

Socio-Economic Status of Child Labour

**A Case Study of Children Working in Micro-Bus in Kirtipur
Municipality**

A Thesis

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By

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

Thesis entitled "**Socio-economic Status of Child Labour: A Case Study of Children Working in Micro-Bus in Kirtipur Municipality**" has been completed by Srijhana Kuinkel under my guidance and supervision for her partial fulfillment for the requirement of Master of Arts in Rural Development. This thesis, therefore, is recommended for its evaluation and approval.

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APPROVAL SHEET

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ASAR	:	Age Specific Activity Rate
AUS AID	:	Australian Agency for International Development.
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS	:	Central Department of Population Studies.
CDR	:	Central Development Region.
CEDAW	:	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.
CLSN	:	Child Labour Situation in Nepal.
CRC	:	Convention on the Rights of Child.
CW/CCD	:	Centre for Women/Children and Community Development
CWIN	:	Child Workers in Nepal
CWS	:	Child Welfare Society
DCRDC	:	Dhaulagiri Community Resources Development Center
EAPRO	:	East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
EDR	:	Eastern Development Region
FWDR	:	Far Western Development Region
HMGN	:	His Majesty's Government of Nepal
ILO	:	International Labour Organization
ILS	:	Institute of Labour Services
INGO	:	International Non-Governmental Organizaition
INSEC	:	Informal Sector Service Center
IPEC	:	International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour
IWGCL	:	International Working Group on Child Labour
MOH	:	Ministry of Health
MWDR	:	Mid Western Development Region
NGO	:	Non Government Organization
NLFS	:	Nepal Labour Force Survey
NLSS	:	Nepal Living Standard Survey
NPC	:	National Planning Commission
NTUC	:	Nepalese Trade Union Congress
REEC	:	Rural Environment and Empowerment Center

T.U.	:	Tribhuvan University
UN	:	United Nation
UNCRC	:	United Nation Convention on the Right of the Child
UNCRC	:	United Nations Conference on the Rights of the child
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	:	United Nations International Children's Emergency Funds
US	:	United States
VDC	:	Village Development Committee
VOC	:	Voice of Children
WDR	:	Western Development Region

CHAPTER - ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Nepal is a landlocked country situated between two large Asian Countries India and China. It is a Country of great geographical, socio-economic and cultural diversity. The Country experiencing a population of 2.5 core extending from the high Himalayas in the North to the Sub-tropical plains of Terai in the South. (CBS: 2001).

Nepal is one of the less developed countries in the world. In a developing contraries like Nepal, where most of the are as are rural, labour is the most important means of production. About 85% population live in rural areas with agriculture as dominant occupation. The urban informal sectors. Working is as a destination for many rural urban migrations when the urban job sector can not absorb. Traditionally children in Nepal are involved in agriculture, domestifecation of animal, handicraft and other employments. However, recently in search of better livelihood opportunities many children started to migrate in urban centers. These kind of activities accelerate also by different factors at their place of origin such as low level of payment, natural calamities, societal, problems and household unrest and lack of parental care.

The children working in small town and big cities are increasing continually but the concentration of child worker are high in big cities, such as Kathmandu. Kathmandu alone is absorbing large number of child workers (CWIN; 2001).

Generally, child labour are these who are below 10 years of age, deprived of minimum level of facilities, working long hours, getting low wage and damage their physical and mental development. Children who are prematurely living adult lives and deprived of education and training.

Child labour may be identified by analyzing some basic criteria like age, working hours, type of work etc. but it is very difficult to demarcate the working age. And it varies from one country or region to another. According to the Children Act and Labour act of Nepal 1992, the groups under the age of 16 years are considered as children. Children below the age of 14 years are strictly prohibited to work as labour. But the children aged between 14-16 years can work only for limited working hours

i.e. 6 hours per day. If they work 3 hours continuously, they should get a rest of minimum half an hour. Although this legal provision is not sufficient for the betterment of the children but it has been proved to be a milestone for the betterment of the children.

The problem of child labour in Nepal is not different from other countries especially neighbor country. The problem of child labour is both serious and widespread in the entire south Asian region. Because of this fact International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF) have come out with the declaration to protect the children's right. UNICEF has specially been working for the right of disadvantaged children in developing countries for the proper health care, nutrition, education and all other basic service. UNICEF is more concerned to the right and well being of the world's children. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, "The child needs special safeguard and care including appropriate legal protection before as well as after birth. They shall enjoy the special Protection, opportunity and facility to develop them in a normal and healthy manner and in the condition of freedom and dignity". Although many conventions have been attempted for the abolition of child labour but success has been gained very little.

Historically, the problem of child labour first appeared in the 16th century. This was further expanded in different forms and areas in the 17th century and children were further exposed to high risk areas in the 18th and 19th century. In Germany, France and the UK, the problem of child labour was obvious in factories. Cotton mills, glass and match making and brick kilns, where as in Norway and Sweden the problem equated in farming, herding and fishing. In France, a welfare act for child labour was introduced the first law regarding the health and safety of children and trade Unions in Europe began to raise the issue of child labour as part and parcel of their movement. However, the implementations of laws were very poor (UNICEF) There is no any historical documentation about child labour that from when child labour had been started in Nepal. But it might be that, from when traditional agrarian based society had emerged, the child were used in agricultural work. And after development of technology, the use of children had been increased as manpower because of to cheap. UN has declared the year 1979 to International year of child. After this many NGO, have been started to work in the area of child labour. But unfortunately, there is

always a gap between the lovely words and hard deeds so; the number of child labour is increasing day by day. So this study is concerned with the Micro-bus conductors in the Kirtipur Municipality.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The existence of the world or we can think of any creation. Children are the rays of hope. The future development of country depends upon the development of children. If the children are facilitated with food, care love and education thus they will grow in a proper way. Children will become good citizens of the country and as a normal child, when he/she became a child labour with whom the nation cannot hope any work and contribution for the nation. A child will become a responsible citizen only when he/she can spend their time happily psychologically it has proved beyond doubt that an unhappy childhood has various problems in the adult life (CWIN, 1998). A child being in a formative stage can be modeled in any way. It is the period to make them knowledgeable. Responsible, sensitive and good citizen by including conducive values. If we are trying to create a happy, congenial and crime free society, the first task we have to do is create a congenial and sound environment for a child to grow. This will lead a long way toward attaining peace, prosperous and human world. So, children need to be good, well-natured and educated rather than make them a bread earner. Since there is no national level survey study on child labour. So it is very difficult to give accurate statistics on child labour in Nepal. Despite, the growing number of INGOs and NGOs, it is very difficult to get actual statistics about child labour in Nepal. Nepal is an agro-based country but most of the people have very limited land, or do not have any land despite being dependent on it. They are unable to fulfill the basic needs of the family. So the children have to work to support their family have to reduce the burden of the family by leaving their home to work somewhere different forms of child labour such as street hawkers, bonded labour vendors domestic workers etc. have now become the key issue in Nepal, because it is believed that child labour hijacks the world of their imagination kills their creativity and putting them in to a mechanized way of life, which hinders their mental and physical growth and their disturbed childhood may make them criminals in the future. Thus, the situation of young working children in Nepal should be given special attention. Keeping in mind the rampant child labour practices in Nepal, the present study

attempts to examine the child labour in kirtipur municipality working in Micro- bus in particular. In this content, the study has tried to answer the following questions:

1. What type of family background do they represent?
2. How did they get involved as conductor?
3. What are the causes of child labour entered in to Micro-bus?
4. What are their expectations?
5. What suggestions could be recommended for the improvement of child workers?
6. Whether child problem is eradicable or not?
7. What are the steps that could be taken to eradicate the child labour and their problems?

1.3 Objective of the study

The basic objective of the study is to examine the status of the child labour in the transportation sector (Micro-bus) in Kiritipur municipality so as to develop appropriate strategies to solve their problem. However, the following specific objectives have been developed for the study.

-) To identify the socio–Economic condition of Micro-bus conductor.
-) To explain the causes of child labour who turned in to Micro- bus conductor.
-) To examine the working environment of conductor boys.

1.4 Significance of the study

The present research study is the rare piece of work among the academic research area. The study has attempted to analyses the child labour issue at the national as well as the micro level with a local case study. Further, it has covered wide range of subjects within child labour. It is expected that the findings conclusion and recommendations of this study will be useful to planners, policy makers and concerned and agencies. Eventually, the study may be helpful to other researchers, students and the organizations working in the fields of child labour.

1.5 Organization of the study

This study has been divided into five parts. The first chapter is the preliminary introduction which deals with background of child labour, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study. The second chapter is the review of

literature and third chapter deals with methodology under which research design, rationale of the of the selection of the study area, nature and sources of data sampling procedure and data collection techniques has been stated. Then the fourth chapter is presentation and analysis which includes demographic characteristics, socio-economic characteristics, working condition, health and problems. The last chapter consists of summary, conclusion and recommendation.

