

**Socio-Economic Condition of Domestic child Labour  
of Katmandu Metropolitan City  
(A case study of Kuleshwor Area of Kathmandu District)**

**A Project Report Submitted to:  
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**Submitted by:  
Nirmal K. Bista  
Exam Roll.No. 5158/4<sup>th</sup> Batch  
Regd no: 9-1-29-37-98**

**Central Department of Rural development  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu  
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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The use of domestic child laborers (DCL) is common in Nepal, especially in its affluent urban areas. At Kuleshwor area of Kathmandu. According to the study's findings, one of five household employs children.*

*Many have been victims of trafficking. Child domestic work is also a child labour issue because it involves economic exploitation and hazardous working condition. Child domestic work is a children's right issue. It violates most children's rights. Child domestic work is also a gender issue because most of them are exploited by sexual abuse. Domestic child laborers most commonly come from poor, often large rural families and poor urban families. The terms of employment of child domestic workers are a reflection of the social, cultural, land, economic factors that have put them in domestic work and held them there. A characteristic of all child domestic workers is the child's dependence of the employer. The attitude of the employer largely determines the child's level of vulnerability to exploitation and abuse. This present study was conducted at Kuleshwor area of Kathmandu metropolitan city. As the research target of this project work, this study covered various social, economic and cultural aspects of the respondents in the study area. The objectives of the study were to assess the socio-economic condition of DCL and to study the relationship between DCL and employer. Concerning these objectives this study followed different theoretical as well as research documents and methodological procedures of research. The research design of this study is descriptive and quantitative survey tools that can be adopted as necessary to investigate certain, often hidden. Primary data collection through field visit adopting different data collection tools as interview, household survey, Observation etc. the 60 domestic child labourers are taken with the help of purposive and convenience sampling. Some case studies of DCL are more significant to achieve the objectives in this study.*

*According to this study, Domestic child labourers are employed to perform domestic chores such as washing dishes, cooking, cleaning the house, look after the young children and other households activities. This study considers and child from the age of 5 to 18 working in an employer's*

household as a domestic labourers. Parents, relatives, employers, friends, villagers and broker play a key role in enrolling children to work as domestic child labour. It has seen that the significant members of children in various families routinely begin working as domestic workers well before they reach adolescence. Employers probably prefer to hire young children because teenager can be more difficult to manage for them. More than 50 percent DCL are boys because some ethnic group considers females to be impure during the saturation. More than one fourth of DCL are indebted from rural area. About 40% of the respondents can write their name and read Nepali difficultly. Employers do not send DCL to school because of increasing load and cost. Typically, there are no specific hours of tasks allocated to child day or night more than one third of DCL work more than 8 hours per hour which is abolished by law.

Loneliness, high workloads, bad treatment and extreme violent or abuse were cited by the children as reason they believed other might not enjoy this work. The DCLs spend all of their time inside layer. Sleeping and eating arrangement, typically separate, child domestic workers from other member of the house hold and reinforce their sense of inferiority.

Most of the DCL do not get paid for many years, some employers have many businesses so children have to work long hours without any day off, and some are beaten, scolded, sexually abused or raped. Children often do not dare to negotiate, they are afraid to go any where because they do not know the way. The relationship between employer and DCL is as owner and slave. Most of the children feel the lack of freedom and privacy. More than half (66.6%) percent DCL have left the working place one or more times who can find alternative job. So it seems that domestic work is just stepping stone. Very few of them do not change jobs frequently because decent employers who make them feel at home and part of the family. Often, all of them complained of their little earning.

To improve the situation socio-economic condition of DCL and establish the good relationship between employer and DCL following commendations are mentioned.

1. *There is clear need to strengthen the existing national machinery (Government, employer, workers and civil society) to work collectively in detecting monitoring and rescuing of DCL.*
2. *Awareness rising by conducting the educational and advocacy program.*
3. *Rehabilitation center should be increased.*
4. *Skill development programmes should be conducted.*

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## ABBREVIATION

C.B.S	Central Bureau of statistics
C.D.P.S	Central Department of population studies
C.L	Child labour
C.W.C.C.D	Centre for women / children and community Development
C.W.I.N.	Child Workers in Nepal.
D.C.L	Domestic Child labour
GON	government of Nepal
HRIN	Human Right in Nepal
ILO	International programmes of child labour
NHRC	Nepal Human Right Commission
No.	Number
RAC	Rapid Assessment Carried Out.
SN	Symbol Number
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nation International Children's Emergency Fund

# CHAPTER - I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

The definition of childhood is very complex; J. Borden (1990) indicates that official versions of childhood are based on ideology that childhood is demarcated by a series of biological and psychological attributes and not social characteristics. Judith Ennew also describe how international legislation is developed around a version of childhood that is based on " middle class children if the north and the south who do go to school, live in increasing private families and are assumed to helpless and not able to carry out adult tasks." It is because of this there is a marked difference between international rights, legislation and the socio economic realities of many children. It generally agreed that there cannot be one universal model of childhood, for even in the same culture children's lives differs form rural to urban areas. Judith Ennew (1994) points out that there are different stages in childhood and that, these are affected by the age, a child starts to work and the types of work they do. The United nation convention of the Rights of the child (CRC) defines a child as being under the age of eighteen unless nation laws recognize the age of majority earlier (Article 1). The Nepal Labour Act 1992 definition is below the age of sixteen years.

The effort to improve the situation of child labour in Nepal dates 1998, when Nepal singed the united Nation convention on the child Right of the child. The 1990 constitution of Nepal reinforces this effort by guaranteeing the right against exploitation and in 1992, the government enacted children's Act 1992. Both of them prohibit traffic in human beings slavery serfdom or forced labour in any form or other hazardous work. South Asia is home to over 400 million children, one quarter of the world children (UNICEF, 1995). It is estimated that there are 5 to 6 million child laborers in Bangladesh, up to 5 million in Brazil, 1 million in Egypt, 1 million in Guatemala, up to 40 million in Nigeria, over 2 million in Pakistan, 5 million in the Philippines and 4 million in Thailand. The UN estimates that by 2000, there will be 3.75 million child laborers worldwide (Pradhan, 1998).

Child labour is an emerging issue in Nepal not only in urban areas but also in rural settings. There is substantial proportion of children in several sectors of economy and their contribution to the livelihoods of households is substantial. A recent study indicates that there are 2.6. Million children (5-14) years in Nepal (CDPS, 1999), out of them more than nine-tenth is in informal sectors. Two third of the girls and one half of boys are economically active.

In Nepal, more than 86 percent people live in rural areas and over 38.5 percent are below the poverty line. The share of child population under of age 18 was almost 43.6 percent and children between 5 to 17 years are 33.0 percent in 2001 (CBS, 2002 4.7. million children agenda 6 to 14 years in Nepal, 22. 5 percent are economically active, and about 9.9 percent are wage workers. Among the children working for wage, almost 40 percent, or some 83,000 children work in the informal service sectors, which is largely comprised of domestic labour (NLA 2001). The use of domestic child labours (DCL) is common in Nepal, especially in its affluent urban areas, however, specific information on the incidence of domestic child labourers in urban and rural area lacks though it is suspected that at least half of DCL may be working in urban areas in Nepal.

The raising number of domestic child workers has been as result of the increasing migration of people and resulting growth of urban population. The growth is reflected in the rising in the number of municipalities on the one hand, and the increase of the population in towns on the other hand. For instance, the population of Kathmandu in a span of 10 yeas from 1981 to 1991 has almost doubled increasing at the rate of 6 percent every year (Gautam, 1994)

Law in most of the countries in the world prohibits child labour. But despite legal prohibition, child labour still exists as a part of the exploitative socio-economic reality. Child labour as an integral part of on labour market exists everywhere in the country. This is mainly because of the fact that the communed authorities have neither implemented the law effectively nor

formulated any plans of action for the welfare and rehabilitation of exploitative children.

The government of Nepal has demonstrated strong commitment to combat child labour. Nepal ratified the ILO minimum age convention (No 138) in May 1997 and ILO worst forms of child labour convention (No 183) in September 2001. International programmed on the elimination of child labour (IPEC) in Nepal dates back to 1995, when the ILO signed a memorandum of understanding with Government of Nepal (GoN) to launch a national program to progressively eliminate child labour. Since that time more, than 100 action and mini programs have been implemented in Nepal. Besides the government bodies and international agencies, nearly 240, NGOs active in the field of child development are registered in the country. Since 1995 the international program on the elimination of child labour has been working in 29 districts of Nepal (HRIN - 2003).

Although several programs have been engaging against the child labour, the exploitative and invisible form of DCL is increasing alarming day by day. Recent research by IPEC showed that under the age of 18 DCL are 21191 in Kathmandu valleys and DCL in urban area of Nepal below the age of a 18 are 55655.

Child labour in Nepal has a long tradition that reinforces the inherent inequality in Nepalese society. The worst form of exploitative type of work conditions involving children are domestic worker, prostitution, drug peddling, scavenging and rag picking, potter, child labour in restaurant, transportation, workshops, industries, mines etc. (NHRC, 2004)

Most children of poor families also extend supporting as a family 'bread winner' working as DCL in the homes of rich people. Some children work to repay the debts of their parents. The migration of children to urban area has been tremendously increasing these days and had led to the increase of child labour in the urban areas. (Pradhan, 1995).

The Ministry of Labour and Transport Management is well in to the process of drafting a master plan of action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2005 and all forms of child labour by 2010 (IPEC).

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

Social injustice system, ineffective of laws has aggravated the problems of child labours. Children are employed because they are docile, obedient, hired at cheaper rates than adults and dispensed off easily, if labour demands should fluctuate (UNICEF, EAPRO 1994).

In the year 2002, the child workers in Nepal recorded a total of 4506 related to the child exploitative (HIRN 2003).

It is the most explorative because the form of it is slavery in practices. Most children are forced to take heavy burden they have extremely long working hours, they are at high risk of physical and sexual abuse and are away from their own families many works no wages.

These feudal practices exists even today despite to practice being illegal, we are seeing an increase of DCL right across the country and in the particular in the urban area.

Employment of children as domestic helper is widespread among the middle and upper class families. The statistics on the condition of DCL in Nepal is quite alarming.

