saw the face of school. Researcher Rayamajhi found out that they had come here to vend newspaper on the commission basis under low salary and he concluded that most of them are here

due to the poverty. Therefore he further suggested that the government and civil societies should make some provision to educate and give them the better future.

Bhattarai (2010) has studied on Rickshaw Pulling as a way of earning livelihood, Birtamod in Jhapa. This reseae to the high illiteracy, ignorance and downtrodden status they take very little interest on social events that take place in and around society. They move from their places of origin in search of employment opportunities in urban centres. At last, they end up being involved in various type of wage work (labour) a daily basis from early morning to late evening. Likewise 50 percent spouses are involved in other wage labour occupation and businesses. Due to lack of good infrastructure, Rickshow Pullers face problem in their daily professional work. Most of them failed to manage and utilize their income property despite reasonable daily income. So, the livelihood strategies of Rickshow Pullers have been found that there are no such better strategies of life. They spend life just on “earn and spend” system.

Basnet (2010) has studied about the changing survival strategies of the Cobblers living in Katunje village of Bhaktapur district. He studied on demographic, economic, cultural and natural condition of Sarki community and changing socio-cultural and environmental process of adaptation of the Sarki community of the study area. According to Basnet, cobblers from the study area have developed leather working through Bali system and agricultural technology to exploit their surrounding environmental, marketing and selling of the leather goods and Bali system has always been the main economic activity of the cobblers. The secondary occupation of the cobblers is wage labour or agriculture. But the present, their traditional occupation of leather works and Bali system are decreasing because of imported leather goods establishment of leather factories, factory made shoes and free entrance of Indian leather workers. Consequently they have been employed in industrial sectors as wage labour, Nepalese army and police.

Sharma (2011) has studied about the livelihood strategies of the household in marginal community of urban periphery of Kathmandu and its impact on women. The majority of them are landless but some have very small land holding size. Most of the male and female are engaged in wage labour and small business of their own, Putuwar are living in an extremely poverty situation. The main reason for this is due to lack of education. They do not have enough finance to educate their children. They do not give any importance to education as their main priority is towards sustaining life. Thus, this vicious cycle of poverty is the main aggrandizer of the problems. It was found that some families are still engaged in traditional occupation i.e. selling of red soil. The wage is not enough to provide all the necessities of life. Wage labour at present is in a miserable condition in the urban areas as a result of influx of migrants from India and from different parts of Nepal due to unemployment as well as due to Maoist insurgency. Lastly he found that there has not been involved better strategy of life among Putuwar community, despite the fact that they are hard working and honest. As their life is just based on “earn and eat” system they are not concerned for their future as well as of their children.

Rajbansi (2011) has studied the livelihood pattern of marginal communities in Peri urban area of Nepal. In the context of significant socio-economic and environmental changes the major aim of this study is to identify sustainable livelihood patterns of marginal communities living in highland and lowland areas of Bajrayogini village, a peri-urban are of Kathmandu. As the poor and marginal communities face greater livelihood insecurity due to their lower level asset holdings, they have to seek alternative income sources for sustaining their livelihoods. For this they have to use their livelihood assets to interact with transformation of the existing structures and processes in the pursuit of livelihood objective. Therefore, this study will examine diverse livelihood strategies of various marginal communities belonging to different ethnic groups living in both

the highland and lowland areas of the study area. And this study also aims to assess the impact of local, national and global changes in the adoption process of new livelihood strategies.

Poudel (2011) have studied on livelihood and occupational vulnerability of street vegetable vendors of Kathmandu city. He mentioned that, economically weak, disadvantage group, poor and squatters are involved in this profession. Their daily income is very low and they aren't able to fulfil their needs for sustaining their livelihood in urban areas. In urban areas all the needs are bought with money and labouring is the only way to generate income in the urban and the ways of generating income for the unskilled uneducated people like street vegetable vendors are less in urban areas.

Although most of the respondents felt that their occupation was sustainable at the same time they also felt that their place of vending was vulnerable. But, it is true that for sustainability of their occupation they really need a place to sell their goods. At last he found that, street vegetable vendors are sustaining their livelihood in the street of Kathmandu by ignoring the authorities and they are coping with the shocks and seasonality by selling vegetables in convenient location with convenient prices.

2.2.2 Non Nepalese Context

Sheik and Thomas, (2008) conducted a study on food choice of adolescents in relation to eating habits. Comparison was made between Asian and British originated adolescent. They found out that the food preference varies according to the age group and new types of style in food are characteristics of younger people. According to the study the images of food and dishes among Japanese female (above 12 year) children and adolescents have very different food preference. It was founded out that the age group between 9-18 years old prefer foods and fast

food and in other hand it was found out that Asian were found eating more of Indian style and vegetarian food in fast food outlets as compared to other groups. Therefore the study concluded that the choice of food total depends upon the age group and the place of origin too.

One studies in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. On the street food vendors found out that rate of increasing urbanization had led to rapid growth of the street food vendor industry, but this sector is still treated as the informal sector in many countries (FAO Report, 1988). Therefore realizing there socio-economic and nutritional significance as well as their potential for health hazards, they strongly recommended that national authorities take early steps to recognize and upgrade its industry. They concluded that these street food vendors are as partners in urban food supply system. Therefore this report focused the direction of the research in the context of Nepal that has recently taken few steps in this field.