CHAPTER- TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter deals about the reviewed literatures as well as definition of child labour both in the national and international content. Some of the facts, opinions, principles and the study directly and indirectly related to the study have also been reviewed.

2.1 Child Labour

Report of Director General, ILO has stated that child labours are not “Teenagers” working for a few hours to earn additional pocket money not children helping on family farms, not youngsters doing household works, but children prematurely living adult lives working long hours for low wages under worse conditions to their health and to their physical and mental development of meaningful educational and training opportunities that could open for them a better future. (ILO, 1993)

Although the problem of child labour and its exploitation has long been a subject of sporadic concern, generally with in specialized or restricted quieter and has been tackled through national and international legal instruments over the years, it was really only during the International year of the child (1979) that the probable intent and incidence of the phenomenon was brought home to the general public throughout the world at that time. Within three years, the minimum estimates of the number of children working had risen by almost 50 percent defense for children International Labour Organization. (ILO, 1995)

When does child work contribute to the development of child especially in rural areas where such work can make a healthy contribution to prepare the child for adulthood and help pass traditionally acquired skills from one generation to the next and when is it exploitation? ILO has identified some characteristics from child work to exploitation. There being working too young, working long hours working under strain, working on the streets, for very little pay. With little stimulation, taking too much responsibility and subjective to intimidation. (ILO, 1992)

The children in many countries in Asia share the common pain and problems of child labour in their every sector of spastics have revealed that almost half of the world’s child labour problems exist in south Asia. Because of growing poverty, famine, unfair

economic relation and social injustice, the children of this region are forced to take on a major burden for survival. Despite many national, regional and international commitments to combat child labour, the situation of children in this SAARC region is far from satisfactory. (CWIN, 1998)

When children become less important as economic actors they do not begin to have a new role in society as they were banned from the workforce. So they were also relieved of responsibility. Although children in most times and places have worked and taken an active part in society as a whole, they are now limited in public policies to playing in the family and working for no pay at school if they are involved in economic activities, they are largely invisible and paradoxically, because children are unable to find employment in the formal workforce they may be forced to find work under worse conditions in the informal sector. (Ennew, et.al,1995)

2.2 Theoretical Literature

In this study “child” is defined in terms of age. Accordingly, only the population aged 5-14 is taken as “child population” in this study as most of the child labour surveys do. No discussion of child work labour could be complete without defining “what is childhood? What is a child? etc. (ILO, 1992) indicates that official versions of childhood are based on the ideology that childhood is demarcated by a series of biological and psychological attributes and not social characteristics.

The definition of a child is somewhat complicated it is found to depend on culture and it is observed to differ from place to place even in the same culture. So childhood is very difficult to define universally. According to Ennew (1994), there are different stages in childhood and these are affected by the age in which a child starts to work and the type of work they do.

A child as defined by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) means every human being below the age of 18 years unless national laws recognize the age of majority earlier (Article 1). Whereas the Nepal Labour Act 1992, defines a child as a person below the age of 14 years but the Children's Act 1992 broadened the age limit up to 16 years.

The Constitution of India mentions that “no child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory, or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employments” but it is not defined anywhere in the constitution what hazardous

employment is ILO convention no 182 (Article2) defines the term “child” as all persons under the age of 18 (ILO,1999). The difference between a child and an adult is that the dependence of the form or on familial authority and their general status, in relation to labour legislation, prevents them from personally receiving the benefit of their work. (Dube, 1981)

Minimum age in accordance with ILO convention no 138, (1973).

General Minimum age	Light work(articles7)	Dangerous work Article3
15 years or more	13 years	18 years (16 years dispensation)
14 years*	12 years*	18 years(16 years dispensation)

* For developing countries only

2.2.2 Definitions of Child Labour

In Most Asian countries, child labour is seen as an integral component of the society. Child labourers are a part of the everyday reality and fail to evoke any special, response in the minds of the common people. Unfortunately, most have actually come to accept it as a phenomenon where their presence is inevitable. Nepal is no exception to this. (CWIN, 1998)

A child is a member of the family, first and foremost. A child is expected to take on certain functions and responsibilities as a part of growing up. Many work responsibilities taken on by children are often considered as aspects of their socialization. So it becomes important to distinguish between the works, a child is employed. (CWIN, 1998)

The definition for “child work” and “child labour” here has been taken from the Encyclopedia of social sciences. It reads: “when the business for wage earning or of participation in self or family supports conflict, directly or indirectly with the business of growth and education, the result is child labour. The function of work in childhood is primarily developmental and not economic. Children’s work then is a social good, and it is the direct antithesis of child labour as a social evil”

These are two similar terms “child labour” and child work, and they need to be distinguished for the survey purpose. According to the ILO , most children work but all the works by children cannot be considered as child labour. Child labour is something different than when young people are being exploited or overworked or deprived of their right to health or education or just to childhood. The United Nation (1990) also defines “child labours “in a similar fashion in some instances “child worker \ labours is define as a person in the age group of 5-14 employed for hire or reward on a full time basis and includes a self employed child and a child assisting his\her parents in their occupations for two or more hours a day. From this definition, it is clear that irrespective of economic returns, any work situation where there is a violation of child’s right is a child labour situation.

A child worker means “a person in the age group of 5-14 employed for hire or reward, on a full-time basis and includes a self –employed child assisting his\ her parents in their occupations 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 family. (CWIN, 1998)

(UNICEF, 1997) states that not all work is harmful to children. Work experiences 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.

Child labour can be considered as one of the phenomena caused by underdevelopment & poverty, and it is not the problem but a symptom of the problem of poverty and inequality. It takes the form of a succession of situations and events, which are interrelated through a type of vicious circle. This circle represents perception of child labour as destiny from which it is impossible to escape. A vicious circle persists between underdevelopment and child labour (fig.1).

Fig No.: 1 The vicious circle of under development and child labour

Child labour is not the problem of an individual or a family but it is the general problem of society. Child labour may be regarded broadly as any work of children under recreation which children require. It is the working of children at unfit ages for unreasonable hours or under healthy conditions. (Patterson, 1943)

Child labour is a source of cheap labour. It is due to poverty that compels parents to make the children work for wages and the employer never hesitates to take advantage of it. Employers think that the employment of children minimizes the educational stunts their physical growth, hampers their intellectual development, by forcing them in to unskilled labour. (Pant, 1970)

The Institute of labour services, the Philippines (1994) refers to “child labour” as the participation of children (below 15 years of age) in economically gainful activities, whether they are directly remunerated or paid as part of the family unit. It includes work in family enterprises (in agriculture, service or industry) debt peonage, employment and self- employment. Doing household chores for one’s own house hold or family or mendicancy is not considered child labour. (ILS, 1994)

According to ILO convention 182 concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour the term “the worst forms of child labour” comprises:

All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts.

The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties.

Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

2.2.3 The Types of Child Labour

UNICEF (1997a) has broken down child labour into 7 main types. These examples of child labour, unique to any one region or world. These are domestic service, forced and bonded labour, commercial sexual exploitation, industrial, 2 plantation work, work for the family and girls work.

Sattaur (1993) enlisted the types of work undertaken by the working children of Nepal under 10 main headings: agriculture, cottage industry, manufacture, plantation, domestic, catering, selling, manual labour sexual exploitation and street children. It is recognized that no labour exploitation in Nepal is involved in the agricultural sector (Suwal, et al. 1997). Sattaur (1993) identifies the following major jobs that children do in Nepal.