Children are parts of society and pillars of future. Child labour is not new phenomena in Nepal. This phenomenon has further increased in past few decades after the gradual industrialization and rapid urbanization. This made it serious problems in the world. Child labour is being recognized by concerned sectors as problem, although the number of study on child labour have been done especially focusing child labour working in carpet industries and other small scale industries and hotels, these are few studies in DCL. This study focuses on child labour as domestic labours. Therefore this study is typical in present situation more ever this study is expected to provide accurate information to child labour, which might be helpful, those who are interested to conduct to conduct in this field in future.

Child development is vital for the development of human resource of the country. They should be good care about their health, education with proper rearing but the case becomes just reverse in the case of Nepal, poor and underdeveloped country.

Children working as domestic helpers have a long tradition in Nepal. Its root is related to the ancient 'Kamaiya system'. This system had legally abolished, thousand of DCL are exploited by labour in Nepal. Unequal distribution of wealth, existing feudal tradition and religious and conservative thought impractical of laws, ignorance and others social phenomena are the causes to create DCL. Average age of domestic child labourer is 13, the 10 % of the workers are under the age of 10 and 70 % fall between the age group of 11 to 14 years while 49 % of the DCL have never gone to school. 40 % have had to drop their school education and only 11% attending school, even among these children most hardly get time to study at the employer's home. Paid leave, rest and recreation are rare. (NHRC 2007).

Instead of improvement in the situation, the present condition of Nepalese child is in far from satisfactory level. Many children are forced to work in different and hazardous condition simply to subsist their families.

Established children Act 1992 towards child right also can't control illegal DCL properly. So, that the worse form of DCL has been seeing and increasing urban area (HRIN, 2003), beside the government bodies and international agencies neatly 240 NGOs active in the field of child development and registered in the country. Since 1995 the international program on the elimination of child labour has been working in 29 district of Nepal but nobody is engaged towards the right of DCL effectively and properly.

### **1.3 Significance of the study**

Children are the best creation of future. They are sources of humanity, human civilization and development. So the publication asserts that the research on domestic child labour is inadequate and insufficient data makes it difficult to assess the nature and extend of problem in the field. Moreover, the legislative measures failed to be fully enforced on account of the

constraints of resources, staff and physical facilities. In practice, there is clear contradiction between the legal and constitutional the informal sector in which most of the child labour are engaged.

This study focuses of the socio economic condition of domestic child laborers. It is significant in the sense that research will explore one specific sector of child labour in Nepal. There are some studies on domestic child labour and discussion papers have published on domestic child labours. It is important to understand, why children are compelled to work as domestic child labours. Child labour has been a source of exploitation.

The children of today are the nation builders of tomorrow and the fate of the country depends upon them. So their future is essential to be bright. But when they remain illiterate it will be burden to the country itself so the details study of child problem is essential to be done for the save of their welfare. In future it will be obstacle to the overall development of the country. A detail study is relating to the issues on child essential to eradicate the child labour. This study will provide some suggestions to the concerning authority.

#### **1.4 Scope and limitation of the study**

The limitation of this study is as follows:

- The study is confined to domestic child labours at Kuleshwor Ward No-14 of Kathmandu metropolitan city.
- This study is based on domestic child labour, so its results may not be generalized for all types of child labour.
- The sample is only on domestic child labour using purposive sampling.
- This study confined to domestic child labour below 18 years of age only.

#### **1.5 Objectives of the study**

The general objective of this research is to explore the socio-economic status of the domestic child workers.

- I. To assess socio-economic condition of the domestic child labour in Kuleshwor area of Kathmandu metropolitan city.
- II. To study the relationship between child labour and employer.

## **1.6 Organization of the report**

This project report has been organized into five chapters. Each chapter developed to some aspect of area of Kathmandu metropolitan city. The chapter one to five consists of Introduction, Review of Literature, Research methodology, Presentations and Analysis of data and Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation.

Chapter one deals with major issue to be investigated long with background of the study, statement of problem, limitation of the study and objectives of the study.

Chapter two includes a discussion of the theoretical framework and review of the literature. This chapter provides framework with help of which this study has been accomplished.

Chapter three describes the research methodology employed in study. This chapter deals with research design, nature and sources of data, selection of study area, method of data analysis.

Chapter four consists of presentation and analysis of data, which also with empirical analysis of the study, here numerical composition, socio economic condition, educational status. Some case studies of DCL relationship between employer and DCL.

Finally, Chapter five indicates that the summary, conclusion, and recommendation of the study.



## **CHAPTER - II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1. Child labour**

The discussion over the definition of child labour and work is long running and is the cause of much confusion amongst those working in this field. The definition in the encyclopedia of social science is, "when the business of wage earning or of participation is self of family support conflicts directly or indirectly with the business or growth and education, the result is child labour. The function of work in childhood primarily developmental and not economic, children's work then as a social good is the direct antithesis of child labour as a social as a social evil"

The ILO (1995) refers to child work as "potential learning experience of apprenticeship for the child and therefore not harmful" and child labour as, "exploitative by nature and detrimental to the child growing process, depriving the child of the right to the survival development, protection and participation.

A child workers means, "a person in the age group of 5-14 employed for hire or reward, on the full time basis and includes a self employed child and a child assisting his/her parents in their occupation for two or more hours a day." In other words, it is a situation when a child is forced to work for his own survival or to support his/her parent in their occupation for two or more hours a day." (CWIN, 2003). The CRC (1989) strongly recognizes, "The right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing and work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development."

UNICEF (1994), states that "not all the work is harmful to children. Work experience can be meaningful exercise of acquiring the right sort of skills and responsibilities for the child to become a useful member of the community. Work is a valuable socialization process of personal development." According to UNICEF (Cannigham.al, 1996) child labour is an exploitative as it involves usually has the following characteristics.

- Too much responsibility,
- Too many hours spend working,
- Fulltime work at too early age,
- Inadequate pay,
- Work that hampers access to education,
- Work and life on the street in bad condition,
- Work that exerts under physical, social or psychological stress,
- Work that is detrimental to full social and psychological development,
- Work that underlines children's dignity and self-esteem such as slavery or bondage labour and sexual exploitation.

The problem of child labour in Nepal due to principally the acute poverty of the people participation in the rural area. Exploitative social relation in the villages further aggregates the problem. The harsh condition and frequent natural disasters lead to seasonal or permanent migration of families and in some cases, children move from rural to urban area themselves (ILO, 1995).

In addition to this, some children even from the "better families" runaway from the house and enter into urban center because of several attraction and facilities in town, social system, step mother, conflict, death of parents, scarcity and lack of facilities in rural area or rural families, are the pull and push factors to being DCL (CWIN, 1995).

Banskota (1992) writes about three types of children are engaged as labour in Nepal, domestic servant, street children and children employed in industries. None of these three late categories of children have only option but to live in difficult circumstances. As domestic servant work for even 12 to 20 hours a day and are engaged in various types of work in a household. Rodger and standing (1981) classify child labour in the following types.

1. Domestic child labour
2. Non domestic, non monetary labour
3. Tied of bonded labour
4. Wage labour
5. Marginal semi economic activities and others

Children under 16 represent 41 percent of the total population, and while the proportion of child population between 0-14 years is increasing the proportion of the economically active population (15-59) is decreasing.

The majority of Nepalese children live in rural areas, and most are uneducated, deprived of health care, leisure, and mental and physical development. Recent statistics indicate that the total number of working children between 5 and 14 years is 2.6 million, of whom the economically active children are 1.7 million, and many children are engaged in the worst forms of child labour. Thirty four percent of the marriage involves children below 15 years, which is evidence that child marriage is not uncommon, especially in the rural areas where people involve to tradition practices. Widespread poverty is the fate of nearly 47 percent of the children suffering from malnutrition that makes them more vulnerable to diseases. Diarrhea alone kills 27,000 children every year (HIRN 2003).

In the year 2002, the 91 cases of child sex abuse were recorded. Of the estimated 440 commercial sex workers in Kathmandu, 30 percent were children, in the same year, 137 cases of trafficking were recorded, and among 49 were children. It is reported that about 20% (30,000) of the total number of trafficked women are young girls under the age of 16 years.

Various reports have suggested that a sizeable portion of Maoists militia is underage; the 30% of Maoist militias are reportedly children below 18 years of age. Many children have been abducted from the school for the purpose of involving them in violent activities. The children are trained and used not only as soldiers but also as spies and porters.

In addition the laws of Nepal apparently create a state of confusion in relation to the definition of a child in terms of age, The Children's Act of Nepal, The Labour Act, The Election Law, The Chapter on Marriage of the Muluki Ain and several other chapters of Mulukio Ain are inconsistent with each other regarding the definition of child.

Access to adequate food, access to health care services, including preconditions for health, access to secure shelter and equal opportunity to participate in economic activities to support the fundamental basic needs are the most pressing issues faced by a large number of populations. In the absence of any of these elements, neither the civil political rights of the people can be fulfilled meaningfully nor can the hope for creation of a peaceful and just society be realized (NHRC-2004)

### **Child porters**

The use of children as porters has been a traditional survival strategy for impoverished rural families for generation. ILO's International programme on the Elimination of Child Labour estimates that about 42,000 children are used to transport goods and construction materials on rugged cross country trails, while another 3900 carry goods in any urban market centers and bus park, although Nepalese law prohibits minors from carrying more than 25 kg, these restriction is generally ignored, and many children carry loads that exceed their own body weights. The average weight load carried by children in urban settings is 56 kg. On hazardous mountain trails, children carry an average of 35 kg, without regular meals and at high risk of accidents. Due to serous health risks, child porters face a life expectancy shortened by as much as twenty to thirty years.

### **Child bonded labourers**

An estimated 17,000 Nepalese born into the Kamaiya system of bonded labour are employed at farms, hotels, small tea establishments, brick kilns, stone quarries, the carpet industry and domestic service. Half of these children still work under slave-liked conditions, even though bonded labour was banned in 17 July 2000 by the government of Nepal.

Although the practice Kamaiya (bonded labaoir) is now illegal, it will take time to put in place the required legislation, enforcement mechanisms and alternative needed to completely eradicate this practice throughout the county. In the meantime, the freed Kamaiya children remain vulnerable to other forms of exploitative and hazardous child labour.

## **Trafficking in children**

Each year, an estimated 12000 girls under age of 18 are removed from their families, homes and workplaces through force, coercion of deception, and involuntarily transported into urban centers and cross the India border. There they are forced into labour, most often in the sex industry. As many as 1, 50,000 to 200,000 Nepalese girls are now exploited in Indian brothels.