The order of the supreme court on more street food in Delhi highlighted the issue of banning the street food vendor in Delhi City in Indian (Batra, 2007). She put the case that due to globalization of the world every city and town is marked by the overwhelming presence of the informal economy. Hawker and street vendor are the visible sector of the informal sector of the economy. She pointed out that 93% of the Indian's work force is in the unorganized sector, which account for 63% of the country's GDP. Therefore there is dearth of the reliable data on the prevalence in the informal sector in urban areas. She pointed out that the different studies which put this number at 65% in small towns to 46% in million plus cities. In any case, one can safely assume that over the workforce in urban area is earning livelihood in informal sector. Among them 15% are the street food vendors. Similarly she puts further that in Delhi among the 40%, only 22% are employed in the organized sector where as there is no official data but figure round up between 3 to 4 lakhs working in the informal sector activities in the city. The study showed

unlike many Master Plans of Delhi have repeatedly made the provision for accommodating and regularizing hawker and vendor but there has been little effort on the part of the authorities to effectively implement these provisions. There in this context the recent Supreme Court order banning cooked street food in capital with the view to beautify the city for Commonwealth Games 2010. This is like punishing the victim instead of the perpetrator. There the report tried to emphasize that at the time when the economy has stopped creating jobs despite the entire noise about the 8% growth rate, the court order is bound to add a few lakh more to the list of the unemployed. Not only that it will kill the 500 year old great culinary tradition of street food of Delhi beside making the city further unsafe. Significantly, the order comes at a time when the government is considering allowing 100% FDI in retail selling of commercial units, removal of hawkers has the highest court of law put its weight firmly behind the Reliances, Walmart and McDonalds of world.

The overall guiding issues to be explored by this study are:

- a) The change occurring in the occupations of the marginal people and their institutions over time due to the impact of globalization, state policies, liberalization, privatization and infrastructural developments.
- b) Adaptive strategies applied by the marginal households to maintain household income in the changing situation. In this context, livelihood diversification, rural-urban migration or interactions and contribution of women in the livelihood security will be empirically examined.
- c) Street food vending is common in the urban area. So it opens a new sector for employment and reducing poverty. This sector also

provides food to the consumers with low price than other hotel and restaurant.

- d) Concerned organization should provide them awareness program about their health vulnerability.
- e) The study on the food vendors should be conducted on a large scale which could include all food vendors from all location of the valley.

CHAPTER - THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses the methodology adopted in this study.

3.1 Selection of the Study Area

On the basis of following major characteristics, Lalitpur sub metropolitan city has been selected as the study site. First; it is highly occupied by street food vending groups. Second; within Lalitpur, three locations were selected those are Jawalakhel, Lagankhel and Patan Krishna Temple.

3.2 Nature and Source of Data

This study is based on primary information. However, available and relevant secondary information are also used whenever necessary. Primary data is collected from field survey whereas secondary information was collected from various published as well as unpublished documents. To generate data of socio-economic characteristics of foods sellers' interview survey method was adopted by administering structured questionnaire. Similarly, other methods such as observation, key informants interview, focus group discussion were also used to collect essential qualitative and quantitative data.

3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The areas Jawalakhel, Lagankhel and Patan Krishna Mandir were purposefully selected. These areas were selected on the basis high dominance of static foods vendors for the study. Out of total 54 vendors, 20 from Jawalakhel, 20 from Langankhel and 14 respondents from Patan Krishna Mandir area were taken. The distribution pattern of the vendors has given Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Distribution of Sample

Location	Vendors		
	Total Vendors	Sample Size	Percent
Jawalakhel	55	20	36.36
Lagankhel	70	20	28.57
Patan Krishna Mandir	45	14	31.11
Total	170	54	31.76

Source: Field Survey, 2013.

3.4 Data Collection Tools and Techniques

The field work was carried out the second and third week of October and November, 2013.

3.4.1 Observation

Observation can include everything from field research where one lives in another context. In this study, direct observation has been used to minimize the possibility of false and inaccurate information collection. This technique was used to gather information about vendors' day to day life, problems, selling pattern as not only as a researcher but also as a customer.

3.4.2 Questionnaire Survey

As questionnaire survey is the prominent tool to collect information about individuals as well as households. A standardized questionnaire was used for the field survey. In this study, this tool was used to collect basic information about population structure, income expenditure and way of earning livelihood and socio-economic of street food vendors. See appendix-1

3.4.3 Case Study

To acquire information about street food vendors and the livelihood the two case studies were conducted. The first one was an old vendor with more 15 years of experiences in this occupation. He expressed his experience since starting to now and mentioned about problems. Second one was Chairmen of Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city.

3.5 Data Processing

After finishing the field survey, the task of data processing was done both by manually and computer. The entire completed questionnaires were edited coded and transformed to the data code sheet. The data code sheet was manually constructed. All the data of code sheet have been tabulated with the help of computer. Digital map was made from the available database of Kathmandu valley.

3.6 Data Analysis

The survey data were both quantitative and qualitative in nature. Therefore analysis has done on the basis of nature of data. Quantitative information has been presented on tabular form and analyzed the table. Development process of food

vendors income, expenditure etc. was analyzed in such way. Motivational factors and educational status of the vendors, and business trend and working hours are presented quantitatively. After preliminary assessment of the vending activities, developmental process and the background of the vendors such as education age level etc. the motivational factors was generalize as a cause and effect analysis.

The problems of vendors was presented analytically on the basis of field observation and focus group discussion as well as individual survey, livelihood pattern of the vendors has been qualitatively analyzed keeping consideration in the capabilities, assets and problems of the vendors. In this way qualitative information such as respondents personal feeling and experience were tried to present in box form and text.

CHAPTER - FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF STREET FOOD VENDORS

This chapter discuss the socio-economic status and its relevance with sustainable livelihoods. It trends to give an insight of their change in socio-economic status. The social status comprises the information like demography, education and decision role at family, health etc. The study on economic status comprises of the information regarding the occupation, income, consumption and expenditure pattern and information regarding to their current job.

Three locations Jawalakhel, Lagankhel and Patan Krishna Temple are famous places in Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City. People move from other places to these places in order to earn more money for sustain their livelihood. Snack vendors from different areas of the country have centralized in Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan

City. These three places are political, economic and historic as well as tourist core of Kathmandu valley where a large number of people have been earning for their livelihood through snack vending. However, most of the snack vendors are migrant people. They have come from different geographical regions of the country.

4.1 Developmental of the Street Foods Vendors

Street foods vendor means who sells foods in the street for livelihood. In Nepal, there are so many street vendors. Now days, street foods vendors are increasing in day by day because chaotic urbanization and poverty.