AGRICULTURE	Livestock tending, planting, harvesting, ploughing, fishing
COTTAGE INDUSTRY	Pottery, carpet and cloth weaving, candle making, hand painting, poultry farming
MANUFACTURE	Printing, bricks, bread, garments, matches, cigarettes and soap
PLANTATION	Tea, sugarcane and tobacco
DOMESTIC	Caring for parents, being servants
CATERING	Hotels, tea shops, Restaurants and bars.
SELLING	Street Hawking, petrol pump attendant, shop

	assistant, shoe shining, Newspaper vending and delivery
MANUAL LABOUR	Rock breaking, mechanic, sweeper, road and building site worker, carpenter.
TOURIST AND TRAVEL INDUSTRY	Pottering, circus performer rafting Trekking guide bus conductor, Rickshaw puller
OTHER WAYS CHILDREN EARN MONEY	Rag picking, Prostitution, Begging

There are different forms of child labour in different sectors and in different countries. There are family workers who assist in family enterprises and work in a protected environment sometimes, however they work very hard (farms) for long hours (weaving, animal grazing) and in unhealthy working conditions (leather-work, colour work).some children who work as wage earners are comparatively more exploited and sometimes are used as a cheap factor of production rather than human beings the extreme case being child labour. The other sectors where child labour is employed are: (a) Domestic services, (b) non – domestic, non monetary services, (like fuel and water collection and hunting) (c) shops, restaurants hotels, etc (d) small scale industries and handicrafts, (e) other informal sector enterprises, (f) illegal activities, prostitution etc. (Patterson, 1943)

Child labour falls broadly into the following types:

Domestic work, (2) non – domestic, non monetary work (3) tied or bonded labour, (4) wage labour, (5) marginal semi –economic activities, and (6) other. (Patterson, 1943)

While child labour in general is confined within the agriculture sector in the form of bonded labour, it is also confined in service, manufacturing and sex industry. (Acharya, 1998)

2.2.4 Child Labour: How many children work?

A recent ILO limited survey, which indicated that 73 million of the world’s children are employed, equivalent to 13 percent of these in 10-14 years. (ILO, 1996)

In Latin America one child in five works (ILO, 1992) in developing countries, some 250 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 are working. Among them, some 120 million children are working full time. Some 61 percent of child workers, or

nearly 153 million, are in Asia 32 percent or 80 million, are in Africa and 7 percent, or 17.5 million, live in Latin America. (ILO, 1994)

It is estimated that there are 5 to 6 million child labourers in Bangladesh, up to 5 million in Brazil, 1.4 million in Egypt, 1 million in Guatemala, up to 40 million in India and over 2 million in Indonesia, up to 8 million in Mexico, 2 million in Nepal, 12 million in Nigeria, over 2 million in Pakistan, 5 million in the Philippines and 4 million in Thailand. The UN estimates state that by 2000, there were 3.75 million child labourers worldwide. (Pradhan, 1998)

Most reliable estimates reveal in the UK that children between 15-26 percent of 11 years old and between 36-66 percent of 15 years old are working (ILO, 1992). This shows that developed countries also have a prevalence of the child labour problem. In the US, according to the US department of labour, more than 11,000 children are working illegally (ILO, 1995). This implies that child labour is not only a problem of developing countries.

UNICEF (1997c) revealed that many families in the developing world are often in need of the income support that their children can provide.

On the other hand, children in industrialized countries are often working for pocket money.

The 1991 Nepal census revealed that some 18.4 percent male and 28.5 percent female children aged 5-14 were economically active. (CBS, 2001)

There are 2.6 million working children in Nepal and the work participation rate of children is estimated to be 41.7 percent as compared to male children (36.1%), the work participation rate is found to be remarkably higher among female children (47.6%). The work participation rate of rural children is nearly 2 times higher than that of urban children. (CBS, 2001)

2.2.5 Causes and Consequences of Child Labour

Child labour is a product of low living standards of the population resulting from the low level of income, illiteracy, and increasingly lack of means of subsistence, food, shelter and clothing and inadequate basic schooling and education thus, the practice of child labour is considered an effective means of arguing the current level of

income among poor families so as to enhance, by large, their economic wellbeing. (CW\CCD,1997)

The vast majority of children are pushed in to work that is often damaging to their development by three key factors: the exploitation of poverty, the absence of education, and the restrictions of tradition. (UNICEF, 1997b)

Poverty has been reported as the leading reason for working outside for non domestic work (CW\CCD, 1997). The second main reason was parents who have been blamed for enforcing child labour. Financial trouble has the children to be employed in industries. (KC.et al., 1997)

Practice of child labour prevents children from going to 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-perpetuating. (CW/CCD,1997)

Studies have indicated that poverty is the crux of the problem of child labour in Nepal. there is a direct link between poverty and child labour in Nepal for example, the majority of children working as rag pickers, shoe cleaners, hotel kanchha, street children, and carpet weavers in Kathmandu Municipality report poverty as the main reason for their work(CWIN, 1989). The majorities of them are illiterate and belong to less educated families. Likewise, except in the mountains, the work burden of children of both sexes aged 6-9 years in heaviest in ultra poor families (Singh, 1990). However the same study has shown that the heavy work burden of a girl child is not entirely due to poverty but gender biased against the girl child, which in turn is influenced by other factors such as cultural values.

So, in the children's share in economic participation rate, a special plea must be added on behalf of young girls of the developing world. They are so often neglected and ignored by receiving a smaller share of the food and performing a larger share of the work than the male members of their families.

Major causes of child labour in Nepal identified as object poverty and financial pressure, unemployment\under employment, family disreception, lack of alternatives,

in adequacy of the education system, inadequate enforcement of legislation, abduction\deception and prevalence of public attitudes and values which tolerate and sometimes can done child labour (ILO, 1995). Major causes of child labour are food insufficiency and unemployment because of the lack of land owned (CWIN, 1998). A study by chhetry (1996) indicates that, in Nepal, distinct with a high child labour status tend to have a high illiteracy rate and the distinct 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.

There are several factors responsible for the problem of child labour. The socio-cultural background and land distribution patterns in 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 in 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. People with less land means that they have insufficient food for their living. Most of the small land holdings provide food for only three to eight months and the people have to find work or food for the remainder of the year (Sattaur, 1993).

Nepal is a rural agrarian country with persistent poverty, which is the most important reason for child labour poor households need money, which their children can earn children generally contribute around 20-25 percent of the family income. (ILO, 1998)

Poverty has been reported as the leading reason for working outside for non-domestic work (IWGCL, 1993). The second main reason was parents who have been blamed for enforcing child labour. Financial trouble has led children to be employed in industries (KC et al., 1998). Many parents cannot afford money for their children to study. Even if poverty in Nepal is so called free, it is not compulsory poor people are always busy saving hand to mouth problems, and they are ignorant of the advantages and the value of education children are weighed only from the economic perspective. 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 leave home with the hope of acquiring both an income and an education. (KC et al., 1998)

Child labour is not accidental. The market demand for child labour determines children's employment in various enterprises and industries children are employed because they are docile, obedient, and hired at cheaper rates than adults and dispensed of easily if labour demands should fluctuate. They involve no long term investment on the part of industry in terms of insurance and social security or other benefits. (UNICEF 1994)

The lower family income reduces the nutritional intake of family members, which reduces their physical strength and boots the mortality rate amongst them. On one hand, this gives rise to high death rate, and on the other, the morbidity among adults lead to their unemployment and under employment, which in turn, compels for the survival of their families. The working and living conditions and the occupational risk put a lot of strain on the tender bodies of the children, who cannot cope with it for a very long period and hence it gives rise to a high mortality rate. a high mortality rate leads to higher fertility rate, as a parents want, at least, a couple of children to survive till their old age for their 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 help eke out a family income. Due to lack of schooling, the child remains a member of the lower strata in the labour market even in his adulthood, keeping his own and that of his family's income every low. His poverty compels his children's to participate in the labour force, again at an early age .Thus this vicious cycle of child labour goes on and on, acting at the individual, family and the social levels, interconnected with each other.

2.2.6 Law and Child Labour

In this light of the condition of the child labour discussed in detail above the legal tool, which is among of the several tool which could be useful to address the issue of child labour, needs to be examined. (IWGCL, 1993) have mentioned that while legislation may help to control the more obvious form of exploration, legislation designed to eliminate child employment in itself is not enough. According to them it is one of the ironies of child labour that where it is prohibited by law the law is likely to leave child workers un protected, since legally they do not exist. never the less time,

situations should be distinguished in those case where the law exists but it is not enforced and other where the activity is not covered by existing laws. Presently, there are several united nations conventions that concern child labour and child slavery.

The supplementary convention on slavery, the slave trade and institution and practices similar to slavery (1956), defined slavery as “any practice whereby a child under the age of 18 years is delivered to another person with a view to the exploitation of child labour”(IWGCL, 1993).

The International labour organization’s convention no.138 (1973) lays down a minimum wage of 15 for work or employment and 13 for light work which is not likely to harm child’s health or development.

The convention on the rights of the child (1989), address a child (defined as a person below 18 years of age) as having a right to be protected from hazardous work and work that is likely to interfere with the child’s education or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental spiritual , moral or social development”

The gist of new legislation Nepal is as:

S.N.	Legislation	Provision
1.	The Constitution 1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibits the employment of children in any occupation which is hazardous to life. - Prohibits the trafficking of human being including children, slaves, serfs and forced labour. It restricts sale, trafficking and abduction of children.
2.	The Labour Act 1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibits the employment of children under 14 years of age. - Requires the employers of more than 50 workers to provide super vised care and also time for mothers to breat-feed their children. - Provides for initial checkup and medical treatment of employees.