Factors such as growing consumerism, illiterate mothers, family vulnerability, gender discrimination, traditional marriage practices, distrust of police and lack of political will and resources contribute to the trafficking of girls for commercial sexual exploitation. The victims suffer severely both, mentally and physically. Those who return home face social stigma and exclusion, and many come home with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.

## **Child Rag pickers**

An estimated 4,000 children eke out a living in urban centers of Nepal by "rag picking" collecting rags, plastics, metal, and glass bottles from dump sets, streets corners and riverbanks. These children are either on or off street exposed to cuts, infections and animal bites. The likelihood of falling ill is very high since they operate in unhygienic environments in the most polluted areas of city. Such children are also vulnerable to drug addiction and HIV/AIDS, and are sometimes victimized by criminal gangs.

## **Child Laborers in the carpet sector**

An estimated 4000 children work various carpet factories in Kathmandu valley. These children weave and spin wool in both registered and unregistered factories, in both visible and invisible phases of the carpet manufacturing process. Children in the carpet sector work under hazardous condition that is identified as worst forms of child labour under ILO convention No 182. These children work with extremely low wages and long working hours sometimes under captivity where they are vulnerable to

physical and psychological abuse and are deprived of their rights to education.

### **Child Laborers in mines**

Thousands of children work in various mines in the country. These children come from villages from households facing severe economic difficulties and insecure livelihood opportunities. Earning much less than one US dollar a day, these children live beyond the services and safety nets that they deserve. Children working in various mines are deprived of their basic rights to education, health and development and continuing their life under severe hazardous conditions.

## **2.2 Domestic child labour**

Domestic child labour is defined internationally as children working in and employer's house with or without wages. DCL are basically employed to perform domestic chores such as washing clothes, dishes, cooking, cleaning house, and looking after young children and any other household related activities. The domestic child laborer may be considered a helping hand in the households or be solely responsible for the various activities.

Domestic child worker can be defined as the children as the children aged 5-14 years of age who work as a domestic servant to earn wage/ salary (in cash or kind) to get shelter, food, etc in the return (Pradhan 1995).

DCL entails the employment of children by adult other than their parents, who often also lose their children constitute a cheap and docile sources of labour, working long hours for little or no pay and minimum benefits such as food accommodation and clothing (Weeramunde, 1982).

In most definition of DCL, child is considered to be below 16 years of age, yet as the new ILO convention stipulates that any person under the age of 18 years is to be protected from employment in the worst form of child labour. But in this study any person aged 5 to 17 working in and employer's household is considered as a domestic labour.

CWA (2004), reported that the first study carried out by CWIN on child domestic workers, in 1993, estimated their incidence (aged 5-16 years) in Kathmandu at 19.2 percent, that is, for every 1,000 households in the capital, 192 households reported employing a child domestic worker and it is estimated there were about 21,303 child domestic worker in Kathmandu. Another study, in 1998, conversing three municipalities, showed the percentage of households employing child domestic workers to be 5.5 in Pokhara, 5.65 in Butwal and 8.1 in Siddharthanagar. According to the latest rapid assessment of the situation of child domestic worker in Kathmandu (ILO/IPEC, 2000) there are, 21,191 child domestic workers (aged less than 18 years) in Kathmandu, out of which 70 percent are below the age of 14. It is estimated that the total number of child domestic workers in urban areas of Nepal (less than 18 years) is 55,655 of whom 42,674 are below 14 years age.

### **2.3 DCL as a worse form of child labour**

As the new ILO convention stipulates that any person under the age of 18 years is to be protected from employment in the worst forms of child labour, this study will consider any person aged 5 to 18 working in an employer's household as a domestic laborer. As per article 3 of ILO convention No. 182, the worse forms of child labour include:

- Slavery or practices similar to slavery including debt bondage, sale of children, serfdom, and forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts.
- The use, procuring or offering of child for prostitution for pornography.
- The use, of children, for illicit activities particularly within the drug trade.
- Work that is likely to endanger the health, safety or morals of children.

The accompany recommendation (No. 190) draws attention to such case where children are exposed to:

- Physical, psychological sexual abuse
- Work underground, under water, at dangerous height, confined spaces.
- Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools,

- Manual handling or transport heavy loads
- An unhappy environment exposing workers to hazardous substances, agents or processes, temperatures, noise level or vibration damaging to health,
- Work under difficult circumstances, including long hours, during the night.
- Unreasonable confinement to the employer's premises.

Ennew (1995) uses the following criteria saying work is exploitative when

- Children are too young to be doing the types of work,
- The hours are too long,
- The work is too hard for growing body,
- They have too much responsibility,
- The work is too dull and repetitive and does not stimulate their development.
- The working environment is too dangerous,
- They work under slave like arrangements.

According to spirit of the unconventional on the right of the child as well as to ILO convention No 29,138 and 182, the worst form of DCL employment is said to exist if:

- The child is sold,
- Is banded,
- Working isolation or during the night.
- Is exposed to grave safety or health hazards,
- Is abused
- Is at risk of physical violence or sexual harassment and
- Work at a very younger age.

The presence of any or a combination of these elements would render domestic child labour a work form of child labour, and this study will establish information supporting this nation. The ministry of labour and transport management is in the process of drafting a master plan of action for the elimination of the worst form of child labour by 2005 and all forms of child labour by 2010.



Many city people keep a child as a DCL for prestige rather than the necessary, but unfortunately the situation and problem of child who are working as domestic child labour in urban areas is vary grim and unsatisfactory. Thus DCL are not only deprived from basic necessities like nutrition, shelter, clothing, education and health, they also suffer from humiliating, neglect, abuse, exploitation and disease.

#### **2.4. Migration of DCL**

Mostly, the people of agriculture sector move to other sectors where, there is chance for cashing income with better opportunity for employment. Again employers get benefits from the migrants. Employees have profited from immigration, because immigrants have been working to work for lower wages and under less favorable condition of employment than the native labour force. These new comes have been more willing to accept unskilled jobs and to engage in the reparation required in factory technology. (Bartes and Nobble, 1958).

Most studies on child labour do identify that extreme poverty of households and low level of education of parents are important factors determining child labour as well as their migration, whereas the structure of labour market is most responsible factor for the migration of both adult and child workers. For the decision of migration, complex relationship between negative push factors associated with the labour market of sending area and positive pull factor associated with labour market of the receiving area play important roles. In the context of Nepal, evidences have shown that pull factors such as better employment and economic prospects outweigh push factors such as poverty in hill to Terai and rural to urban migration. (KC, 2004 ILO).

Migration of children to urban both rural and small urban area is considerable in Nepal. Urban migration aggravated and accelerated especially by rural puberty has led to more exploitations of child labour in recent year and trained of child migration from rural to urban has been increasing alarmingly (ILO 1995). In Nepal, cities like Kathmandu, Pokhara, Biratnager, Birganj are the major migrants receiving areas. This is because most of the opportunities concerning livelihood and most of the

developmental infrastructures are concentrated in the urban cities (CWIN, 2000).

Ghatia (1998), states that some proportion of children from Nepal migrated to India are working in carpet industries and as domestic servant in the big cities or in small hotels. The further mentioned that many of them are in unhealthy condition hampering their physical as well as mental growth.

In the context of Nepal, when the economy of the loosing areas (hill and rural) are no longer able to contain potential human resources there appears pressure for the people to migrate for survivals. Evidence has suggested that most child labours in various factories and hotels, restaurants and tea estates are usually migrated from hill or rural area (ILO 1995).

One of the factors impelling young villagers to quite their homes is as we have been resentment of the gerontocracy—the system of social and economic control exerted by the family and village elders. Such a fundamental part of the way of life is obviously not going to be change easily. Another major factors villager to leave is the difference between rural and urban living standards. In the other big city attracts by verity of experience. Its promises, the immense range of employment opportunities as compared with the village, its bright lights and entertainments (Hesther, Joshi, Harold, Tubbel).

In addition in a society of cast system the people of lower caste find it difficult to live in villages because of exploitation from the higher caste.

## **2.5 Major area of child Laborers**

Despite its legal prohibition, child labour exists every where in our country. No area of the labour market is completely free from child labour exploitation. It exists one way or other several, CWIN research and survey studies have revealed that child labour is an integral part of our market from agriculture to industries, domestic service, plantation, and construction and transport services.

NHRC (2004), states that the worse form of exploitative types of work condition involving children are domestic worker, bounded labour, trafficking, armed conflict, prostitution, drug paddling, screening and rag

picking, potter, domestic service, small bar and restaurant, overland transportation, auto repair, workshop, carpet industries, bricks and tiles kilns, match factory, leather tannery, mines and quarries. Employment of children as domestic helper is widespread among the middle and upper class families.

The following areas can be taken as the main areas of child labour.

<b>Types of industry</b>	<b>Areas</b>
Factory / Industry	Carpet, handicrafts, welding, bread / loaf, pottery, garments, printing press, confectionary, match, and brick kilns,
Mines	stone, quarry and magnetite

Plantation	sugarcane, tea, tobacco, rice, maize, and millet
Domestic services	Fetching water, collecting fuels and fodder, taking care of young siblings, kitchen work, cleaning, and house keeping.
Entrepreneurship/ shop	Confectionery/sweets, tea sops and restaurants and bars
Transportation works	Helper and ticker collector
Porter	Street porter/loader, porter of businessman and porter of treks/tourists
Street	Street vendors, Rag/Garbage pickers, Beggars, Street singer, Shoe shiners/shoe makers, Newspaper seller and Rickshaw puller
Construction works	Building roads, building house, building bridge and sewerage construction
Sex work	Child prostitutes, middlemen/contractors, massage parlor, child trafficking, and child in pornography.
Bonded labour	Kamaiya tradition and debt bonded laborers
Migrant child labour	Migrant child labour from India, immigrant child labour in India.
Refuge children	Children of Tibetan refugees in carpet factories and children of Bhutanese refugee in Eastern Nepal
Circus / music	Children in circus, children in puppet show /magic, children in commercial music programme
Commercial advertisement	Children in TV advertisement, children in radio, and children in print media.

*Source: Employment In Nepal (Pradhan 1995)*

Sattar (1993) enlisted the types of work undertaken by the working children of Nepal under ten main headings: agriculture, cottage industry, manufacture plantation, domestic, catering, selling manual labour, tourist and travel industry and other sexual exploitation and street children. It is also recognized that no labour is completely free from child labour exploitation in Nepal.