Street foods vendors have been developed in Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city because it is going to be high unemployment rate, poverty, high population growth and urbanization. There is not exact date when vending occupation was started in Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city. Generally street foods vendors (SFVs) have been developed when urbanization was developed. However, people have come valley from outer parts of valley to earn more money for sustain their livelihood. In Kathmandu valley, due to the limited resources and industries people do not get good job so that they are involving in this occupation. In a few investment (6000–20000), people get more profit (monthly around 10000) from this occupation. Therefore, peoples are attracted in this occupation. The equipments of this occupation are box, stove, three wheeler vehicles, cooking pots, plates, spoons, paper etc. There are no any especial men powers for this occupation but some vendors are trained by home.

4.1.1 Place of Origin

People move from one place to another in order to earn more money for sustain their livelihood. Food vendors from different areas of the country have centralized in Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City. Lalitpur is a political, economic and historic as

well as tourist core of Nepal where a large number of SVs have been earning their livelihood through food vending. However, most of the SVs are migrant. They have come from different geographical regions of the country.

Table 4.1: Origin Place of Street Food Vendors

Place of origin	Region	Districts	No. of Respondent	Percent
Nepal	Mountain (7)	Dolakha	3	6
		Sindhupalchok	4	7
	Hill (28)	Ramechhap	2	4
		Palpa	2	4
		Tanahu	3	5
		Syanga	3	5
		Makawanpur	2	4
		Gorkha	2	4
		Kathmandu valley	5	9
			4	7
		Kavre	3	6
		Nuwakot	2	4
		Sindhuli		
	Tarai (14)	Bara	2	4

		Parsa	2	4
		Mahottari	3	5
		Saptari	2	4
		Sunsari	3	5
		Routhut	1	2
		Dhanusa	1	2
India (5)			5	9
Total			54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013.

Out of 54 respondents 91 percent (49) vendors were from different district of the country and 9 percent (5) respondents were from Kathmandu valley and neighbouring country, India. Table 4.1 shows the Nepalese foods vendors are higher than Indian. In the case of Nepalese, majority of food vendors are from Hill regions and followed by Tarai. When, we deal on district basis street food vendors from Kathmandu valley, Kavre and Sindhupalchok districts are found in the largest number.

4.1.2 Reason for Choosing this Occupation

People should do any economic activities to fulfil the need of individual and households. Most of the vendors have selected this occupation within this broad category of cause. The street vendors choose the occupation of food selling, as it offers no load of investment to handling the occupation, no barrier for the illiterate ones, and for others flexible thing is main attraction for the part time involvements. Furthermore, for the unskilled migrants are attracted to this

occupation as only general number and ability to transact goods for money is sufficient to involve in this occupation. It is very easy to conduct. Some of the street food vendors said that poverty and unemployment is the major part for choosing this occupation.

4.1.3 Working Pattern

All government and non-government sector offers a limited time for work. The working hours in the context of the SVs is being analyzed here.

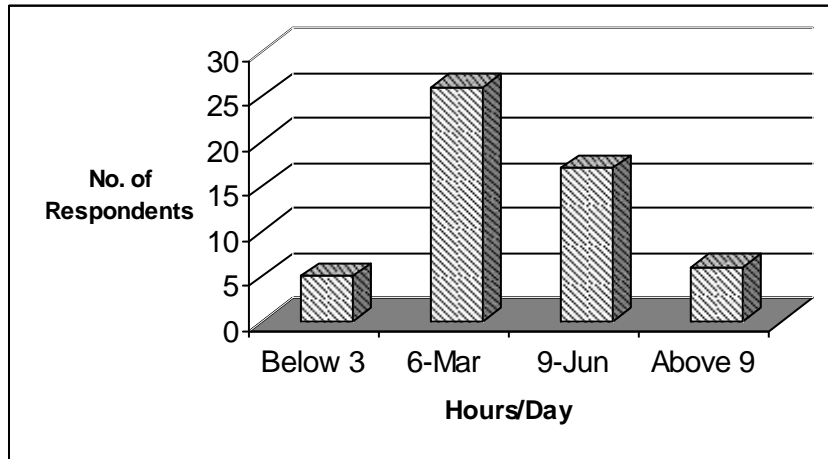
Table 4.2: Distribution of Food Vendors by their Working Pattern

Hours/days	Respondents	
	No.	Percent
Below 3	5	9
3-6	26	48
6-9	17	32
Above 9	6	11
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013.

Table 4.2 and figure 4.1 shows that among the street food vendors only 9 percent have to work for below 3 hours per day and 48 percent have to work 3 to 6 hour per day. The difference exists because the working hours for the SVs are not defined as the street occupation comes in the informal sector of work. Besides that street occupation is considered as the easiest work so the time spent in this is nearly counted.

Figure 4.1: Distribution of Food Vendors by their Working Pattern



Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.1.4 Display of Merchandise Goods (Foods)

There are mainly four localities of food vendors like transportation junction, commercial zone, institutional zone and monumental zone. Majority of the vendors i.e. 57.69 percent used a price of wood on the floor and display their foods in small wood rack. While 25 percent of the vendors displayed on three wheel carts, similarly 9.62 percent used four wheels cart for displaying their product and cook foods on it with stove and 7.69 percent are displaying foods in street spot.

4.1.5 Source of Investment

From the analysis of the source of investment or the tending pattern of vendors. All of the vendors have not received any loans for their business, those who have not received any loans belong to the migrants who have sold their live-stocks or who have some case in hand while they leave their hometown or the few local traditional vendors who are well off. In this vendor there is no load of investment to handling the occupation and little money started it. All of the SVs have their own source of invest.