3.	The child Rights Act 1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibits the employment of children under age of 14. - Prohibits the employment of minors, aged 14 to 16, for more then six hours per day and more then 36 hour per week.
4.	The Antrim Constitution 2063	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibits the employment of children in work that is likely to be harmful to health or hazardous to life.

The legal measure are only one aspect of the quest for solutions to restoration of child rights, political commitment, people awareness and their access to legal redress are all essential to address the issue. In this regard, people’s movements and the participation of the children themselves in the process of advocating for themselves become crucial.

The constitution of the kingdom of Nepal 1990 has clearly stated that traffic in human beings, is prohibited. It has also been that minors shall not be employed to work in any factory or mine or be engaged in any other hazardous work. (HMG, 1990)

As is clear from humanity, the word in itself is sensitive. Children have a right to affection, recreation and education, as they are the future of the nation. Healthy children’s are the bright future of society and hence Can drive the nation towards development. So they should not be exploited, which in the future can severe physical and mental problem to them. On 14 September 1990, Nepal ratified the convention on the Rights of child-adopted on 20 November 1989 by the UN General Assembly. Furthermore, His Majesty’s Government of Nepal endorsed the declaration of the world summit for children held at the United Nations in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990. As a member of the south Asian Association for regional co-operation (SAARC), Nepal has signed the Colombo Resolution. In accordance with this resolution, Nepal has obliged itself to work for the following goals.

Basic education: Access to, and enrollment in primary education for at least 80 percent of boys and 75 percent of girls and completion of primary education by at least 50 percent of girls as well as boys by 1995.

Child labour progressive and accelerated elimination of child labour. There are many studies on child labour but it takes into consideration only particular area .there are no national level studies ,which covers the whole country .In this respect the child labour situation in Nepal conducted by CDPS is of greater value . this study, child labour situation in Nepal is based on Nepal labour force survey, 1998/99.both studies collected information on child labour between the age group 5-14 years the analytical schemes are similar although there are differences in concepts and definitions used by the surveys and both of these are not separate survey but based on the secondary data of the already conducted studies. As this study is similar to existing CLSN 1996, in some respect, it also attempt compresses the result to know the trend in child labour.

Nepal Labour Force Survey, (NLFS) 1998/99) marks an important stage in the development of labour statistics in Nepal, so as in child labour previous reports have highlighted the absence of a sound stastical base, which is needed for monitoring the market of child labour in Nepal. This present report based on the results from the first labour force survey to be carried out in the country goes along way in helping to fill that gap.

This survey followed all the international definitions for use in labour force surveys laid down by the international labour organization. It is hoped that this study based on NLFS 1998/99 will be valuable to wider audience as well. Because, it has tried to bring the present situation and trend of child labour in the country.

ILO recommendation 190 concerning the “prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour” June 1990 least hazardous work, but this study did not concentrate to identify the children engaged in work of this type. It is possible that some of the 36000 children’s aged 5-14 working in the manufacturing and construction industries may be working in such at risk situations .This is an area for more detailed investigation, although care is needed to be taken when interpreting estimates based on few observations.

Child Labour, NGOS and INGOS many NGOS have been working in attempt to eliminate the child labour appeared in the global scenario. ILO is concerned about those situations where children are compelled to work on a regular or continuous basis to earn a living for themselves or for their families and as a result are deprived educationally and socially. ILO is against of all kinds of work that are exploitative

and damaging to their health and to their physical and mental development, where they are separated from their families of deprived from educational and training opportunities. ILO oppose the child work as bonded labours and work, where the children's are forced to live prematurely adult lives, condemned to a cruel and to a black future. (ILO, 1992)

Different laws have set varying the age limits for the definition of a child work and child labours are somewhat confusing. The minimum age convention of ILO 1973 (No.138) has defined "child" as a person below the general limits of 15 years or in special circumstances 14 years. Similarly, according to Nepalese Labour Act-1992, "child means a person who attained the age of fourteen years, and a minor as a person who has attained the age of fourteen years but has not completed the age of eighteen years, but the children Act (1992) defines a child to be a human being below the age of 16 years and prohibits employment of children below 14 years of age as a labourer. Generally "workers" means a person employment in return for payment of salary or in the work of providing service for building work ,working on land, or any part there of used for the purpose or any work related on incidental thereto. Then "child workers" "may be defined as person who is below the age of 14 years employed in return for payment of salary or work of providing services. (CBS, 2001)

Even the Encyclopedia of social sciences has no clear demarcation between child work and child labour and define as "when the business of wage earning or of participation in self or family support conflicts directly or indirectly with the business of growth and education, the result is child labour. The function of work in childhood is primarily developmental and non-economic. Children work then as a social good is the direct antithesis of child labour as a social evil". The ministry of labour is responsible for the formulation coordination and implementation of the policy of the government. The Department of labour under the Ministry of Labour deals with the inspection of establishments for the enforcement of labour legislation concerning health and safety at work , minimum wage, employment. (ILO,1995)

The ministry of Health is responsible for child health, the Ministry of education or school education as well as vocational and non-formal education to children, and the ministry of women, children and social welfare and development as well as

formulating and implementing the respective policies and action programmes of each ministry.

Recently, some NGOs have been working together for the welfare of children. To coordinate the activities of different NGOs, a networking group of CAR-NWG was formed in 1992. CAR-NWG currently has 21 member NGOs through which a variety of research and action programs are being carried out on various issues pertinent to child labour, street children, and trafficking. (UNICEF, 1997c)

Concern for Children and Environment Concern-Nepal) in Kathmandu and the Human Rights and Environment Development Centre (HURENDEC) at Udayapur Gaighat are actively working on the issues concerning child labours.

The Dhaulagiri Community Resources Development Centre (DCRDC) in Baglung, and The Rural Environment and Empowerment Centre (REEC) in Beni are also working on these issues. Three organizations, HURENDEC, DCRDC, REEC are working towards non-formal education and child right for child labours. (CDPS, 2001)

Different NGOs are working on particular issues concern with child labour. On the issues of girl trafficking and prostitution; NGOs such as WATCH, WOREC, ABC/Nepal and Maiti Nepal are undertaking various preventive activities through income generation activities, protection, advocacy, repatriations and rehabilitation in high risk area of country. Vocational and technical training for street children and rag pickers is being carried out by NGO's such as the center for women children and community development (CW/CCD) and CW's.

Among the NGOs working for the welfare of children the child workers in Nepal Concern Center (CWIN) and the child welfare society (CWS) are operating common rooms and literacy programs for working children as well as street children. The informal sector service centre (INSEC) is involved in the issues of human rights and bounded labour. The General Federation of the Nepalese Trade Union Congress (NTUC) are involved in solving the problem of child in the elimination of child labour through the preventive and reformative measures. (UNICEF, 1997c)

A number of INGOs are involved in activities related to child rights and welfare basically providing support, financially and technically to various activities in the field. They include plan International, Action Aid ,Reed Barn , save the children

Japan , save the children Fund UK and USA, save the children Alliance and so on. The International Labour Organizations (ILO) and United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) have also been actively involved in this sector. UNICEF has helped the government prepare a ten year plan of action programmed for child Development, and ILO is supporting the Ministry of Labour in drafting a 10 year Master plan for the elimination of child labour in Nepal.

CHAPTER – THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

Both exploratory and descriptive Research designs were applied. It is exploratory because efforts have been made to explore their family back-ground and cause and impact. Besides, it is descriptive because age, sex, ethnicity etc have been described. The data collected with the help of different tools and techniques: are also both qualitative and quantitative data.

3.2 Rationale of the Selection of the Study Area

The study area was selected Kirtipur municipality to undertake the field based research study. There are many causes behind selecting the Kirtipur municipality as study area such as the number of microbus have been increased and still this process is going on. It is found that all micro buses are employing conductor and all those are mainly boys under 16 years. These child conductors are not registered and recorded as an organized labour. Hence, the area is selected to study the socio-economic status of microbus child labour in Kirtipur municipality.

3.3 Universe and Sample Size

The study is intend to collect information about child conductors working in micro-bus in Kirtipur Municipality. In aggregate all the child conductors are the target population but due to constant mobility and lack of records, it is very difficult to find out the actual population of the conductors. In this study a sample of 40 conductors from micro –bus has been included on the basis of purposive sampling technique.

3.4 Nature and Source of Data

There was mainly two source of data collection: primary source and secondary source. The primary information which has been collected from field work through semi-unstructured interviews, field observation. The secondary information has been obtained from the different related research, report, published and unpublished books, journals, news papers, office records and library.

3.5 Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

As the study has used qualitative as well as quantitative information. Some tools and techniques were used to acquire the information needed for the study.