UNICEF (1997) has broken down the child labour in to seven main areas unique to any one region or world. These are domestic service, forced and bonded labour, commercial sexual exploitation, industrial and plantation work, street work, work for the family and girls work.

Herway (1991), states that a majority of child labour is employed in the unorganized and informal sectors but the highest number of child labour is found in agriculture and allied activities such as animal husbandry, plantation, mining and fishery. The other sector where child labour is employed are (1) Domestic service (2) Non domestic, non monetary services like fuel and water collection and hunting (3) Shops, restaurants, hotels, etc. (4) Small scale industries and handicrafts (5) other informal sector, enterprises, and (6) Illegal activities, prostitution etc.

There are broadly four kinds of child labour. First are those children who work in factories, workshops and mines. They are usually found in semi urban and urban areas in both the unorganized and organized sector. Second are those children who are under bondage to their employers, whether in industry or agriculture. The third categories of working children are the street children. Those who live on and off the streets are to be found in the service sector of semi urban and urban area. Children, who work as part of family labour in all the sectors of agricultures industry, home based work etc, belong to the fourth category. (Neera, 1995).

## **2.6 Condition of DCL**

NHRC (2004-2008), states that the statistics on the condition of domestic child workers in Nepal are quite alarming. The average age of a domestic child labor is 13.10% of the workers are under the age of 10 and 70% fall under the age group of 11 to 14 years. While 49 % of the DCL have never gone to schools, 40% have had to drop their school education, and only 11% are attending to school, even among these children, most hardly get time to study at the employer's home. 64% of them work 10 to 14 hours a day and 20% work 14 hours a day. Paid leave, rest and recreation are rare, 51% of the DCL have poor health and 7% have serious injuries. 12% of the children are working as bonded laborers, 32% have not been paid wages, and 10% have no idea about their wages. More than half percent of workers

have suffered from various forms of abuses by the employers and 14% are sexually abused. Only 16% of employers treat them well. It is estimated that some of the 36,000 children aged 5-14 years are possibly facing "at risk" working conditions on the manufacturing and construction industries. Furthermore, estimated 127,000 children are engaged in the worst form of child labour.

"Nepalese children continue to be victims of random as well as premeditated violence perpetrated by employers, by the state and by the actors in the armed conflict " (NHRC - 2003)

Of about 4.7 million children aged 6 to 14 years in Nepal, 25.5% are economically active and above 4.4% are wage workers. Among the children working for wages, almost 40% or some 83000 children, work in the informal service sector, which is largely comprised of domestic labour (CBS- 1999).

Rapid assessment carried out by PEC in urban areas estimates that 55,000 children under the age of 18 work as domestic servants in Nepal. In Kathmandu municipality alone, an estimate 22,000 children under the age of 18 works in this sector, with one in five households employing a child for an adult job. More than half of these workers (57%) are boys. Working long hours for little or no pay is the order of the day. Causes of sexual exploitation and confinement to the employer's premises are known to occur.

There are nearly 5,000 street children in Nepal. They are exposed to crime, alcohol and substance abuse as well as sexual exploitation in the year 2008, 91 cases of child sex abuse were recorded of the estimated 440 commercial sex workers in Kathmandu, 30% were children (HRIN-2003).

In the year 2002, the children workers in Nepal recorded a total of 4,506 incidents related to the exploitation of children such as sexual exploitation, child trafficking, forced prostitution, child labour exploitation, child death, missing children, children in armed conflict and children in conflict with the law (HRIN - 2003).

One of the key issues distinguishing domestic work from other types of child labours is the 24 hours nature of the job. Because the place of the work is the same as the place of rest and because as noted earlier the terms of employment are not likely to be clearly defined. Child labour is liable to be on all-day and night, seven days a week (Black 1997).

According to the handbook on DCL workers for research and action by Maggie Black (1997), working condition of DCL is as follows:

**(i) Lack of time off:** Real time off is a rarity. A child domestic often has to snatch rest period when she can, and sleeping on the job will be penalized, holidays may be very rare, often consisting of one visit home per year.

**(ii) Hazards:** Child domestics are compelled to undertake repetitive chores often unsupervised, which contain risk and dangers. They are required to cook and serve chopping vegetable using sharp knives, boiling water, lighting fires, carrying charcoal or wood, dealing with gas, cleaning, fetching and carrying heavy water pots, handling disinfectant and other chemicals, wash and iron clothes, bending for long periods, taking clothes, and linen out of boiling water, go to market carrying heavy bags of groceries, and possible being exposed to rough behavior or sexual innuendo in the street. And these tasks are often undertaken at the same time as looking after the employer's children ensuring that they are free from danger. Although many of the tasks may not be hazardous under normal circumstance, fatigue due to long hours of work and interrupted sleep can make them even potential hazardous light tasks.

**(iii) Violence and abuse:** There are many girls working as child domestics than in any other area of child labour. DCL are predominantly females. Verbal, physical and sexual attacks or harassment to the child domestic frequently occur. A child domestic may be shouted at or beaten as a form of discipline or the punishment for working slowly or doing task badly. DCL are known to be at risk from sexual harassment and rape by male members of the employer's household and visitors.

**(iv) Separate treatment:** While cooking or helping to prepare food for the rest of the household, the child domestic often receives a smaller portion or is expected to eat leftovers. Often the child is not allowed to eat at the same time as the family and may have to eat alone in the kitchen or even outside the house. During time off in the evening, they may watch TV with the family but sits apart from the rest of the house hold member. Sleeping arrangement for DCL is likely to rudimentary. In some cases, they just a make shift bed in the kitchen floor. Likewise, toilet and washing facilities for the child are likely to be of and inferior quality to those of the employer's family while most employers send their own children to school, the same opportunities are rarely open to the child.

## **2.7 Cause and consequences of child Labour**

The modernization paradigm holds that child labour is the result of wide spread poverty, which compels family to send their children in to work force. According to this theory, the employment of children is parents driven and a matter of economic necessity. It will end as the wage of the poor increases and parents no longer need of their children's labour and wages and the parents will then see the advantage of schooling of their children. The related Marxist theory argues child labour as the product of capitalism and the technologies it creates. Karl Marx argues that the new technologies increased the demand for cheap, unskilled labour and that the decrease in the rate of profit led capitalist to increase their exploitation of labour. As profit declines the capitalist buys with the same capital a greater mass of labour power, as he progressively replaces skill workers by less skilled, matured labour power by immature, males by females and adults by young persons of children (Marx 1978).

Children are cheap to employ (being paid only a fraction of their adults counter parts), docile, easily available as a work force and easier to manage than adults. This is menially because they have few alternatives. The younger children cannot bargain for wages or facilities because they do not have readily available alternatives if expelled.



Due to the high dependency on agriculture, declining productivity, increased landlessness and therefore increased unemployment, children are forced to find work in order to survive. Thapa et al. (1996), concluded that "child labour exists largely due to a lack of access to resources (Poverty) and low level of literacy" and that the poverty affects proportionally more girls than boys.

Cardford (1995) argues that child labour can be seen not only as a result of poverty but also as a cause of the low wages of labour, which reduces the purchasing power of the family. Cheap child labour / work can prefer the payment of a minimum wage and may devalue the adult labour market.

Poverty has been reported as the leading reason for working outside for non-domestic work (CW/CCD, 1997). The second main reason was parent who has been blamed for enforcing child labour. Financial trouble has led children to be employed in industries.

Illiteracy amongst parents particularly the mother is thought to be one of the reasons behind child work / labour. Parents who have no education or skill training them often do not see the point for their children to be educated. Parent often see child labour as an apprenticeship for adult life, (Bhima Pokhara Youth Club, 1995). Lack of and access to high quality, free education for all is thought to be a major contributing factor to child work / labour.

Practice of child labour prevents children from going of school, resulting in a low school attendance rate and a low level of general and vocational education among children. As a result, the consequence of child labour has an adverse impact on the productivity capacity of the children themselves, even when they reach adulthood. They are underpaid, which makes them unable to meet their requirements of housing and food. Thus the vicious circle between under development and child labour is self perpetuation (CDPS, 1997).

A study by Chhetri (1996) indicates that, in Nepal, district with a high child labour status tends to have a high illiteracy rate and the districts with a high incidence of poverty tend to have a high child labour rate. He concludes that poverty compels children to participate in the labour force, which in turn deprives them of the right to education.

Many parents cannot afford money for the children to study. Even if primary education in Nepal is so called free, it is not compulsory. Poor people are always busy solving hand to mouth problems and they are ignorant of the advantages and the value of education. Children are weighted from the economic prospective. Even if some children realize that education is advantageous for their future life, either they do not have access to school or they cannot afford to buy stationary and pay the fees. So children level home with the hope of acquiring both income and education (KC et. al. 1998).

There are sacral factors responsible for the problem of child labour. The socio-cultural background and land distribution patterns are important roots of child labour. In Nepal, the legacy of the feudal rule is still apparent and more than that there is the influence of the village elite, large landowners and money lending. Tenders over the poor have still been continued through historical trends (Sattaur, 1993). Thus, the system perpetuates mass poverty as Kamaiya system and domestic servants are important examples of this system. On the other hand, social indifference is also an important root of child labour (Pradhan, 1990). Poor parents exploit their children's labour because they are poor and they do not have an alternative economic scheme for their livelihood.

Large family size contributes to child labour as many parents may face financial difficulties so they are compelled to send at least one child out to work (CWIN, 1993). Due to increasing rate of family break up and consequent remarriage, many children face exploitation, beatings, neglect and verbal abuse from their step-parent/other family members. Children them run away to the towns and end up working in same form or another to service (ILO 1195).

IPEC (1995) also states that traditionally the caste system has led to exploitation and discriminating of children. Children of "scheduled or outcast" families are often compelled to work only as street cleaners, blacksmiths, cobblers, etc. and deprived of their right to education and are trapped in vicious circle of poverty and social injustice.

Urbanization process is increasing in Nepal, where people have to face busy life. This situation creates high demand of domestic child labour in urban. In one hand, they are deprived of minimum requirements and on the other hand violence against them is increasing. Domestic child labourer's fee is insecure in their working place (CWIS, 2001 summary of the report).