Table 4.3: Source of Investment

Source	Vendors	
	No.	Percent
Own	43	80
Loan	11	20
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.2 Age and Sex Structure

Age and sex are important variables in population studies. The age and sex characteristics of the food vendors living in core area of Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City are shown in Table 4.4

Table 4.4: Distribution of Food Vendors by their Group

Age Group	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total	Percent
14- 20	4	15.38	2	7.14	6	11.11
20-30	4	15.38	5	17.86	9	16.67
30-40	9	34.62	13	46.43	22	40.74
40-50	6	23.08	5	17.86	11	20.37
50-60	3	11.54	2	7.14	5	9.26
> 60	0	0	1	3.57	1	1.85
Total	26	100	28	100	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

The data pertaining to the age of the foods vendors show that the average age of vendors is 35. The minimum age of vendors is 18 while the maximum age is 66. The data shows the maximum numbers of the vendors are within the age group of 30-39 i.e. 41 percent.

The number of vendors by sex in different location is given Table 5.4. It shows that female is dominant gender with 28 respondents compared to male 26 respondents. The presence to the female vendors is high in the Patan Krishna Mandir compared with other location compared to male vendor. This may be due to security reason. For example in this location the city rule gives to vend of evening hours, which is odd hours for male vendor to work.

4.3 Family Size

Size of the family within the nuclear and joint family may vary to a great extent. Though nuclear families are members. The family background is considered as the main basis of economic activities of the people. The number of vendors by size of family is given in table 4.5

Table 4.5: Family Size of the Street Food Vendors

No. of family members	No. of family	Percent
1-4	14	27
5-9	29	53
Above 10	11	20
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

According to this study, the majority of the respondents (53) percent have 5-9 members in their family followed by 27 percent with 1-4 members. This indicates

that majority of the vendors have joint family structure. During field survey, the researcher had asked about the reason of their joint family, they had replied that they do not have enough properly to share.

4.4 Marital Status

Marriage is a social phenomenon which can be different in performance, the custom and tradition of the community but the means is same. This is the important part of the social system. Table 4.6 gives the detail account of the marital status of the respondent. Many are married (67 percent) who seem to be more committed and responsible toward the family. There are only (30) percent of the unmarried members in a group and in this study area there are no separated but (3) percent of the widow respondents.

Table 4.6: Gender and Martial Status of Street Food Vendors

Married Status	Respondent		Total	Percent
	Female	Male		
Married	15	21	36	67
Unmarried	2	14	16	30
Window/widower	2	-	2	3
Total	19	35	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.5 Educational Status

Educational attainment plays pivot role in the betterment of livelihood and occupation. It enriches human capital which provides knowledge about different sectors to make peoples well being. It becomes necessary to focus about the educational attainment of the street food vendors. In this study education level of

respondents was summarized into three categories (i) illiterate, (ii) literate, (iii) higher education. Most of the vendors are illiterate, few of them are literate and two are higher educated. Educational background of street food vendors is not satisfactory.

Table 4.7: Educational Status of Food Vendors by Caste/Ethnicity

Education level	No. of food vendor with caste/ethnicity							
	Brahmin/Chhetri	Percent	Janjati	Percent	Dalit	Percent	Total	Percent
Literate	10	59	11	38	3	38	24	44.44
Illiterate	5	29	10	62	5	62	20	37.04
Higher education	2	12	8	6	0	0	10	18.52
Total	17	100	29	100	8	100	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Table 4.7 shows the educational background by their caste and ethnic background. SVs of the Brahmin/Chhetri are more educated than other caste and ethnicity. Only two SVs of Brahmin/Chhetri have completed SLC and no other castes have access in higher education. It is because Brahmin/Chhetri is at forefront in socio-economic status. Among the literate, SVs of Dalit are in the greater number (59%). Similarly, among the literate ones, highest proportion of SVs has gone primary levels education. The level of education of the people engaged in food vendors are rather low. Most of them are illiterate. In terms of caste/ethnic Janjati are involved most.

The education status of SVs shows that higher castes are more educational but the overall education attainment is low. Most of the food vendors reported that they are deprived of education in their childhood mainly due to poor economic status,

early marriage and family problem in the household. Beside these, the educational status of vendors is not satisfactory.

Case Study-1

Different things such economy, lack of school, custom plays role of being illiterate or poor education status. Box 1 presents a case of dropping of school.

Box 1: Cause of Dropout of School

Kuber Tamang, 35 years old from Sindhupalchok has completed the study of class five. He was very interested in study. After completing five, he started grade six. He said that he was good in studying. So, he himself collected all the books of grade six from his friend except English book. For this, he asked money to buy English book to his parents but his parents wanted that he would help them in domestic activities. They did not pay him any money. He revolted against his family. He not only left school but also home and family at the age of eleven years. Therefore, the main reason for dropout school was financial.

Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.6 Caste/Ethnic Group

It is obvious that the respondent of the study are from the different ethnic group in this study i.e. high caste (Brahmin/Cheetri), Janjati and lower caste (Dalit). They are the different ethnic community living in the Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city mainly concentrated at core area of Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan city. Various caste/ethnic groups were observed within the survey period, is shown in table 4.8.

Table 4.8: Distribution of Street Food Vendors by their Caste/ Ethnic Group

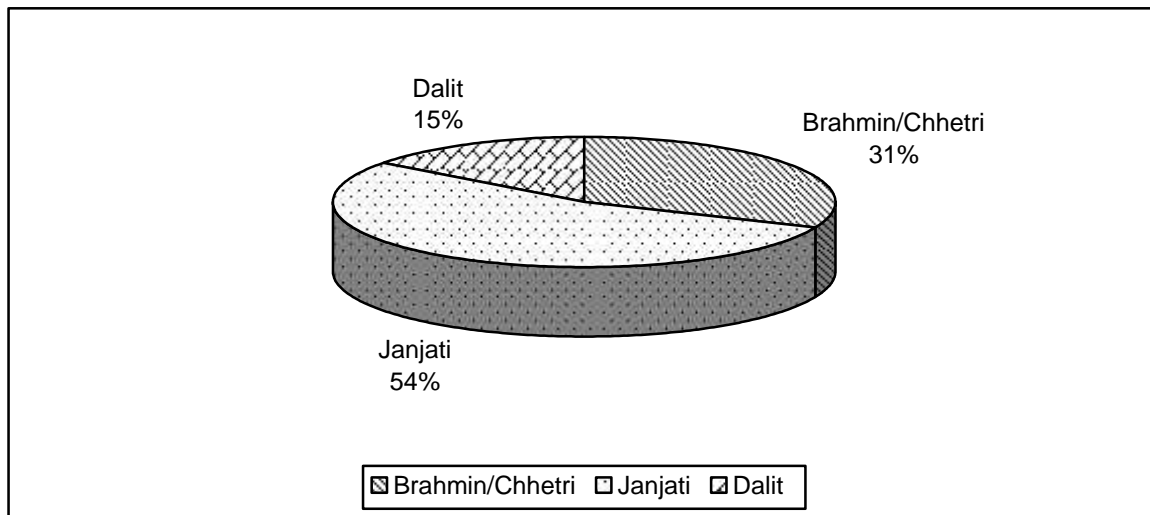
Caste/Ethnicity	Respondent No.	Percent
-----------------	----------------	---------