3.5.1 Interview

Interview was one of the major techniques to collect required Information conductors working in micro-bus. Semi-structural interview question was prepared to take interview while collecting information to meet the objective of the study. Structured and unstructured questions have been used relating to sociological, economical demographic and behavioral aspect of child conductors to get information. The interview has been taken on different issues such as personal and family characteristics, economic characteristics, working condition, personal habits incomes, expenses, saving; health, educational status, aim etc. and unstructured questions have also been asked to their employer, drivers and friends to know more about them. The interviews were taken mostly while they were at work.

3.5.2 Observation

During the field work researcher has used observation method to examine various activities of the Micro – bus conductors, such as behaviors physical condition and working conditions etc. The researches several time travelled with those boys while they were at work. It helped researcher to understand the behavior of passenger, driver (Owner) with those boys.

3.5.3 Key Informant Interviews

Key informant Interviews was applied to drivers, owners and member of micro-bus society. Key informants were asked about governments efforts\ policy to minimize the child labours, socio-economic impact on society, INGOS/NGOS efforts and investment, etc. A checklist was prepared in order to interview with key informants.

3.5.4 Data Analysis

After completion of data collection the researcher has tabulated them in different group and headings. The collected data has been analysed by using simple statistical tools basically, percentage, simple tables etc. which helped to make the study meaningful. The interpretation of findings has been made descriptive on the basis of analysis.

3.6 Limitation of the Study

It must be confirmed that this study is not out of limitation. Generally the limitation forced by this study can be pointed out as follows.

-) This Study has covered only child conductor of Micro- bus of Kirtipur municipality. So, the findings of the research study may not be similar to other sector of child labour.
-) Time dimension and financial factor also are the limitation of this study. Because of limited time and financial difficulties, actual number of working children in Micro- bus could not be contacted.
-) Only 40 respondents has been selected for interview from the total number of child conductor in the municipality. So, the finding of this study can be generalized with the scenario of child labour in other parts of the country as well as others sectors occupying child labour.

CHAPER- FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

4.1 Social Aspects

4.1.1 Place of Origin

Generally, people migrated from rural areas to the urban areas in search of work. The density of city is already high and the number of population increases as with the migrated population and there are lots of urban poor. The children who are engaged in valley in different works are the migrants of the poor rural families of different parts of the country.

Table 1: Place of origin of the microbus child labour

S. No.	Districts	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1.	Kavre	6	15
2.	Dhading	6	15
3.	Dolakha	5	12.5
4.	Nuwakot	4	10
5.	Ramechhap	3	7.5
6.	Chitwan	3	7.5
7.	Rupandehi	4	10
8.	Syanja	2	5
9.	Jhapa	2	5
10.	Kathmandu	3	7.5
11.	Kirtipur (local)	2	5
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Table 1 shows that many of the children who came to the city to working in microbus were from the adjoining districts of Kathmandu valley, which are assessable to the motor roads. Dhading, Kavre, Dolakha, Occupied 15 percentage 15 percentage and 12.5 percentage respectively. Similarly, children from Nuwakot, Ramechhap and Chitwan occupied 5 percentage while 7.5 of the children were from Kathmandu itself.

4.1.2 Age Structure

People below the age of 16 are considered as children and they should not be used as worker or labour, they should have free access to education, child right, and other activities. That are considered essential to them as mentioned by ILO. But in Nepal, almost all the children from the poor families, especially of rural areas are engaged in household works as well as outside works. Children of different age groups are engaged in microbus of livelihood.

Table 2: Age composition of microbus child labour

S. No.	Age	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	8-10	3	7.5
2.	10-12	6	15
3.	12-14	15	37.5
4.	14-16	16	40
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Out of 40 respondents the highest (40%) were from the age of 14-16 years followed by 37.5% from the age group of 12-14, 15% from the age group of 10-12 and the lowest 7.5% from the age group of 8-10 which is shown in the table 4.3. This show that even the small children of age between 8-12 are being used on child labour in the microbus.

4.1.3 Caste/Ethnic Composition

Nepal is a country where there are diverse ethnic caste groups with distinct cultural and traditions. Different professions as prescribed by the traditional, religions norms old legal codes and also according to the ecology as well. The following table shows. The shows the caste/Ethnic compositions of microbus boys.

Table 3: Caste and Ethnic origin of Microbus child labour

Caste/Ethnic origin	No. of microbus child labour	Percentage %
Brahmins	14	35
Chhetris	12	30
Others	14	35
Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Table shows that the Brahmans and Chhetris occupied the more numbers and they are generally clever and have received introductory level of education even being poor. Out of 40 respondents 35% of them were Brahmins, 30% of them were Chhetris, and remaining 35% were from other castes. Almost all of them are the poor economic conditions majority Chhetries a Brahmin, even being in the leading position of nation and so called upper caste.

4.1.4 Bringing Agents

Children come to the city themselves or they were brought by someone else or their whole family may have migrated. The following table shows the bringing of children to the city be which to the agents.

Table 4: Bringing Agents

S. No.	Bringing source	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Self	15	37.5
2.	Parents	10	25
3.	Employer	4	10
4.	Relatives	6	15
5.	Others	5	12
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Most of the children have come to the city themselves, 37.5% out of total respondents have come themselves, while the second largest numbers (25%) have come to the city with their parents. Similarly, 15% of them have been brought by different factors. They may have come with their friends, which is shown in table no. 4.

4.1.5 Migration Pattern

Of course leaving one's birth place is trajectory. No one wants to leave his/her birth place without any reason where the born growing up. The reason for learning their village is presented below.

Table 5: Cases of migration

S. No.	Cause of migration	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Poverty	15	37.5
2.	Maltreatment	16	15
3.	For better livelihood	7	17.5
4.	Expectation of better	12	30
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Table 5 shows the distribution of child labours by the factors responsible of driving them to migrate to cities. Out of 40 respondents the highest numbers of 40 respondents. The highest numbers (37.5%) had migrated to Kathmandu due to the poverty while 30% initiated with the expectation of better future opportunities. Similarly 15% of the respondents migrated because of maltreatment and 17.5% were migrated with the hope of better live hood.

As it is said that, 38% people are below the life of poverty, the majority of people have come to the city with the hope for food, shelter, education, health facilities and for better future.

4.1.6 Parental Status

Family background is one of the important factors in the overall development of a child. Role of parents has a great influence in the socialization of a child. The below table ground of Microbus of child labourers.

Table 6: Family Background

S. No.	Parents' status	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Father and mother	25	62.5
2.	Father dead	5	12.5
3.	Mother dead	4	10
4.	Step parent	6	15
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Table 6 shows the family status or background of the respondent. Majority of the respondents (62.5%) have both (Father and Mother) alive. Out of 40 respondents 5

(12.5%) and 4 (10%) have father and mother dead respectively. Similarly, 15 percent of respondents have step parents Table 8 shows that although they have their own parents, children are brought to the urban areas for child labour which indicates that other causes like poverty, education, hope of better future etc. might have been more crucial one rather than parents death or presence of step parents for pushing them into cities.

4.1.7 Education Status

In today's world education is one of the most important factor for overall development of a human being. Education can bring overall development of a human being. Education can bring overall change in the society education can build strong and better foundation for notation building for the better future of every citizens.

Table 7: Distribution of microbus child labours by education.

S. No.	Education	Numbers	Percentage
1.	illiterate	5	12.5
2.	1-2 class	14	35
3.	3-4 class	16	40
4.	5-6 class	4	10
5.	7-8 class	1	2.5
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Out of 40 respondents, the highest numbers (40%) of them had 3-4 class educational level, 35% had the educational level 1-2 class. Similarly, the least numbers 2.5% were found to have done education of 7-8 class, while the second least numbers (10%) has education of 5-6 class. Mean while, 12.5% of the respondents are totally deprived from joining of the school. Almost all the respondents (87.5%) have done primary level eructation. Most of the respondents who were not enrolled and dropped out of school became of poverty and their poor family status. Some left out the school because of not interested in education, parents desires to dropout, death of parents etc.

In the poor rural families, generally, children from their early ages are engaged in different household activities like looking other their younger siblings, raring or cows and goats, fodder collection for domestic animals, parents end them to the house of

rich as servants these factors also present them from continuing and not joining the school.

4.1.8 Reason for not enrolling and drop out from the school

Most of the children in our country do not have access to education facilities despite the government's free education schemes. Due to poverty, living rural and subsistence farming system, from their early age children have to help their parents in agriculture. As informed by conductor boys, they had to drop their study incomplete due to many reasons become of which they have been suffering. When the researcher asked to give the reason for dropping their schools the respondents get by the researcher is presented below.