Johnson et al.(1995), described the effects of environmental degradation and the resulting increase in child work/labour. The feudal land holding system in Nepal is founded on unfair distribution mechanism and is the cause of family financial crises (Pardhan, 1995 ILO). The unequal power relationship in communities between the traditional money lenders/landholder and borrowers/tenants cause many economic difficulties for households (INSEC, 1996).

Nangia (1991), In the study of causes and consequences of child labour suggests that the employment of children determines and in turn, is determined by poverty in the form of adult unemployment and underemployment, lack of schooling and higher mortality. The lower wages to children also bring down the bargaining power of adults, thus lowering the overall wage rate of the labour force. This way the overall earnings of the family are reduced giving rise to poverty. The low family income reduces the nutritional intake of family member, which reduces their physical strength and boosts the morbidity rate amongst them. On one hand, this leads to their unemployment and underemployments, which in turn, compels the children to participate in the labour force for the survival of their families. The working and living conditions and the occupational risks put a lot of strain on the tender bodies of the children, which cannot cope with it for every long period and hence give rise to high morbidity rate. The higher

mortality among the adult family members forces children to seek their own livelihood. Higher mortality also leads to higher fertility as the parent want, at least, a couple of children to survive till their old age, so that they do not have to look at same one else for their social security. These large families result in lower nutritional intake and in extreme cases to lack of schooling. A child who does not go to school is sent to the labour force to work for the family income. Due to lack of schooling, the child remains at the lower strata in the labour market even in his adulthood, keeping his own and that of his family's income very low. Thus, this vicious cycle of child labour (as shown in figure) goes on and on, acting at the individual, family and the social levels, interconnected with each other.

## **2.8 Combating Child Labour in Nepal**

In 1992, the government enacted the children's Act, 1992. Which prohibits the child labour and protect the children right, but implementation is not properly utilized in the practices.

Nepal constitution guarantees the right of protection against exploitation as a fundamental right and duties. Prohibition the practices of traffic in human beings slavery, serfdom or forced labour in any form and its violation are punished by law (article 20). It also has provisions regarding the educational welfare of children under the directive principle and policies of the state, but there only serve as guide lines and are not enforceable by any court. Other domestic legal instruments have children related provisions such as Muloki Ain, which fixes the child age at 18 for boys and 16 for girls. The labour Act and the Contract Act are two other instrument that affect children and election law determines voting age, but the definition of children followed by these acts is inconsistent.

Besides the government bodies and international agencies, nearly 240 NGO active in this field of child development are registered in the country. Several hundred community based organization, educational institutions and media are also engaged in the field leading to some tangible process. For example, bonded labour (Kamaiya), which used to greatly affect children, was declared illegal and juvenile benches have been now established.

Since 1995 the international programmed on the elimination of DCL has been working 29 districts of Nepal and its activities have positively affected 13500 children (HRIN 2003). But on the context of DCL, it has not seen proper improve in condition and reduction of the number of DCL yet due to little effort especially in this particular field.

The effort to improve the situation of child laborers in Nepal dates to 1989, when Nepal signed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The government of Nepal has demonstrated a strong commitment to combat child labour. Combating child labour has become an essential element of the national development plan. Nepal ratified the ILO minimum age convention (No 182 in September 2001).

The history of the International Labor Organization's (ILO), International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in Nepal dates back to 1995, when the ILO signed a memorandum of understanding with His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMG/N) to launch a national program to progressively eliminate child labour. Since that time, more than 100 action and mini programs have been implemented in Nepal. Through this effort, government, trade unions, employers and non-governmental organizations have formulated policies and programs for.

- Direct intervention with child workers and their families.
- Awareness raising and community mobilization.
- Strengthening the capacity of IPEC's social partners and Government counterparts.
- Strengthening the capacity of IPEC's social partners and Government counterparts and
- Legislation and its effective enforcement

Nepal also participates in two sub-regional projects to combat child labour: South Asian sub-regional program and IPEC/ILO program.

In the year 2001, the IPEC/ILO in-focus program on promoting the declaration on the "sustainable elimination of bonded labour" was launched, providing support for the successful rehabilitation of bonded laborers in the five Kamiya districts of Nepal (ILO/IPEC 1996).

In Nepal there are no rules for the protection of child workers who are working in non-industrial occupation. It is indispensable to have some rigid rules to prevent children from working in any job if any body is aimed at doing welfare of them.

Dhital's (1991) study on domestic child worker in Kathmandu which is based in interview of children shows that there are about 30,000 bounded and semi bounded labor in Nepal engaged in domestic services. The landlords bring many of them to the cities; some of them are sent/ brought direct by their parents, while other is sent by middleman. There are also bonded children from among the orphans and runways. This study also shows that they bear a heavy workload, life without joy, empty pocket, abuses, loss of family contact and uncertain future. A great majority of them are unpaid, working for as much as 17 hours a day just for meals. They are seldom allowed to take part in the family food and are given little to eat. Scolding and physical abuse is common but they have nobody to protect them.

A recent study on the situation of domestic child labours in Kathmandu is carried out by (Sharma et al 2001) and funded by ILO has the broad objectives as to characterize domestic child labours and to understand the trends in their employment. It also examined the incidence of worst forms of DCL, and providing overall quantitative and qualitative information related to domestic child labour. The majority of the DCL are the eldest in a poor rural family and work to help their parents to support their households. An almost equal number of boys and girls are employed as domestic labours but girls are usually hired younger than boys and are paid less. Most of the DCL have completed their primary level of education and come from Brahmin, Tharu or Janajati ethnic groups.

The above literature review shows that child labour is a growing problem in the world. Most seriously, developing countries are victims of it. Children in low socio-economic status as well as deprived from minimum requirements are affected by the vicious problem of child labour.

Kathmandu metropolitan city has been launched an educational program for DCL in 17 wards since 2057 B.S. by the fund of ILO. Now more than 300 DCL are involved on the educational program. This program focuses on the education for DCL.

In Nepal, the vicious circle of poverty has paved the major way for entry of children in domestic labour. This rapid increase of domestic child labour has several impacts on the socio economic development of the nation. The ultimate effect is seen in the economic status of the victim's family because entry of children in child labour doesn't improve the economic status of family but ruins the whole family in long run.

## **CHAPTER - III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Methodology is the main guideline for a research work. Reliability of study can only be established with scientific research methodology and procedure used.

#### **3.1 Selection of the study area.**

This study has taken place in the Kuleshwor area of Kathmandu Metropolitan city of Kathmandu district. This area is rich by the physical infrastructure such as drinking water, telephone and electricity and transportation. The main national heritage of this area is area is kuleshwor Mandir. The study area is near to Hanumandhoks Durbar square. Kalimati, Kalanki Balkhu and Tripureshwor are East, West, North and South respectively from this study area.

This ward covers 301.9 hector of area, the total population of this area is 30,364 and number of household is 5,655.

Several groups of people from various caste/ethnicity, economy, and occupation and with different educational background are living in this area. Basically economically sound families are resident of this area. It is obvious that in the Nepalese society house servants are being recruited by the people of good economic condition. So significant numbers of domestic servants are recruited here.

This area was selected due to the availability of the samples for this study. Another reason was, that was researcher residential area, and next one is that no one program and work towards the DCL of this area. This was helpful to conduct the research and get necessary help from the house owners.



### **3.2 Research design**

Research design is based on descriptive and exploratory. This research is helped to analyze the present situation of domestic child labour by this research design. This study is exploratory because it explores some socio-economic status of domestic child work and this study is descriptive because it describes some socio economic condition and relation between employers and DCL.

### **3.3 Universe and sample**

The census of the domestic child labour of this study area has not been taken by any governmental or private sectors. So the actual number of domestic child labour is unknown. The easiest way to achieve the objective is, of course purposive sampling technique. So, 50 domestic child workers were taken as a sample according to the convenience to the researcher by the possible help from total people. Even the small number of this sample will not be the representation of the whole domestic child labour, it is hoped that it could represents the situation of domestic child workers.

### **3.4 Nature and source of Data**

The nature of data has based on qualitative and quantitative and the sources of data have been collected both by primary sources and secondary sources.

Primary sources were depended by the help of questionnaire, personal interviews, observation and key informant.

Secondary data has been collected from published and unpublished documents of Governmental, Non Governmental and some private agencies.

A set of questionnaire was prepared to access the socio economic condition of the DCL in the study area. Structural questionnaires were asked to the DCL by researcher. So the interview schedule was filled through interview with DCL at the study area. Researcher observed the working condition, behavior of the employer, physical appearance of domestic child

workers. Employer gave some key information about the statue of child's family, which he doesn't want to pass others.

### **3.5 Data Analysis and presentation.**

The collected data have been analyzed descriptively. Higher statistical tools weren't used to analyze and interpret the findings. All the collected data tables are shown on the present simply in percentage tables.

### **3.6 Case Study**

In this regard, a few case studies have been conducted to acquire more about household DCL or to collect situation as well as reliable information on their past and present situation of them, which helps to know the reason that pushed them to Kathmandu for searching the job.

## CHAPTER - IV

### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

#### 4.1. Socio- Economic condition of Domestic child labour

##### 4.1.1 Numerical composition of domestic child labour.

**Table 4.1**  
**Age and sex composition of DCL**

S.N.	Age Group	Boys	Girls	To. no. of Respondents	Percent	Ratio
1	5-9	6	7	13	26	
2	10-14	15	14	29	38	
3	15-18	10	8	18	36	
	Total	31	29	60	100	

*Source : Field survey ! 2009*

Almost half of the respondents are in the age of 10-14 years. Only 30% DCL are between 15 and 18 years old 18% are below the age of 9 years. 100 child girls are involved in DCL out of 217 domestic child laborers. Boys are more than girls in DCL. 46% girls and 54% boy are working as domestic child laborers in the early age girls are more than boys due to more social causes.

##### 4.1.2. Ethnic composition

There are 59 ethnic and caste groups in Nepal, which includes 29 from Terai, 29 from hill and 3 from the Mountain. In terms social structure caste people constitute 56.2% of the total population. The ethnic are 35.5 % and the rest 8.3 % subsumed as others. The sampled population of eight major ethnic groups is Brahmins, Chhetri, Tamang, Newar, Tharu, Magar, Rai/Limbu and others. Out of 50 child workers surveyed the major ethnic groups are Chhetri (24%) and Bahmin (20%) and the smallest ethnic group including DCL is Newar (2%). A large portion of the participants in the survey come from the Brahmin and Chhetri ethnic groups, non of the DCL interviewed came from the Dalit ethnic group, most likely because they are considered to be "untouchable" in the traditional caste system. Significantly

half of the DCI come from Janajati ethnic groups (Tamang, Magar, Rai, Limbu, Tharu) .There are no ready explanation for the dominance of Brahmins and Chhetri in this occupation, other then the fact that since they are considered 'pure', they may be seen as more suitable for kitchen work.