Brahmin/Chhetri	17	31
Janjati	29	54
Dalit	8	15
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

The Table 4.8 and figure 4.2 show that the majority of the food vendors are from Janjati in study area shares 54 percent followed by Brahmin/Chhetri with 31 percent and the least proportion is Dalit which covers 15 percent. It is conducted that the dominance of food vendors were of Janjati because they do any works without any hesitation.

Figure 4.2: Caste/Ethnic Composition of Street Food Vendors



Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.7 Assets of Origin Place

Assets at the origin place play the vital role to run livelihood. So, it is necessary to discuss about physical property at their home place discuss.

Table 4.9: Land Ownership

Land holding size (in Ropani)	No. of Vendors	
	Total	Percent
Landless	4	7
Only Ghaderi	8	15
Less than 5 Ropani	8	15
5-10 Ropani	9	17
10-15 Ropani	12	22
Above 15 Ropani	13	24
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

The Table 4.9 reveals that 17 percent respondents having land size of 5-10 ropani, 22 percent having 10-15 ropani and 7 percent have no land at all. Respondent having land size below 5 ropani and Gharedi only were found in equal numbers (15%).

4.8 House Ownership Pattern

Majority of the SVs are migrants as well as poor and are living in a rented room. Most of them started that their living place was surrounding area where they were working.

Table 4.10: Distribution of Food Vendors by Their Accommodation

Accommodation	Number of SVs	Percent
---------------	---------------	---------

Rent	51	94
Own House	3	6
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

From table 4.10, out of total 54 street food vendors, 94 percent are living in rented room because majority of respondents came outside Kathmandu and only 3 SVs i.e. 6 percent have their own home in the city. Among those who are living in rented room, the average rent is NRs. 2500 per month.

Table 4.11: Distribution of Food Vendors by Their Living Arrangement

Living arrangement	No. of vendors	Percent
With whole family	22	41
With children	12	22
Alone	16	30
With friends	4	7
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Of the total 54 vendors, 94 percent SVs are living in rented room and only 6 percent are living in own house. 30 percent SVs are living alone and there is no one to look after them. They have faced great problem especially during illness. About 41 percent are living with their whole family and 22 percent with children and spouse. There SVs have been adopted as kept friend by living together in a rented room.

4.9 Previous Occupations

All the respondents considered street food vending as an occupation and sustain their livelihood but before street food vending as livelihood strategy many of respondents had performed different occupation which is tabulated in the following table 4.12.

Table 4.12: Previous Occupations of Street Foods Vendors

Occupation	No. of respondents	Percent
Farming	13	24
Wage labour	10	19
Service	6	11
Student	5	9
Business	15	28
Others	5	9
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Table 4.12 shows before starting the vending business, the most of the respondents found to have been involved in business which was comprising 28 percent followed by 24 percent in farming. Similarly, 19 percent were wage labour and 9 percent students were involved in vending occupation. The vendors who had others types of livelihoods were included under helper, watchman, tailoring and carpenter.

4.10 Income

Naturally, street business which needs less investment, vendors earn less than other business. It is also true that livelihood of urban is different from the rural livelihoods. In urban areas, people need to buy everything to sustain their livelihood. Labouring (any kinds of work to generate income) is the main way of people to earn money that is unskilled and uneducated. Street foods vendors have same condition. They do not have any skill and education to get job in formal

sectors. So they must earn from food vending to sustain them and their family. Their income per month ranges from Rs. 5000-8000.

Table 4.13: Monthly Income of Vendors

Monthly Income (Rs.)	No. of Vendors	
	Total	Percent
Less than 5000	11	20
5000-6000	7	13
6000-7000	18	33
7000-8000	8	15
Above 8000	10	19
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Table 4.13 concludes that the food vendors do not have equal monthly income. Most of food vendor earn Rs 6000-7000 per month with share 33 percent of total respondents. This is followed by the monthly profit of Rs. less than Rs. 5000 which comprises 20 percent of the total SVs. Similarly, 19 percent SVs have monthly income of above 8000. A few SVs (13%) earn Rs. 5000-6000 per month. It was observed from the questionnaire survey that 90 percent of the respondents were involved in food selling as their primary occupation and only 10 percent of the vendors involve in other extra occupations such as, office pears, contraction worker, and agriculture sector.

4.11 Expenditure

The expenditure patterns of the vendor same with low level of people. Most of the vendors spend their income for shelter, food, clothes and schooling for their children. Monthly expenditure is another important factor for financial capital in

livelihood. To increase monthly income more difficult then to minimize monthly expenditure. So upon monthly expenditure they are able to control within a certain limitation. To share room and kitchen with more friends is the main strategy adopted to minimize the expenditure. Monthly expenditure of street vendors within study area is shown in the table 4.14.

Table 4.14: Monthly Expenditure of Street Food Vendors

Expenditure Rs.	Types of Vendors	
	Total	Percent
Below 2500	8	15
2500-4000	17	31
4000-5500	7	13
5500-7000	12	22
Above 7000	10	19
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013.

Table 4.14 shows that 15 percent of the respondents spend below Rs. 2500 per month. This is followed by the respondents spending Rs. 2500-4000 which covers 31 percent. Similarly 13 percent of respondents spend between 4000-5500 and remaining spend monthly Rs. 5500-7000 and above Rs. 7000 which covers 19 percent.