Table 8: Reason for not enrolling and drop out from the school

S. No.	Reasons	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Poverty	18	45
2.	No self interest	8	20
3.	Parent's unwillingness	9	22.5
4.	Death of mother/father	5	12.5
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The highest number of the respondents i.e. 45% of them were not enrolled or dropped out of school because of poverty. 20% respondents replied that they were dropped out because they were not interested. Similarly, 22.5% didn't go to school or left out the school because their parents didn't want them to go to school and 12.5% of the respondents were deprived of education due to death of their parents.

In addition in the poor families generally, children from their early age (6/7 years) engaged in the different household activities like looking after of younger brother sister rearing of goat s/sheep, fodder collection for domestic animals etc, and some of the children's parents send them to the house of rich people as assistants or servants (domestic workers), that prevent them for continuing and joining to school.

4.1.9 Religious Composition

Nepal is a fascinating country being in the laps of the Himalaya. The erotic land is blessed with an abundance on natural beauty, geographical, biological and cultural

diversity. There are many Caste/Ethnic groups living in the country with distinct religion and culture. It can also said to be the richest place of the world on socio-cultural diversity with the proportion of size.

Table 9: Religious composition of microbus child labour

S. N.	Religion	No. of Respondent	Percentage
1.	Hindu	30	75
2.	Buddhist	6	15
3.	Christian	1	2.5
4.	Kirat	3	7.5
	total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table indicates that there are majority of Hindus i.e. (75%), following by Buddhist (15%) and remaining are Christians and Kirats.

4.1.10 Household size

Even though the government has been implementing a massive number of programs related with the family planning, the size of polulation has been increasing days by day. Household size and the total population of the country are directly related terms, as the change in one term is affected by another. Large household size is also one of the major factors of poverty in rural areas. Household size can be used as an indicator to determine the level of poverty and population growth.

Table 10: Household size of microbus child labour

S. No.	Family size	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	0-4	4	10
2.	5-7	18	45
3.	7-9	15	37.5
4.	10+	3	7.5
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey 2011

Most of the child labours are from the moderate size of families i.e. 45% from moderate size of families i.e. 45% from the family size of 5-7 members while the second largest (37.5%) from the large household size (7-9 members).

The study shows that the size of household may be one of the factors of migration together with other factors like poverty, desire of education, better opportunities, and better life expectation are the cause of migration from rural areas to urban rather than the problem of large family size.

4.2 Socio- Economic Characteristic

These sub section deals about the various economic aspects such as parental occupation, debt status of parents, salary, working hours, authority over salary, saving habit etc.

4.2.1 Parents Occupation

Nepal is an agricultural country almost 65% of the population depends on it. Generally, poor rural people who don't have their own land or not sufficient land for farming, get their livelihood from working on other's field as wages as servants, porters etc. The below table shows the parental occupation of the child labours working in the minibuses.

Table 11: Parental occupations of microbus child labour

S. No.	Parents Occupation	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Agriculture	25	62.5
2.	Wage Labour	8	20
3.	Porter	3	7.5
4.	Service holder	2	5
5.	Small business	2	5
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The highest numbers 62.5% of microbus child labours parents were engaged in agriculture as a major occupation, while the second highest (20%) were engaged as a wage labour. 7.5% respondents parents were porter. Similarly, 5% of respondents parents were service holder and another 5% of respondents parents were engaged in small business liketea shop, vegetable selling etc.

The table shows that most of the child's labour's parents were dependent in agriculture. The national planning commission has estimated that the 94 percentage of population hold on just the 56 percentage of total cultivate land where as remaining

44 percentage is owned by 6% of people. It clearly shows that there is great inequality in the distribution of land .the family from there households cannot produces food enough to live throughout the year. So, it is also one of the reasons that children from these families are forced in child labour. This is also the case in the child labour working in the microbus.

4.2.2 Family Income Structure

The table 14 presents the family income structure of conductor boys. The table demonstrates whether income of family is sufficient or not.

Table: 12 Distribution of Respondent by Family Income Structure

S.N	Earning Sufficient	No. of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Yes	9	22.5
2	No	21	52.5
3	Don't know	10	25
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey 2011

The above table shows that, of total 40 respondent children, 22.5 percent parents are earning sufficient for their family. The table shows that most of the conductor children's parents are not earning sufficient for family, which is 52.5% and rest 25% children have no idea whether their parents earned sufficient or not.

4.2.3 Food Sufficiency at Home

The respondents have been categories into three board categories in order to find out the food sufficiency status of the parent's house. For the purpose of present study the food sufficiency at house means the family whose income is sufficient to feed the family through the year. About the food sufficiency following table has been presented.

Table 13: Distribution of respondents by food sufficiency at home

S.N	Food Sufficiency	No. of Respondents	Percentage%
1	Yes	11	27.5
2	No	19	47.5
3	Don't know	10	25
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

According to the table majority of respondent boys i.e. 47.5% have not enough food of feed the family members throughout the year. Only 27.5% did not feed food problem at their house and rest 25% don't know about the food sufficiency.

4.2.4 Previous job Status

Before joining as the child labour in the microbus these children were working as a child labour in other field or they were free.

Table 14: Previous job status of microbus child labour

S. No.	Job status	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Helping in own house	25	62.5
2.	Working in others house	12	30
3.	Free	3	7.5
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Before joining the present job 62.5% of them were engaged in their household activities like looking after younger brothers and sisters, working in farm etc, similarly, 30% were engaged in other peoples houses as servants or helpers. Only 7.5% of them were not engaged in other jobs or works before.

4.2.5 Earning Status

Although, children work in microbus for longer hours, they receive low amount of salaries. They are highly exploited by the owners and the drivers in microbus as the law against children exploitation is confine only in paper.

Table: 15 Salary Basis

S.N	Salary Basis	No. of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Daily wage	15	37.50
2	Monthly	25	62.50
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table shows that, 62.5% of the MCLs were provided salary in monthly basis where as 37.5% were provided salary in daily wage basis.

The following them structure is one to the cause of leaving have for children and joining in informal sectors like microbus.

4.2.6 Expenditure Pattern

The expenditure pattern of respondents boys differ as per their income. It depends upon their income. Here the expenditure pattern of conductor children is analysed. Here, the table 25, tried to demonstrate expenditure pattern of respondents boys on different items according to their priority.

Table16: Distributions of Respondents by Their Priority to Spend

S.N	Expenditure item	No .of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Food	13	32.5
2	Clothing	8	20
3	Movies	6	15
4	Betting	5	12.5
5	Travel	4	10
6	Others	4	10
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table shows that, out of 40 respondents 32.5% have incurred expenses on food. Almost 20% children spend their income on clothes, 15 %of their income goes on watching movies and 12.5 % percent, 10 percent and 10 percent spend their income on betting, travel and others respectively.

4.2.7 Saving Pattern

During the study it is found that the wage or remuneration whatever they say of conductor children is not enough. Here, question can be raised whether do they save money? If they do, how much and if don't what is the reasons? The description of above question is presented below.

Table 17: Distribution of Respondents by their saving

S. No.	Save money?	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Yes	20	50
2.	No	20	50
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

According to the above mentioned table, out of 40 respondents, 20 percent cannot save their income and in similar way 20 percent said that they can save little bit amount of their income.

4.2.8 Saving Amount

The respondent who can save some amount from their income is asked about their saving level within is presented in table below.

Table 18: Distribution of Respondents by their saving level.

S. No.	Saving per month in Rs.	No. of respondents	Percentages
1.	100-200	6	30
2.	300-400	8	40
3.	400-500	4	20
4.	500 above	2	10
	Total	20	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

According to the table 27, 30 percent children can save Rs. 100-200, 40 percent can save Rs. 300-400. Similarly, 20 percent and 10 can save 400-500 and 500 above. The reason of not saving from the respondents income is presented below.

Table 19: Distribution of Respondents by the Reason of not saving

S. No.	Reason	No. of respondents	Percentage
1.	Not enough	10	50
2.	No idea	6	30
3.	Other	4	20
	Total	20	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table shows that out of 20 respondent 50 percent response that their wage is not enough for saving, while 30 percent conductor children had no idea about saving and 20 percent of them replied that due to many reason. They cannot save their income.

4.2.9 Monitory Support to Family

As we all know that poverty is the main reason of child labour. Many children are working in Nepal just to save the bread and butter problem. Conductor boys are also working as child labour to help the hand to mouth problem of their family. In this regard it is necessary to know about their support to their family, the present study tried to know about their support as presented below.

Table 20: Distribution or Respondents by Their Support of Their Family

S.N	Support Information	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	20	50
2	No	20	50
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The above table indicates that out of 40 respondents, 50 percent respondent boys do not support their family. Generally, it is observed that the conductor children spend their income for themselves on their different necessities like, food, cloths, etc. However, 20 percent of them are helping their family.