**Table No: 4.2**  
**Ethnic composition**

S.N.	Ethnicity/ caste	Boys respondents	Girls respondents	Total No. of Respondents	Percent
1	Brahmin	7	5	12	24
2	Chhetri	6	7	13	26
3	Tamang	1	2	3	6
4	Gurung	2	2	4	8
5	Tharu	2	2	4	8
6	Magar	2	2	4	8
7	Rai	5	5	10	20
8	Others	6	4	10	20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

#### **4.1.3. Place of origin**

Table no. 4.2 provides the breakdown of the place of origin of the child workers. Interested workers come to Kuleshwor, Kuleshwor of Kathmandu (including Kathmandu district) from 23 districts, from Morang in the east, and Bardiya and Doti in the west. 7% DCL have come from within Kathmandu. Most of the respondents have come from neighbor district of Kathmandu valley due to near and transportation facilities.

**Table No: 4.3**  
**Origin District of DCL**

S.N.	Origin of District	No. of DCL	Percent	S.N.	Origin District	No. of DCL	Percent
1	Kathmandu	7	11.6	12	Sindhuli	1	1.66
2	Sindupalchock	6	8.57	13	Kailali	2	3.33
3	Nuwakot	2	3.33	14	Kavre	1	1.66
4	Bardiya	5	8.33	15	Makawanpur	1	1.66
5	Lalitpur	3	5	16	Dhading	1	1.66
6	Morang	6	8.57	17	Dolakha	3	5
7	Doti	2	3.33	18	Surkhet	1	1.66
8	Gorkha	2	3.33	19	Khotang	3	5
9	Solukhumbu	2	2.33	20	Chitwan	1	3.33
10	Baglung	4	6.66	21	Dang	1	1.66
11	Ramechap	3	5	22	Bara	2	3.33
				23	Sarlahi	1	1.66

*Source : Field surey : 2009*

The five districts of Dang, Bardiya, Doti, Bara, and Kailali accounted for 14% of DCL are from the Tharu ethnic group. Some of them come from former Kamiya (Bonded labour) households. Although the Kamaiya system has been abolished by a government decree, new research indicates that exploitative labour practices persist in the form of share cropping arrangements who's the daughter of a share cropper often used as collateral tin the sharecropping agreement, and where she is subsequently sent to work as DCL in the house of the landowner.

## **4.2 Social - economic condition**

### **4.2.1 How children become domestic labourers?**

**Table No: 4.4**  
**Person Recruiting DCL for Employers**

Person	Boys Resin No	%	Girls Resin No	%	Total Rees No	%
Parents	3	5	2	3.33	5	8.33
Relatives	4	6.6	6	10	10	16.66
Friends	3	5	3	5	6	8.33
Own	3	5	0	0	5	8.33
Employer	8	13.3	11	18.33	19	31.66
Total	29	48.2	31	51.2	60	100

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

Relatives, employers and villagers play key role in enrolling children to work as domestic labours. 17%, 26.6 %, 31.66% respectively only F respondents employed through broker and can therefore be considered as trafficked into domestic child labour. The 6.33% of the respondents were sent to the work by their own parents. In 26.66% of the cases, the employers themselves used their connections in the village to recruit DCL. Although not a lot is known of the actual recruitment procedure the data clearly points out that the recruitment networks are informal, personalized and mostly family based.

#### **4.2.2 DCL and family Vulnerability**

**Table No: 4.5**  
**DCL and their parents**

Father				Mother			
Alive No.	%	Dead No.	%	Alive No.	%	Dead No.	%
56	92	4	8	50	80	10	20

*Soure: Field survey: 2009*

These data suggest that a common belief in Nepal, that most children are pushed into DCL due to the death of a family breadwinner doesn't hold true. Majority of respondents (80%) reported that both there parents are alive. Some children have been orphan by the death of their parents.

Some of them are deprived the love of their parents due to losing the parent, when they were young. Few of the respondents reported that one of the parents had deserted the family. The 8% DCL and 20% DCL have experienced that death of father and mother respectively.

**Table No: 4.6**  
**DCL Depend On Parents**

Depend		Independent	
No	%	No	%
46	76.6%	14	23.4%

*Soure: Field survey: 2009*

Table no. 4.6 represents that 76.6% DCL are living with their parents together and 23.4% of the DCL are separated to their parents. Nearly one-third of the respondents relation exists with their family, rest of them are never gone to home or met there family numbers.

**Table No - 4.7**  
**Size of DCL Family in Person**

Family size	Total No.	Person
Less than 4	7	11.5
4 to 8	37	61.6
Above 8	16	38.4

*Soure: Field survey: 2009*

The 61.6% of the DCL are come from the family size of small size of family 4-8 person are engaging child labour. DCL from small size of family less than 4 are 11.6 % working DCL. Average family size from which they originate is four to eight family members, which is consistent with the national average of 5.4 members per family.

**Table No- 4.8**  
**Working hours of DCL**

Working hours	No. of Respondents	Percent
Below 6 h	15	25
6 to 8h	16	26.6

8 to 12h	18	30
above 12h	11	18.4
Total	60	100

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

There is no fix regulation in home to fix the working hours and remuneration, but generally they have to work more than 8 to 12 hours. So they have to face not only the trouble mentally but also physically. Above data indicate that 30% of the workers have to work 8 to 12 hours. But more the 8 hours a day is prohibited by law. Due to this DCL may be weak physically and mentally. Although rest hours or school hours are not deducted, as most times they have to be available on demand, even during their free time. In fact, their work usually begins as early 5 A.M. and continues until after 10 P.M. when all domestic activities are completed.

#### **4.2.2.1 Family Occupation of DCL**

**Table No- 4.9**  
**Family Occupation of DCL**

Occupation	Respondents No.	Percent
Agriculture	34	56.4
Labour	16	26.6
Service	5	8.3
Others	5	8.33
Total	60	100

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

Agriculture, the major occupation of 56.4% of the child workers family, which is followed by manual labour at 26.6%. This corresponds to the livelihood of the rural population of Nepal where agriculture is the major economic activity and agriculture and other type of manual labour i.e. pottering and contraction works constitute the primary occupation of the rural poor.

#### **4.2.2.2. Family Assets**

**Table No-4.10**  
**Landholding Pattern and Indebted DCL Family**



	Landholding		Indebted	
	No. of Res.	Percent	No. of Res.	Percent
Have	20	33.3	18	30
Have not	21	35	17	28.4
Don't Know	19	31.6	25	41.6
Total	60	100	60	100

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

The data come from children who may unsure of the exact size of land owned by their parents. And as the information could not be verified, the data reported should be treated carefully. The 35% of respondents don't have own land. The 31.6% of DCL don't know about their land. Nobody of them said exact size of their land. Indebtedness seems to be more significant for when assessing family vulnerability and the incidence of DCL. 30% families of DCL are indebted and the 41.6% DCL don't know about it.

### 4.3 Education

**Table No: 4.11**  
**Literacy Status of the DCL**

Literary Status	Boys No.	%	Girls No.	%	Total No.	%
Literate	14	23.33	10	16.66	24	40
Illiterate	15	25	21	35	36	60

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

Many of the respondents reported that they can't read or write. This table indicates that 35% DCL girls are illiterate; these way 25% DCL boys are illiterate. This figure is encouraging, which more research in this aspect is necessary. It does put out that compulsion primary education having some effect on literary level. However it doesn't seem to have been able to control child labour.

### 4.4 Situation and Relation between employer and DCL

**Table No: 4.12**  
**Treatment of the Employers**

Conduct of treatment	No. of Respondent	Percent
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Good	21	35
Bad	23	16.6
Indifferent	11	18.4
Total	60	100

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

Only 35% of the total respondents reported that their master's treatment is good and they have 28 complain against the employer. The 46% child labours said that there is a lack of proper treatment. They are indifference to say about the behavior bad or good. The satisfaction of the job depends on the situation for which the child half their villages. Their economic conditions have been a factor for their job satisfaction in table 4.13, nature of job satisfactions given below:

#### **4.4.1 Job satisfaction**

##### **DCL Job Satisfaction**

**Table No - 4.13**

Job satisfaction	No. of respondent	Percent
Satisfied	16	26.66
Not satisfied	33	55
Indifferent	11	18.44
Total	60	100

*Source: field survey :2009*

Only 26.66% of the respondents are satisfied with their jobs and the 66% are not satisfied. The 8% could not say whether they are satisfied or not. They don't know the job satisfaction properly. Food and earning are the big things for them. It indicates that majority of them are not satisfied with their job. The satisfaction depends on the working hour, relationship between DCL and employer, feelings, workload, lodging and fooding. According to table no. 4.14 there is high turnover of child labourers in domestic field. It is also due to the dissatisfaction of their jobs. Again they have to work from early giving to late at night. All these data indicate that there is no job satisfaction to the employee who is working as domestic child labourers.

#### **4.4.2 Job Quits**

**Table No -4.14**  
**Number of Job Quit**

No of Job quits	No. of Respondents	Percent
Once	24	40
Twice	12	20
Thrice	4	6.6
More	2	3.4
Not quitted	18	30
Total	60	100

*Source: field survey: 2009*

According to the survey report, the 40% of the respondents have left the working place once or more times. Still they seem to change the working place in pursuit of better job or at least better condition of employment.

This above data indicates most of the domestic workers are found moving from one place to another. It is seemed that they left employment due to harassment and sexual abuse of girl domestic workers.

#### 4.4.3 Quality of food and Bed

**Table No- 4.15**  
**Quality of Food and Bed**

	<b>Food</b>		<b>Bed</b>	
	No	%	No	%
Better than at home	35	58.33	41	68.3
Same as home	17	28.33	13	21.6
Worse than at home	6	10	2	3.4
No respond	2	3.34	4	6.6
Total	60	100	60	100

*Source: Field surve: 2009*

The survey also attempted to establish the living condition received by DCL. An overwhelming majority (68.3%) of respondent reported that their employers fed them better than they would be fed at home. Similarly, the 68.3% said their sleeping facilities were better at the employee's premise. The remaining respondents felt good and shopping arrangements were similar to those they had at home, though about 3.4% complained that condition was worst. There may be a few explanations for such a positive response to living condition. First, most of the children working domestic labours come from large poor families and were therefore probably subject to scarcity of food and inadequate lodging previous to their employment. Second, most employers would feed their domestic labour leftovers from their own meals and accommodate them in their own house. Both of which would likely to be of higher quality than what the DCL may be used to at home.