4.12 Saving Pattern

Saving is the important component for the livelihood analysis because such saving helps people to make a livings achieved only after fulfilling all the monthly expenditure because of the individual in income and expenditure their monthly saving also varied which is reported in the Table No. 4.15.

Table 4.15: Monthly Saving of Street Food Vendors

Saving Rs.	Types of Vendors	
	Total	Percent
Below 1000	15	28
1000-2000	7	13
2000-3000	9	17
3000-4000	9	17
4000-5000	8	14
Above 5000	6	11
Total	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

From the analysis of the monthly saving pattern of the street vendors, suggest that there are majority, which involves 28 percent of the total respondents have saving below Rs 1000 per month. Of total 54 respondents 11 percent have saved above Rs. 5000 per month. Similarly, the saving pattern shows that of the total respondent 17 percent save Rs. 2000-3000 and 3000-4000 per month both. According to the table there are greater variations in the exists the wide variety of economic classes which ranges from the poorest groups living subsistence economy which is predominant to the richer classes who are able to save more than monthly Rs. 10000 after paying for all the expenses. The box 2 shows a case of saving pattern of a vendor.

Case Study-2

Box 2: Monthly Saving by Babita

Babita Dahal, 45 years of age from Nuwakot has been involved in this occupation since 20 years. She is here alone in the rented house. She transacts daily profit Rs. 700 and spends Rs. 200. Thus her saving is daily Rs. 500 on average (monthly saving 15000) on the bank. This indicates that the monthly income is to Rs. 15000 on average.

Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.13 Vulnerability Context of Street Food Vendors

Vulnerability context is that circumstances which have a direct effect upon peoples' assets and options that are open to them into them in pursuit of beneficial livelihood outcomes. In this chapter, vulnerability context is used to represent the situation and factor which disorder the livelihood options of the street food vendors in Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City. The vulnerability context frames the external environments in which people exist. These vendors do not have their own place to run their occupation. They are using public place for the vendorings, especially open space and street. All the street food vendors concentrate in the places where the flow of pedestrians and vehicles is very high. As a result, their working place is not environmentally suitable for health as well other reasons.

There are some external factors which causes fluctuations in their regular income. Due to the different causes, the occupation through which they are earning their living is not secure and sustainable. This vulnerability has more to do with vendoring place rather than income. The occupational vulnerability of the street vendors is high. Therefore, living in urban setting becomes very difficult for them. Vulnerability varies from individual to individual because of lack of equal accesses to livelihood assets and skill or knowledge they possess. Vulnerability is

not a unique phenomenon but it is a combination of different factors that creates obstacles in the pursuit of livelihood activities.

The one hand, they are welcomed as street food vendors since they offer us nutrient items of reasonable price. On the other hand, people also feel that they have no right to be part of city and no right the use of public space privately. Likewise, together with the pot holed roads, the garbage and pollution, city dweller also feel that they contribute to the ugly look of the city. They also destroyed beauty of urban areas.

In fast growing cities vending no more remains an unnoticed activity. It is a major source of conflicts between city managers and planners on one hand and large number of vendors on the other. In this context, it would be rational to explore the real problems of vending in city like Lalitpur. It helps to understand the context within which the activity occurs and the problem associated with it.

4.13.1 Problem of the Street Food Vendors

Different types of the problems have been faced by the vendors. Most of their problems are related to the threat of authority, lack of adequate investment, problem of toilets, objections for vending space by house owners, pedestrians and vehicles and perishable nature of goods. Being, an unregistered and mobile nature the urban street food vendors are considered as problem creators. On the one hand they are not educated and unskilled which creates problem for them in finding job at formal sectors. And on the other hand, their presences have no legal provisions, allocated space for vending and positive thinking of public agencies. Thus street food vendors are facing many problems in performing their business in the street. Box 3 summarizes the problems of street food vendors.

Case Study-3

Box 3: Situation Observed During Field Survey

During the course of field survey, the researcher fortunately got change to observe three distinct situation faced by street food vendors.

Situation : 1

At Jawalakhel when researcher reached to conducts survey a female throwing stone at one of the mobile street food vendors. When the researcher asked him and found the cause of that he was standing in front of her shop with full basket of food and cycle and her shop is beloved.

Situation : 2

At Lagankhal, a conflict was observed between vendors and pedestrian. A pedestrian who had drunk pick up one of the foods items to test and vendors stop him doing so. Then the drunkards scald him. There was situation of dual between. But other vendors and pedestrians made understanding between them and possible dual was over.

Situation : 3

A group of young rowdy boys with four members roaming across the street who pick up foods item from basket of vendors with testing manner when vendors oppose them, they were ready for fight.

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Table 4.16 reveals the number and percent of vendors reporting different problem extenuated during vendor. Weakly 25 percent of respondents considered that locale authorities were the major sources to their problems. About 22 percent reported pedestrians are the major sources of problems. During the field survey, it

was found that 25 percent respondent have suffered from wholesaler. They blamed that the wholesaler do not behave equal among the vendors from Tarai, India and Hill. There seems racial discrimination. Most of the wholesale owners were from Indian or Tarai origin. Most of Hill vendors blamed that they gave them low equality goods in comparison to those originated from Tarai or India. In addition 6 percent respondent had suffered from local shop owners.

Table 4.16: Source of Problem by Location

Problem by	Location			Total	
	Jawlakhel	Lagankhel	Patan	No.	Percent
Authorities (local)	6	4	3	13	25
Roadway people	4	7	4	15	28
Pedestrians	7	4	2	13	22
Wholesale market	2	4	2	8	15
No problem	1	1	1	2	4
Local shopkeeper	0	0	2	3	6
Total	20	20	14	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

The conflict between street vendors and Municipal police has reduced after the change in political scenario. But recently, the municipality again announce to band the illegal establishment vendoring on footpath. Thus, it becomes the same as it was in the past problem of the pedestrian and street people faced by Madeshi and Indian people are high. Hill native people are no so much affected by them. In the wholesale market hill native people suffer because the most of the wholesale owners are either Madeshi or Indian. The wholesalers do not give much time to select goods. Vendors have to choose goods seeing through cursory observation

only. Sometimes rotten goods have to be sold because there is no provision of exchange.