4.2.10 Debt Status of Parents

Generally, poor people borrow the money from the rich people or landlords in the rural areas or even in the urban areas to turn run their lives, during sickness of family members, festivals times and indifferent occasions when needed. This means that they

are compelled to work hard as well as they send their children in search of work or in others house, hotels etc.

Table 21: Debt Status of Parents

S.N	Debt Status of Parents	No. of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Local money lender	12	30
2	Relatives	8	20
3	No Debt	10	25
4	Not Known	10	25
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Out of 40 respondents, 50% of them here taken loan from either local moneylenders or from the relatives. Similarly, 37.5% of the respondents were sure that their parents had not taken loan.

Mean while, 12.5% respondents did not know about the debt of their parents, they were unaware of that. In most of the cases, it was found that in villages the people from poor families had taken loan from rich people neighbors or relatives for the treatment purpose when the family members were sick.

4.3 Working Condition, Health

4.3.1 Working Period

Child laboures had been working in the microbus for different time periods some of them had just started and some of income had spent 2-3 years of time in that work.

Table 22: Working Period of the Child Laboures in the Microbus

S.N	Duration Period	No Of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Up To 6 Months	13	32.5
2	6 month to 1year	10	25
3	1 year to 1.5 year	8	20
4	1.5 year to 2 years	5	12.5
5	2 years to3 years	3	7.5
6	More than 3 years	1	2.5
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table shows that 32.5% of the children laborers had been working in microbus for less than half year. 25% of them have been working for 6 month to 1 year. Similarly, 20% of the respondents have been working for 1 year to 1.5 year respectively. 12.5% and 7.5% of them have been working 1.5 to 2 years and 2 to 3 years respectively 2.5% of them have been working for more than 3 years.

With maturity of age and experience the child laborers changes their profession to the driver or else they change. Their profession to other field like paper hawking or small business or others working in the microbus is the temporary nature of work for most of the children which was noticed in the time of research.

4.3.2 Working Hours

According to the children, Act 2048 a child under the age of 14 shall not employed in a factory, similar risky jobs or jobs or in the local transportation like microbus. But in practice child are used in different risky job like child labour in microbus, tempo or other local transportation, hotel waiter, cleaner, etc. against the rule underlying the children employment more than 6 hours per day and 36 hours per week. Although they are child and they have the rights to study and play but these children working in the working in the microbus for long hours with lots of risk, less pay and of course uncertain future ahead.

Table: 23 Working Hours of Microbus Child Labour

S.N	Working Hours	No. of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Less than 6 hours	4	10
2	6-8 hours	11	27.5
3	8-10 hours	10	25
4	Morethan 10 hours	15	37.5
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

4.3.3 Holidays

In the course of study, the researcher found that there is no formal holidays for the boys working as conductors in microbus. It is up to them to take holiday or not, because whenever they donot feel like “not going for work” they do not go. When

question was asked to them are they getting any holiday; their response is presented below.

Table 24: Distribution of Respondent by Getting Holidays Once a Below

S. No.	Getting Holiday	No. of respondents	Percentage%
1.	Yes	7	17.5
2.	No	33	82.5
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Table 30 shows that, percent respondent boys do not get any holiday only of the remaining 17.5 percent boys get holiday once a week.

4.3.4 Facilities

In the course of study, the researcher asked some question to the employer of conductor boys about the facilities they are providing to the boys, the response was they are allowing other facilities like food, shelter, clothes, etc. Except their wage. In this regards some questions were asked to the conductor boys, which is presented below.

Table 25: Distribution of Respondent by getting other Facilities

S. No.	Information of facility	No. of respondent	Percentage %
1.	Yes	20	50
2.	No	20	50
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table identify that, 50 percent boys are getting facilities from their employer and 50 percent do not get other facilities except their wage.

4.3.5 Health Condition

Health is wealth and everything for a person a healthy person can do everything for the betterment of this family and his future. So, health is the most worthy assist of a person.

Table 26: Health status

S. No.	Health status	No. of respondents	Percentage %
1.	Good	12	30
2.	Normal	26	65
3.	Bad	2	5
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Out of 40 respondents, 65% had normal health status while 30% had good health and 5% of them were going through bad health. Those two respondents were suffering in the microbus has to suffer from the breathe related diseases.

4.4 Problems

4.4.1 Behavior of Employer

While talking about working condition, employer's behavior is also a determinant factor. In this regard it is necessary to know about the behavior of their employers towards microbus boys. So, the researcher wants to know about the behavior of their master's whether good or not while is presented below.

Table 27: Distribution of the respondent by their employer's behavior

S. No.	Behaviour of employer	No. of respondent	Percentage %
1.	Good	17	42.5
2.	Satisfactory	15	37.5
3.	Poor	8	20
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The above table clarify that, 42.5 percent boys are getting good behavior from their employer, 37.5 percent said their employer behavior neither good nor bad, they are getting okay behavior from their masters and 20 percent boys are getting poor behavior.

4.4.2 Behaviour of Passenger

Conductors have to deal with different kind of people during their duty hours. So, they have to face not only different kind of people but also different problems. In this

regard the researcher wanted to know about behavior of passengers to wards conductor children. The following table presents the behavior of passenger.

Table 28: Distribution of Respondent by their Passenger’s Behaviour

S. No.	Behaviour of Passenger	No. of respondent	Percentage %
1.	Good	18	45
2.	Satisfactory	12	30
3.	Poor	10	25
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Above table 33 clears that of total 45 percent boys get good behavior from passenger 30 percent response. Their passenger’s behavior is okay and 25 percent boys get poor bahaviour from their passanger.

4.4.3 Risk of Accident

Children working in the microbus have high probability of accidents that those in other sectors. So, it is more risky job that may take their lives or damage. Their lives the below table shows the accident occurred in the lives of the respondents.

Table 29: Accidents of the Child Labourer

S.N.	Accident	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1.	Yes	10	25
2.	No	30	75
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Out of 40 respondents, 75% of them had not fallen to accidents, while 25% of them had already met the accidents once but they were minor ones and the drivers/owner provided the treatment facility to the children workers.

4.4.4 Bad Habit

Generally those children who work out side or on street are free and may have habit of smoking and drinking due to lack of knowledge about the effect of such things in their lives. They rarely meet persons who provide good suggestions. As they are free and most of them are in the teenagers they wanted to taste and experience different

things. They were found to have engaged in drinking alcohol, smoking cigarettes, even the marijuana and some of them have habit of taking drugs.

Table 30: Habits

S. No.	Habit	Yes		No		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1.	Smoking	10	25	10	25	40	100
2.	Alcohol	20	50	10	25	40	100
3.	Playing cards	5	12.5	5	12.5	40	100
4.	Smoking/Alcohol	5	12.5	15	37.5	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Out of 40 respondents, 25% had habit of smoking while 50% had drinking habit. Similarly, 12.5 had habit of playing cards and 12.5% with both smoking and drinking habit.

4.4.5 Job Satisfaction

In the course of study opinion of child conductors have been found regarding job satisfaction is given below.

Table 31: Distribution of respondent by their satisfaction

S. No.	Satisfy	No. of Respondent	Percentage %
1.	Yes	35	87.5
2.	No	5	12.5
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

As observed during the study most of the respondent boys i.e. 87.5 percent have been found satisfied with their present job. Very small portion i.e. 12.5 percent are not satisfied with their present job.

4.4.6 Aim

Everyone aim of being something in the future. It guides a person help to move in a right track. There is a saying that a man with no aim is not a man, but an animal. The table 17 shows the aim of those child laborers of microbus.

Table 32: Aim of the microbus child labour

S.N.	Aim	No. of respondent	Percentage (%)
1.	Diver	24	60
2.	Policeman	8	20
3.	Army	4	10
4.	Go abroad for work	4	10
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

From the above table, it was found that 60% had aim of being driver, 20% wanted to be policeman, 10% army and rest of 10% wanted to go abroad for work.

4.4.7 Eating Habit and Places

Food is the basic need for all the human beings for survival. The microbus boys who are engaged in lots of hardwork for longer hours need to take sufficient amount of foods of grow up properly.

Table 33: Eating time/fooding time of respondents

S. No.	Eating time	No. of respondents	Percentage %
1.	2 times (morning & evening)	10	25
2.	3 times	10	25
3.	4 times	20	50
Total		40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The growing children need sufficient amount of nutrient food to grow up properly. Out of 40 respondents, 25% of them were taking only two times meals were taking only two times meals. Once in the morning and once in the evening, where as 25% of them were taking 3 times meal and remaining 50% or them replied that they were taking 4 times in a day.

4.4.8 Problem of respondents

Everyone has to face and to have to go through various problems and child conductors are not exceptional. The following table shows the kind of problem of the respondent.