#### 4.4.4 Works of DCL

**Table No -4.16**  
**Works of DCL**

<b>Work</b>	<b>No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Kitchen work	14	23.3
Dish washing	12	20
Child minding	6	10
Washing clothes	8	13.3
House cleaning	15	25
Shop keeping	5	8.4
Total	60	100

*Source: field survey: 2009*

DCL working in urban areas of Nepal are engaged in all domestic chores and some work out side the house in negligible in urban areas.

Kitchen work, dish washing, child minding, cloth washing, house cleaning and shop keeping are the main activities in which DCL are engaged.

Respondents were asked to rate the work they do by degree of importance, and more than half reported their most important activities that house cleaning was their main responsibility. These seem to be no systematic difference between girls and boys in assigning their work priority according to the surveys results.

Over 20% dishwashing of DCL rated house cleaning as their second most important responsibility while 23.3% child kitchen work and 25% washing clothes. The entire domestic chores in which DCL are involved are confident to be arduous task which would in many cases be eased or eliminated with the use of modern equipment and methods.

#### 4.4.5 Perception of DCL

**Table No - 4. 17**

**DCL Perception of Their Work**

Falling lonely	10	16.6
Bad treatment	9	15
Bad food	3	5
High work load	8	13.4
Others	2	33.4
Total	60	100

*Source: Field survey: 2009*

At the end of the questionnaire, interviews, each respondent was asked whether they felt they could not encourage another child to work as a DCL. More than half of them said they would not and less than half of them said, they would. Among 6 reasons why they believed other might not enjoy this work, 46.6% said low income was a main determinant to their occupation and 16.6% said feeling lonely. This suggests that the immobility

and confinement of the DCL to the employer's household is a serious issue. About one third of the respondents criticized the high work load and bad treatment in fact, during the interview, just a few of the respondent reported having been subject to extreme and violent forms of abuse.

This may, of course, be due to the fact that it can be very difficult for children to touch upon such issue in the course of an interview and that the researches generally avoided pressing hard for answers concerning such sensitive issue. A much large portion of girls than boys reported "feeling lonely" high work load and low income as their main reasons for not recommending the occupation to other children.

#### **4.5 Some case studies**

There are three case studies help to understand the various social and economic aspects of domestic child labour.

Sita is a 14 years old girl came from Machhedanda of Ramechhap district. She has been a domestic worker for 3 years. She is illiterate and had never gone to school. She lost her father when she was an infant. Her widow mother had a very little time to bring up the children. They were very poor. Owning just a little plot of land which yield too little to feed every body. So all the children (6 numbers) in the family started working early. When Manamaya was 6, her mother eloped then the family dispersed with all the children going to work in the different places. Her paternal uncle brought her to work in a rich household at Kuleshwor since that she has never met her family member again. Wage was settled at Rs. 350 per month.

The work in that household was too much for six years old little girl. At first she was given job of was handsets and clothes, cleaning house occasionally. After while she had to toke over cooking and shopping tool.

Sometime for small mistakes, she was beaten and scolded by her employer and pulled her hair for breaking a grass or spilling some water. And they were equally cruel in their scolding the words hurt her deep in the

heart, but she had no alternative and was compelled to bear on all this misbehavior. What she got in return?

When she braved herself to ask the money due to her one year sage, she was kicked of the service without money. At the beginning employer had paid some amount of money to her uncle, so nothing got onto her hand. After being kicked out, she found herself a job in neighborhood. She has the same workload, looking children, washing, cleaning and working from 8 to 11 per day, her salary is increased Rs. 400 per month but she fails it is just too little pay for her work. "I have grown up and I take so much responsibility". She complains a mere Nr. 400 for all my work is not fair. Sita has not been assaulted so far by her present employers, though she has to listen to the harsh words of the mistress.

Puspa Rai 15 years old is from Dang district, western part of Nepal. She has studied till class 2. She has her mother, father, and four younger brothers and two younger sisters. All her family has lived in a hut in their village. They had a small plot of rice field along the bank of a river. One day a big flood washed away all their field and house and they became homeless. Then, the family was displaced, her father started to work as a porter and all family members were engaged in daily wage labour to meet the daily needs.

When Pankha Bahadur was 10 year, he came to Kathmandu with his relatives and lived them for 6 month. Then his relative joined him as a domestic child labour in Gurung house. He has promised to get 380 per month, but employer has not paid money for a year. "They showed me cupidity to join British army so I couldn't leave this work", said Pankha B. He sends his money to his mother. He gets up 5 o'clock and goes to bed at 11. He has to clean toilet, sweep floor, clear dishes and washing clothes and shopping. Sometimes he cooks also. Although he has studied till two classes, only he can write his name and difficulty read Nepali. Pankha has separate bedroom under the ladder. He has mat and two blankets no pillow, he quits.

Pujana is a Tharu girl from Kailali, she is 17 years and has been working for her present employer for five years. Her father works as a

Kamaiya for one of their employer's relative in Dhangadi. Pujana has two brothers and one sister is also working in Kathmandu in Galaicha factory but she seldom sees her, the work begins at 5 in the morning with sweeping and cleaning the house and ends at 10 at night with dish washing. She is illiterate and is unlikely to be sent to school, as there is no one to share her work load. She is unaware of the amount of her salary, which she thinks her parents receive in the village from the landlord whom they work. According to the Kamaiya system, however her salary is probably built into her father's payment of his debt to the landlord.

Bimal Tamang is 11 years old orphan. He has come from Naubise of the Dhading district. He lost his both parents by the vehicle accident when he was baby. He is youngest among six children; his elder brother helped him to study up to class two in a local school in his village. Landless and poor his family made a living as daily farm helpers. This was not enough to eat at home. Six months ago Bimal left his home in search of livelihood. He reached in Kathmandu and asked for a work on the street side shops at Naya Buspark, the shopkeeper took him to Kuleshwor where he is employed as a domestic worker now shop assistance. He had to work morning and evening at the house and stay in effort, he was not paid any things and treated unkindly. So he left the place after 3 months. Then he found himself a job to another place. In his present workplace he has to wash, clean and mind a baby. His salary was 350 per month, Bimal think this salary is too little to the work he is doing. "But what can I do," he says wounds beggar can't be the chooser. This employer is at least paying me."

The story of Sita, Pankha B, Pujana and Bimal are the stories of thousand of domestic child labour scattered throughout the Kathmandu valley, especially in Kathmandu, units and growing number of urban nuclear families, often with working mother a need to employ people to look after the house and babies has been felt more then ever before. Hence, the growing numbers of children are being employed in the urban households. Most of the children come from villages and a few from the urban poor households. Some are sent or brought directly by the parents, some are



brought by middleman. A majority of the children come from landless peasant family and society and are working as being DCL.

City life undoubtedly has tremendous attraction for the poor people who have few opportunities in their own village. They feel that if their children are working as domestic servants they are at least secure, at least guarantee of food, clothing and sometime education. Many of domestic workers certainly have a better life than they can provide for their children at home. And so it is that most of the children have come to the cities to work with the full consent of their parents.

These children initially employed to wash a few clothes, look after a baby, end up being maids of all work, washing, shopping babysitting, gardening, fetching water, cleaning the every thing in the house. The studies of child domestic labourers are generally treated inferiority prohibited to take part family food or share a sitting place while watching television. They are fed separately, often on left over or inferior quality of food. Not properly looked after while sick, paid little or totally unpaid. Granted no, leave and treated unkindly locked door, when the employers are not home.

The study of child of child labour therefore is the study of loss. The first things, they lose in their identity. They are seldom called by their named but called Kanchha or Kancchi and often with a distorted and shortened form of their name. In the lack of education or skill training, they have hardly secured future, it depends their feeling of insecurity.

Indeed few domestic child labourers who can fill time encouragement and to get education or acquire skill after their long work hours. Since the pay is paltry, there in no question either of saving enough and starting one's own business or farm for those without the minimum education or other skill. It is hard to break out from the cycle of hard labour and poverty. This construction of opportunities naturally breeds fatalistic outlooks.

## **CHAPTER - V**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This study is carried out on the domestic child labours below 18 years of age. This study is carried in Kuleshwor of Kathmandu Metropolitan city. Therefore, it is one of the centers for hiring children for domestic labour. This study's main focus on the socio-economic situation and relationship with employers and DCL.

#### **5.1 Summary**

From the one decade, it has been talking about DCL from governmental and non governmental side for the betterment and DCL works have been doing from different levels but results is not satisfactory. Among the majority of child labour is engaged as DCL in early age. Because of poverty, unpractical policy and urbanization, the number of DCL are increasing in Kathmandu.

Domestic child labour defined internationally as children working in an employer's house with or without wage. This study is carries out on the domestic CL below 18 years of age. This study is carried in Kuleshwor of Kathmandu metropolitan city. Therefore, it is one of the centers for hiring children for domestic labour. This study main focuses on the socio-economic situation and relationship with employers and DCL. This study considers and child labour from the ages of 5 to 18 working in an employer's household as a domestic labour.

#### **Socio-economic and demographic characteristics**

Two forth of the respondents are between 10 to 14 years old. And only 30% are between 15 and 18. The 18% are below 10 years of age. Employer generally prefers to hire young children because teenagers can be more difficult to manage the employers. More than half the DCL in this study are boys. Cultural reasons are though be responsible for this, including lesser mobility for females in general. And the fact that some ethnic groups consider females to be impure during menstruation. Forty four percent of DCL came from Brahmin and Chhetri ethnic group, followed by Rai/Limbu

at 4%. None of the DCL came from Dalit ethnic group. Most of the DCL came from within Kathmandu valley and its neighboring districts like Dhading. The majority of respondents (85%) reported that both their parents are alive and live together. The average family size of a DCL is 7 members. Most of them reported that at least one other child in their family was also working for a wage. Many of them are first or second of the child of the family. More than half of respondents (60%) are illiterate, being unable to read or write. The literate rate of boys is more than girls. They had got only primary educations that were literate.