4.13.2 Seasonality

Seasonality is the core of vulnerability context through which hindrances are aroused in pursuit of livelihood. In this study, seasonality is also used to indicate the situation which fluctuate daily activities and income of street food vendors. Sometime, they are able to earn more their expectation but situation does not always favour them. Different kinds of seasonality through which, their daily earning keeps on fluctuating thought out the years which includes in Table 4.17.

Table 4.17: Seasonality and Economic Impact

Season	Human response	Efficiency	Economic impact
Winter season (Dec. – Feb.)	People prefer food due to hot	Increasing earning decrease working load, most goods would be sold	Increase daily earning
Summer season (march – may)	people don't use more food items	Increasing working load of goods decreasing earning	Decreasing the earning
Before Dashian and Tihar, customary festival of Kathmandu valley	Movement of people increasing in the city	Increasing amount of selling	Increasing daily earnings
Holiday	Decrease the flow of pedestrians in nodal points	Decrease the business and income	Decrease the daily incomes

Banda and strike	Irritating to all people and decreasing flow of pedestrians	Decrease the selling	Less earning
------------------	---	----------------------	--------------

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Table 4.17 show that the vulnerability context of seasonality is not always native for the food vendors. Sometimes, due to the seasonal change they are able to increase their earning and their income rapidly decreases. So, their daily earning is not constant through out the year. In term of earning, there is positive relation between the income and flow of pedestrians. The components which are major cause of seasonality for their earning are natural season and cultural (festival) noise. In natural seasonality winter has positive role and summer has negative context in the case of street food vendors. Summer season has low ratio of income except the daily of raining. For the street food vendors, economic vulnerability becomes low in winter due to high preference to foods in cold season. Cultural season like feast and festival also causes fluctuation in their daily earning. Before Dashian and Tihar, and customary feast and festival of Lalitpur city has highly positive relation in term ofrs who belongs to that region or community go to celebrate festivals. At that time, due to decreased numbers of the vendors also decrease competition and increase income of remaining vendors. Dashian and Tihar are great festival to people of Hindu community and vendors who do not belong to that community earn much more at that time due to the lack of competition and festival.

Table 4.18: Income by Months

Months	Income (per family in Rs.)
January	8000

February	7000
March	7000
April	6500
May	6000
June	4000
July	6000
August	5000
September	6000
October	6000
November	7000
December	9000

Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.13.3 Occupational Sustainability

To sustain life occupation should be sustainable. Although, street foods vendors have been facing problems while doing their occupation most of them think their occupation is sustainable and while some of the vendors are not sure about their vendoring. Table 4.19 shows the responds number of events about sustainability of their occupation or work.

Even of the worst situation they do not want to quiet their occupation instead they are ready to face the problems that 44 percent respondent replied that their copulation is sustainable. This is followed by not sure which share 30 percent. Only 26 percent said that street food vendoring is not sustainable to their livelihood in their urban setting because there is a lost of uncertainly (not permanent place, Banda, rain) in open street.

Table 4.19: Occupational Sustainability

Location	No	Not sure	Yes	Total
Jawalakhel	4	6	10	20

Lagankhel	7	4	9	20
Patan (K.M.)	3	6	5	14
Total	14	16	24	54
Percent	26	30	44	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

4.13.4 Sustainability of Vending Place

Livelihood of street foods vendors depends upon an urban open space i.e., footpath. In this section, footpath is discussed under vulnerability context which is taken as common asset of street food vendors. On the one hand, the main purpose of the footpath is easy walking for the pedestrians. On the other hand, it was occupied by street vendors because it was most appropriate place for those people who do not have access to private stall or shutters for selling food. So large numbers of people are earning their livelihood due to lack of alternative job.

As has been mentioned already most of street food vendors indicated that their occupation was sustainable but when talked about their vending place they were doubtful and sceptical about sustainability of their vending places sustainability. They were worried due to illegally occupying vending place which is always their sources of being exploitation. The bitter reaction of the pedestrians' vehicle owner or drivers and municipal authorities are their matters of tension. The city was unsystematically developed and the open spaces were not enough for vending and vendors were growing day to day.

Table 4.20: Sustainability of Vending Place

Vendors Response	Jawalakhel	Lagankhel	Patan	Total	Percent
Not	12	8	7	27	50
Not Sure	3	4	3	10	19
Sure	5	8	4	17	31
Total	20	20	14	54	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

From table 4.20, of the total respondents 50 percent believed that their vending place was not sustainable. 17 respondents felt that their vending place was sustainable. And only 19 percent were in confusion on whether their vending place was long lasting or not.

Whatever rule and regulation of sub-metropolitan city and whatever comment from other side all of them were some how aware that the municipal authorities would not allow to carry out their work in these places for long time. But they give may allow for some specific time. This time will be after 5 P.M. or 5-8 A.M.

4.13.5 Political Instability

Occupational vulnerability of street food vendors is also related to political situation seasonality and political instability are key factors which effects daily earning of their groups. Due to political instability "strike" and "Banda" becomes the common elements of Nepali politics. Such activities of street food vendors are badly disturbed especially at location like nodal point: Jawalakhel, Lagankhel and Patan Krishna Mandir. These ultimately result into loss of income of these street food vendors. Thus, vulnerability is further reinforced.

CHAPTER- FIVE

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Summary

The present study on "Livelihood pattern of street food vendors of Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City was carried out to examine the development process, socio-economic characteristics and in the context of sustainable livelihood. A total of 54 vendors were selected from Jawalakhel, Lagankhel and Patan Krishna Mandir for interview. Street food vendors have come from different parts of country and also from outside the country. 91 percent were from within country and only 9 percent from India specially from Bihar. Among internal in migrant largest proportion was from the Hill region. 37.04 percent respondents were illiterate. Majority of these vendors were aged between 15-30 age groups. Street food vendors (SFVs) work long hours in general and it is more so in the case of mobile ones. Healthy climatic environment makes easy to run street vendoring under open sky and long hours.