Table 34: Problem of respondents

S. No.	Types of problems	No. of respondent	Percentage %
1.	To get job	12	30
2.	To get shelter	8	20
3.	Risk of an accident	9	22.5
4.	Sickness	5	12.5
5.	Uncertainty of job	6	15
	Total	40	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The given table shows that, 30 percent of them had to suffer from the problem to get job in the beginning. 20 percent of them have been suffering from shelter problem. Among these boys 15 percent respond that there is no guarantee of their job because hire and fire system prevails there. Similarly, 22.5 percent and 12.5 percent of them are suffering from risk of accident and sickness problem respectively.

CHAPTER – FIVE

SUMMARY CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary

Child labour is a bitter reality in many parts of the world even at the 21st century. The magnitude of the problem is largest in south Asia. In this part of the world child labour exploitation is extremely high.

Nepal, a small Himalayan kingdom, one of the poorest among the poor countries in the world. In Nepal, poverty, illiteracy and unemployment are prevailing characteristics which is effecting each and every sectors of human lives including child. Here children are required to support their family or they are forced to leave their home and start work. Every sector of employment are not free from child labours and the tendency is graneing gradually. However, this study is based on socio-economic condition of child labour of age below 16 years; working if micro-bus in the Kirtipur Municipality. The basic objectives of this study are:

-) To identify the general background and characterstics of child labour working in micro bus.
-) To find out causes increasing child labour and major problems encountered by them.
-) To identify the job opportunities in Kathmandu and involvement of child labour in different job, and to examine the working in microbus.
-) To find out causes increasing child labour and major problems encountered by them,
-) To identify the job opportunities in Kathmandu and involvement of child labour in different job, and to examine the working condition and environment of child conductors.

The present study is based on exploratory cum descriptive research design. Both primary and secondary data have been used and various research techniques such as interview schedule, structured and unstructured questions, observation etc. to collect the required data for the study. In this study 40 child conductors under the age of 16 were selected for interview from Kirtipur to Ratna Park.

After connecting necessary information, they are presented in a master charts for analysis and interpretation of information various findings are derived.

In this study, the sampled child conductors represent various dispirit. Among 40 respondents, majority of them from out of Kathmandu valley. Only 7.5 percent boys are from Kathmandu valley. It was found that most them 37.5 percent ran away from their home to the city without their parents permission. The children left their native place because of different reason such as poverty (37.5%), Maltreatment (15%), for better livelihood (17.5%), etc. The sample children represents different caste/ ethnic groups; Brahmin (35%), Chheteri (30%), others (35%). Among respondents majority (40%) are age between (14-16), (39.5%) are between (12-14) years, (15%) are between (10-12) years, rest (7.5%) are age between (8-10) years of age.

In this study, (62.5%) of children have their both parents alive. Among them (12.5%) children have stepmother, 10 percent children have step parents.

5.2 Conclusion

In recent yare the issue of child labour is becoming one of the burning issue. In Nepal, especially after restoration of democracy in 1990 the issue of child labour is becoming as a burning issue, both in mass media and academic circles. Efforts have been mad by NGOs, INGOs and International organization including ILO and UNICEF of create awareness about the problem of child labour. Some efforts have been made by government of eliminate the problem of child labour by making different laws and political commitments. But complete abolition of child labour may not be possible to the country like Nepal by this types of efforts.

Condition of children not working in horrendous situation might be improved once they are adequately paid for limiting woking hours and at the same time they have adequate access the education, health and other facilitates. This is justified in a society in which the state and the organizations are not in a position to provide either job/social securing or rehabilitation to the working children. Removing the children form job market without providing them any alternatives does not solve the problem. Experiences shows that many children barred from one type of worked enter even more hazardous jobs once they are thrown out.

This doesn't mean that campaign against child labour should not be intensified. The problems of child engaged in different sectors very. There has been a growing

tendency among child labour. Particularly among street children, to become addicted and pick pocketing. Therefore, in the matter of eliminating child labour, priority needs to be accorded to these children working under extremely hazardous conditions, those working as commercial workers and bonded child labours.

The main source of child labour in Kathmandu is rural areas as the conductor children have been from different districts. Children have been from different districts. Children are forced to work as hotel boy, domestic servant, conductor etc. Anticipation of better life and poverty are found as a main reason to drive them to city. However, modernization is found the pull factor towards city.

The present study shows that their existing working condition is not healthy their pay is very low in comparison to market price. For them it is too hard to save some money for their family long working hours, low wage, job insecurity, risk of accident etc. are the main problem and reason, their dissatisfaction is observed in the field. However most of them preferred their job to meet their future aim to become a driver. Because of improper influence and hazardous condition the words for them is found common and some of them fall in bad habits such as smoking and drinking alcohols etc.

Generally, the finding of this study is found accordance with the conceptual framework. However, the main reason for increasing child labour in city is found influence of friends. And the other factor for their migration towards the city and becoming conductor is attraction of modernization and urbanization.

It is found that in the process of working towards the elimination of child labour it is essential that the problem is approached and talked from different angles. Awareness needs to be created against all forms of child labour, particularly those considered extremely hazardous. A nationwide social movement against all forms of exploitation and oppression of children needs to be lowered. Child labour would abolish through the economic prosperity. Rapid speed of schooling facilities and strict implementation of anti child labour laws various plants such as income generating programmes to people below the poverty line can be introduced.

5.3 Recommendation

The child slavery is the most ugly course the face of human civilization. It is a universal problem. It has its global and local dimensions. In this regard, following recommendation have been given for the weifare of child workers as follows:

We have children Act, but it is limited with in paper only. The children acts shouls not be limited to papers only. There should be strong law enforcements mechanism.

Our society is not aware about children right and their exploitation. The government/NGOs/INGOs should be lunch the effective programs for poverty alleviations and social awareness about child labour immediately.

The society should be aware about the problem of child labour in Nepal, and work for their well being jointly. In addition, people should know that the child exploitation is a social crime.

Parents are not aware about their role and responsibility towards their children. The important role of the parents in the lives of these conductor children needs to be scrutinized critically. At one level it is their inability to supports them, at the another level the parents exploit the children to perpetuate them in human condition.

Employs do not know about children right and child exploitation. Employer need to be aware on the rights of the children and encouraged to send the child to school, gives them proper wage and be educated on the evils of exploitation.

There is lack of awareness compaign regarding children right, child exploitation etc. A publicity of compaign should be launched by government and nongovernmental organizations to raise awareness against the exploitation of child workers.

Lots of children who has left their home and who has became orphan are facing problems of survival. There should be rehabilitation center for orphan street children by government.

Child labour is also found as a result of unemployment. The government should increase the employment opportunities in rural areas. It will help to discourage the growing trend of run away to the cities in search of job.

The major problem is we all think that the problems should be solved only government. State cannot bring social change alone, therefore, there should be active participation of society through government / NGOs / INGOs level.

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14. Who keeps your earnings?
i) Family ii) Owner himself iii) Friend
iv) Other v) Self
15. How frequency you get sick?
i) Occasionally ii) Once a month iii) Frequently
16. What is your major health problem?
i) Respiratory ii) Skin related disease
iii) Get wounded iv) Others
17. Where do you go for the treatment?
i) Local Medicine Shop ii) Clinic
iii) Health center iv) Hospital
18. Do you get any support (money) from you owners?
i) Yes ii) No
19. Who helps you to go to the health facility/problem/treatment?
i) Driver ii) Friends iii) Mobile iv) Gas Stove
20. What are the facilities you have been using?
i) Television ii) Radio iii) Mobile iv) Gas stove
21. Did you work any other job previously?
i) Yes ii) No
22. Are you satisfied with your present job?
i) Yes ii) No
If no, what kind of job are you looking for
i) Security Guard ii) House Keeper iii) Waiter
23. What do you want to be in future?
i) Driver ii) Mechanics iii) Owner
iv) Business man v) Other (.....)
24. What are the problems you have faced during work? (write in priority order)
i)
ii)
iii)
iv)
v)
25. Do you owner's/Driver's family threat you badly sometimes?
i) Yes ii) No
If yes how?
i) Owner/Driver ii) Wife iii) Son/Daughters iv) Nighbour
v) Parents of O/D
26. In yes how?
i) Pulling hair ii) Beating iii) Abusing iv) not giving food v) Not
giving payment
27. Who loves the most?
i) Owners ii) driver
28. Does your owner allow you to go home sometime?
i) Yes ii) No
29. How often you visit your home village in a year?
i) One ii)two iii) Three iv) More v) Never
30. How often your Parents came to see you?
i) Once a year ii) Twice a year iii) Thrice a year iv)
Never
31. Do you drink or smoke?
i) Drink ii) Smoke iii) None

Thank You !!!