### **Socio economic condition**

Nearly half of the respondents work more than 8 hours per a day and usually beginning at 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Their main chores include kitchen work, dishwashing, child minding, clothes washing, house cleaning, shopping, toilet cleaning. Some of the DCL are not paid their services. In terms of family assets, this was assessed through inequalities of land holding pattern seeing as all the DCL originated in rural area. The 30% DCL reported that they have small size of land and 30% of them are indebted. Nearly one-third of DCL don't know about their land and debt. Indebtedness seems to be a more significant factor when accessing forming vulnerability and the incident of DCL.

### **Relation between employer and DCL**

Most of the respondents couldn't complain to their employer by the fear of them. The 46% DCL have complained about bad treatment. Employer pulls hair, beat them and scold them in a small mistake too. Only 22% of the respondents are satisfied with their jobs. Foods and behaviors are key points of satisfaction of them. Most of them wish to go back home, if they had good economic condition but more than half DCL are happy for their food. The 40% of the respondents have left their previous working place and joined new more than once due to harassment and sexual abuse of girl domestic workers. Although there is a general belief that domestic child labour provides disadvantaged children with a relatively safe, comfortable option out of poverty or other forms of child labour, this study's findings point to this occupation as a worst form of child labour. Improving the situation

for DCL within the context of the socio-economic condition in Nepal is a more viable option for action.

## 5.2 Conclusions

Child labour is considered as the most neglected form of labour. Children are being exploited in different ways in day-to-day operation. Instead of decreasing the volume of child labour is being increased day to day. Facilities of the urban are pull factors of DCL and conflicts, social phenomena, difficulties of the rural are push factors of DCL.

1. Majority of the child labourers are between the age of 10 to 14 and most of them belong to Chhetri, Brahmin and Tamangs ethnic groups. And most of the labourers (58%) belonged to the family of farmers. And average family member is about seven in each family. In most of the families, these are few earning members and most of them live in joint family.
2. Most of the child labourers have immigrated from the Sindhupalchok (8.57%) and Kathmandu valley (11.6%) etc. Most of the villages, there are no job opportunities apart from working in one's farm land with low income.
3. Poor economic conditions are the major reason to being DCL and to help their parents for their household. And other reason that children have been working as DCL to sustain their own life.
4. Most of the DCL are recruited by relatives (11.6%), employers (31.6%) and relatives (11.6%). Mainly, the 48% of DCL work excessive hours is more than 8 hours.
5. Girls are smaller in size (46%) than boys (54%) and girls are usually younger than boys and are paid less.
6. The 60% of DCL are illiterate; out of them 32% girls and 28% boys can't write and read. DCL who were literate, they had dropped out from primary education.
7. The 46% of the respondents have complained the treatments of the employers. Only 32% of respondents said good treatment got from

- employers. And 66% of DCL are not found to be satisfied with their job. Most of them would return to their homes on account of job dissatisfaction, if their economic condition became good.
8. The 66% of DCL have left their previous working place more than once due to low earning, harassment and sexual abuse of girl domestic workers.
  9. The 28.4% of DCL families are homeless or don't have their own land and the 36% DCL families are indebted.
  10. Exploitative form of domestic child labour is being due to mainly poverty and others are step mother, conflicts, facilities and attraction of the town.

### **Recommendations**

All of the DCL are below the poverty line; children of such households have to contribute to supporting the family or look for better opportunities and are therefore pushed into various forms of labour like DCL. At the same time, unequal growth patterns have caused rapid urban expansion and growth of working middle class. Member of this quickly enlarging affluent class is reliant on DCL to undertake their household activities. Therefore in order to eliminate the worst form of DCL. Two options can be presented:

- A. The practice of employing for DCL should be banded completely. However this option is not only culturally difficult to enforce, it may be detrimental to children from poor families who may end up in other, worst form of child labour.
- B. The situation of DCL should be improved, which would be more viable in keeping with the socio economic condition on Nepal.

Recommendation fall largely into three categories summarized briefly below:

- I. Policy making: Poverty alleviation through employment opportunities and established of a minimum wage policy.
- II. Legal frame work: Attaching punitive measures to use of child labour, and bringing relevant regularly provisions to force through legal instruments, and

III. Programs: Two tiered programming including income enhancement for economically disadvantage groups, and advocacy to educate parents about the realities behind child domestic work as well as advocacy campaign aimed at employer.

A list of specific recommendation to humanize the domestic child labour occupation in Kuleshwor of Kathmandu.

1. A system should be created to keep records of DCL at the municipality's ward offices. The record system should include vital statistics and addresses of DCL and their employers, schooling level, and wage status of the domestic child labour.
2. A broad ranging information campaign should be mounted to educate the population about children's right; Nepal's legal provisions on child labour.
3. Ward office should be encouraged and support in maintaining information on child labour and running a drop in centre for working children, where services such as health check-ups, counseling and non formal education would be provided. Ward office would be responsible in arranging leisure time for DCL with their employers so they can use the drop in centre.
4. Social support should be obtained in pressuring words to provide schooling opportunities to DCL.
5. Additionally, further research on the situation of domestic child labour in other urban centers as well as in rural areas is warranted helping understand the overall attributes and incidence of domestic child labour.
6. Rehabilitation centers should be increased in number to rescue the children who are being exploited.
7. There should be co-operation with private sectors in order to eliminate domestic child labour. The potential areas of domestic child labours should be identified and should be declared as "No Child Labour Zone".
8. Strong mechanisms should be managed to monitor and supervise the implementation of legal system. The penalties should be increased and proper management system should be developed.



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# APPENDIX-I

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Socio-economic condition of domestic child labour, Kuleshwar area of Kathmandu metropolitan city of Kathmandu district.

Master's Name-.....

Date-.....

Address-.....

Name of the child-.....

Ward No-.....

Home Address-.....

### (I) Personal Background.

1. Migrated or Local-.....

2. Sex- Male Female

3. Age- 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

4. Ethnic groups

a. Tamang      b. Tharu      c. Chhetri      d. Magar  
e. Rai/Limbu      f. Brahmin      g. Newar      h. Others.....

5. Father's Name-.....

a. Dead      b. alive      c. don't know

6. Mother's name-.....

a. Dead      b. alive      c. don't know

7. If alive- a. Living together

b. Living separately

8. If dead, or stepfather or step mother-.....

9. Number of Sister-0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7...

10. No. of Brothers- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7...

11. Child rank in order- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7...

### (II) Education

Literate

Illiterate

1. If literate, which class do you read?

0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9...

2. If dropped, give reasons-
  - a. poverty
  - b. parent negligence
  - c. own
  - d. others
3. Do you want to go to school?
  - a. yes
  - b. No
4. Have your master ever offered to send you to school?
  - a. yes
  - b. No
5. Parents education- a. Literate      b. Illiterate
6. If literate, which class do they read? 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9...

**(II) How did you come here?**

- a. Parents
- b. Relation
- c. Villagers
- d. Own
- f. Employer
- g. Friend
- h. Broker

**(III) Family Status -**

1. Parents occupation
  - a. Agriculture
  - b. Service
  - c. Labour
  - d. Own
2. Family has farm land- a. Yes      b. No
3. Are parents indebted? a. Yes      b. No
4. If yes, who did borrow loan to your family?
  - a. Landlord
  - b. Masters
  - c. Relatives
  - d. Banks

**(IV) Working condition-**

1. Nature of the works-
  - a. Cooking
  - b. Cleaning
  - c. Washing
  - d. looking after baby
  - e. shopping
  - f. All
2. Work status-
  - a. Part time
  - b. Full time
3. If part time,
  - a. Evening
  - b. Morning
  - c. Day

4. Working hours per day
  - a. Below four hours
  - b. 4-6 hours
  - c. 6-8 hours
  - d. 8-12
  - e. Above 12
5. Get up for working (AM) - 4, 5, 6...
6. Go to the bed (PM) - 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.....
7. Wage paid or, Unpaid
8. If paid how much per month...
9. If unpaid, reason.....
10. Numbers of previous work- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5...
11. Name of previous work-.....
12. Why did you leave the previous works?
  - a. Low payment
  - b. Master's misbehaved
  - c. Sexual harassment
  - d. Others
13. Now, the earning is sufficient?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
14. Who keeps your earnings?
  - a. Own
  - b. Master
  - c. Parents
  - d. Relatives
  - e. Bank
15. Does your master's family treat you badly sometimes?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
16. If yes, who does this most?
  - a. Master
  - b. Mistress
  - c. Son/Daughter
  - d. Others
17. In what way they misbehave you?
  - a. Beating
  - b. Heavy workload
  - c. Scolding
  - d. pulling hair
  - e. Others
18. Do you steal sometimes?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
19. If yes, in what way?.....
20. Who loves you most?
  - a. Master
  - b. Mistress
  - c. Son/daughter
  - d. Relatives
  - e. Others
21. How often you visit your home in a year? 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ...

22. Do you happy with this work?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
23. Have you ever been sick since working here?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
24. If yes, nature of sick.....  
For how long.....
25. How did you get better?
  - a. Hospital
  - b. Natural treatment
  - c. Without treatment
  - d. Others
26. Who help you?
  - a. Master's family
  - b. Relatives
  - c. Others
27. How many times you get bath in a month?.....
28. Where do you sleep?
  - a. On the floor
  - b. On the bed
29. What is the quality of bed?
  - a. Better than at home
  - b. same as home
  - c. Worse than at home
30. What is the quality of the food?
  - a. Better than at home
  - b. same as home
  - c. Worse than at home

**(V) Recreational**

1. Do you play games?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
2. Does your master provide any kind of recreational materials?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
3. If yes, specify.....
4. Do you watch TV?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
5. If yes, where do you watch?
  - a. Masters house
  - b. Others house
6. Where do you sit when you watch TV?
  - a. Inside the room on the chair
  - b. Inside the room on the floor

- c. Just stand sticking to the wall
- d. Outside the room at the gate
- 7. How much your master does discriminate between you and their children your of feeling?
  - a. Very High
  - b. High
  - c. Little
  - d. Very Little
- 8. Habit of the smoking and drinking alcohol
  - a. Chewing tobacco
  - b. drinking alcohol
  - c. No one
- 9. If you not like this work why?
  - a. felling lonely
  - b. Bad
  - c. Bad treatment
  - d. High work load
  - e. Low income
  - d. Others