Although they were using public space most of them had to pay tax for it. Fifty four percent respondents used to pay some amount directly or indirectly for using space. Among the vendors majority used bicycle and it also minimized their transport cost. Other means such as Thela, Doco are also used as their mode of selling. All SFVs live in rented accommodation. While some live in a single room shared their room with others. About 41 percent vendors shared their room with whole family. 94 percent of the vendors like in rented room.

Their monthly income ranged between NRs. 5000-8000. All of them were able to save some amount after fulfilling their necessities in the city. After adopting this occupation, they were not able to achieve dramatic improvement in their livelihood but they are not unhappy. There is heavy fluctuation in their daily

income. In winter income their earning far higher than in the summer days. During feast and festivals their daily income also increases.

Various reasons were given for their leaving of home place. Among them, family problems, natural hazard, large family size, joint family, and social networking are some of the factors leading to come to city and engage in food vending. The low investment, easy to handle, sense of freedom and profitable income were other factors noted by the vendors. Despite its positive aspects there are some external factors such as perishable nature of goods and illegal occupation of space internal factors like poor social like discrimination by place of origin place which make their occupation vulnerable. Although, street food vendors are considered as problem creators and agent in degrading the urban environment, traffic connection, unplanned disposal of wastes, pollution of food dust since open their livelihood security should not be overlooked before only decision to dismiss their employment.

5.2 Conclusion

Street food vending is common in the urban area. So it opens a new sector for employment and reducing poverty. This sector also provides food to the consumers with low price than other hotel and restaurant.

Vending business in the city has become a part of the socio-economic fabric due to the heavy increase of population and migration from within and outside the country. Street food vending is newly emerging activity in Nepal. They may have learnt from Indian vendors. Nepalese, especially hill people are learning phases of street food vending. Food vending has more potential among all street vending. It unplanned vending is prohibited by the cities such as Kathmandu, Lalitpur etc. Most of the food vendors maintaining their life better than their previous occupation. There is not much more difference between food vendors and other

vendors in their livelihood status but there is slight difference in handling their business activities

Street food vendors spend whole day under open sky. It is risky for their health condition. They do not care how long they have to work. They only run after money and customers. They spend 8-10 hours in a day on street. It is not easy and their compulsion. No one choose street if there is alternative. Life on the street is more miserable through it seem worthy in terms of income.

REFERENCES

Acharya, G. (2004), *Changing Environment and Livelihood Pattern of Ferrymen of Phewa Lake Pokhara*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Geography, Tribhuvan University.

Acharya, S. (2009), *A Comparative Study of Street Vendor's Livelihood in Nayee Baneshwor and Nayee Buspark in Kathmandu*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Geography; Tribhuvan University.

Adhikari, J. and Bhole, H.G. (2008). *Rural Livelihood at Risk: determinants of the Abilities of Nepali Hill Farmers to Cope with Food Deficiency*. In Jagannath Adhikari (ed.), *Changing Livelihoods*. Kathmandu: Martin Chautari.

Basnet, K. (2010). *Temperature Variation in Nepal, The Himalayan Review*, Kathmandu: Nepal Geographical Society Vol. XX-XXII, PP. 29-23.

Batra, L. (2007). *No more Street Food in Delhi*, <http://the-marxist.blogspot.com/2007-07.html> article. Downloaded Data 10/12/07, Time: 8:30 Pm.

- Bhattacharai, K. P. (2010), *Rickshaw Pulling as way of Earning Livelihood in Birtamod, Jhapa; A case Study of Urban Poor*, Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Geography, Tribhuvan University.
- Bhurtel, B (2000), *Changing Livelihood Strategies of the Kumals Living in Pokhara Valley of Western Nepal*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University.
- Bishop, B. C (1990). *Karnali Under Stress; Livelihood Strategies and Seasonal Rhythm in a Changing Nepal Himalaya*. Illinois: University of Chicago.
- CBS, (2012), *Nepal in figure*. Kathmandu: Central Bureau of Statistics
- CDG (2009). *Analysis of Natural Resource Potentiality, Market Demand and Target Groups in Kapilvastu*. Central Department of Geography, T.U. Unpublished report Submitted to MEDEP.
- Dangol, H. P. (2005). *Survival on the Street; Livelihood Strategies of Street Vendors in Greater Kathmandu*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University.
- Dawadi, G. S. (2008). *Efficiency Measures of Informal Sector in Kathmandu Metropolitan City*, Unpublished Masters Thesis. Institute of Engineering Campus, Tribhuvan University.
- DFID (2001). *Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets*. London: Department for International Development (DFID).
- Dhakal, J. (1998). *Small Entrepreneurs in Cities: A Case Study of Street Howkers in Lalitpur Sub-Metropolis*, Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University

- Dhamala, G. P. (2008). *Livelihood of Street Fruit Vendors in Kathmandu City*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University.
- Pradhan, P. K. (2004). *Rural Urban Relations with Particular Reference to Nepal*. Kathmandu: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- Ranjit, S. (2000). *Spatial Distribution of Vegetable and Fruit Vender: A Case Study of Kathmandu Metropolitan City*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Geography, Tribhuvan University.
- Shakya, A. M. and Shrestha, J. D. (1982). *A Study of Petty Vending Shops (Nagle Pasal) in Kathmandu City Core*, A mini research project report submitted to Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, T.U., Kathmandu.
- Sharma, I. (2011). *Prevalence of Ready to Eat Food Intake Among Urban School Children in Nepal and its Impact on the Nutritional State and Behaviour*. Unpublished Dissertation, Lady Irwin College, Department of Home Science, University Delhi.
- Subedi, B. P. & Pandey, R. (2002). *Livelihood Strategies of Rai Community in Arun Valley: Community and Change*, Unpublished Master's Thesis. Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University